

tion of Evan Stephens's, was sung by Sister Maggie Hull as a compliment to the Professor, who holds a warm place in the hearts of the people of Willard.

President Joseph F. Smith complimented the Saints for their thrift and enterprise, and urged them to remember the source of all blessings, as He had been ruled out of such affairs by the world. He insisted that money of itself is worthless, illustrating his views, and spoke at length upon the value of labor, the effects of which could be seen about us. The reapers had been sent forth from the heavens to execute judgment and justice upon the inhabitants upon the earth, and no one had claim upon safety except where the Priesthood is found. The prophecies of the judgments of the Lord were referred to briefly. The speaker thought the Saints had not, some of them, been very apt pupils in the ways of the Lord. He read from the Book of Mormon as to the judgments of the last days, testified to the fact of their having begun already, and closed by asking the Saints to place themselves in safety by sincere repentance and to live properly because it is the thing to do.

Brother John Ward, with the choir assisting, sang "Uncle Jedediah."

Brother Dunbar now brought forth the bagpipes and after explaining that President Woodruff had given them the new name of "Bee Swarms," related that upon arriving he had swarmed a lot of bees of the hive of Deseret with them and thought the name quite appropriate. After detailing a number of humorous incidents regarding the pipes, he entertained the audience for a quarter of an hour, till 1:10 o'clock p. m., when the closing anthem, "Gratitude," a home composition, was sung by the Willard City choir.

Benediction was pronounced by Bishop Abram Saunders.

President Snow, in behalf of the visitors, thanked their entertainers in Willard City most cordially.

At 1:45 o'clock one hundred and seventy-five people were seated at table in the Willard City opera house, where the local photographer made a picture of them. At the close of dinner Elder Rudger Clawson arose and formally expressed his appreciation of the visit his Stake had received. He was gratified with the whole affair and markedly so with the spirit shown at ball and at the exercises of Sunday, and closed by fervently asking the blessings of the Lord upon the First Presidency, upon the Temple workers, and especially upon President Lorenzo Snow, saying to the visitors, "You are more welcome today than you were on the first day of your visit."

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

After the opening exercises at 3 o'clock, President George Q. Cannon arose before about two hundred Sunday school children in the Willard City meeting house. He instructed the children to say "Amen" at the close of a prayer. He had not seen in a long time such a handsome lot of children. He wished all as soon as they arrived at the age of eight years to apply for baptism; and dwelt upon the sins of theft and falsehood, characterizing lying as cowardice.

President Joseph F. Smith endorsed

the teachings of President Cannon and gave some of his experiences as a child in the early history of Church; enjoining upon the children the virtue of gratitude for the blessings they enjoyed.

President Woodruff related his early desires to see a Prophet of God and invoked the blessings of God upon the children.

President Cannon asked the children to remember this visit of President Woodruff.

The visitors then took their leave and their places in the carriages, being driven to the depot a half a mile west, where they took the train, arriving in Salt Lake City about 7 o'clock.

Thus ended President Lorenzo Snow's projected excursion of Temple workers, and the most enjoyable four days, as all of them will testify, that any of the party ever experienced.

FORESTRY.

A somewhat careful observation of the Wasatch mountains in Utah county leads me to attach more importance than ever before to the subject of Forestry, but the possibility of again clothing the mountains with timber seems more certain. There are at least seven species of trees growing naturally in our mountains which are valuable either for fuel or timber. These are two or more species of pine, the poplar, the maple, two species of cottonwood and one or two species of willows. Of these the pines, the poplar and the maple grow very nearly up to the snow line. East of Springville fine groves of poplar are grown at an altitude of between 10,000 and 11,000 feet, and most of the canyons in that section are lined with trees and bushes from their heads to where they open into the valleys. In inaccessible places maple and cottonwood trees have grown to a size which makes them valuable for either fuel or lumber, and especially valuable to shade the ground and thereby prevent too rapid evaporation, and to act as checks to descending snow, preventing snowslides. The size to which these trees have grown indicates that our native trees will attain goodly proportions if they are given an opportunity. In Hobbie Creek canyon, about three and a half miles above its mouth, is a beautiful grove of native trees. The owner has simply cleared away the brush, and judiciously cut such trees as he has needed; but he has cut his trees like an owner and not like a vandal.

The most practical forestry work to begin with, would probably be to encourage the growth of trees along the canyon streams. This should be done by proper trimming, and thinning such trees as are already growing there, and gradually setting out trees which experience shows will profitably grow in such places. Were this done, thousands of acres of land which are now useless, would be serving a double purpose, for they would not only be conserving our water supply, but they would be growing into valuable timber for use in the near future.

The next forestry work should be to set out trees around the head waters of the principal irrigating streams. In many cases this would be somewhat expensive, as it might be necessary to fence several

square miles of land away from sheep; but the value of the timber would soon compensate for the expense; and even sheepowners would be benefited with the rest, for the most valuable sheep feed grows on the shaded ground.

It will be a slow and somewhat difficult task to get trees started on the bare mountain sides. Probably the most practical thing for the near future will be to find some grass that will grow in such places, and begin the seeding of the mountains with it. It will serve a double purpose; furnishing food to stock, and keeping the ground loose so that water may readily penetrate it and furnish a supply for the springs.

I feel sure that thousands of acres of good land in Utah are absolutely idle at the present time. Were this all, it would be bad enough, but the land is not only idle, it is constantly deteriorating owing to the fertile soil being washed away. Should not this be changed? Would it not be better, even at some present expense, to get as much as possible of our now useless land into trees which will gradually grow into very great value?

C. A. WHITING.

University of Utah.

MARICOPA STAKE CONFERENCE.

The forty-sixth quarterly conference of the Maricopa Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened at Mesa, June 17th and 18th, holding two meetings each day. The Saints turned out en masse, and were richly repaid therefor, as the spirit of truth was poured out abundantly, in response to their prayers and faith in our great and glorious Gospel. The reports of the Bishops show the health of the people better than in times past and that they are waking up to the signs of the times and trying more earnestly to live up to the privileges and blessings of their religion than ever before.

Considerable consternation was created among those who generally are permitted to retain their seats, by our new President, Collins R. Hokes, evincing such an aptitude at calling on those who least expected or courted the privilege of speaking. Powerful testimonies were, however, borne and much good, timely instruction received. The General Authorities of the Church and all the Stake officers were sustained by the people with a unanimous vote.

Credit is due Brother Nepht J. Bates, lately of Monroe, Utah, for the skilful manner in which he handled our choir, dispensing sweet music.

After a good time together the conference adjourned for three months, all feeling well and thanking God for the good time had together.

GEO. PASSEY, Clerk.

By FRANK T. POMEROY, Asst. Clerk.

The Eureka, Nev., *Sentinel* learns that F. Bertch, a farmer and stockman of Ruby valley, was found dead in his barn a few days ago. His skull was mashed in, which is supposed to have been caused from the kick of a horse. Before taking up his home in Ruby valley he was a resident of Eureka, about twenty years ago. He had accumulated considerable property in the valley, and was a native of Germany, aged 55 years.