

## GOLDEN WEDDING.

WELLSVILLE, Cache Co., Utah, Jan. 15, 1897.—The fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Charles Wright Spence and Elizabeth Morris Spence was celebrated at their residence in Wellsville, January 11, 1897, where over 100 of their friends, including their family and Bishop William H. Maughan assembled to pay respect to the aged couple. A marriage feast was prepared by the family, which all partook of, and an enjoyable time was spent with song and dance, including the songs, *Old Dog Tray*, by Father Spence, and *Doon the Burn*, Davie Lad, by Mother Spence.

Charles Wright Spence was born November 5, 1824, in the little town of Smeaton, near Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire, Scotland. He is the son of Alexander Hunter Spence and Catherine Wright. His father served as a soldier under King George the Third of Great Britain, and afterwards held the office of an elder in the United Presbyterian church of Scotland. He died when young Charles was but four years old, and of course the latter never knew much of a father's love. His widowed mother was left in rather poor circumstances, with a family of six small children; and although Charles was the youngest child yet he was put to work when very young, in a spinning mill, earning six cents per day. He also served one year at shoemaking. He was then put to work in a coal mine, which business he followed for thirty-years.

Elizabeth Morrison Spence was born January 3, 1827, at Dyeart, Fifeshire, Scotland. She is the daughter of Elder James Morrison and Jane Miller. Mr. Morrison had two children; his first wife had by him nine sons and one daughter, his second wife had by him two sons and two daughters. Mr. Morrison held the office of an elder in the United Presbyterian church of Scotland, and was a God fearing man, very much respected by all who knew him. He died when Mother Spence was but twelve years old. After his death the family moved to the town of Gail-town. It was there where Father and Mother Spence first became acquainted. It must have been a case of love at first sight as they had never seen one another before, and it was some time before they saw each other again. But he often asked his companions where the "pretty black eyed lassie that wore the blue dress" lived. It seems that fate drew them together, for shortly after that they got married at Dyeart, by Rev. William Muir, Jan. 11th, 1847.

Shortly after their marriage they moved to the town of Lochgelly, where both were converted to the Gospel and were baptized by Elder David Hutchinson, tinner of our townsmen Thomas Hutchinson. No sooner had they received the Gospel than the spirit of gathering rested upon them. But the Lord had a work for them to do before gathering to Zion; for they raised a family of five sons and six daughters, and kept an open house for the missionaries for over twenty years. One daughter died in their native land. The Lord then opened up the way for their deliverance from Babylon. They bade farewell

to their home and kindred in the fall of 1872, bringing eight children with them. One daughter emigrated two years before, and one son one year before them. They arrived in Rock Springs, Wyoming, Nov. 5, 1872, and in the following spring came to Wellsville, where they have resided ever since.

Although they have had trials by having three of their beloved ones laid away in the silent tomb, yet they acknowledge the hand of God in all things for their good. They have forty-seven grandchildren. They rejoice in the Gospel, their minds are contented and happy, knowing that their home is among the people of God. They have done a great work in the Temple for their kindred and hope to live and do much more. They have received many blessings in the House of the Lord.

Father Spence has held every office in the Priesthood except that of a Seventy from a Deacon to a High Priest. The family are all members of the Church in good standing. Two of their sons have performed honorable missions in the nations of the earth. They felt honored to see so many of their friends come to pay their respects on the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day.

ALEXANDER SPENCE.

## PLEASANT GROVE NOTES.

PLEASANT GROVE, Jan. 18, 1897.—The hearts of our people have been made glad in the recent snow fall and we learn that this is a feeling generally indulged in by people in all parts of our fair State. The conditions of our sheep interest were becoming serious on account of there being no snow on the desert and feed around the watering places being all eaten off.

What might have proved serious to two of our townsmen, Brother David F. West and his son Elvin, resulted in them being very sick and greatly frightened. One day last week they were looking through the contents of a drawer in which was kept a great many herbs and medicines. Among the contents they found a white powder wrapped in a paper, and in order to ascertain what it might be, "woman like" they tasted. Imagine their fright when examining the paper they read the word "strychnine" written. Neighbors were called, antidotes were given, and father and son both remain with us, wiser men for having tasted of the forbidden.

The many friends of Bert Thorne, son of Robert C. and Cordelia Thorne, will be pained to know that he will have to undergo another operation, this time in having all of the small bones below the knee removed. Bert has had two operations performed before him, and we were all in hopes he would not have to pass through the trying ordeal again. The operation will be performed in Provo on Thursday next by Drs. Allen and Taylor, who have the case in hand.

The health of our citizens is remarkably good, and we cannot recall a winter when there has been less sickness than this.

A petition in the hands of some of the partisan Democrats was being circulated for signatures requesting the

senators and representatives from this district to cast their vote for Moses Thatcher. Not many signed the same, preferring to let the gentlemen upon whom rests the responsibility of selecting a senator exercise their judgment untrammelled. All are anxious to know who will be successful in obtaining the place.

The teachers of our schools are having a holiday today and are visiting schools in Salt Lake. Pleasant Grove patrons are proud of their teachers.

T.

## WISCONSIN CONFERENCE.

GRAND RAPIDS, Wisconsin, January 7th, 1897.

I left my home ten months ago today. We held our conference on the 31st of October and the 1st of November; we had a fine time. Our beloved president, Brother Spencer, gave us some instruction which is of great value to all of us if we will put it into practice. At conference I was appointed to preside over this the Wisconsin conference, and to labor in Augusta till a companion should come. I labored in this city for ten days; then I received a letter to meet my companion at Grand Rapids, Wisconsin. I did so, meeting Elder I. W. Merrill of Idaho, and we have labored in this city ever since. The people were very bitter at first, but are feeling better toward us now. The inhabitants of this part are not very religiously inclined. We cannot get a place to preach in as yet; the churches are too good for us. Mormons it seems, but we have had very good success in getting into houses and talking with the people, even among the rich. There is not as much hospitality here as in the south, so we cannot write as pleasant stories on this subject as the Elders there; but we are trying to do our duties the best we can, and we find some very good people. The Elders in this part are working well.

We have no snow on the ground at present and the weather is quite mild, but it was very cold in the first part of the season.

JOHN J. SIMMONS.

## COSMOPOLITAN CHURCH.

The Cosmopolitan church held its first service last evening, says Monday's San Francisco Chronicle. Metropolitan hall was only partly filled to hear the message Harold Bolce believes he is commissioned to give to men. Whether San Francisco will continue to hear this message, he said at the close of the service, depends upon whether a guarantee subscription of \$3,000 for the first year's expenses can be secured by next Wednesday. Those who have so far been sponsors to the movement think \$5,000 or one year will be required, but if three-fifths of that amount is subscribed by the middle of the week, the work will go on. "Otherwise," said Mr. Bolce, "it will be assumed that the people of San Francisco do not want rare not ready for a work of this kind, and this first meeting will be the last." Printed programs of the service were distributed at the door, as well as cards bearing extracts from the articles of incorporation as to the purposes of the movement.