SALE OF CHURCH BONDS

Action Taken with a View to Economy and Funding Pressing Indebtedness.

GOOD INVESTMENTS FOR HOME PEOPLE.

Bonds Run for a Period of Eleven Years and Bear Interest at the Rate of Six Per Cent.

In consequence of the financial condition of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, encouraged by the tedious and expensive litigation over the Church property, the difficulties which had to be contended with during the protracted prosecution under the laws of Congress and the peculiar construction of the courts in their enforcement, and other circumstances of an adverse nature, which for several years surrounded the Church, it has been compelled to borrow money from time to time, thus creating a debt which it is desirable as soon as possible to liquidate.

Money at a reasonable rate of interest has been offered to the Church from outside sources, but it was decided better that an opportunity should be given to our own people to advance means for this purpose. This matter has been in contemplation for some time and has been carefully considered, with a view to the interest of the Church and the benefit of individuals.

The Presiding Authorities have therefore determined to issue bonds, running for a period of eleven years and bearing interest at 6 per cent per annum—fifteen hundred to be of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, numbered consecutively from one to fifteen hundred; two hundred of the denomination of five hundred dollars each, numbered consecutively from one to two hundred; and two hundred and fifty of the denomination of one thousand dollars each, numbered consecutively from one to two hundred and fifty, the whole issue aggregating five hundred thousand dollars, all bearing date of December 31, 1898.

The security for the payment of these bonds and the interest thereon will be the pledge of the Trustee-in-Trust for and in behalf of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, made to each of the holders of such bonds and also to Lewis S. Hills and David Eccles, who are constituted trustees to act for the said bondholders, that enough money to pay the interest on the bonds on the first days of July and January in each year after the first day of January, 1899, shall be deposited at the Deseret National Bank, and that at least fifty thousand dollars from the income of the Church shall be deposited with the said trustees each year after the year 1899, to provide for the purchase of a portion of the bonds or to create a fund for their redemption. These arrangements will be offered by which the entire amount to pay for the principal and interest on the bonds will have been deposited in the form of eleven years. Never bonds, however, will be issued in redemption in five years from the date thereof.

The Church has an income which will accrue, undoubtedly, the payment of all its liabilities, including the interest on these bonds, and the principal according to their force, and its assets at the present time are fully equal in value to its indebtedness, apart from the annual income. The Church has always been solvent, and the necessity for borrowing funds has been caused by the pressure of circumstances which were forced upon it.

The bonds, which will be offered on the first of January, 1899, may be purchased by any persons who desire to invest in them. They should be taken by residents of Utah. The Latter-day Saints who can purchase one or more of these bonds will find them a safe and profitable investment. Their numbers will enable the Trustees-in-Trust to secure the interest, payable at a lower rate of interest, and the will make a considerable saving to the Church. The interest and principal will be paid in gold, and the Church, through its Trustees-in-Trust, will be full security for their redemption.

Application for the bonds should be made to

LORENZO SNOW,
Trustee-in-Trust.

DEATH OF ELDER JOHN RITTER.

A Member of the Mormon Battalion Passes Away.

Ogden City, Utah, Dec. 27, 1898.—Elder John Ritter was born in Wythe county, Virginia, on the 5th of December, 1826. He was the son of Michael and Phebe Hitter. In 1831 the family moved to Burke Garden, Va. In 1841, John Ritter, in company with his father, William R. Hightshoten and family, removed west from Virginia to Nauvoo, Ill. He had been baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He remained in Nauvoo until the fall of 1846, when he left for his home in Virginia. In the fall of 1847 he returned again to Nauvoo and remained there until the exodus in the spring of the following year. In 1848 he participated with the Saints in their expulsion from their habitations in Nauvoo, in the celebrated city.

He was a member of Hiram George Miller's company, and although he arrived in July of the same year at Council Bluffs, he was on the 1st of July, he responded to the call for a battalion to be raised and enlisted in the famous "Mormon Battalion," and with that now historical, five hundred strong, he took up his march to participate in the war with Mexico and California.

From Mexico he continued his march with his comrades in arms over the desert journey, until he arrived at Captain Jefferson Hunt's wagon train of the coast of California in January 27, 1847, where on July 4 of the following year, he was honorably discharged. There being no further need of the services of the battalion.

But John Ritter shrew after his discharge from the Battalion, enlisted in the Patton Mounted Rifles, and served faithfully under Captain Hunt until the 1st day of May, 1848, when he was again honorably discharged. He then made his way to Sutter's mill, working for wages in the gold mines, where he remained the next to the winter, when he left for Salt Lake City, arriving in Utah, and finally settled in Weber county, where he lived for a number of years, when he moved to Bear Lake county, Idaho, where he resided until his death, which occurred at the residence of Thomas Ritter on December 27, 1898.

John Ritter was a peaceable, law-abiding citizen, he was generous and hospitable, and was respected by all the people. He lived a quiet life, he was frugal, honest and industrious, he died at peace with his fellow-men, and he departed, he leaves not an enemy behind him.

The funeral services were held at Paris, on Monday, December 26, 1898.

JOSEPH HALL.

EVENTS IN THE WEST.

A Record of Occurrences in Neighboring States and Territories.

JAPANESE ARE PERMITTED TO LAND.

Final Distribution of Stanford Estate—Jeffries to Box Kennedy—Carlo Wilson Snatches—Shafter in Command.

At Dillon, near Louisville, Col., Wednesday, Lizzie Brown, colored, cooked for cooking. The girl was not in the house, and the cook, the Lizzie Brown, was produced her to her. Yesterday, the girl was found dead, her throat cut from ear to ear, the girl's throat was cut from ear to ear, the girl's throat was cut from ear to ear, the girl's throat was