

and justice within their party lines, they will be rendering the highest service to party fealty and preservation.

ELDER JOHN MORGAN DEAD.

It is with feelings of deep sorrow that we make the announcement of the death of Elder John Morgan, of the Presiding Council of the Seventies. The sad news will come with great and sudden force upon the people, for notwithstanding the fact that Elder Morgan has been seriously ill for about five weeks past, his demise was unexpected until a very short time before it occurred. He was suffering from typhoid-malaria, which culminated in his death at 5:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon, August 14, at Preston, Idaho. During his illness he received careful nursing and medical attention, but the body, worn by toil and anxiety, was overcome by the added burden of the disease which assailed it, and the spirit took its flight from mortality.

Elder Morgan was but five days over 52 years of age, having been born near Greensburgh, Decatur county, Indiana, August 8, 1842. His parents were Garrard Morgan and Eliza Ann Hamilton Morgan. During the war of the Rebellion, which broke out when he was eighteen years of age, he joined the Union army, and served with honor and distinction, participating in several of the most important battles. Coming to Utah at the close of the war, he soon was engaged as an instructor in the University, when that institution was conducted in the Council House. Later he established the Morgan commercial college, on First South street, in the building now occupied by the Morgan hotel.

On November 28, 1867, he became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Some years afterward he responded to a call as a missionary to the Southern States, which position he filled with ability and zeal. He was next appointed to the presidency of the Southern States mission, and in that capacity his devotion and energy in spreading the Gospel made for him a bright and lasting record. On the 7th of October, 1884, he was selected as one of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies, in which position he labored with diligence and faithfulness up to the time of his being stricken down. He also has held other positions of importance in the community, having been a member of the Utah Legislature and speaker of its house of representatives.

Elder Morgan was a man of strict probity and honor. Possessed of keen intellectual power and marked personal courage, he was an able, fearless expounder of Gospel truths; especially were these virtues exhibited during his long presidency of the Southern States mission, at a time when in that section of country the feeling was high against the Latter-day Saints. His ministrations were attended with power, and to the last his energies were earnestly devoted to the cause of truth which he had espoused. He has done much traveling and preaching among the Saints during the closing years of his life. In his death a true and good man has been called away, and the hearts

of all Israel will be bowed in sorrow with his family at the departure from our midst of a beloved servant of God.

The funeral service is to be held in the Salt Lake Assembly Hall tomorrow (Thursday) at 4 p. m. The body will be brought from Idaho and placed to rest in the cemetery in this city.

HOME-MADE OF 1856.

An old time resident of this city, commenting on the reference in Saturday evening's NEWS to the first Territorial Fair in Utah, held in the present NEWS building, says: "I well remember attending that Fair, and carefully surveying the exhibits. Our city was only nine years old then—it was in 1856—but we had a pretty good show. The people went to work with a will, and the exhibit was really wonderful for the time and conditions. There were several things then raised in the Territory which were shown prominently, but which now are practically unknown in its productions. One of these, for instance, was flax. It was shown as grown, and then in the various stages till it was developed into linen thread, home-made, and of the first quality. I remember one article in particular, a girl's dress, in which everything was home-produced material. It was of wool, and a plaid pattern. The raw wool had been taken and carded, spun and woven by hand. The dyeing was accomplished by means of peach leaves, tanbark, etc. The sewing was with homemade linen thread. Nothing not produced here was used, not even buttons, and as in the rush to get the garment ready there had not been time to cover wooden buttons with cloth, thorns from the hawthorn tree were substituted rather than use an importation, and the dress was placed on a dummy, showing to splendid advantage among its surroundings. Many other articles such as are not seen now except as imported also were in the homemade list. It was a genuine Utah Fair, and we enjoyed it as a great and successful exhibition for those times."

Connected with the same subject the speaker's wife, who, by the way, was a young bride then, told how her best dress was of plaid woolen goods, carded, spun, dyed, woven and made at home by her mother, two sisters and herself; the mother spinning the linen thread from the flax on a little old-fashioned spinning wheel run by foot power, and the woolen fabric receiving the attention of the daughters in its entire manufacture, while a dainty hat of the latest fashion was of home-made strawbraid, the work of the wearer's own hands. "And," she added, with a commendable feeling of pride, "we never have had better wearing goods than those we made ourselves."

We do not want to go back to the old handmade style of goods, for the reason that we have improved machinery for manufacture. But we do need a revival of the enthusiasm and pride regarding homemade articles that were manifested over a third of a century ago, and which still have place in the bosoms of Utah's real friends and workers. Today it would be difficult to produce as perfect a

home-made dress as in the first Fair, for there is now no linen thread made here, though the flax industry should have a prominent place in the Territory's business; possibly Utah silken thread might be used, and if it could be done it would be a good idea to have a home-made—buttons and all—dress at the next Fair. But the lesson is that there are other branches, worked at in earlier days, than prosper in Utah at present, which could be developed to advantage.

DISASTER PROPHETS.

The number of those who make "scientific predictions" of events of a calamitous nature that are coming on the earth has increased greatly during the past few years, until now their name is legion. This suggestion is made without reference to those in the signal service who foretell various changes in the weather, and among whom an examination is in progress at Washington, with the view on the part of the government of cultivating and developing the prophetic qualification among part of its employees. The class in mind consists of those who, having received an education in scientific studies in secular institutions of learning, now are making the information obtained the basis of predictions regarding earthquakes, tidal waves, etc., under the claim that they are the result of scientific investigation.

It is but a few weeks since one of these scientific disaster prophets made the prediction that on the 16th inst., or Thursday next, the city of New York would be the scene of a great seismic disturbance. The earthquake is to be very destructive in its effects, but while the Gothamites are to be terribly shaken, the foundations of their city are to remain for future availability. It is said that some of the predictions made from this source have been literally fulfilled, therefore those who accept this as evidence of the maker's prophetic power are in a state of nervous dread. Even if this prediction should fail, New York is to have another chance on August 30, when the greatest earthquake of the year, according to Professor Falb, is to take place there; this latter warning, however, is accompanied by the saving clause that a few hours' delay in getting the business started may transfer the scene of disaster to another place, but come it will, somewhere.

According to Professor Falb, however, Kate Field's claim that Chicago is to become the great commercial city of the country is not likely to be contested by New York, for the latter city is to be wholly destroyed. Falb also fixes the date at a sufficiently distant time for most of its people to move out if they do not desire to find a resting place at the bottom of the sea. He says that in July or August next a great submarine earthquake will get in its work, swamping the city of New York under a tidal wave, and making islands of Florida and California. In the latter connection the West is to do considerable trembling.

The most disturbing prediction in the Falb calendar, however, is that regarding the proposed conduct of what is known as the comet of 1868. He says that on