

Thus without warning, I was again thrust out on the cold, pitiless river bottom (I do not mean the bottom of the river, "alas! perhaps 'twere better so") and again was free to commune with nature. I will here state that this once sublime and enchanting practice was getting rather monotonous, so after a few more weeks, during which I could get nothing else to do but "commune," I at last reached my goal in the person of an old time "hoss"-trader friend or my father's uncle, who, after forty years' battling with vicissitudes in every known shape and form, had cast his lot in this land of cattle kluge and coyotes, and now in view of his somewhat wretched activeness has taken me in, as it were, and assures me that a winter put in or rather endured on his commodious ranch among the cows, chickens, hogs and calves would be looked back upon through future years as the "fattest take" of "my string."

And now, kind Editor, having spent an evening, sporting legal cap and reflecting on my immediate past, after appending a few notes of interest I will commend this to your august body (and the proof-reader) for the columns of your esteemed paper, or the waste basket as you may determine.

Haying is about over. Most of the grain is in the shock. There is a decrease of, at least twenty-five per cent in all crops and produce in this entire valley this season, the wheat being unfit for the mill. A large number have gone, and more are going, to Cache Valley to purchase breadstuffs for winter. The second crop of alfalfa is almost a failure. A large number of fall beehives are rounded up in the home pastures for shipment at an early date. James Baird will finish stacking the second crop of lucern on Byron Session's vast acreage next week.

A quiet wedding took place here recently. The contracting parties being Cyril Call and Mrs. Sarah E. Deau, both of Woodruff.

There is a good deal of sickness among children at present in this vicinity. John, the 15-year-old son of Orion and Sophrona Shipley, is lying very low with liver troubles and other ailments. A 6-year-old daughter of I. V. Eastman died yesterday very suddenly being ill only a few hours. There have been more deaths in the past two years than in the ten years previously. It is very hard to get medical attendance here, the nearest doctor being at Evanston, Wyoming, thirty miles distant.

A shoe repairer could find a good field for operation here.

School has started up with an enrollment of 45, with Zeke Lee at the helm.

P. G., the 20-year-old son of Byron Session, is suffering with a white swelling in his foot.

A queer looking animal, heretofore unknown to these parts, was seen almost in the edge of town, and in one of the backstreets this morning. It resembled an elk or a large deer, but old timers say it was neither of this kind of game. A young man drove it a short distance along a lane, when it suddenly made off and was soon lost in the river jungle. Some think it is a two-year-old moose come in from the hills and stumbled into civilization.

The weather has been very dry for a long time of late. High winds have been blowing every afternoon, commencing at 12:30 with a regularity that would shame "Old Faithful" geyser in Yellowstone park.

People are one and all preparing for a hard, long, tedious winter as the usual signs seem to indicate a severe one.

Bishop Baxter is having a new brick house constructed from brick burned here. Jo Neville is chief manipulator of the trowel. A new steam saw mill has recently moved on to Woodruff creek, 15 miles west of here and will supply the demands of a great many who contemplate building this fall. Among other buildings a new post office is to be erected soon.

A large number of young people left here for beautiful two weeks ago to visit friends and have a general vacation. Among those who went were Al Dixon, W. Henderson, Charles Lee and wife, and the Misses Elleu and Helen Bryson. Mrs. D. Carney and Mrs. Z. Lee are also visiting in Salt Lake City, while their respective husbands are giving each other daily lessons in cooking, and general house-keeping.

SLUG THREE.

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE.

Minutes of a conference held Sept. 9th and 10th, 1893, in Louisa county Virginia. There were present President J. G. Kimball, Elders J. G. Ellis, George H. Wallace, George A. Smith, James Alfred, W. W. Richards, Oscar LeMill, C. R. Clark, Ephraim Peterson, John P. Cardon, D. M. Gillies, John S. Curtis, James O. Ivie, Hugh W. Findley and James Vance, Jr.

We met first in priesthood meeting for the purpose of hearing the reports of the Elders as to their travels during the past year, and were interested to learn of their success in the different fields of labor.

We then met in conference, President Ellis presiding. The meeting was occupied by several of the Elders treating upon the first principles of the Gospel.

During the noon recess dinner was passed around by the Saints and friends, of whom there were many, and at 2 o'clock we met in priesthood meeting again to hear the reports of the rest of the Elders. These were all gratifying, and we received much good instruction from Brother Kimball.

Our conference then was continued and the Elders dwelt upon the first principles of the Gospel and exhorted the Saints and all to faithfulness.

On Sunday morning we were disturbed by the rain, so that we had to seek shelter in the house J. F. Hall, who was kind enough to let us hold conference on his premises. At 2 o'clock we met in council meeting, at which President Kimball gave us good advice and instruction as to our labors both spiritually and temporally, so that God would bless us and crown our efforts with success.

We were also assigned our fields of labor. Myself and Elder Hugh W. Findley were appointed to labor in Louisa county, and the rest of the Elders received their companions and fields of labor.

Then we met again in public meet-

ing and after the regular exercises President Kimball delivered an address on the principles of the Gospel, showing the apostasy that took place and the restoration of the Gospel. He exhorted the Saints to faithfulness and to set an example worthy of imitation.

We feel well in our labors and are assured that we have the faith and prayers of the Saints. The work of the Lord is onward and upward.

JAMES VANCE JR.

THE FORT DOUGLAS TRAGEDY.

Deputy Marshal Dyer went up to Fort Douglas last night for the purpose of arresting, under a warrant, Lieutenant Buck, Sergeant Linsie and Private Sheffield, against whom the grand jury of the Third district court yesterday returned indictments charging them with murder in the second degree.

The circumstances of the tragedy are probably yet fresh in the minds of readers of the NEWS.

On the night of June 14th Leonard, it is claimed by the military authorities, while slightly under the influence of drink, drove recklessly through the Fort grounds. By other, however, it is stated, that he was going at quite an ordinary pace. Some words are said to have passed, but it is insisted that Leonard paid no heed to the command given him to halt, and he was shot. The lungs were penetrated and the unfortunate man died soon afterwards. An inquest followed, the jury finding, after a careful investigation, that Leonard's death was the result of a gun-shot wound inflicted by either Linsie or Sheffield, acting under the orders of Lieutenant Buck. Then came a court-martial, the outcome of which was the acquittal of the accused, who again went on military duty. The case was subsequently taken in hand by District Attorney Judd, and the grand jury indicted the three men.

When the deputy, on reaching the Fort, stated the nature of his visit, a request was made of him by the commanding officer to allow the three accused men to remain at the barracks that night in order that certain arrangements might be made, and upon the understanding that the defendants would be quite ready to accompany the officer as early as they were required next day. Accordingly deputy Dyer made a second trip to the Fort this morning and brought the defendants down by street car. It had become known around that their arraignment would take place some time before the adjournment of Judge Zane's court at noon, and a considerable number of persons had collected in the Dooly building. Shortly before eleven o'clock the deputy marshal and his prisoners arrived, and the latter were straightway conducted into the marshal's office. Marshal Brigham was introduced to Lieutenant Buck, with whom he cordially shook hands. Attorney Richard W. Young, the defendant's counsel, and who represented them at the recent court martial proceedings, had been for some time awaiting their arrival, and held a brief consultation with his clients. This ended, the accused were ushered into the courtroom, where they remained seated until a case which was then in progress had been disposed of.