

without even sounding a solemn note of warning. It was intended to have made elaborate preparations for the entertainment of the professor on his return from the Park, but he failed to apprise those directly concerned of his coming, and therefore that which was done was done in a hurry, but nevertheless in a style which made all hands feel happy and contented.

Shortly after daybreak on Sunday morning the word was quietly whispered that Prof. Evan Stephens was in town. It got to the ears of Charles J. Durrans, leader of the new Stake choir, and, communicating the information to his wife and several others, a handful of energetic workers commenced to stir and did not cease until the reception was over and the honored guest and his companion had done their respective parts and retired from the musical arena for the night. The reception was under the auspices of the Stake choir and was made up largely of vocal selections by Prof. Stephens, "his boy Will," the choir and others, although a big item on the program was a speech to the choir by the guest of the evening in which he encouraged the members on, and bespoke for them a bright future as a musical organization if they would but "stick together" and "go in with a will" under the guiding hand of Elder Durrans, their able and esteemed leader. Another item was a word of welcome to the visitors from Elder Thomas E. Bassett of the Bannock Stake presidency, after which ice cream and cake made their appearance, a bevy of smiling and well pleased lassies dispensing the refreshments with an energy and will that was indeed appetizing.

There were present about 100 members of the Stake choir, the Burton, Salem, North Salem and Rexburg wards being well represented. Those of the choir not present lived in more remote localities and hence could not be notified in time. A number of Salt Lake visitors were present, as well as your correspondent, who, by the way, was treated with a courtesy and kindness which candor compels him to confess was really not his due. Be that as it may, however, the choir members did themselves proud, and right well did the guests and honored ones of the evening enjoy themselves.

A revivification has set in for the Bannock Stake choir, as it is now being raised from its former disorganized, lethargic state, to one activity, energy and push. Leader Durrans is the right man in the right place—a fact which was nicely emphasized by Prof. Stephens—while Mr. Thomas Elliott as organist, Miss Minnie Hinkley as assistant, and a nice band of well trained voices, the organization promises to come to the front at no very distant date. A leading spirit in the Bannock choir is Brother A. L. Blackburn, formerly a member of the Tabernacle choir, and a diplomaed teacher of music in the Stake academy.

Messrs. Stephens and Christopherson left Monday, homeward bound. They expect to reach Salt Lake by Sunday next.

Dan Hopkins, the postmaster moralizes in this wise: "Some keep butcher shops, some saloons, and others restaurants, while I—well I looked for something that would keep me."

There is a strong probability that before long Rexburg will again be battling with St. Anthony for the county seat.

Ira N. Hinkley, the old Battalion boy and early Utah settler, is a familiar figure in the town of Rexburg.

Salt Lake is well represented in this "neck o' the woods"—that is by former Salt Lake residents.

The sensation and rather unique experience of being shaved by the mayor is one of the inducements Rex-

burg has to offer visitors to that locality. Mayor Woodvine is a tonsorial artist and practices his profession too.

Merchant Flamm has a two story rock building nearing completion which, when finished, will be the pride of the town, in the way of buildings.

Bishop T. J. Winter and family have just returned from a trip to the park. Accompanying them was Miss Annie Clegg, a well known young lady of Burg.

Main street here is adorned with a wooden sidewalk, which the city fathers intend to extend throughout the municipality.

The only objection Salt Lakers have to visiting Rexburg, is the horrible dirty roads they have to travel over between here and Market Lake.

H. B. JR.

GOOD MINES IN THE NORTH.

Paris, Idaho, August 23, 1897.

Leaving Fish Haven for St. Charles, one bids good bye to beautiful Bear Lake.

St. Charles and Bloomington are two very pretty towns, and all the grains and some fruit flourish here.

The seasons are changing here for better as the years come and go—as President Brigham Young said they would.

Wheat is coming to the front. Many are sowing fall grain now as the farmers claim it is better sown this early. Last November those three days of very heavy frost which were so destructive all over the West, did much damage to winter wheat, as it killed many thousands of bushels in this valley.

Bloomington Co-op. is a fine institution, and is one among the few that have outlived the demon of the credit system, and of poor management. W. Hulme has redeemed it twice from going over the rapids, and today its fine buildings and well kept stock show it is not only well managed, but prosperous.

