

escape, he having camped in that vicinity the evening before the tragedy occurred. Two Mexicans who had been laboring in Garcia were missing the next morning, and there is no doubt of their guilt as the murderers of our beloved sister.

People are plowing their gardens, and plum and almond trees are blooming.
JAMES H. MARTINEAU.

CHILD FAMILY REUNION.

Ogden, Utah, Feb. 28, 1898.

The twentieth semi-annual meeting of the Utah branch of the Child family was held at the Second ward meeting house, Feb. 22, 1898, with about one hundred present, and Counselor W. G. Child presiding.

Singing, "Come all ye sons of God;" prayer by Frank Richardson; singing, "Redeemer of Israel."

W. G. Child stated the object of these meetings to be in part to arrange for the great Temple work that we have the privilege of doing through the providence of God; a great and complete record of our ancestors reaching back nearly fifteen hundred years. We have thus far been baptized for nearly five thousand and have done the further ordinances for about five hundred, and the continuance of this work will devolve on the rising generations, as the older members of this family compose the emigrants to Utah. There are only three of these emigrants left and they soon will have passed away.

The following interesting program was then carried out: Recitations by May Stokes, Eva E. Brown and Sylva West; song by Mrs. Agnes Richardson; recitations by Miss Nettie Nelson and Mr. Glenn Stokes; speech by John C. Child, who said, "We should know and understand the object of these meetings. The rising generations are expected to carry on this work that has been started by our ancestors. Let us make a record of which we will be proud;" select reading by Miss Bessie Child, twenty years ago; Miss Eva E. Child twenty years ago; Miss Eva E. Brown then read some verses composed by Mrs. Chris. J. Brown on the death of her mother, Hannah P. Elmer; recitation by M. B. Child Jr.; remarks by D. Chase; recitation by Miss Mattie West; German recitation by Gerald Child; recitation by Miss Ella Child, and reading on the death and burial of Washington by Ella W. Child. Brother Cornelius Richardson followed and spoke of the joy and satisfaction to meet so many relatives and friends who are all striving for the same purposes. He referred to the death and burial of Washington, gave a sketch of his home, and surroundings which he visited while on his travels and mission to Tennessee. Brother Frank D. Richardson said a blessing had been bestowed upon this family, consisting of grandfather and mother and nine children. They embraced the Gospel in their native state, New York, on June 5th, 1838; and the following August started for Kirtland, Ohio. While traveling through the forests of Ohio by team, in company with two other teams which did not belong to the Church, this occurred: Grandfather's team was in the lead, he sitting on the front of the wagon driving, when a noise, sharp and distinct, was heard. The team stopped so suddenly that those in the rear came in contact with the end of the wagon. On looking, an elderly, well-dressed gentleman with long gray beard walked up to the side of the wagon; at first the family were somewhat concerned with such an abrupt approach from a stranger, but from the pleasant countenance he bore their fears were soon dispelled; he proceeded with the oldest of the family and each in turn according to age, blessed them in the

name of the Lord, holding n by the hand while pronouncing these blessings, with but little variation until he came to Uncle W. G. Child who was then four years old, on whose head he pronounced a special blessing. Having completed his blessings, without asking any questions he passed on, simply raising his hat and making a slight bow as he passed the two teams in the rear. This seemed so strange a search was made to see which way he went but he was nowhere to be seen, no track found as to where he went or from whence he came.

Sister Phebe Richardson made a few appropriate remarks and was glad to be with us on this occasion. A letter was read from Brother and Sister Roberts, who are laboring as missionaries on the Samoan Islands. It stated the mode of living, which was in a bamboo house, and their food consisted of oranges, bananas and bread fruit.

The Family of Child was then re-organized with W. G. Child at the head, as he is the oldest male member living, the former presiding officer, Myron B. Child, having passed away. Brothers William Child, John C. Child and F. D. Richardson were named as assistants, with Mrs. E. W. Child as secretary, and Mrs. C. J. Brown as assistant. A program committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Cornelius Richardson, A. Patterson, M. A. Child, W. G. Jr., Ezra Richardson, Jesse Child, Eloise Child, Lettie Child, Louisa Child and Agnes Richardson. It was then suggested that the family should meet again in June, which met with the hearty approval of all present.

