

Gray, who has been an invalid for twenty-nine months. I asked him if he had faith enough to believe that he could be healed by the power of God. "Yes," said he. I told him we would be there on Sunday at 2 p. m. We called according to appointment. Less than three minutes after the administering he commenced shaking. His whole frame shook. He commenced rising up in his chair. His wife then threw her arms around him and they both shouted: "Bless the Lord. The Savior has come. I know these are the servants of the Lord." Father, mother and a grown daughter were so overjoyed that they wept. The man walked into the kitchen three times. For twenty-nine months his entire left side had been paralyzed. The three persons bore testimony that this was the first time their father had walked for twenty-nine months. This man receives \$72 a month pension. His doctor's charges are \$1 per visit and fifty cents prescription. They have paid out hundreds of dollars to no purpose. Mrs. Gray says to me: "My own daughter will not believe me when I tell her that father has walked three times out into the kitchen and back to his room."

Ten days ago a lady sent for me and my companion to administer to her. She was weeping when we entered the room. She had been nearly crazy for four days. After the administration the pains stopped and the lady told me last evening she had no symptoms of a pain since.

The "Deseret News" is a welcome visitor.

EDWARD F. TURLEY,

Zanesville, Muskingum county, Ohio,
Dec. 20, 1897.

THE STONE OF JACOB.

[W. E. Curtis in Chicago Record.]

The most precious relic in all England and to the English in all Europe is an old gothic chair which stands in the Chapel of St. Edward in Westminster Abbey beside the sword and shield of Edward III. It is made of black oak in the gothic style, and the back is covered with carved inscriptions, including the initials of many famous men. The feet are four lions, that look like poodle dogs with their tails curled up over their backs. The seat is a large stone about 30 inches long by 18 inches wide and 12 inches thick, and all the sovereigns of England for the last 800 years have sat upon it when they were crowned. The chair is known as the coronation chair, and the stone is claimed to be the same which Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, used as a pillow when he lay down to sleep on the starlit plains of Judah that memorable night as he was on his way from Beersheba to Haran in search of a wife. It was then he had his dream, and saw angels and archangels ascending and descending a ladder that reached to heaven, and Jehovah came to him and made the great promise which is being fulfilled to the Jews this very day. And Jacob took the stone and set it up for a pillar and poured oil upon it, and vowed a vow and called the name of the place Bethel.

The kings of Israel were crowned upon this stone from the time that they ruled a nation—David and Saul and Solomon, and all the rest.

The story goes that 680 years before Christ, at the time of the Babylonian captivity, Circa, daughter of Zedekiah, the last king of Judah, arrived in Ireland, and was married at Tara to Heremon, a prince of the Tuatha de Danan—which is said to be the Celtic name of the tribe of Dan. The traditions relate that this princess went originally to Egypt in charge of the prophet Jeremiah, her guardian, and

the palace Taphanes, in which they resided there, was discovered in 1826 by Dr. Petrie, the archaeologist. After some years they went hence to Ireland, and from Circa and Heremon Queen Victoria traces her descent through James I, who placed the lion of the tribe of Judah upon the British standard.

Jeremiah is said to have concealed this sacred stone at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem and the captivity of the Jews, and to have brought it, "the stone of the testimony," Bethel, the only witness of the compact between Jehovah and Israel, where it was known as the Ila phail (stone wonderful). It was carried to Scotland by Fergus I, and thence to London in the year 1200, and has been used at the coronation of every king and queen of England from Edward I down to Victoria. It is thus the most priceless historical object in the British empire, as it was the palladium of Israel. It is a curious fact that the altars of Ireland were called Bethel, houses of God.

In the same chapel surrounding the coronation chair in Westminster abbey are the graves of six kings, five queens, four princesses, a duke and a bishop.

BINGHAM STAKE CONFERENCE

Ionu, Idaho, Dec. 17, 1897.

The quarterly conference of the Bingham Stake of Zion convened at Lewisville on Sunday and Monday, December 12th and 13th. There were in attendance Elder George Teasdale of the Quorum of Apostles, the Stake presidency, also a good representation of Bishops and Stake officers.

