

There was a very large attendance. The floral decorations in the hall were beautiful and appropriate. The speakers were Elders H. J. Grant, A. H. Cannon, A. M. Cannon, O. F. Whitney and George Romney. The closing prayer was offered by Bishop Romney, and a large cortege followed the remains of the deceased to the cemetery. In their addresses, the speakers at the funeral services feelingly referred to the noble example and estimable character of the deceased. The remarks were also full of consolation and sympathy for the bereaved.

A representative of the NEWS Thursday morning met Hon. W. H. Seegmiller, of Richfield, Sevier county. In answer to questions the gentleman stated that the spring was somewhat backward in his part of the country. There was an immense amount of snow in the mountains and that fact was cheering the hearts of the farmers. The Sevier river was lower now than he ever knew it at this time of the year. Just how low it was could be better understood, he said, when he stated that it was not only fordable at almost any point, but that pedestrians could cross over dry shod. The cause of this remarkable contraction of a stream that has the reputation of being the most treacherous of any of Utah's rivers when at its height, which will be about one month hence, is the cold wave that has been hanging over this region recently.

The prospects for the coming crop season are very good. In fact, says Mr. Seegmiller, they are better than ever before. The acreage of cultivated land in Sevier county is larger this year by several thousand acres than at any time since the settlement of that part of the country. The increase is mainly due to the purchase last year and this of 8,000 acres of university land, the most of which will be made to yield to the sturdy husbandman for the first time during the coming summer. Horses, cattle and sheep all wintered well in that section.

A new creamery is to be built at Richfield immediately at a cost of \$4,000.

The people are hopeful and generally in good health. A gloom, however, has just been cast over the community by the death of one of the most estimable young women of Richfield, Mrs. E. J. Heppler, wife of the county clerk of Sevier county. She was one of the most popular and useful ladies of Richfield, and her death will be sincerely mourned by a host of friends. She leaves a husband and one child, a week old, for whom the sincerest sympathy is felt.

SHOCKING MURDER AT MURRAY.

FROM DAILY OF MAY 1ST.

One of the most cold-blooded and deliberate murders ever perpetrated in this Territory occurred at a late hour last night about half a mile west of Murray, and distant some seven miles from this city. The scene of the awful tragedy was a saloon kept by one Charles Thiede, who is said to be of German extraction. In conjunction with the saloon is a small brewery, and these, located just at the rear of the Germania smelter, have been run by

Thiede for the last eight or ten years. Prior to settling in Murray he had been a saloonkeeper in Salt Lake, first on Second South street and subsequently on the State road near Tenth South, the latter familiarly known as "Thiede's dive," it being the regular resort of questionable characters of both sexes. Thiede himself was an expugnist, has long borne a bad reputation, and as an offender against the law he has figured conspicuously in the various courts of this city for several years past. His offenses have included selling liquor without a license, dispensing "fire water" to minors and assaults of various descriptions. Among the objects of his brutality was his wife—the poor woman who now reposes in the embrace of death, and whose life he will be required to answer the charge of taking. In short, Charles Thiede stands at this moment as the alleged murderer of her whom years ago, in a foreign country, he swore to love and cherish.

So far as obtainable at this writing, the facts of the murder are these: Thiede is 36 years old, his wife being near the same age. Quarrels have been of frequent occurrence between them for long past, owing largely, it is stated, to the man's drunken and dissolute habits, and when in his cups Mrs. Thiede has been invariably the target of her husband's ill-usage. A sister of Thiede, Mrs. Smith, of Sandy, was a visitor at the house during a portion of yesterday, and left there for home towards eight o'clock last night. It is believed that Thiede had been again drinking during the day, though at that time there was nothing particular to indicate any approaching trouble.

It would appear that just after the closing of the premises—somewhere about 10 o'clock—certain of the neighbors heard a woman's piercing screams proceeding from the direction of the saloon, but as this was no very uncommon thing at Thiede's, no particular notice was at first paid to the incident. The presumption therefore is that these were the unfortunate woman's dying cries. What actually happened, however, is at present a matter of conjecture, but it is thought that Thiede chased his wife out of the house into the yard and there inflicted the fatal injuries upon her.

It was shortly after midnight when the news of what had happened became known outside, and Thiede was the first to proclaim it by going over to Dr. W. E. Ferbee, to whom he conveyed the information that his wife had been killed. The doctor hastily dressed himself and at once went to the spot indicated by the husband. Lying at the east end of the saloon, and from four to six feet distant from the building, was the dead body of Mrs. Thiede, in a great pool of blood, the head being almost completely severed from the neck. It was a ghastly sight; but Thiede looked on in a very cool sort of fashion while the doctor and a Murray resident named Jacob Leuenberger carried the corpse into the house and laid it temporarily upon a billiard table. It was pretty evident, too, that he had been drinking.

The next step voluntarily taken by Thiede was to telephone to the office of Sheriff McQueen, in this city, re-

questing that he go over to Murray. The message was received soon after 1 o'clock, and the sheriff, accompanied by Deputy Montgomery, immediately upon learning the circumstances started thence in a huggy.

Upon reaching Murray, and on alighting at the front of the premises, the sheriff observed Thiede, whom he well knew, standing in the alleyway between the saloon and the brewery but without saying a word Thiede quickly vanished through a side door into the house. The sheriff entered a moment later by the west door, and found him standing behind the bar quietly taking a drink.

"Well," said Thiede, "I killed my wife last night," or words to that effect.

"It looks that way," rejoined Sheriff McQueen; "and I now place you under arrest."

"No; you have no right to arrest me," promptly answered the other man, and then changed his tune by adding, "I didn't do it."

It was nearly 11 o'clock this morning when Sheriff McQueen arrived in the city with Thiede, to have a glance at whom nearly 100 persons had congregated in and around the approaches to the sheriff's official quarters.

In a private conversation with a NEWS reporter Thiede said he knew nothing at all about his wife's murder; that she kissed him before leaving the house about ten o'clock last night, and the next he saw of her was when he went out into the yard towards midnight and found her lying on the ground, dead. They had had no quarrel and he was at a loss to know who murdered her.

"Don't you know where the knife is that the murderer used?" asked the reporter.

"No, I don't," answered the prisoner in a surly way; "go and ask somebody else about it, not me."

The knife with which the deed was committed has not yet been found. It is believed, however, to be somewhere in the creek which runs at the rear of the premises, and a diligent search is being made for it.

Coroner Taylor was also notified of the bloody tragedy shortly before 5 o'clock, and half an hour later he was driving rapidly toward Murray in company with Undertaker Skewes. Arriving at the scene of the murder he at once commenced an investigation with a view to securing witnesses for the inquest, which he set for 2 o'clock this afternoon. Mr. Taylor ascertained that Thiede had abused his wife in a most violent manner the last few days. As late as Sunday night he struck her over the head with a beer glass and otherwise maltreated her. Yesterday morning he sent their only child—a little girl about ten years of age—away from home. During the day he continued to swear at and threaten his wife, but no particular importance or stress was attached to that fact by the neighbors, as it was a common thing for the pair to quarrel.

About 10 o'clock screams were heard by several persons coming from the direction of the saloon, and they were so piercing that some of those who heard them sprang from their beds and at least one man walked out into the street to listen. But when he got there all was silent, and he went back to the house,