Here, and at St. Charles I had the privilege of listening to Elders B. H. Roberts, Todd and Hull, and their talented company of sweet singers. Easton, Lamoreaux, Miss Viola Pratt and Mrs. M. Hull.

Paris is a well built city, as it is now incorporated. The buildings are solid and show that a master mind has guided the building up not only of Paris, but of Bear Lake valley. Elders C. C. Rich and the life work of William Budge will live in all coming time.

Y. M. M. I. conference was held in the tabernacle at 10 a. m. Saturday, August 21st. There was a very fair congregation for such a busy season of the year. The sermons of Elder B. H. Roberts and his brethren will be long remembered here. It would be impossible to do any kind of justice to the sermons unless they were reported in full. Such work as is being done in Bear Lake valley by this company would be a blessing in many other of the Stakes of Zion. The services in the afternoon were well attended.

The concert was held Saturday evening in the tabernacle at 8 o'clock. There was a large attendance. Miss Horsley presided at the organ (a \$1,500 instrument), and Mr. Shepherd at the piano. The program was a good one. The opening was an anthem, Daughters of Zion, by the Paris choir. Messrs. Easton, Lamoreaux, and Miss Viola Pratt, also Mrs. Hull, sang as I believe they never sang before. The audience were very liberal in their applause, and these talented ladies and gentlemen had to answer again and again. The people come from miles around and say the good of this Young Men's conference, and concert will bear fruit for a long time to come.

On Sunday an immense congregation assembled from all parts of the Stake. Elder B. H. Roberts was the principal speaker. He took for his subject faith, and the witness for God.

For myself I can truly say I felt like one of old when he said, "I was glad when they said unto me, come let us go up to the house of the Lord."

The ladies and gentlemen accompanying the Elders sang during the conference, and at the close. Brother Easton sang, Oh, My Father. The attention of the audience showed their appreciation of this divine melody.

Sisters Freeze and Campbell will entertain the young ladies during the coming week, so that Bear Lake Stake of Zion has been and will be highly favored during these two weeks.

Elder Wm. Budge has been indisposed for a few days but was able to attend Sunday services. SALOP.

DREADFUL FATALITY.

Pinto, Aug. 10, 1897.

A very sad occurrence happened here on the 8th inst.—the death of the two smallest children of Charles E. and Maria Westover Knell, Willie and Louis, aged three and six years.

Between the hours of 2 p.m. and 3 p.m., while the people were in meeting, a fire broke out in the barn and sheds of C. E. Knell and was discovered by Mrs. Jane Harrison and Thos. Tullis at about the same time. Mr. Tullis immediately alarmed the people in meeting, and the water was turned down to the fire and every effort made to confine it and keep it from spreading. This was successful. It appears that the two little boys went down to find the chickens a short time before and their mother felt impressed that they were in the barn where she saw the fire; but no human power could have saved them, as the whole place was in flames. Mr. Tullis was the first at the fire and looked as well as he could to see if anybody was in the stables or barn, but could not see anything. For a long time it was supposed the little fellows had gone off to the field, as they did sometimes, but when time passed and they could not be found, it seemed certain that they were in the fire and a feeling of horror went to the heart of every person. As soon as the fire had been reduced so as to allow the men to work, a search for the little bodies was commenced and not until almost every foot of the barn and stable had been searched were they found. They were laying almost side by side on their faces, evidently smothered to death.

It is not known how the fire originated but is supposed the little fellows started it themselves and got smothered before they could escape.

The funeral services were held on the 9th inst. A large number of people followed the remains to the grave and quite a number of people came from within the bereaved.

The father of the children was not at home at the time of the fire but came about 8 o'clock the same evening.

On the 10th the young men turned out and cleared away the trash and built a chicken coop and corral for Brother Knell and since then some hay has been donated, also lumber. All of Brother Knell's hay (except the last cutting of lucern) was in and around the barn and was almost all destroyed. A set of harness, two trunks with some clothing and books were also destroyed, the latter belonging to Mr. C. C. Westover.

J. H. HARRISON.

Better prices in wheat are praised by all except those who have to pay them.