

characteristics of a Saint; the manifestations of enjoyment ought not to partake of the rude and boisterous.

It should be fully and distinctly understood that, while the Latter-day Saints are in favor of proper recreation for old and young, all amusements should be confined within the limits of moderation and good judgment. A healthy condition—physically, mentally and morally—is aimed at. When indulgence in amusements passes beyond these bounds it is religiously wrong. It is also sinful for persons to spend in pleasure-seeking means that they can ill afford to have go in that direction, or that would be better appropriated to other purposes. Suitable relaxation and diversion do not necessarily entail heavy expense; and in such times as these especially is it a virtue to apply economic rules strictly in such matters, rather than otherwise, as is too often done. There should be also careful provision against making the gratification of personal appetites paramount, that a desire for frivolity may not be imbibed to the lessening of an inclination for the solid and responsible duties of life. The general good of young, and middle-aged, and old, of both sexes and of every grade of prosperity, should be earnestly and unitedly sought for, that all may engage in life's work "with glad hearts and cheerful countenances."

DIED IN THE HARNESS.

The sad news has just been received in this city that Elder Walter Herbert Barton, a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, laboring in the Southern States, succumbed to an attack of pneumonia and died yesterday, February 18, 1894, at McComb, Mississippi.

Elder Barton was born at Kaysville, Davis county, April 15, 1868, and was the son of John and Sarah Flint Barton. He was unmarried, and started on his mission December 16, 1893, being previously ordained a Seventy. His labors have been characterized by zeal and energy, and he has been faithful in the fulfillment of the exalted calling whereunto he was chosen.

The News sympathizes deeply with his relatives in Utah and with his bereaved associates in the Southern States. But there is joy to all these in the fact that he went down in valiant battle against error and darkness, and that his name will be enrolled among those honorable ones who died in the harness and in the Master's service. Verily he will in no wise lose his reward!

The body starts home today (Monday) in charge of an Elder.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

It is claimed that the first public celebration of the birthday of George Washington occurred in 1779, the "father of his country" then being 47 years old, and that the day has been observed annually ever since. A country can do no greater honor to itself than by honoring the memory of its great and good men, and as long as excellence of character is regarded

with feelings of admiration and approbation, so long will the first President of this great Republic, "first in peace, first in war," also be "first in the hearts of his countrymen."

George Washington, even when regarded only in the light of historical facts, was a most remarkable person. The majesty of his bearing inspired even his nearest surroundings with awe. His extraordinary bodily strength endowed him with powers of endurance almost incredible. The seriousness of the time of which he was the hero had pressed its stamp on his noble mind and classical features. Seldom, if ever, did he indulge in a joke, although he often appreciated a humorous remark or situation. His intellect was probably not as brilliant as that of some of his successors; he was not one of the philosophers whose thoughts soar above the visible world, struggling with the incomprehensible; but he grasped the situation immediately present and interpreted correctly its meanings and purports, and with a will of iron he conquered all difficulties. He was the right man for the great work he was called to perform.

Probably the most marvelous fact about his character and one which ought to carry a much needed lesson to succeeding ages, was the integrity of all his acts. His love for his country was patriotism indeed. He even refused to take pay for his invaluable services during the war, beyond the reimbursement of his own actual, personal expenses. From him corruption fled and hid its face in shame. His public career was as honest as it was brilliant.

It is not out of place to note that some of the men who have stamped their names in indelible characters on the pages of the history of the world have been men with but limited means of theoretical education. George Washington is one of them. Reading, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping and land surveying comprised about all his studies at school. Abraham Lincoln is another prominent illustration of that truth. And yet, who has done more for the creation and preservation of this, the greatest Republic on earth, than these two men? Great men are not made, it seems, by theoretical training. They are great, because within them dwells a personality which knows how to accomplish the mission for the performance of which they were sent to this earth.

It has sometimes been scornfully remarked that the founders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints were unlettered men. Perhaps so. But the fact that they, in this respect, are in no less noble company than the men just mentioned, and a host of others, should silence that objection forever.

A LITTLE HISTORY.

There are a good many people in Southern California who have little or no realization of the part the Mormon people took in settling that section of the country. There are now a number of missionaries from Utah laboring in California, two of the number, Elders Lyman and Roberts, being located at San Bernardino. The *Courier* of that

city, in its issue of Thursday last, February 15th, brings up a bit of interesting history, which it prefaces by the explanation that, "knowing that the rancho and city of San Bernardino were laid out by Lyman, Rich and Hanks, a reporter visited Mr. Lyman and interviewed him as to his previous and present visit. Mr. Lyman is a very pleasant gentleman, and says that he finds much improvement in the whole valley." The *Courier* then proceeds to give the following account of the interview:

Mr. Lyman, it is said that you are one of the old settlers in San Bernardino?

Yes sir, cheerily replied that gentleman. My father, Amasa Lyman, and Charles C. Rich, were the original purchasers of the San Bernardino rancho in the summer of 1851.

How did they come to purchase the ranch, Mr. Lyman?

My father and Mr. Rich, both members of the quorum of the Twelve Apostles in the Mormon Church, were appointed by President Brigham Young to come into Southern California and establish an outfitting post where the Mormons en route from Australia, other countries in the Pacific and California could have a place where they might make the necessary preparations for the journey across the mountains and deserts to Salt Lake City. They had discretionary powers as to where they should establish the aforesaid post, and they selected this location, thinking that the journey from this point could be made in the winter season as well as in the summer, and thus be of greater advantage to the traveling Mormons than from a point where travel could only go on during the summer season.

Was it your father, Mr. Lyman, who laid out the city of San Bernardino?

Yes, sir; it was done under his direction, and I think at that time the city plot was one mile square. My father's residence stood on what is now called C street, between Third and Fourth streets; but the old homestead was burned down in January, 1865.

Do you find any old landmarks, Mr. Lyman?

Not very many. I can locate most of the lots where our neighbors lived and find a few of the old houses standing, but not many. Most of the old houses are gone and new ones have taken their places. While one cannot help regretting to see the old landmarks he knew in boyhood removed, he cannot help but admire the energy which in a single generation erects splendid cities on ranches where one herded cattle in boyhood—a wonderful age, this, for push and progress. When our company from Utah arrived here in 1851 it numbered about 100 families, and there was nothing on the present site of San Bernardino but a few tumble-down Mexican houses, which our people fitted up and surrounded with a stockade for protection against the Indians. Afterward crops were planted, roads opened into the mountains, sawmills established and the work of redeeming the country commenced in earnest.

What was the original price paid for the San Bernardino rancho?

Our people agreed to pay \$77,500, paying about \$5,000 down; we were given time on the balance at 1 per cent per month—rather a high rate of interest to pay.

How did your people come to leave these parts?

Well, you see, through misrepresentations on the part of the United States officials at Salt Lake the administration at Washington was made to believe that the Mormon people in Utah were in rebellion against the government, and under the leadership of Albert Sidney