

remember the time that it was the middle of May before a plough was put in the ground in the valley; yet in that year an abundant harvest was raised.

There will be an immense amount of fruit. Some of our people believe that the Horticultural commission should have formulated a few more rules, so as to keep a man and a spray pump in his orchard all the year round. Some think it would be cheaper to cut the trees down. Law is a good thing, if you don't get too much of it; so is spraying.

Our Legislature was very good to the educators, colleges, and all officers in general; but our State and county roads were given the very small crumbe. Education and fat salaried professors are good, perhaps; but the State's highways are of some importance also, and how would it do in the near future to give the roads a pull on the State treasury? But who will do the lobbying? For unless someone does, the highways and byways will be left to the poll tax. If we only had some prominent people to take a carriage ride through the State, then we would have dandy roads, and that, too, without any tax, except free and unlimited elbow grease.

CACHE STATE quarterly conference was held in Logan on Saturday and Sunday, and if the weather had been ordered for the occasion it could not have been more lovely. Besides the State presidency we were favored with Elders John Henry Smith, John W. Taylor and M. W. Merrill of the council of the Apostles. The congregations were very large; every aisle and nook in the great building were crowded with extra benches, and then there was not room enough, and the question naturally arises when will the Latter-day Saints ever be able to build a house that will be large enough for the people? The Holy Spirit rested upon the Apostles in rich abundance. At no time in our history was a better feeling manifest. The glorious instructions given under such an outpouring of the Holy Ghost, together with grand music and song, made us feel that God was near to us in very deed. There is a good people living here; notwithstanding all their shortcomings they love the work of God in preference to all else. Peace and brotherhood abound.

At the conference it was voted that \$25,000 be raised by voluntary donation to extend the B. Y. College, and when Elder John W. Taylor called for the vote it was unanimous.

SALOP.

(GIRL FIRST, BOY NEXT.

Thomas H. Blackburn of Brigham City writes to the News as follows:

"I read in Sunday's Salt Lake Herald of April 18th, 1897. The biographical sketch of Joseph C. Kingsbury, one of the Pioneers, and I saw it was thought that his daughter Bathsheba, now Mrs. Robert Friar, was the first female white child born in Utah. She was born Nov. 19th, 1847. Since reading the above my attention has been called to a clipping from the DESERET NEWS of 1864, which is in the possession of my mother-in-law, Nancy Ann Kellar

Bigler (who is also a Pioneer of 1847), which reads as follows:

Married—At Toquerville, Washington county, Utah, by Bishop Joshua T. Willis, on Sunday, February 21st, 1864, Mr. James Stapley and Miss Young Elizabeth Steel.

The bride has the honor of being the first white child born in the Territory of Utah. She was born in the camp of the Pioneers, now the Temple block, Salt Lake City, August 9, 1847, at 4 a.m. Knowing you are desirous of giving honor to whom honor is due I what prompts me to send you this account which, if true, Mrs. James Stapley not only has the honor of being the first female child born but is the first white child born in Utah."

Whitney in his History of Utah, first volume, page 351, says: "The first white child born in Utah opened its eyes to the light on Monday, August 9th, 1847—two weeks and two days after the arrival of the Pioneers. This infantile reinforcement was a girl, the daughter of John and Catharine Campbell Steel, both of the Mormon Battalion, who came into the valley in Captain Brown's company, on the 29th of July. Their child was born at 4 o'clock a.m. in her father's tent on Temple block. She was named Young Elizabeth Steele, after President Young and Queen Elizabeth. The father, John Steel, was a mason, and according to his account built nearly one-third of the "Old Fort," with his own hands, using a trowel made by Burr Frost out of a saw blade. Mr. Steel claims to be the pioneer shoemaker of Utah. He resides at Toquerville, in the southern part of the Territory. His daughter lives a Kaurra, in Kane county, and is now Mrs. James Stapley.

"The first death in the Pioneer colony followed hard upon the heels of the original birth. It occurred two days later. The victim was a three year old child of George and Jane Therkitt—a grandchild of Robert Crow. Wandering away from camp a little to the south, it had fallen into the creek, where it was discovered, drowned, about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Every possible effort was made to restore it, but without avail. The parents mourned bitterly their loss, and a shadow of sympathetic gloom rested for a season upon the whole encampment."

Lorenzo Dow Young Jr., as fully established through the columns of the NEWS, was the first white male child born in Utah, making his advent into mortality September 20, 1847, forty-two days after the birth of little Miss Steel.

An incident occurred during that first winter of Pioneer life, says the historian, that illustrates the coolness and courage of the early heroines, the Pioneer women of Utah. It happened thus: Harriet Young, the mother of the first white male child born in Utah, was sitting with the infant in their solitary home on City Creek, to where they had removed from the fort against the advice of their friends who feared they might be killed by Indians, when an Indian came to the door and asked for "hiscut." He was a fierce, ill-looking fellow, known throughout the region as a "bad In-

dian." Mrs. Young going to her humble lair, gave the savage two or three small biscuits—all the bread she had in the house. He took them and asked for more. She gave him the remaining one and still he demanded more.

More she did not have, and so informed him. Furious he advanced, and fitting an arrow to his bow, aimed it at her heart, fiercely repeating the request. Cool and collected the brave woman faced her swarthy foe and for a moment thought that her last hour and that of her helpless babe had come. Not yet. An idea strikes her. In the next room, securely fastened, is a large dog, a powerful mastiff, purchased by her husband on leaving the fort, and kept on the premises for just such emergencies as the danger now threatening. Making a sign to the savage, as of compliance with his request, she passed into the next room, and hastily untying the dog, exclaimed, "Sleeze him." Like lightning the mastiff darted through the doorway, and a shriek of terror, quickly followed by a howl of pain, as the sharp canine teeth met in the redskin's thigh, told how well the faithful brute comprehended his mistress's peril, and the duty required in her defense. In all probability the Indian, prostrate and pleading vociferously for his life, would never again have risen, had not our heroine, in whose generous heart pity for the vanquished wretch at once took the place of the just anger she had momentarily felt, after prudently relieving him of his bow and arrow, called off the dog and set the wounded savage at liberty. He was badly hurt and cried bitterly. Mrs. Young magnanimously washed the wound, applied a large sticking plaster to the injured part, and sent him away a wiser if not a better Indian.

WEBER STAKE CONFERENCE.

OGDEN, Utah, April 19, 1897.—The quarterly conference of the Weber Stake was held in the Tabernacle, Ogden City, on Sunday, and Monday, April 18 and 19.

Long before the time for service on Sunday morning the building was filled to its utmost capacity, and a large number being unable to gain admission returned to their homes. On the stand were President Joseph F. Smith of the First Presidency of the Church, Elders Lorenzo Snow and F. D. Richards of the Twelve Apostles, the presidency of the Weber Stake, members of the High Council, Bishops and many other leading elders. Elder Lewis W. Shurtliff presided. Opening prayer was offered by Elder Robt. McQuarrie.

Elder N. O. Flygare reported the condition of the Stake, which he said was good.

Elder Lorenzo Snow spoke of the many blessings and privileges which the Latter-day Saints enjoy, and the duties and responsibilities they are under. He spoke at some length on temple work. He also strongly urged the Saints to be earnest and diligent in serving God, in overcoming the evils of the world, and especially in each one laboring to overcome and control himself.

Elder F. D. Richards was the next