

jealousy would have a basis very dissimilar to eastern jealousy; and if it freed a few from the anxieties and worry of buying and selling, would not their way be open in more creative directions, something producing wealth, and all aiding in local development and progress, according to the genius and spirit of the great work in which sellers and buyers, creators and consumers, are all more or less engaged—one for which the thousands of Utah left home, friends, country and institutions that they might found new ones, more in harmony with righteousness, truth, peace, and that Zion which, once the dream of the Prophets and Seers, is only to be made real by the union of all the faithful Latter-day Saints?

FROM BOX ELDER TO CASSIA.

BRIGHAM CITY, May 29, 1895.

The Presidency of the Box Elder Stake and others have just returned from their annual two weeks' trip to the western part of the Stake. The personnel of the party was as follows: President Rudger Clawson, Counselor Charles Kelly, Bishop Abram Zundell, of Willard City, Bishop Peter C. Jensen, of Mantua, and four members of the Brigham City Tabernacle choir, namely, S. N. Lee, leader, Wilford Reeder, Mrs. Ray Evans and Lotta Nichols.

Ward conferences of two days' meeting were held in Snowville, Park Valley and Grouse Creek. The reports submitted by the Bishops and presidencies of the various organizations of these wards were of a favorable character, as a rule, showing a spirit of progressiveness. A good spirit prevailed in the meetings and much good counsel was given. It was truly a time of refreshing to the Saints who reside at such long distance from the headquarters of the Stake.

At Snowville, Wm. Coitman, who was excommunicated from the Church some years ago, made public acknowledgements and asked forgiveness of the Saints, and was restored to fellowship by baptism.

Some changes of an important character and of considerable interest to the people of the ward, were made at the Grouse Creek conference. At the Sunday afternoon meeting (May 26th), Charles Kimber Sr. tendered his resignation as Bishop, on the ground of advancing age and general feebleness. The resignation was accepted by unanimous vote and his counselors were instructed to take charge of the ward until such time as a re-organization could be effected. A vote of thanks and good wishes was tendered the retiring Bishop.

A matter of great interest to the ward was then presented by Elder Clawson. He explained that, owing to the great distance of Grouse Creek from Brigham City, the headquarters of the Box Elder Stake, namely 140 miles, and its close proximity to Oakley, the headquarters of the Cassia Stake, namely forty-five miles, the ward would be transferred to the latter Stake if the Saints so desired it. The First Presidency had consented to and approved of such change. It was apparent that under present conditions the people were deprived of many advantages they might other-

wise enjoy, such as visits from the various Stake presidencies, and the privilege of attending Stake conferences and other important gatherings. The question being submitted, it was decided by unanimous vote that the transfer be made.

Elder Horton D. Haight, president of the Cassia Stake, who was present, in a few appropriate words expressed gratification at the unanimity of feeling exhibited by the vote, and thereupon received the Grouse Creek ward into the Cassia Stake. He made further remarks, saying that he had very much enjoyed the spirit of the conference, and was greatly pleased with the reports of the presiding officers of the ward. They were more favorable, he said, than any he had listened to for sometime. Counselor Moroni Pickett, of Cassia Stake, also made instructive remarks.

Elder W. C. Bettridge, superintendent of the Sabbath school, moved a hearty vote of thanks to the presidency of the Box Elder Stake for the visits heretofore and the many wise counsels imparted. Carried by unanimous vote.

It would be a manifest injustice to close the letter without mentioning the valuable services rendered by the singers who accompanied the party. Good judgment and discrimination was exercised in the selection of the quartettes given, as evidenced by the fixed attention of the Saints and the oft-repeated requests for another "song." To them and the worthy Bishops who were along (among whom was Bishop Goodlife, who joined the party at Snowville) much credit is due for the success of the trip.

The season is late, but the prospect for good crops in western Box Elder county is bright. D.

AN OLD DISCIPLE.

SPRINGVILLE, Utah County, Utah, May 27th, 1895.

Yesterday President Fjelsted, Assistant Superintendent J. C. Carlisle, of the Cache Stake Sunday schools, and myself, attended and took part in four meetings in this place. A Seventies' conference of the Fifty-first quorum also took place and a very agreeable time was enjoyed. Elder Reynolds was ordained one of the presidents of the Fifty-first quorum of Seventy in place of Elder Hafen, who has moved to Salt Lake City.

The Fifty-first quorum of Seventy has several missionaries out in the field preaching the Gospel. It is a live, useful quorum, holding weekly meetings and theological classes.

Today we visited Philo Dibble, probably the oldest member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints now living. If there be any one older, he or she is kindly requested to report to 118 South, First West Street, Salt Lake City, Utah, to E. Stevenson.

Elder Dibble was baptized Sept. 15, 1830, by Parley P. Pratt; was ordained a Teacher at the same time when President W. Woodruff was a Priest, in 1833. He was wounded by the mob who unlawfully drove the Latter-day Saints from their homes in Independence, Jackson county, Mo., in 1833. He was shot near the navel, the ball ranging through the body and

lodging where it still can be felt, under the skin near the backbone. He pleasantly told us he was loaded with lead but that there is no powder, and that he will carry the leaden missile with him to his tomb as a witness of the cruel treatment he received as a soldier of the Gospel of Christ, and for the Gospel's sake. I know, he said, the Church was established by divine revelation, Joseph Smith being God's Prophet, Seer and Revelator, with whom, he continued, I was familiar and closely associated during his life from 1833 until 1844, when I beheld him as a martyr, shot with four bullets, even unto death; and I now lie here on my deathbed with lead in my body at the age of 89, and I shall soon go to meet the martyr, for I now feel that my work here on earth is done, and my desire is that I may soon go in peace where I shall see many others who like myself have suffered many tribulations for Christ's sake.

It was remarkable to see and hear the strong testimony he bore and the clearness of thought and mind which he possessed. He said he received his endowments in the Nauvoo Temple—among the first ones who received those blessings in the Lord's House, which he had the pleasure to help to rear unto the name of the Lord. He conveyed the idea that in the midst of all the numerous apostasies from this Church, none of them has continued the work of Joseph Smith, which was at his martyrdom going on, that is the gathering of the Saints from out of the world; also the building of temples, giving endowments and baptisms for the dead—a work of Jesus Christ the Savior of all, whose mission will not end until all of Adam's race shall be saved, through Christ's atoning blood, by obedience and the keeping of all His commandments; as Jesus says: "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments." These were the words and sentiments expressed by the aged veteran, who is widely known as a lecturer and exhibiting paintings representing the Carthage jail and the martyrdom of Joseph Smith and other scenes from the early days of the Church. Among the last words he spoke to us were these:

"I was lying under a tent on the banks of the Missouri river in Clay county, just across the Missouri river from Jackson county, and only a few miles from Independence, the center stake of Zion. On account of my bleeding wounds some thought I would die, but Elder Knight anointed me with oil, and laid hands on me, and I was healed, and I saw that night, from the tent door, one of the signs spoken of in the Bible, the falling of the stars. What a grand sight it was. The writer of this also saw this, the most grand sight of his life, in September, 1838, while he stood on the banks of the Silver lake, near Pontiac, Oakland county, Michigan Territory.

By request of our aged veteran, we anointed him with consecrated oil and laid our hands on him, joined by his son, who is over 60 years of age, and we blessed him that he may rest in peace and that in the due time of the Lord his body may return to the earth whence it came, and the spirit to God who gave it.

President Fjelsted and the writer