

A grand patriotic festival will be celebrated at the Royal Opera House of Stockholm in the middle of next month. The entertainment is being arranged by the Women's society for the benefit of Sweden's naval defense, the proceeds to go to the same.

"The Merry Wives," a new comedy by Jonas Lie, the famous Norwegian author, was given at the Christiania theater last Monday night, being received with great enthusiasm. King Oscar and Henrik Ibsen attended the performance.

Miss Maria Petrini, a Swedish songstress, who has been singing at concerts in Milan, Italy, with great success, has been simultaneously offered engagements as prima donna at the Scala theater in Milan and the San Carlo theater in Naples.

The people of two small farms at Kvaenangen, Norway, were buried under an avalanche a few days ago. Eleven persons perished, and the only thing left of the two farms is a stable, where some cattle were found and—rescued.

### JACKSON COUNTY VETERAN.

Having seen a request in the NEWS for names of those who were driven from Jackson county in 1833, I have a few words to say for the benefit of those that wish to know how many remain at the present time. My acquaintance with Brother Dibble was limited. While I was employed in the Whitmer families, my own hands cleared the field for Christian Whitmer, on which the battle of Zion was fought, where Dibble was wounded and young Barber was killed, and where Lawyer Brazeale lay his body down in disgrace for somebody else to remove it. Having business with James H. Flourney, a merchant, and one of the seven councillors of the mob proceedings, he said to me on leaving his store: "Now, young man, I advise you not to be around town today, as they will bring in Brazeale's body, and there will be great excitement." I thanked him and said that I had no further business with any man in this county, and would go direct home to leave. On my way home, in a piece of timber land I met sixteen of the mob, mounted, all armed with rifles. They did not speak until quite near. I said "Good morning, gentlemen," as though nothing unusual had occurred. Their leader said, "Are you a Mormon?" "Yes, sir;" "Are you going to leave this county?" "Yes, sir." Then followed a terrible warning and some credit too for addressing them and they turned and rode off as mobbers only could ride.

If the roll was called for the heads of families that were driven from Jackson county in 1833, there would be few to answer; yet a rich blessing of experience has come to those between that year and 1895, and a far richer blessing awaits those who remain faithful until God shall call them.

I am a living witness that the Lord has many times caused the wrath of man to honor His holy name, and has caused the feet of his Saints to be more permanently established in the place where he would have them to be.

I now wish to bear a humble testimony to the Divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith, who laid the

foundation for blessing to all the world, which cannot be comprehended now, but grows and increases as the years pass by; and those men who have succeeded him in the Presidency of this Church have been men of the highest character among the Prophets of God.

My age is 81 years past. I was married by Elder William Waterman Phelps, early in May, 1833, in Jackson county, Missouri. My residence is Albion ward, Cassia Stake of Zion, Idaho.

Respectfully,

JAMES STAPLETON LEWIS.

March 11, 1895.

### LABORS IN INDIAN TERRITORY.

MANARD, I. T., March 7, 1895.

The warm and lovely spring is at our doors in this land of the Lamanites, and as I thought a few items regarding the work of the Elders in this part of God's vineyard would be of interest to you, as well as to those who are interested in the work of salvation, I humbly ask a small place in your ever-welcome columns.

The Elders (without an exception I believe) are enjoying good health and are preparing for a good and glorious work this coming year. We are all enjoying the spirit of our calling; although we are met with opposition on every hand, it only makes us stronger in the cause for which we are laboring, and we, as the servants of the living God, forgive those who treat us so lightly, for we feel to say in the language of our Savior, "Forgive them, Father, for they know not what they do." We are satisfied that we are teaching a doctrine against which not one Scriptural argument can be adduced, and that is an incentive to push on; and we are pushing to the front, and expect, under the guiding influence of the Holy Spirit, to overcome all opposition arrayed against us.

The people generally who entertain us, and will give us a chance to explain our faith, are willing to admit of its purity, and wonder at the persecutions heaped upon us for preaching a principle which is probable, possible, and Scriptural; but, dear editor, we have a great element to contend with in the shape of books, professing to be a history of the Mormons, written by unprincipled men for the sake of making money, and introduced by different denominations to injure our cause in this part of the World where we are making many friends. But wherever I have had a chance to put my testimony against these slanderous publications I have left a knowledge of their falsity, and a desire on the part of the people to learn more of our people, which information I am able and willing to give, knowing, as I do, that they are used against us to further their unprincipled actions in hardening the hearts of the people against us as the servants of God. With every passing day, I love with increasing ardor, the Church to which I have consecrated my life; I believe in every syllable of the doctrine; I approve every feature of the policy, and I rejoice in almost every chapter of her well-nigh miraculous history; and all the Elders who are out in the different parts of the world should be broad-minded and liberal men, and of a warm, hearty and responsive nature, always ready to explain in the most

simple and interesting manner the principles we are advocating.

Myself and Brother Gheen visited the interesting town of Muskogee, which contains about 5,000 inhabitants, where we met with many friends who wished very much to hear us preach, but as we could not procure a house, and as the weather is too cold for outdoor meetings, we concluded to defer the pleasure until some future time. I think the time is not far distant when the Latter-day Saint Elders will have an opportunity of holding meetings in all of the towns located in this territory. All it needs is perseverance and a full conviction of the divine principles they are advocating, with faith in the promises that God has made to His servants in all ages of the world, who are trying to serve Him in spirit and in truth; for He says that His Gospel must be preached to all nations, and then shall the end come. We as His servants, having been divinely called to carry this message of truth and salvation to all parts of the world, should sense the responsibility, and also the position we hold in this great calling, and endeavor to fill the trust reposed in us, not varying or returning a hair's breadth from the line of our duty, though met with opposition, trials and the tribulations which have characterized the work of our fathers of old; for in the words of our Savior, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruits, and that your fruit should remain, that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." With this conviction stamped upon the tablets of our minds and hearts, we shall be able to do a great and mighty work; and that God will help us to this end, and asking that we may have the prayers of our brothers and sisters in the cause of Truth, I remain, your brother in the Gospel of Christ,

P. H. MARGETTS.

### KANAB STAKE CONFERENCE.

The Kanab Stake quarterly conference was held in Kanab March 2nd and 3rd, 1895. There were present on this occasion the Kanab Stake presidency, the majority of the High Councilors and Bishops, also a very good attendance of the people. The remarks of the brethren during conference were edifying and instructive to the Saint; subjects treated upon principally were history of the children of Israel, restoration of the Gospel, apostasy of the primitive Church, the first principles of the Gospel, salvation for the dead, tithing, etc.

There is a falling off in the value of the tithing paid, which is mostly attributed to the decline in prices of the various kinds of animals.

The general authorities of the Church and Stake were unanimously sustained by the Saints assembled.

The Sabbath school held a review Sunday evening, and the various societies and associations held their conference as usual.

We have had a considerable downfall of snow and rain this winter. Notwithstanding many cattle have perished, the stockmen and farmers feel to rejoice that the earth is once more prepared to bring forth its vegetation.

F. L. PORTER, Stake Clerk.