Singing, "Softly and gently," etc. Benediction by Brother E. R. Richardson.

All present then adjourned and did justice to the delicious repast which was served. After partaking of these dainties the happy crowd repaired to the spacious dance hall where old and young made merry for several hours. The crowd was dispersed with the understanding that they meet again on June 22, 1898, in Hooper.

MRS. CHRIS. J. BROWN.

UTAH CANAL SCHEME.

[Special Correspondence of the Chicago Record.]

Salt Lake City, Utah, Feb. 23.—The student of economic conditions in the arid west may find much to interest him in the situation in this State. The study is the more interesting because it illustrates a transition state—the change of investment and development interests from silver mining to irrigation and agriculture.

This shifting of interests presents a paradox in the existence of evident prosperity and just as evident paralysis of industries side by side. An illustration in point is the partial destruction of one of the greatest silver camps in the country—Park City, in Summit county. The town had its origin and found its wealth in the workings of the Ontario mine, owned by Hearst and Haggin and their associates. The mine has paid in dividends over \$13,500,000, but it was closed down indefinitely about two weeks ago. The suspension of operations had been foretold in advance and in anticipation of the result. The larger merchants moved their goods to Salt Lake, one firm alone selling out a stock inventoried at \$200,000. Miners left their families in Park City and sought employment in the new gold fields of Mercur and in the other camps of the State. A number who had no home ties ventured their lot in the rush for Alaska. The camp practically was abandoned by all who could get away; only a few whose investments were independent of the mines remained.

That is taken as an extreme example of the dark side of the situation. The mines in which lead is found associated with the silver have profited by the advance in lead, and Park City has the Silver King, which continues to pay \$37,500 in dividends every month, just as though silver were still above the dollar mark and free coinage an assured thing.

In contrast with the disasters that have come to the silver mining camps is the great activity in irrigation and colonizing enterprises and in the gold fields. There has never been a period in the history of the State when such large investments in industrial and land undertakings were assured; the percentage of delinquent taxes just reported was never smaller, and credits are rated on a better basis than at any time since 1893.

Foremost among the new ventures are the beet sugar factories. Their promotion has been stimulated largely by the success of the factory at Lehi, forty miles from Salt Lake City. The Lehi people have demonstrated the adaptability of Utah's soil and the value of the irrigation system for the sugar beet and have operated at a profit for seven years. Encouraged by their experience the people of Ogden have raised funds and let contracts for the immediate erection of a sugar plant that will cost close to \$500,000. Negotiations also have been closed with Chicago and New York capitalists who have contracted to build a \$450,000 factory for the Mt. Nebo Irrigation company, seventy-five miles southwest of Salt Lake City. Both of these plants are to be finished in time for the manufacture of sugar next fall. Besides the new capital required for these two plants, their operation means much to the agricultural communities in their vicinity. Each factory will require annually the beet product of about 5,000 acres of land. The Lehi reports show an average annual profit to the farmer of \$14.75 an acre for a period of five years. On this basis, which is regarded as conservative, the two plants should furnish profitable development of 10,000 acres of land hitherto uncultivated, with an additional income to the farmers of the state amounting to at least \$150,000 annually.

Still another illustration of the State's financial condition is to be found in the readiness with which eastern capital is taking hold of irrigation projects. Until last year it was difficult to handle large reservoir enterprises for the reclamation of arid lands because there was no way by which owners of water rights could be assured control of the land to be irrigated except by absolute purchase of the land. Now that the Carey act has been accepted by the State, however, 1,000,000 is available for selection by the State, which may contract for the reclamation of the lands, making the annual water rentals a perpetual lien on the land.

By authority of the Carey act and the co-ordinate State law, Philadelphia and London capitalists have contracted with Utah agreeing to construct a reservoir storage and irrigation system for the irrigation of 216,000 acres of desert land in San Juan and Millard counties. The system will require the construction of main canals ten feet deep, thirty feet wide at the bottom and fifty feet wide at the top, with distributing laterals aggregating a total length of 750 miles. To supply water for these canals in the summer season three large reservoirs will be needed. In these will be stored the winter flow of the Sevier river, a large stream having its source near the Arizona boundary and discharging in the desert of Millard county, where it disappears.

This enterprise is notable in more things than in size. It will open up a large area of land at prices that will