

hunting facts, however, he could easily have learned that not one-fourth of the people of Scipio use ditch water for household purposes, as we have an excellent supply of well water; also that at the time he was here nine-tenths of the water coming to town by canal did not come from the reservoir at all but direct from springs at the foot of the mountain in a canal made by our people some years ago for that special purpose.

With reference to the charge that "there is at present no restriction whatever to prevent the spread of the disease," I will say: sore throat made its appearance here last winter, one member of a family only, perhaps having it; then after a while it would appear in another family, the symptoms differing very much in different cases. Some time after, one or two children died and the people became a little alarmed, some fearing it was diphtheria. Application was made to the county court and they sent Dr. Keene from Fillmore to investigate. The doctor reported absolutely no diphtheria, but malignant sore throat, advised us that the disease was contagious, and that we should be cautious.

At once Sunday school and Primary meetings were discontinued, and those who had sickness in their houses were advised to keep from associating with other people. Matters did not look very serious until about two weeks ago, when we had very stormy weather, as it rained several days. This seemed to have a very bad effect upon several who had appeared to be improving nicely and we had four deaths (three in one family) in eight days. Dr. Witcher was telegraphed for at once and the county court was applied to for the appointment of health commissioners. The appointment was made while Dr. Witcher was here and he was so informed, and one of the commissions applied to the doctor for instructions with reference to quarantine, disinfectants, etc. We have no town organization and before the appointment of the health commission there was no authority to force matters, but all that persuasion could do was done.

As soon as the commissioners were appointed they went to work, and every house where there is sickness has been visited daily since and as strict quarantine regulations as seemed necessary have been adopted; and I am thankful to say that we have not had a death in town since (except an old lady eighty-nine years of age, and no sore throat had been within several blocks of where she lived) and all that were sick are recovering nicely. We have but two cases in town now that are at all serious and they are improving.

The Tribune's report of Dr. Witcher's statement says that during the doctor's brief stay in town nine new cases were developed. Those who have been working with this malady from the commencement can count but six new cases from the day the doctor arrived until now (six days). Also that "the people did not take kindly to medical assistance." I am at a loss to find a reason for this statement. The gentleman visited just four families in which there were sick children. In one he administered anti-toxin to three persons, one young lady and two little

boys. I have talked with the heads of three of the four families, with the young lady named and with the father of the lady of the fourth house who took the doctor to the lady's house and introduced him to the family, and not one of these have manifested any but the kindest feelings towards the doctor. I have investigated the matter thoroughly and can find but one slight circumstance that could have caused the doctor's displeasure. On being introduced to one of our citizens, the doctor said something about having been sent by the State board of health. The Scipio man inquired what was meant by State board of health and was informed that it had recently been called into existence by the Governor acting under a law of the last Legislature. A law book was secured and the doctor asked to point out the law, which he essayed to do but failed. I am told by the gentleman in question and by a gentleman who introduced the two and was present during the whole interview, that there was nothing unkind or discourteous said; but the doctor did not evidently enjoy it. This is the only circumstance that I have been able to discover that could be called at all unpleasant in connection with the doctor's very short stay here, and the curious part of this is that the citizen referred had no need of medical assistance, as he had no sickness in his family.

SCIPIO.

SCIPIO'S DIPHTHERIA.

SCIPIO, Millard Co., Utah.

August 7, 1896.

Your correspondent read a clipping from your valuable paper, sent by a friend, under caption "Scipio's Diphtheria," and thought a truthful statement of the sickness in this town would be acceptable to you and many an interested reader. As usual the NEWS takes the "awful" report in this instance with a few grains of salt, and rightly so. The writer is no doctor, but has stayed here a little longer than did Dr. Witcher, who made himself quite important the sixteen hours he was in town; but I have kept my eyes open and know quite well the situation with regard to now many cases of sickness there are at present, how many have died, etc.

There are today eighteen cases of sickness among children, and of these only two are known to be diphtheria, and they are on a fair road to recovery. The other sixteen are all running around in the houses playing; they are treated for sore throat, and are kept at home. There have been ten deaths in four months, and of these only three are known to have died from diphtheria—all three belonging to one family, and having died inside of ten days. I am told there was not one public funeral. There are no Sunday schools held, and the day schools are out in session. The people have been advised by Bishop Yates to be very cautious, and so careful seem they to be that they not even attend public worship, there being only about a dozen people to worship last Sunday afternoon. Here is a board of health composed of intelligent and prominent townsmen, who are taking active measures to check the spread of any disease. There has not

been nine new cases since your correspondent has been here (about a week) nor a number anywhere near it. As for the amount of anti-toxin used by the doctor while here, as reported in the Tribune, he must have poured a lot in the three poor children's stomachs, that being the number he treated with the stuff named the few hours he stayed here.

It is had enough as it is, and is to be regretted that such a number of children are at present somewhat afflicted, but it is not so bad as Dr. Witcher has reported it to be, even at the cost of the doctor's free advertisement. The blame has been laid to a certain reservoir. There might be something in that of course, since it is in that locality that the most cases have occurred, which is in the southeastern part of town, but if that is the case, their will be no more sickness from that source, as they do not now use that water for culinary purposes. This is a town inhabited by intelligent, industrious and good, common sense people—as loving parents as you can find—who do all in their power to check the disease and alleviate those who are yet suffering. From the peculiar utterings by the doctor to one of our citizens and an ex-member of the last State Legislature, he is certainly a peculiar man.

Cutting of grain has commenced here; the farmer is pretty busy just now, but much of his hopes and anticipations this season were blasted through the recent damages by flood.

Yours respectfully,

HUGO PETERSON.

TOOELE STAKE CONFERENCE.

GRANTSVILLE, Tooele Co.,

August 6th, 1896.

The Quarterly Conference of the Tooele Stake was held at Grantsville, Sunday and Monday, August 2nd and 3rd, 1896.

Sunday morning was devoted to the Sunday school, the services being held in the academy. After singing and prayer, the Sacrament was administered and the following exercises were presented: song by the primary department; questions and answers on the life of Christ by members of the first Intermediate; Articles of Faith by the school. Superintendent A. G. Johnson stated that at our last Conference it was decided that the Sunday School occupy the morning session. Reported the Sunday schools of the Stake were in good condition and a good work was being accomplished. Elder F. M. Lyman said this was a new departure but it was a good one. As a great many of the children did not attend the quarterly conference and had not the privilege of sustaining the authorities of the Church. But this should be done; he felt that it would be acceptable to the Lord and to His servants. Stake President Gowans presented the authorities of the Church and Stake and they were unanimously sustained; he also made a few remarks.

The 2 p. m. meeting was held in the Locust Grove; present Elders F. M. Lyman and J. W. Taylor of the Apostles, President Gowans and Counselors, the Bishops of all the wards of the Stake, and others of the leading Elders of the Stake. After