

line of his duty and that he was disseminating unto the people those principles which if obeyed and lived up to would bring salvation unto those embracing them. The speaker had had his eyes opened while in the mission field, for on leaving home he knew not what the Gospel was, so to speak. He had been frivolous and light-minded as are many of the youth of Zion—a lover of pleasure more than a lover of God. But the Father had blessed him and had made him feel that the Gospel work was something which should be given attention above everything else.

His first labors were in the Queensland conference at the town of Brisbane. There Mormonism had many enemies, a prejudice having been stirred up among the people through the petual of literature antagonistic to the Saints. But through the blessings of the Lord, a great deal of the prejudice had been removed and the Elders were enabled to perform a good work. A lively branch of the Church had been organized and a Sunday school and a Mutual Improvement association were operating and in good running order. The walls of prejudice which seemed almost insurmountable at first were fast crumbling to decay, and the people were becoming eager to hear the true Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Elders were needed to sound the glad tidings for the time had come when a good work was to be done in Australia. Several branches of the Church had been established on the island and Mormonism was fast coming to the front.

Elder Livingstone's desire was that the youth of Zion would prepare themselves for the ministry that they might go abroad and preach the Gospel to those who knew it not.

President Lorenzo Snow was the closing speaker. He said he had been much delighted with the remarks of the Elders who had returned from the missionary field. He too, had had a similar experience to that which the preceding speakers had related having traveled a great deal in promulgating the principles of the Gospel. The Gospel, said the speaker, was calculated to bless the people who would receive and practice it. It was calculated to raise the Saints above the common, ordinary condition of affairs in the earth, and it would help to success in all the affairs of life, whether in a business capacity or otherwise. The Saints came here to build up a Zion, and upon their arrival here, they asked God to sanctify to their good everything that they undertook to do. This state of affairs should continue today. The people should put their trust in the Lord and He would bless them. The young men sent out on mission should learn that there was a God before going into the field. They should study these things at home and should be in a position to know Him and His attributes, and to testify of the same before going to preach the Gospel. President Snow urged the Saints to greater diligence in the work of the Gospel, and assured them that blessings would follow if they sought to keep the commandments of the Lord and walk in His ways. The speaker closed by referring to the glorious work being done in the Temples.

Choir sang the anthem:

Israel's sons with one accord,

Benediction was pronounced by Elder C. W. Penrose.

AN OLD TIMER'S VIEWS.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 18, 1896.

In your issue of Friday, the 15th inst., I noticed an editorial headed, "An office-seeking mania." In the second paragraph you say, "An office-seeking mania is spreading over the State and the old rule long practiced in Utah is being abolished," and men go about in droves seeking places, "for every vacancy there is a clamoring crowd." I will here say for one class of places a clamoring crowd is about off, because only one class have been considered capable of filling such places. I mean office work in general, and that is expected by those that have had the better chance of schooling, and the hard working man need not apply. When in Utah, and Salt Lake in particular, the office sought the man, it was generally this class that was sought, unless it was an office where only glory was the pay, and then the class you call the "clamoring crowd" was awarded the place with very little trouble. You make direct reference to county commissioners and suggest they give the "clamoring crowd the go by."

Now, Mr. Editor, who are seeking places at the hands of our county commissioners at the present time? Why, as a general rule a hungry crowd of poor men, at least the most of them—some that do not know where the next flour is coming from, or where to get a pair of shoes to cover the feet of their little ones, or a little coal to keep them warm; too "proud to beg and too honest to steal." I am one that has made application for a place in the broom brigade, a gift of the commissioners of Salt Lake county, and think I should not be considered out of place for so doing. Thirty-seven years ago I made my advent into this city with all I had in a handcart after twelve weeks' weary travel. My first night here I made my bed just about where I am asking to help keep clean. I find it the past that many that had employment in the city and county building and grounds have not lived long enough before they got places to know the name or number of the street it was located on.

The only reason I can assign that so many are clamoring for places at present is that there are so many out of employment, and not because they want to feed out of the public crib. I, like many others that have long resided here, that have been on hand, by night or by day, to do anything in a public way for the public good, am only asking to exist still a little longer where they have spent their best days, and have been unfortunate in not having the chance to lay by for a time these years we are passing through.

Let me ask you in conclusion to cast the mantle of charity around the "clamoring crowd" and hope the time may soon come that times may change and that for the better, that the idle and hungry crowd of men may have a chance to get the opportunity of working for an honest

living and that peace and plenty may abound, that the heart of the masses may be raised in praise and rejoicing, that a happy change has come to her and her citizens, and that we may be able to put into and and not want to feed out of the public crib, and when that welcome time does come, it may result in the city or county officer hunting instead of the "clamoring crowd." Yours most respectfully,

AN OLD TIMER.

DECEMBER WEATHER.

December, 1896, was an unusually mild and pleasant month in all sections of the State. The temperature averaged about four degrees above the normal, while the precipitation was abnormally deficient, being only about one-half of the usual amount for December. The average depth of the snowfall was four inches which is nearly eight inches in the normal. In the extreme southern counties the deficiency was the greatest; some localities reporting only a trace, while in other districts no snow has yet fallen this year up to the end of the month. Upon the whole the weather conditions were exceptionally fine for farm work but very detrimental to stock interests.

The mean temperature for the State was 31 degrees; highest monthly mean 39 degrees, at St. George; lowest monthly mean 22 degrees, at Park City and Soldier Summit; mean of maximum temperature, 44 degrees; mean of minimum temperature, 20 degrees. The highest temperature recorded during the month was 66 degrees at Fillmore, Millard county, on the 27th, and the lowest, 3 degrees below zero, at Kootenai, Platte county, on the 1st; absolute range of temperature for the State, 69 degrees. The greatest local monthly range of temperature was 68 degrees at Fillmore, and the least, 30 degrees, at Moab, Grand county.

The average precipitation for the State was 0.46 of an inch; greatest monthly amount recorded was 1.41 inches at Brigham City, Box Elder county, and the least amount recorded was a trace at Giles, Wayne county, La., Platte county, and Mammoth, Juab county. Average depth of snowfall, 4 inches; greatest depth recorded was 9 inches at Corinne, Park City and Soldier Summit. The days on which measurable quantities of precipitation occurred were generally the 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, 13th, 31st. The average number of rainy days was 2. During the month there was an average of 15 clear, 9 partly cloudy and 7 cloudy days. At Salt Lake City there was 51 per cent of sunshine, and at Grover, Wayne county, 55 per cent (estimated).

The prevailing direction of the wind was from the southwest. Total movement of the wind at Salt Lake City was 3,239 miles, and the highest velocity 28 miles per hour from the southwest on the 13th. There were no high winds reported from any section of the State during the month.

Thunderstorms—Giles, Wayne county, 18th, 30th.

Lunar Halos—Parowan, Iron county, 17th.

Sun Dogs—Giles, Wayne county, 14th.