

WHO WAS EARLIER.

Andrew Jenson of this city, who has been on the Old Folks' committee for a long time, and who is engaged in obtaining historical information relating to Utah and her people, writes to the NEWS as follows upon a very interesting subject:

A few years ago the Old Folks' committee, of Salt Lake City, offered as a prize a gold medal to the man who did the first plowing in Utah. According to the best information then at hand the medal was awarded to Mr. William Carter, of St. George, one of the Pioneers of 1847. Since then, however, several others—also pioneers of 1847—have claimed to be the first to plow in the valley of the Great Salt Lake; and to the number of the claimants is now added Mr. Levi N. Kendall, of Mapleton, Utah county, who during my recent visit to that place signed the following affidavit:

MAPLETON, Utah Co., Utah,
August 1, 1893.

I, Levi Newell Kendall, one of the Utah Pioneers of 1847, and now a resident of Mapleton precinct, county of Utah, Territory of Utah, being first duly sworn do positively say that I arrived on the present site of Salt Lake City on the 23rd day of July, 1847, in what is generally known in history as Orson Pratt's advance company, and that soon after having formed our encampment on or near what was subsequently known as the Eighth ward square, preparations were made to plow some land in order to plant potatoes and late vegetables. I yoked up three yoke of oxen which I hitched to the first plow that was gotten ready for service, and drove a short distance north of our encampment, when I turned the team eastward, and John S. Eldredge stuck the plow in the ground, and held it while I drove the team; and thus we two plowed the first furrow which was ever made by white men on the present site of Salt Lake City. After going about one hundred yards we broke our plow while endeavoring to pull through a patch of wire grass. I am positive that this was the very first attempt made by any of the pioneers to plow, and that none were ahead of us, but I remember that one or more teams started to plow directly after we had commenced.

LEVI N. KENDALL.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, Aaron Johnson, a justice of the peace in and for Mapleton precinct, Utah county, Utah Territory, this 1st day of August, 1893, in presence of the following named witnesses.

AARON JOHNSON.

Witnesses:—Leonard J. Whitney, Elizabeth C. Packard, Elizabeth M. Bird, Charles M. Bird, Edwin L. Whiting, S. D. Fullmer, William P. Fullmer, Richard L. Mendenhall, Herbert Manwaring, John Mendenhall, A. S. Fullmer, Eva Bird, Gertrude Perry, Andrew Jenson.

In the interest of accurate history I would suggest that all the other pioneers of 1847 who are yet alive and acquainted with the facts in the case furnish a written statement, similar to the one given by Mr. Kendall, in order that due credit may be given to the proper parties. The question having once been sprung and partly ventilated, I, for one, am anxious that it should be thoroughly investigated until a plain and definite answer can be given—an answer that will leave the historical without doubt as to which of the 143 men who first pioneered the way to these valleys belongs the honor of turning the first sod in what is now the Territory of Utah.

STAR VALLEY STAKE CONFERENCE.

The fourth quarterly conference of the Star Valley Stake of Zion convened at Afton August 12th and 13th, with a good representation from each of the different wards of the Stake. The health of the people is remarkably good, not one case of sickness of any kind in the whole Stake, as per reports of the several Bishops.

The teachings of the Elders who addressed the conference were very edifying as also instructive, being of a nature to unite the Saints together in their religion. They exhorted the Saints to be content with what they have, and avoid running in debt.

We have had a very hot, dry season up to the present, but we had a shower of rain during the afternoon of Sunday the 13th that set the hay makers to thinking how soon their hay would be dry enough to haul. The crops look tolerably well, and we live in expectation of a pretty fair harvest. We were much disappointed at not seeing any of the First Presidency of the Church on the stand, but we realize the great amount of responsibility resting upon them.

The Saints enjoyed a goodly portion of the Holy Spirit and they all felt to return thanks to our Heavenly Father for all He has blest us with here on earth.

WM. H. KENNINGTON SR.,
Stake Clerk.

NOTES.

A BOSTON woman who saw a group of native American women at the World's Fair was disappointed that the squaws were not wearing war-whoops.

FASHION NOTE:—Checks are not so popular as they once were, though in some places they seem to be much worn. Even the "certified" variety find difficult access to the best society.

A TRAMP in Nebraska who has been sentenced to ten days' hard labor and two baths per day thinks modern civilization has nothing to boast of in the barbarity of its penalties.

HURRAH FOR "the wild and woolly West!" Hon. Late Pence of Colorado, according to the *Congressional Record*, ran his lance into Mr. Rayner, of Maryland, for his phrase, "glittering catchwords," saying that he supposed he meant to say "catch-words."

A SILVER dollar may seem a small thing to the eastern gold lover; yet it was large enough to cause a suit for divorce in a New York court last week. The wife, who was also the complainant, claimed that her husband, the defendant, earned \$16 a week and only gave her \$15 of it.

SOME IDEA of the size of Texas may be formed from the estimate of a Lone Star statistician, that the population of the world, estimated at 1,400,000,000, if divided into families of five, could be accommodated in his state with a five-acre lot each, after which there would be fifty million lots left for parks and public buildings.

WHO DOESN'T like to eat peaches? Will it spoil their taste to say that according to medical men, the delicious

fruit is a tonic, an aperient, food and drink, good for the digestion, the complexion, the blood, redness of nose, wounds without cause, sciatica, gangrene, Georgia itch and house-maid's knee? Surely the peach is a good thing to keep in the house.

THE FINAL destination of the money that foolish depositors withdrew from the savings banks to insure its safety, is always an interesting matter. The latest contribution to such stories is that the victim of an upset boat in one of the Maine bays managed to swim ashore, but on touching land found he had lost a belt in which he had secreted \$1000 in gold.

LONG LIFE and prosperity to the Brooklyn hired girl, who, asking permission to go to the savings bank and being refused by her mistress with the offer from the latter of the loan of a little money if she needed it, patriotically explained: "I heard the banks were in trouble and I just thought I would go and deposit \$5 that I have saved up in my trunk!"

THE DIFFERENCE between the respective speed of the horse, the bicycle and the locomotive was well shown in the recent series of races from Berlin to Vienna: in the military ride, the winner covered the distance in 71 hours and 40 minutes; the winner of the bicycle race reached his destination in 31 hours; and the average express train makes the trip in 16 hours.

THE CLERGYMAN who is reported to have pledged himself to one-minute prayers was defeated for the position of chaplain of the House of Representatives, as he ought to have been. On most occasions short prayers are all right, and on other occasions long prayers are all right; but a place-seeking minister who lays down a platform for himself as to just how many words and how much time he shall use in his invocations can be considered neither pious nor God-fearing.

DESPITE THE alleged hard times the receipts of the license department show up as well now as they did six months ago. Many saloon keepers now pay their license in warrants.—*S. L. Tribune*.

That last clause explains it. As stated in these columns yesterday, the saloons have decided "to uphold the dignity and honor of the city by taking city warrants" for whisky. Receiving them at a small discount, and paying them over to the city treasury at par, plus the accrued interest, enables the thrifty saloon keepers to make a tidy profit on the transaction.

THE WASHINGTON dispatches, like those from Chicago during the recent silver convention, are enthusiastically silent concerning the eloquence and effort of one C. C. Goodwin of Salt Lake City. The hard-pressed silver men of Utah who guaranteed him during his absence his regular salary on his paper, his traveling and hotel expenses and one thousand dollars besides, have a right to ask something more for their generosity than he has furnished. Can it be, that when he gets among the real silver champions he is only a very small potato after all? Neither his picture nor his name have yet appeared in any of the responsible papers of the East.