Sunday, 10 a. m.—After usual opening exercises, reports by the Stake presidency relative to the condition of the Stake spiritually and temporally were given. Report in substance was that there was a manifest desire on the part of the people to live their religion, and it was the desire of the officers to perform the duties of their callings. The Stake presidency and others had just recently visited the Lost River country, and had organized a branch of the Church. They found the few families in that vicinity in a lamentable condition spiritually, but through their efforts and zealous missionary work in the future a great improvement could be brought about.

Elder George Teasdale occupied the remainder of the time of this session, encouraging all to do right and live righteous lives.

Sunday, 2 p. m.—Testimonies and experiences in gaining them were given by Elders Alex. N. Stephens, Don C. Walker, Benjamin Bennett and Thos. W. Lee, all members of the High Council; and Bishop Jesse T. Clark. Following these Elder Teasdale spoke, occupying the time remaining.

Monday, 10 a. m.—Patriarch Henry Stokes was the first speaker. He related the incidents connected with his conversion to the Gospel.

Elder Henry Boyce and James H. Denning also spoke and testified to the truthfulness of the Gospel. Following these Elder Teasdale said in brief that the testimony of our Patriarch had struck him very forcibly, particularly his testimony in regard to the Word of Wisdom. He would ask the young people to shun the saloon as they would a pest house.

Monday, 2 p. m.—The general and local Church authorities were presented and unanimously sustained. The names of the home missionaries for the ensuing three months were also read and sustained. Special missionaries for the Lost River country, Tilden, Grays and Palsade wards were sustained, these places being somewhat isolated, one in particular being one hundred miles from the central portion

of the Stake. Elder Teasdale spoke, and read from the Doctrine and Covenants in regard to the qualifications of those who enter the House of the Lord. He also read from the Bible and Book of Mormon on the same subject.

Elder Steele made a few closing remarks and thanked all who had contributed to the success of the conference.

The Relief Society conference was held on Saturday. There was a poor attendance owing to the inclemency of the weather, but the zeal of those in attendance made up to a great extent for the slight attendance.

J. C. RUSHTON,
Stake Clerk.

THE SAMOA MISSION.

Tuasivi Savali, Samoa,
November 17, 1897.

By request of William Jeppson, presiding Elder of the Savali conference, I submit the following:

All Elders that have had the pleasure of laboring on the Samoan islands are acquainted with Captain David Kenison Sr. and family. Therefore they will no doubt be grieved to hear of the death of Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Kenison, beloved wife of Captain David Kenison Sr., who departed this life November 6, 1897, after an illness of several weeks. Deceased was a little over 50 years old, and was the mother of thirteen children, nine of whom survive her. She was born in Australia and raised in New Zealand, and passed through all the trying scenes of the Maori war. She was an eye-witness to many of the bloody deeds perpetrated by the natives, and heard the cries of the British soldiers as they were being burned at the stake, but of those terrible times she would say but little, although they were stamped indelibly on her memory.

Deceased was married in New Zealand and came to Samoa about thirty-three years ago, and has reared family whose honesty and integrity cannot be questioned, and all are members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Special mention might be made of the kindness of Captain Kenison and his sons, who are ever willing to help the Elders in every way possible, and are always diligent in furthering the cause of righteousness in Samoa.

This mission is in a prosperous condition and the people are flocking to the standard of truth in great numbers. About forty have been added to the fold in this conference since Jan. 1, 1897, and about 300 on all the islands. There are six Elders from Zion in this conference at present, and one native Elder. They are laboring as follows:

Wm. Jeppson and C. L. Warnick, at Salelavalu; A. D. Hendricks and Viali (a native Elder), at Tuasivi and Tulafatu; Geo. S. Burnham and Geo. W. Horne, at Saleaula, and Geo. M. Leonard, at Fagatuli. Each branch is in a flourishing condition, and the Elders are ever alive to their duties. Two meetings and a Sunday school are held at each branch every Sunday, and a testimony meeting every Wednesday in which the Saints all take an active part. Schools are also held at each branch four days a week and the children are making rapid progress. We have succeeded in procuring a small tract of land here, in Tuasivi, for the purpose of establishing a central school, by which we will be able to accommodate all grades of students.

As a general rule the Elders are treated with due respect by the natives, but of course some little persecution is felt at times by, or through the influence of the clergy. The foreigners on the island, with but few exceptions, are very kind to the Elders. Special