

## OBITUARY NOTES.

## CAROLINE SMITH CALLISTER.

Caroline Smith Callister, wife of Bishop Thomas Callister, was the only daughter of John Smith and Clarissa Lyman Smith. She was born at Potsdam, St. Lawrence county, New York, June 6, 1820, and was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints about the same time her brother George A. Smith was on the old homestead in New York, and with her father's family moved to Kirtland, Geauga county, Ohio, in 1833.

I have a faint recollection of hearing, long ago, that she was partially paralyzed by a shock received by a lightning stroke when quite a child, from which she never entirely recovered.

She moved with the family in 1838 to Davies county, Mo., and suffered with the rest in the mobbings and drivings from that state to Illinois, in the first settlement in Nauvoo and Iowa, and at the time of the martyrdom of the loved Prophet and Patriarch resided in Macedonia (Ramus), eight miles from Carthage. In the fall of 1844, she moved to Nauvoo. In 1845 she was married to Thomas Callister, and in the early winter of 1846 received her blessings with her husband in the Nauvoo Temple, and in February with him crossed the Mississippi and accompanied the first teams in the exodus from Nauvoo, reaching Winter Quarters, on the Missouri river, in September of the same year. In 1847 she followed closely on the trail of the Pioneers and arrived in Salt Lake City the 25th day of September and located in the Pioneer Fort.

She was a true Latter-day Saint, always full of good and wise counsel for all. She was the president of the Relief Society in Fillmore City, and much beloved by all who knew her. She raised an exemplary family; her eldest and youngest daughters married sons of Amasa M. Lyman, and both had large families. All her children preceded her except her youngest daughter, with whom she resided in Ogden City, Utah, at the time of her decease.

She suffered much and for the last few years of her life was an invalid requiring the constant care of her daughter and grand children. She had a severe attack of paralysis of the bowels, and died at noon January 8th, 1895. She died as she had lived, faithful and true to the end, and has gone to meet the loved ones who have passed before.

The funeral was held at Ogden, Utah, January 9th, 1895. The speakers were Bishop M. Brown, Counselor Middleton, President Joseph F. Smith and others.

I am the only surviving brother of the deceased. JOHN L. SMITH.

St. George, Washington Co., Utah, January 12, 1895.

## SARAH SNYDER RICHARDS.

On the 4th day of October, 1894, at Plain City, Weber county, Utah, there was closed a career so full of quiet heroism, of lessons of faith and its triumphs, that it deserves more than a passing notice from the Latter-day Saints. Its lessons are the best which our human lot can teach—far better for us than all worldly achievements and far better for us than the victories which come tainted with concessions made to the spirit of the world. In the life of Sarah Snyder Richards, which extended over the greater part of this century and which embraced nearly fifty-eight years of experience in the Church, there is something to console, something to encourage and something to build up, in every home where the Gospel is dear.

Sarah Snyder Richards was the daughter of Isaac and Lovisa Comstock Snyder, and was one of a family of eleven chil-

dren. She was born on the 11th day of April, 1813, in Earnest Town, Upper Canada. Surrounded there by rural scenes, inured to the demands which the early part of this century made upon the daughters in a busy household, guided by a father and mother whose uprightness was a neighborhood word in their vicinity, she was established in character and in determination which all the hardships and trials of later years could not shake. On the 20th day of January, 1830, she was married to Benjamin Jenne at Port Ferry, St. Lawrence County, New York. Six years later she heard the Gospel from the lips of Elder John E. Page, at whose hands she was baptized in 1837, being the first of her father's house to receive the new and everlasting covenant. Later all of her father's family joined the Church and with them, having disposed of all their possessions, she gathered with the Saints. For a time they rested at La Porte, Indiana, awaiting the settlement of the troubles which had burst with appalling force upon the Saints in Missouri; but in 1842 she and her father's family gathered to Hancock county, Illinois, and located 25 miles east of Nauvoo. When that city was made desolate and when the people of God turned their faces westward, she took part in that historic exodus spending the winter of '46-7 at Winter Quarters delaying one year in Pottawatomie county, Iowa, to gain strength and means for the march to the valley and arrived here in 1849. The incredible hardships of that march can never be portrayed by pen or mortal. Some there are now living who experienced it and who in the bare mention will recognize the lifetime of suffering which it entailed and the sorrow which would have been despair but for the light of faith which illuminated the pathway of the driven host. Soon after her arrival in the valley her husband left the Church and went to California. She afterwards became the wife of Apostle Franklin D. Richards, President Brigham Young performing the ceremony. After some years of life at Salt Lake, she removed to Wanship, in Summit county, locating there in 1866. Here she was made president of the Relief societies of the Stake and spent her time, her wonderful energy and her recognized skill in ministering among the sick. She was widely known as a comforter at the bedside of affliction, and from birth to old age there was no condition of her fellow mortals but that won her sympathy and her assistance. From Wanship she removed to Gentle Valley, accompanying her son William, with whom she dwelt and from whose house she continued her gentle kindness to all who were in need. Here also she was associated with the Relief Society, being president of the ward organization. From Gentle Valley she came to Ogden, thence removing to Plain City in the spring of 1894, where her last days were spent.

