

lot of advertising out of having made such wonderful costumes for the Empress of Japan. They displayed the dresses for a week or so before they were forwarded to the empress, and by this display incurred the disgust of the refined court circles of Tokio.

*Frank G. Carpenter*

### PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

I am the only child of Robert B. and Mercy R. Thompson; my father was private secretary for Joseph Smith and associate editor of the Times and Seasons. He died in Nauvoo August 27, 1841. My mother was sister to President Joseph F. Smith's mother. When we crossed the Plains in 1847 I was nine years old. Mother was a widow. Her journal says she brought \$100 worth of cow bells, which filled a great need, and \$300 worth of general merchandise, two sides of sole leather and one of upper leather. In the list is mentioned shoes, combs, sewing silk, twist and a large quantity of linen threads.

As a secondary consideration she mentions some silk dress patterns, velvets, silks and ribbons for bonnets and laces for caps (which were then worn). Then she remembered prospective needs and brought fine flannels, soft muslins and general baby furnishings. A little one came to Captain Van Cott's wagon. I often wonder if the dear child over whom we were so anxious is still living.

In 1847 a liberty pole was raised in the Fort, and the blessed Stars and Stripes unfurled thereon. In the year 1848 we passed a trying ordeal of want for food; we only allowed ourselves to use two-thirds of the very little that we could raise; the other third must be reserved for next year's seed.

I was only one of many who often went to bed hungry. I never thought we would starve for I knew God had sent quails to the camp, and I had been taught that he would send manna. One day when I was very hungry I went behind the bed curtain, knelt down, clasped my hands and prayed for bread. I told my heavenly Father if He would open the way for me to have what bread I wanted I would be satisfied without anything with it. Though at the time but ten years old, the remembrance of that fervent prayer and promise remained with me. Mother and I went to the lot and found a few small patches of wheat that were ripe. We cut it with our sickle, threshed it out with willow, then took it over to Brother Orr's handmill and ground it. It filled a two-quart pail; we took it home and made some pancakes. To me these were the very best pancakes that I have ever eaten.

Later I remember Sister Mary A. Young, wife of President Young and mother of Elder Brigham Young, now of the Apostles, coming to our house with Sister Lorenzo Young and Sister Chase, to purchase sewing silk to make a bolting cloth for the first flour mill that was built here. Mother sold her goods to the Pioneers for the price they sold at in Missouri. Elder Parley P. Pratt of the council of Apostles blessed her for so doing, and told her she

should never lack for the necessities of life, and that her possessions should increase. I have seen these promises verified.

Does any one remember a outlery that was started here in the early day? I have a little knife that was made there.

MARY JANE THOMPSON.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The Sunday school conference held last Saturday in the Ogden tabernacle was one of the most interesting ever witnessed in the Stake. There were present of the general superintendency of Sunday schools Elders George Goddard, George Reynolds and Joseph Summerhays, and of the superintendency of the Stake Elders R. Ballantyne, L. F. Moeuch and Thos. B. Evans; also Elders Middleton and Flygare of the Stake presidency, together with Bishops and local superintendents of a large number of Sunday schools.

The meeting was called to order on Saturday morning by Assistant Superintendent L. F. Moeuch.

After singing and prayer the primary classes of the five different city wards, under the leadership of Mrs. Hattie Woodmansee, recited the Lord's prayer. This was followed by remarks from one of the visiting superintendents. The primary grades next gave an exercise to prove that immersion is necessary for the proper mode of baptism. The classes did exceedingly well, and much credit is due Mrs. Woodmansee.

Elder Robert McQuarrie addressed the little children for a short time after which Mrs. Emma Shreeves conducted a class exercise with the first intermediate department on the ten commandments and the object of baptism. The exercises were very interesting.

Elder George Goddard addressed the little folks on the Word of Wisdom and on different parts of the decalogue. After singing and praying the morning session adjourned until 2 p. m.

Promptly at 2 the meeting was called to order. Singing and prayer was followed by a class exercise from the second intermediate department of a portion of the sermon on the Mount, led by Prof. R. T. Haag of the Weber Stake Academy and representing the Third ward Sunday school.

This was followed by Elder C. F. Middleton, who spoke in the highest terms of the work carried on in the Sabbath schools of the Stake, which success he attributed to the vigilance and energy of the superintendency of the Stake and to the excellent training which many of the teachers received from the S. S. course of the Weber Stake Academy.

Prof. Haag next presented a class exercise, proving that baptism must be administered by one having authority. This was one of the best exercises rendered during the conference, the work shows careful preparation and efficient training, reflecting great credit on the teacher and his pupils.

Supt.intendent Goddard sang one of his charming hymns, which was followed by complimentary remarks on what he had seen and heard, declaring that it had been one of the most interesting conferences thus far, he had attended.

Elder George Reynolds of the Sunday School Union board was the next speaker. He stated that the exercises were as perfect as it was possible to prepare them. He gave valuable counsel to both teachers and parents, exhorting them to diligence in the noble cause which they had espoused. Singing and prayer over, the conference adjourned till Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

It was a grand sight Sunday morning at half past nine to see the several Sabbath schools from the various wards under the leadership of their superintendents, and in some cases Bishops, march to the Ogden Tabernacle. The house was crowded a few moments after ten and the vast congregation was called to order. After singing and prayer the Theological department, under Prof. T. B. Lewis, recited the Articles of Faith. "Baptism essential to salvation," was recited as a class exercise.

Asst. Supt. L. F. Moeuch followed with a brief report of the work carried on in the Sabbath school cause in Weber Stake. He showed that there are 6,000 children enrolled, with an average attendance of over 3,840. The highest per cent, attained in any school 88, and the average 65 per cent.

The visiting brethren occupied the remainder of the time, interspersed with songs by Supt. Goddard. After the morning session a brief teachers' meeting was held.

At 2 p. m. the meeting was called to order and after singing and prayer, the general superintendency of the Sabbath schools and the local superintendency of the Stake, together with missionaries, were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elders Joseph Summerhays, George Reynolds and George Goddard occupied the time. The points touched upon principally were: Complete enrollment of all the children; punctuality in attendance and opening school; the Word of Wisdom; the necessity of teachers attending Sabbath meetings as an example to the children; the sustaining of the Priesthood; observance of the law of tithing. It was clearly demonstrated by these brethren that those teachers who carefully observed these things were more safe in doctrine than those who did not. It was the deed of the word and not the hearer whom the Lord especially loved and blessed. The brethren were filled with the spirit of their calling and the Lord blessed them. Supt. Goddard especially was in his happiest mood, and his plain illustrations, interspersed with his favorite and simple songs, will never be forgotten by young or old, all of whom listened to him with delight.

Supt. Ballantyne, with a powerful exhortation to energy on the part of the teachers and with thankfulness to God for blessing the Sabbath school cause so abundantly, closed the exceedingly interesting session. All of the schools united in singing The Cause of Truth. Elder Robert McQuarrie pronounced the benediction and the conference adjourned for one year.

JOSEPH BURTON,  
Secretary.

The Labor Exchange of Bakersfield, Cal., is making an effort to raise \$5,000 with which to start a cannery this summer.