

weather we have had during the few months that have passed could hardly be called winter; there have been but few days when the brethren could not work upon the reservoirs. The good, strong reservoirs are already completed and three more are under way, which when done will contain a large supply of water and greatly increase the wealth of this land.

Very respectfully,  
M. J. WEST.

#### ANOTHER NAUVOO VETERAN.

PROVO CITY, Feb. 11, 1895.

By request of Brother Philo Dibble, reported in the NEWS by O. B. Huntington, I here will give the name of Edward Mecham, living at Provo, who has been in all of the trials and troubles of the Saints in early days; he was well acquainted with the Prophet Joseph Smith and all the leading members of the Church; he saw the Prophet and his brother Hyrum as they lay dead at Nauvoo, and his memory is fresh on the subject now, although very feeble. He emigrated to Salt Lake City in the fall of 1851 and moved to Provo in the spring of 1852, and has lived there ever since. He also remembers Brother Dibble. He still will bear a strong testimony to the truth of the everlasting Gospel, and that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God. If he lives until February 22, 1895, he will be 93 years old. He keeps his bed most of the time.

I am his son and am very much pleased to have this opportunity, and hope many more will respond to the call.

Very respectfully your Brother,  
AMASA L. MECHAM.

#### WESTERN NEWS ITEMS.

The Idaho senatorial deadlock was unbroken and the situation unchanged up to Feb. 14.

The people of Denver are clamoring for a reduction in water rates, and the city officials seem disposed to accede to the demand.

The arid land bill, taking advantage of the Carey land grant of 1,000,000 acres, has passed the Wyoming legislature.

The regular session of the Wyoming legislature ends on Saturday night, February 16. There is some agitation for the immediate calling of an extra session to dispose of public business.

Secretary of War Lamont has informed Governor Hughes, of Arizona, that Gerulmo and his band of Apaches now at Fort Bill will not be returned to Arizona, as was feared. Both branches of the legislature now in session have passed memorials to Congress protesting against the return of the Indians.

Joe Stannamich, of Globeville, Colorado, told a sad story at police headquarters Tuesday after his arrest upon a charge of grand larceny. He was accused of stealing a \$65 shotgun from John Reblaca. Stannamich acknowledged having taken the gun, but claimed that he committed the act because his wife and six small children were in a starving condition.

Frank Smith was shot dead at midnight Sunday night three miles east of

Phoenix, Arizona. The murderers are unknown. A man named Draper was arrested on suspicion. Draper paid Smith \$200 Sunday. Two men entered the residence at the rear door and awoke Smith's wife. Smith grappled with the intruders and forced them out of the front door, when he was shot. Robbery was the motive, but nothing was taken.

Samuel J. Thomas, the young negro who was accused of trying to murder the Rev. Wolf and his wife in Alameda, Cal., has been sentenced to serve forty years in the penitentiary. Thomas was not tried for the brutal assault on the Wolfs but he was indirectly punished for it. While the police could not secure evidence against him, still they were positive that he was the man who committed the cruel deed. The officers had him convicted of an Alameda burglary and he got sentenced twenty-five years for it. Then he was taken out of jail and tried on another charge of burglary and was convicted again. Judge Ellsworth, in passing sentence, said he might give the young man life on the second charge, but he thought fifteen years would be about right. The judge said that would give the prisoner time to think over matters. Thomas had not a word to say to any one as he was ironed and taken out of the courtroom.

The funeral of Robert Lyle was held Tuesday from his home in Berkeley, Cal. He was a convict, sentenced ten years ago to life imprisonment in San Quentin for the murder of a man named Sullivan, in Morgan valley. For a long time past the convict has been slowly dying of consumption. His relatives knew that death was a question of a short time. They began to work for a pardon for him, so he could be taken home to die. Governor Budd was pleaded with and importuned on all sides. He hesitated, but finally signed the document making Lyle a free man. It was Governor Budd's first pardon and he said the only reason which prompted him to grant it was that Lyle might die outside the prison walls. Lyle was so near death that the prison officials secured a government launch to take him to Berkeley across the bay from the prison. He lived only twenty-four hours after his arrival. He was 57 years old.

