

penditures in engaging paid chaplains. It is reasonable to believe and hope that on the daily assembly of the branches of the Legislature prayers accord to the Creator, asking that He will endow them with wisdom and knowledge—that the laws by them enacted shall redound to the benefit of their constituents and to the glory of Him who is Father of all. Now it is further presumed that should they be blessed with this heavenly unction, their minds would be opened, and thereby would be able to legislate as perfectly as it is within mortal capability to do all; I may be permitted to observe, as a result of their seeking, and what is better, obtaining counsel from their Superior Officer, the Father of lights, the Great Lawgiver Himself. If our Legislature is so opposed to seeking counsel, so afraid of churches opposed to tricksters' influence, and would not receive "counsel" from any source whatsoever, even if served on a silver platter, then I say the service of chaplains should be dispensed with as an expensive non-essential.

But we hope for better things. While the State Constitution forbids any church domination of state affairs, we desire that the state will keep its hands off the church, and so long as a citizen performs loyally the functions thereof, he shall not be made a civil martyr because of his ecclesiastical fealty.

JOSEPH IRWIN.

LAKE TOWN, Rich County, Utah,  
February 14, 1897.

### MAPLETON MATTERS.

MAPLETON, Feb. 24, 1897.

It has been a year now since your readers heard anything from this place through the medium of the NEWS, and as you have so kindly accorded us space heretofore, we will again ask your indulgence.

The circumstances that suggested these lines are unusual for Mapleton, viz., the departure of two missionaries, Elders Lewis R. Perry and Frederick G. Twede—the first that have been called from this place for several years to go and preach the Gospel. Previous to their going the Bishop at our last Priesthood meeting appointed a committee to arrange a program to give the brethren a farewell party. So according to the arrangement, the people of the ward gathered at the meeting house on Monday eve the 15th inst., prepared with luncheon and good wishes for the brethren, to wish them Godspeed in the service of Him who "will save all those that will be saved."

The evening was devoted to social chat and congratulation, sandwiched with dancing, singing, recitation and speeches, until 10 o'clock, when luncheon was served. Then each of the two brethren spoke a short time, and expressed gratitude for the manifestation of esteem shown them by those present. At the close of their remarks they were each presented, Brother Perry by Sister Eva Bird, and Brother Twede by Brother J. H. Holley, with a well filled purse, prefaced with sentiments appropriate to the occasion; dancing and converse were then resumed.

The brethren go direct to New York, where they will be assigned their field of labor. They left home on the

18th inst. for Salt Lake, to be set apart for their missions.

We are having a very favorable winter, there having already been sufficient rain and snow stored away for next summer's irrigation, it is thought.

We have just attended the Elders' conference of this Stake (Utah Stake), the first ever held in the Stake. We are pleased to see the example of the Salt Lake Stake being gradually adopted in this Stake, the quorums being numbered and representation required at the Stake Priesthood meeting, where also the names of those to be ordained to that Priesthood have to be presented for endorsement.

Your correspondent was in Emery Stake a few days since, where he witnessed quite a contrast in relation to Elders' quorums from what it is here. There it is held that there should be a full number or nearly so to make a quorum, before an organization is effected, even though it would require several towns to furnish sufficient numbers. In fact, I was creditably informed that there were only three or four organized quorums in the Stake, with the members scattered throughout the eight or ten towns, and where a town had no president or counselor living therein then one of the members was called to take charge of the members that lived there and to preside at the local meetings. The contrast is in that in this Stake every town, small or large, has at least one quorum, although their numbers may not exceed from twenty-five to thirty members when first organized. This, of course, works to the convenience of the members; whether it is proper or not those in authority know, but it seems that there should be uniformity in all the Stakes, to say the least.

We have just been called to the realization that life in the prime of energy is subject to the horrors of the grave. We chronicle the death of Mrs. Edith Malmstrom, beloved wife of Charles B. Malmstrom, which sad event occurred on the 18th inst. Funeral services were held in the South schoolhouse, where consoling remarks were made, holding out the Christian hope for the deceased, and also exhorting the living to adopt a godly life. The deceased leaves a husband and two little girls, also numerous friends to mourn her loss.

The health of the people is exceptionally good in this place as we are elevated several hundred feet above the level of the valley. We think this one of the choicest places in the State, and visitors frequently tell us that it cannot be equalled either north or south. Certainly the promises given us by Apostle Lyman when he organized us into a Bishop's ward, are being literally fulfilled. Our water supply is increased, the land which once would yield from six to fifteen bushels of wheat per acre will now produce from twenty to fifty bushels, and where it was said we would starve because of the worthlessness of the land, we are now told that we have one of the choicest districts that can be found. But like it is with many other things, we are cognizant of the overruling providence of the Lord.

We now have four district schools, which are full of course and are taught by efficient teachers. We also furnish

our quota of students at the Brigham Young academy, where it seems that the spiritual training is so perfectly joined with the scholastic that the better nature predominates in all its graduates. May the "hope of Israel" always fill its spacious halls.

On the evening of the 19th Professor Wm. M. Stewart of the State University gave us a very entertaining lecture on practical education. We would like frequent visits from prominent educators.

The farmers have contracted with the Sugar company for all the acreage allowed them, notwithstanding the reduction in the price of beets, but the farmers have had just reason to think that the Sugar company wishes to deal honestly with them. Last fall our local scales got out of "rig," so our beets were falling short in weight, so we thought. We could not determine just how much, if any; but finally Agent W. P. Fullmer readjusted the scales so they were O.K. In the meantime we had been weighing on them, not thinking the company would say anything; though we had lost many tons. But in this we were agreeably surprised, for the company reported back two carloads over weight, and when the season's run was over, they made a careful estimate of the loss to each man that had put beets in the over-loaded cars, and sent each the respective amounts. This certainly showed candor and honesty, which will always win. Hence the farmers in this vicinity, while they deplore the cut in prices, think perhaps it is the best thing not to make too loud a "roar."

As we wish to keep to good repute with the NEWS as well as its readers, I will close.

L. D. FULLMER.

### OLD FOLKS' DAY.

FILLMORE, Millard County,  
Feb. 24th, 1897.

The young people of the Fillmore M. I. Associations made a red letter in their history today, in the successful entertainment of all persons residing here who were 55 or more years of age. The different committees worked faithfully in the preparations for this the first event of the kind in this city. Carriages were provided, and the honored guests were brought from their homes, welcomed, fed and entertained for about four hours, then all were conveyed back to their homes in safety. Elder F. M. Lyman being present, gave an additional lustre to the occasion by heartily joining with the exercises, and claiming his eligibility to partake of all the good things offered, by virtue of having passed the 55th milestone on the road of life. When we read of famine and pestilence stalking through the world, and gaunt poverty swarming in the streets of some large cities in America, and then gaze upon a picture like that presented by the young people of Fillmore today, there is cause to lift up the heart in gratitude to God for his providence in bringing the poor from among the nations and planting them in a lonely far off land, where by the counsels of His wisdom they might learn His laws, and prosper by the labor of their own hands.

In the meeting house were three