Her illness was sudden and her demise unexpected until a few hours before the final moment. On October 4, 1894, she peacefully closed her eyes, being conscious that the end was at hand and being surrounded by many of her loved ones to whom she turned and gave such a look of assurance when speech itself was gone as to be an undying comfort to them. She had no fear of the future and passed into the certainty of a better life, whose rewards shall be sufficient for all the toil and the sacrifice of this existence.

Sister Richards was of the rarest type of heroine and Saint. No hardship was too great for her to endure in the cause of truth.

There be many among us who can lay life itself upon the altar of truth, but who when the demand is made for daily

abnegation falter and fail. In this rare kind of devotion she shone conspicuously; around her home she drew all hearts to her by the sweetness of her ministrations. In the families where she visited her very presence was a relief from suffering; for she seemed to have the ability to take the burdens and the pains of others unto herself. In all the varied sphere of usefulness which she occupied there was none but was made better by her association. It is not too much to say that in nearly the generation that the world has known her he never heard a word from her lips nor knew of an act of her life that was unbecoming a Saint of God. She had twelve children, seven of whom died in infancy or early youth. Of the five who grew to maturity and of their increase her descendants now number one hundred and twenty. All are in the Church and all look forward to a reunion in that blessed abode where she will meet her reward.

The lessons of life are many; they are about us in every experience; but the hardest of all to learn is the lesson taught by such a life as that of Sister Richards. Under the haze of glory and ambition, or when a mighty sacrifice is demanded where the epitaph of martyr is the result, we can accept the teaching of example and the heart bounds forward with animated desire to rival in splendid goodness the career of one who has performed some one great deed of fame for righteousness sake. But where a life of eighty-one years has been characterized by goodness and self-denial, the value and encouragement are not sufficiently seized by those who remain behind. If all the good deeds and helpful words of that long life could be written they would fill a mighty volume. They cannot be here portrayed in detail, but in thousands of homes, in thousands of hearts, they will be remembered as the generations come and go. That life begun in sweetness and industry, continuing no toll too great that was within her strength and no sacrifice too much whose end was goodness, blossomed purely and nobly in the midst of persecution and personal sorrows such as few could encounter and survive, and found its fruitage in seeing the work of God triumphant, and seeing gathered around it, a posterity which was a source of pride and eternal hope.—[COMMUNICATED.]

## THE DEAD.

Peaceful be their Rest.

COOMBS.—In the Twenty-first ward of Salt Lake City, on 15, 1894, Ivy, infant daughter of Amasa and Ann Eliza Coombs, aged three weeks. Death was caused by heart failure.

HUSKINSON.—In the Fifteenth ward, this city, January 17th, 1895, of scarlet fever, Minnie J., daughter of William J. and Josephine Huskinson, aged 6 years, 10 months and 13 days.

SPILLETT.—At the residence of George Ames, No. 828 west, First South street, January 17th, 1895, of dropsy, Frances, wife of Captain Edward Spillet, aged 70 years and 10 months. The deceased was late of Sittingbourne, Kent, England.  
Millennial Star, please copy.

SORENSEN.—In Washington City, Washington county, Utah, Dec. 31st, 1894, of heart disease, Serine Caroline Sorenson, wife of Niels Sorenson; born Sept. 20th, 1914, in Jylland, Denmark. Sister Sorenson was a true Latter-day Saint, always on hand to do her part. The poor and needy will miss her; we shall all miss her.  
J. H. CRAWFORD.  
Millennial Star, please copy.

VERNON.—At Rockport, Summit county, January 8, 1895, of typhoid fever, Miss Annie Vernon, the beloved daughter of Elizabeth A. Frances Vernon. She was born in Rockport, October 20, 1872. She leaves an aged mother, brothers and sisters to mourn her loss. She was a faithful worker as a teacher in the Sunday school, also in the Young Ladies Mutual Improvement Association, and was beloved by all who knew her.