

reason is that if a tree is cut when the sap is full of sugar, the fermentive process, during not weather, changes the sugar into the very elements of decay, to-wit: acetic acid; and if decay is thus early initiated, is it any wonder that posts do not last as they would if cut when these conditions could not possibly take place? In the year 1860 a fence was set in front of my office, with posts split from a burr oak, cut when the leaves were in full size and vigor. In 1882 this fence was reset with a picket fence, and when the posts were taken up they were found in good condition and worth resetting, and by reversing them some of them are doing service yet; though first set about 31 years ago. Out of some ninety posts set in 1860, only three had to be reset in the 22 years, and one, a sap post at that, is doing good service just where it was set 31 years ago. The average life of a burr oak post out in winter is ten years, but if cut in July or August it will last three times ten years; and where good timber for posts is as scarce as it is in the prairie country of the West, a knowledge of these facts becomes of prime importance, not only to the farmer, but to the railroad as well.

In further proof of the durability of timber cut in summer, reference may be made to a conversation with a reliable Page county (Iowa) farmer, who said a saw mill was set up near his residence fifteen years before. Along in June or July it became too hot for the teams to stand in the heat of the sun and eat their noon meals, so a shed was put up. One of the posts was white elm, another was a black walnut sapling, each from 4 to 6 inches through at the ground. These posts were still standing and in good condition after 15 years. Now of all trees the white elm is the shortest lived as a post. The conclusion of the whole matter is, if you want the stumps to sprout and reproduce timber, cut in winter, but if you wish to kill a tree, or if for lasting purposes, as fence posts or wagon timber, cut in mid-summer.

I will close with what I think is an important suggestion: When newspaper articles of special interest are read it is a good plan, when the papers are preserved, to write on a paper accompanying them, the headings and page and number of said articles; and if the papers are not preserved, to cut out such pieces and place them in an indexed scrap book, or in envelopes that have been used, first writing the heading of the article on the outside.

C. T.

PROSPEROUS PLEASANT GROVE.

PLEASANT GROVE, June 3, 1894.—Strawberries and cream are the order of the day.

Recent rains with bright sunshine have caused the farmers to rejoice in seeing their crops grow and orchards putting forth their loads of fruit. Spraying of the orchards has been carried out by most everyone, and we trust the results will be all that is anticipated.

Decoration day was spent in decking the graves of loved ones with flowers. The cemetery was filled with people until a late hour.

On June 1st our Sunday school cele-

brated, it being their anniversary, in Sandberg's grove. A program that had been prepared was rendered in a most pleasing manner and the good people of this place can justly feel proud of their Sunday school. Brother Smith and his aids have the work at heart.

Mrs. T. C. Beck is very ill and all feel very anxious for her recovery.

Our trustees have been somewhat puzzled to know who out of the many applicants to secure as teachers in our schools. We think there is no need of going outside of Pleasant Grove, as we have plenty of material here and to our home teachers belong the positions, all things being equal in qualifications and wages demanded.

The good people of the Third ward are pushing to completion their meeting house, which will be an ornament to the north end.

Thorne Bros. & Co. shipped a car of potatoes on the 1st, the last of the crop. This makes about sixteen carloads sent out by them this spring, and if our farmers will be more careful in the kind of potatoes they plant and be honest in what they put into sacks, our "spuds" will bring a greater revenue to them than heretofore. J. T. T.

IN WEST VIRGINIA.

ANVIL, Tucker County, W. Va., May 31, 1894.—George M. Nester died at the home of his son, Loyd Nester, at Anvil, Tucker county, W. Va., May 1894, after an illness of about eight weeks. His death was caused by dropsy. He was born in Barbour county, West Virginia, on the 25th of September, 1818. He became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the spring or summer of 1891. He was very kind to the Elders that labored in this part of the country. His character was highly spoken of by those who knew him. He has one son and his family who are members of the Church and they are very kind to the Elders and are trying to live worthy of the blessings of God. The work is progressing slowly and occasionally there is one who unites himself with the Church of God and helps to roll on the good work.

We had the pleasure a few days ago of baptizing a Mr. William H. Evans, of Barbour county, of this state, and there are some that are investigating the principles that are set forth by the Elders.

Respectfully,

M. S. ROUNDY,

Traveling Elder.

STAKE CONFERENCES.

DAVIS.

CENTERVILLE, Utah, June 4, 1894.—The quarterly conference of the Davis Stake of Zion was held at Centerville, on Saturday and Sunday, June 2 and 3, 1894, in a large bowery erected by the members of the Centerville ward, President John W. Hess presiding. Elder F. M. Lyman, of the council of the Apostles, was present on Saturday and Sunday, and Elder A. H. Cannon on Sunday; also Elder B. H. Roberts on Saturday and Elder S. W. Richards on Sunday. There was a full representation of Stake and ward authorities, and the largest concourse of people that ever gathered in conference captivity in this Stake.

On Saturday President Hess reported the labors of the Stake Presidency during the last three months—that they had visited every ward in the Stake twice during this time, once holding ward Priesthood meetings, then again holding ward conferences; found the Saints in excellent condition.

The Bishops then reported their respective wards, all reporting that the spirit of love and union was increasing among the people.

Elder Lyman addressed the congregation in the morning and afternoon; subjects—fast meetings, fast offerings, feeding of the poor, and the duties and labors of the High Councilors of the Stake and Bishops of the wards.

Elder B. H. Roberts spoke at the afternoon meeting on the poor and the necessity of bettering their condition.

On Sunday Elder S. W. Richards made a few remarks on the fulfillment of the prophecies, and the law of sacrifice.

The general and Stake authorities were presented and unanimously sustained.

Elders F. M. Lyman and A. H. Cannon occupied the rest of the day, giving most excellent counsel and instructions to the Saints. Nathan Tanner Porter, of Centerville, and Ezra Thompson Clark, of Farmington, were ordained Patriarchs under the hands of Elders Lyman and Cannon.

There was a reunion of the ward choirs of the Davis Stake held at Centerville on Sunday evening, June 3rd, the choirs of South and East Bountiful, Centerville, Farmington and Kayaville participating. It was a grand entertainment, a musical treat, and appreciated by all those present, and it is to be hoped that these reunions will be held at least once in three months, for they will result in much good.

JOHN J. SMITH, Clerk.

WAYNE.

Minutes of the fourth quarterly conference of the Wayne Stake of Zion, held at Thurber, Wayne county, Utah, May 26th and 27th.

Saturday, 26th, Counselor Hans M. Hanson called the congregation to order at 10 o'clock a.m., and after singing and prayer, reported that the Stake presidency had visited every ward in the Stake and held ward conferences during the past three months; the Saints generally are feeling well and a good spirit prevails throughout the Stake. There is a promising prospect for a good harvest, and the Saints have cause to rejoice.

Patriarch Elias H. Blackburn was pleased to be able to meet in conference; referred to a motto that hung on the wall, "Life's labor is learning to live," and taking this for a text spoke for some time upon the blessings that crown the labors of a faithful Saint. The speaker also touched briefly upon apostasy, home industry and the science of the human body.

Bishop Hult E. Maxfield reported the Fremont ward in good condition; he read a revelation given through the Prophet Joseph Smith relative to the judgments God would pour out upon the wicked, and spoke briefly upon the power of unity.

At the afternoon meeting the following wards were reported in good condition: Loa ward, by Bishop Benja-