

and most of the men that were with that connecting link in the gaps in civilization in the West have made their last trip and reached their eternal home station. Some left the road and joined Harry Melg's procession of modern civilization in Chili and Peru, some allured by the glitter of gold perished in Guana. And of all that band of hardy, daring men, I can recall as living in this vicinity but Wines, Decker, Dohoo, Faust, Spencer and two or three others. Godwin, Roberts, Gilmer, McCombs, Bromley and a host of once familiar characters in the overland service have passed in their way-bills and been checked off the route. Many rest in consecrated ground, the greensward and blooming flowers, a beautiful and gentle contrast to the rugged scenes in the landscape of their active lives. Some sleep beneath the brow of the lonely mountain, the scoughing summer winds moaning in the pines, in winter the roar of the mighty avalanche; their regulatory dirge, and some moulder in unmarked graves on the barren, desolate plain, the route abandoned, the station moved or crumbled in decay, the dismal howl of the famishing wolf, the screech of the winter blast their requiem.

W. P. APPELEY.

#### AGENT RANLETT'S REPORT.

PRICE, Utah, July 16.—Colonel Randlett, who after ten years' service as agent for the Uncompahgre, Uintah and Ute Indians, and who has just relinquished his duties to his successor, Captain Beck, passed through here today en route East. An Associated Press representative was permitted to make an abstract from his annual report to the secretary of the interior up to July 1st, just finished, and after alluding to various other matters refers to the present condition of these Indians and other matters as full wt:

While in the ways of civilization these Indians have not advanced as much during the past year as was hoped for at its beginning, many families on both reservations have manifested much energy in working to establish homesteads with resources from which they hope to gain their own subsistence when left to be a self-supporting people.

The Indians have improved very much respecting the drinking habit, and the police have been efficient in assisting to suppress the liquor traffic by peddlers coming upon the reservation, and saloon-keepers located just outside the reservation lines. They have given testimony in United States courts resulting in the conviction of two cases, where the judge gave sentences of more than one year's imprisonment. Two others were indicted for the same offense who skipped from the country; two others are now under indictment who will be brought to trial at the next term of court.

No allotments in severalty has been made to those Indians; those that have been provided with homes in the past four years have been taken upon allotment allowances of land fenced upon surveyed sections, so that with them allotment in severalty will be easily accomplished. By act of June 9, 1897, the secretary of the interior is directed to locate the Uncompahgres by allotment after April 1, 1898; to open for entry under the land laws of the United States all agricultural lands of the Uncompahgre reservation that have not been allotted to said Indians. This act is

the result of four years' discussion in Congress, originating through schemes of parties seeking possession of the valuable asphaltum deposits found upon the reservation. It is regretted by all interested in the welfare of the Indians that this result was reached without making provisions for locating the Indians upon homesteads, as promised in the treaty made with them in 1880, and it is hoped that the matter will be reconsidered by Congress separate from the interests of the rich asphaltum sharks, whose schemes have brought nothing good to themselves, and only fruited in unrest and anguish for these wretchedly poor, long-neglected wards of the government.

From official information received from the department of justice, it appears that more than 600 depredation claims amounting to more than one million dollars have been filed against the Ute Indians in the United States court of claims, and suits instituted in such manner as to hold either of the confederated bands eventually responsible for the alleged depredations. It has also been learned that the number of law officers provided by the government to defend Indian depredation claims is insufficient for the discharge of their duty. Therefore, acting after the example of other tribes, the Southern Utes of Colorado have united with the Uncompahgre, Uintah and White River Utes of Utah and with the approval of the honorable secretary of the interior have contracted with Mr. Kie Oldham of Little Rock, Ark., to act as their attorney in defense of those claims. Mr. Oldham, in the interest of these cases, is now in Utah seeking rebutting testimony, and has recently visited these Indians at their agencies. Without doubt nearly, if not all, of these claims are fraudulent; still, it has been necessary to employ an attorney for defense in order that the prosecuting attorneys shall not be allowed to secure judgment by default.

It is thought that these Indians have just claims against the United States that should be adjusted.

#### CACHE VALLEY NEWS.

LOGAN, Utah, July 12, 1897.

The heretofore very discouraging outlook for harvests in this valley has changed somewhat by the recent liberal rains, which will serve to fill out much of the wheat that otherwise would have been shrunken. Still the crop will be considerably below average.

The cry from certain quarters about the changes at the Agricultural College by which non-Mormons are being displaced by Mormons can hardly be considered consistent when the matter is viewed from the broad standpoint from which things of a public nature must (if honestly and fairly) be examined. The college is a State institution. When it was first organized, professors possessing the technical qualifications were not obtainable at home, hence the faculty was formed almost entirely from Eastern people. No changes have been made except on voluntary resignations for cause, except possibly for purely political reasons. But why should these people who have come here merely for employment, and who do not seek to identify their interests with those of the State, expect to hold a life lease on such positions? The great majority of the patrons of the college are, and no doubt will continue to be, of the Mormon people. Many of that class are becoming educated

and fitted for professorships in any college. Why should they be discriminated against? The discrimination surely has not been in their favor except in giving them just recognition as opportunity offered.

Quite a number of teachers and prospective teachers have been taking advantage of the normal training offered by the summer school at the Agricultural college. The four weeks term will close in a few days.

A number of professors from both of our colleges are going out on tours through the State in the interest of their schools.

Very gratifying progress is being made on the new Brigham Young college building. The people of the county are taking a very energetic interest. Aid is solicited from the friends of the college everywhere.

Our choir gave an excellent concert on the evening of the 10th to aid the organization in paying expenses to the Jubilee. They have entered the contest of choirs and are assiduously training for it. Should there fail to be a contest they will be disappointed and the public will lose a treat.

Our townsman, the talented musician, Mr. Charles M. Harris, and his amiable wife, have returned from Germany, where he has been studying music. He accomplished his object and is looking and feeling well. Together with Mr. George W. Thatcher Jr., who recently returned from Boston bearing laurels as a composer, a valuable accession is made to our native Utah artists, placing our State still farther towards the front ranks of the musical world.

VIDI.

#### THE WORK IN IOWA.

HAMPTON, Iowa, June 15, 1897.

The Iowa conference was held at Eobiel hall April 10th and 11th at Sioux City, Iowa. The Elders came in from their fields of labor all enjoying the best of health. We were blessed with the company of our beloved president, Louis A. Kelch. We began conference at 10:30 a. m., Elder Levi A. Colvin, president of the conference, presiding. The subject of faith was spoken upon by Elders James D. Coon and Myron A. Holgate.

Afternoon services convened at 2 p. m. The subject of repentance was treated upon by Elders Parley Williams and Conrad J. Smith. Elder Levi A. Colvin then spoke bearing a strong testimony to the work in which the Elders were engaged.

We again met at 7:30 p. m., there being a pretty fair house. The subject of baptism was taken up and discussed by Elders Thor. D. Wallace and Daniel E. Black. President Kelch then spoke, bearing a powerful testimony to the truth of the Gospel as established by the Prophet Joseph Smith.

April 11th, meeting convened at 10:30 a. m. It being stormy the attendance was rather small. Elders Isaac Coon and David Rienton discussed the subject of the Holy Ghost. Elder Henry Biesel then followed with the subject of authority. The meeting closed with some very good instructions from Elder Colvin.

The afternoon session opened at 2 p. m., Elder Levi A. Colvin occupying the time. He spoke upon Church organization.