Walter E. Ellsworth, of Portland, Ore., whose wife died suddenly Sunday morning under suspicious circumstances, has been arrested charged with having poisoned his wife with strychnine. In the intervals between convulsions, just before her death, Mrs. Ellsworth complained of the bitter taste of a powder her husband had given her, and Ellsworth stated to the physician that he had given her some corn starch to soothe her. The physician reported two circumstances to the coroner and chief of police, and it was decided to hold an autopsy. Examination of the contents of the stomach showed the presence of strychnine. Before the coroner's jury, Ellsworth protested his innocence of murder or any knowledge of the cause of his wife's death. The statements he had made about the matter were proved to be false by the physicians who attended his wife, and the jury found that death had been caused by strychnine poisoning.

#### OBITUARY NOTES.

NAHUM COLE HOLDEN.

PHOENIX, Ariz., Feb. 12, 1895.—Father Nahum Cole Holden passed from this life on February 8, 1895, aged nearly 76 years. Brother Holden was born April 2, 1819, in North Leverett, Franklin Co., Mass., and was baptized by Elder Winslow Farr in the winter of 1841-2, and came to Nauvoo in the fall of 1842 and to Salt Lake City in 1860. He came to Arizona in 1880, since which time he has made his home in the St. Johns Stake of Zion, at Springerville, except about three years which he spent in Mexico. Father Holden leaves a wife and five children to mourn his loss. He came down to Mesa City to spend the winter in this warm climate, and on the 7th inst. was run over by a horse and buggy, which injured his left side and back, from the effects of which he died. He died in full hope of a glorious resurrection, for it can be said he was a good Latter-day Saint. He held the office of a High Priest.—[Com.]

G. D. GREER.

LUNA, Socorro County, N. M., Heber Ward, February 12, 1895.—A sorrowful and bereaved feeling has pervaded the breasts of the people of this ward the past three weeks on account of the death of our beloved brother and worthy Bishop, G. D. Greer, who departed this life January 22, 1895, after ten days of severe pain and suffering caused by internal rupture. All was done for him that it seemed possible to do through the administration of the Priesthood and by his family and kind friends, to save his life, but it appears he was destined to be called to labor in another sphere. He was born January 20, 1860, being comparatively a young man at the time of his death, and leaves a loving wife and six children to mourn his departure. The mother of the deceased, who resides at Conecho, Arizona, arrived here two days after this mournful event and was grief-stricken over the sudden demise of her dutiful and loving son.

The family decided to have the remains taken to St. Johns, Arizona, as the father and other members of the family were interred in the burial ground at that place. Before leaving the family residence the people from all over the valley gathered around to take a farewell look on the features of him who had so ably and faithfully served them in the capacity of Bishop for the past seven years. The body, in charge of Dr. Platt, arrived in St. Johns on the evening of the 25th. The funeral ceremonies were held in the meeting house at that place on Sunday, January 27th. The people turned out en masse out of respect to the memory of the deceased, who had resided here a number of years previous to being called as Bishop of Heber ward. The speakers on the occasion were Elders David K. Udall, of Springerville, W. H. Gibbons and E. N. Freeman, also Bishop C. Anderson; Elder N. P. Johnson, president of the High Priests' quorum, and Patriarch H. J. Platt, of St. Johns; Bishop Greer's first counselor, W. H. Thompson, and Elder C. Hampshire, of Heber ward. All who spoke eulogized the memory of the deceased; several of them, having been most intimately associated with him for a number of years, testified to his unswerving integrity, honesty and faithfulness, and also his being a fearless advocate in the cause of truth. He mastered the Spanish language and filled a mission to the Indians as well as preaching to some of the Mexican population of St. Johns in that tongue. As stated in the remarks of Elder Udall, he was a strict keeper of records as well as accounts, as the work he has left behind abundantly shows, and it will be a great