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TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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A WORKER IN ISRAEL GONE.

Elder Geo. Goddard Passes from This Life at a Ripe Old Age.

HONORED AND BELOVED.

At 1:55 a. m. Today His Spirit Departed Peacefully—His Life and Labors—Funeral at the Tabernacle.

"Brother George Goddard is dead," is a sentence spoken today that will cause a feeling of solemnity throughout all the cities, towns and villages of the intermountain region among the aged, the middle aged, and the young. Few men were better known in this part of the country, and where known none were more generally respected and beloved than Elder George Goddard, whose life labors for good have lasted among the old as well as the young, and have extended throughout all these mountain valleys.

Elder Goddard's illness has been quite brief, and its serious nature was not fully realized till yesterday, when, as the "News" stated, affairs took a critical turn. He was given every attention from the first, but the attack of la grippe which followed a severe cold contracted about ten days ago was too much for one of his advanced years, and his noble spirit peacefully took flight at 1:55 a. m. today, January 12th. Of Brother George Goddard it may be truly said that he made the world better for having lived in it.

The date for the funeral service has not yet been fixed. A daughter of the deceased, Mrs. Mary Whitehead of St. George, is on the way to this city and is expected here by Saturday evening.

The funeral services will be held in the Tabernacle on Sunday next, January 15th, commencing at 2 p. m. Sunday school workers and the public generally are invited.

It would take a large volume to contain the good works of Brother Goddard during his nearly half century's residence in Utah. He is most generally known among the people because of his connection with the Sunday schools, in which he has been an indefatigable worker since 1852. All the school children honored and loved him, and a space or song from Brother Goddard always delighted them, and never failed to be repeats with kind words and noble sentiments. As a veteran worker in the Old Folks' committee he was also equally highly esteemed, and in his benevolent kindness and good cheer new no distinction of creed or color. As an individual his power for good was in perfect accord with his teachings. His character was above reproach. For illustration, when he urged the people to observe the Word of Wisdom by abstaining from tobacco, strong drink, and all evil habits, his hearers knew that Brother Goddard practiced what he was preaching. His intellectual faculties were unimpaired to the last, and his counsels and efforts to do good went hand in hand.

SOME OF HIS WORK.

Two months ago, Elder Goddard furnished Elder Heber J. Grant with a short autobiography, some other historical data, and a copy of his collection of songs, hymns, and tunes for Sabbath school children by their having heard them rendered by Brother Goddard on his visits. This one done at the request of Brother Grant. We give herewith a copy of the letter accompanying the letter below. The original is a beautiful specimen of penmanship, remarkable in a man of such advanced years. It is clean and clear as copperplate, and reads as follows:

Salt Lake City, Nov. 16, 1898.

Elder Heber J. Grant:

My Dear Brother—It affords me much pleasure to hand you, in four-row book, some little incidents of my history, including a partial recital of my labors since 1852; also several historical facts, and forty songs. This I do, under a deep sense of gratitude to my heavenly Father, for the use of my pen in this advanced period of my age. On the 4th of December I will be 82 years old. Have I not, my dear brother, much to be thankful for? Help me praise the Lord.

Faithfully, your brother,
GEORGE GODDARD.

The contents of this book are in the same clear, steady hand. Here is its preface:

Salt Lake City, Oct. 25, 1898.

Elder Heber J. Grant:

My Dear Brother—Your kind and affectionate letter of this morning's date just came to hand. I will give you a brief history of my life, and insert the same in the front page of this book. I cheerfully comply with your request and sincerely hope and pray that some portions of it may prove an encouragement and incentive to many thousands of the youth of Zion to follow my example, so far as I have followed Christ, our Savior, in doing good.

Your fellow laborer,
GEORGE GODDARD.

Among the data given in the little book are the following items relating himself presented in Brother Goddard's characteristic neat style:

Fourteen months' mission to Canada, by Boatcart to Missouri River, 1851 and 1852.

Three years gathering rags, as a mission, in 1861, 1862, and 1863.

Nine years superintendent Thirteenth ward Sunday school, from 1862 to 1876.

Nine years superintendent Salt Lake Stake Sunday schools, from 1873 to 1882.

Twenty-seven years clerk to Presiding Bishop Edward Hunter, from 1876 to 1912.

Twenty-six years first assistant general superintendent of Sunday schools, from 1872.

Ten years clerk of General Conference, from 1874 to 1884.

Four years clerk of School of the Prophets.

Three years clerk and treasurer to the Salt Lake Stake Assembly Hall, from 1877 to 1880.

Twenty years member of the Tabernacle choir.

Twenty-five years member of the Thirteenth ward choir.

Twenty-five years member of the Old Folks' committee, from 1878.

During the last forty-six years I have missed very few ward meetings, Sacrament, Tabernacle or Conference.

I have had the pleasure and privilege of attending some ninety of our General Conferences, and almost every meeting held during each Conference.

I am now 81 years old, lacking only a few days, and during the past five years I have traveled between twenty and thirty thousand miles by railway, and several thousand miles by team, over all kinds of road, in heat and in cold, by night and by day, in the interest and for the benefit of the youth of Zion who are connected with our Sunday schools. I have visited thirty-eight Stakes of Zion.

I use neither tea, coffee, wine, liquor nor tobacco. I am thirst of the Lord with good health, which causes my heart to rejoice exceedingly.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

From this little book is also taken the following sketch of Brother Goddard's life, up to the time covered by the foregoing items as given to his own handwriting:

I was born in Leicester, England, Dec. 4, 1816. At the age of 14 I was baptized January 21, 1831, and confirmed January 27th by Jacob Gates and Charles Wheeler. I was ordained an Elder February 3d, by Jacob Gates.

I left England with my wife and eight children, in April, 1851, on the ship Essex, and arrived in St. Louis on January 1, 1852, with my wife and eight children, one child having died on the ocean and another at Memphis. During the winter, while at St. Louis, another child died.

We left St. Louis in May for the frontier, near Omaha, and on June 5, 1852, commenced to cross the plains, reaching Salt Lake City on September 15th, ten weeks of our children being sick with the ague