

The afternoon was spent, after the usual exercises, in songs, dialogues, recitations, questions on different subjects, etc., etc. The President of the Primary Association of St. Johns, Tooele County, and from a ward of Springville, Utah County, were present. Both spoke very encouragingly to the children, pronouncing their little efforts as quite equal to those of Associations in other wards.

After spending two hours in dancing, the children were dismissed by singing "Our Own Sunday School." Benediction by one of the little boys.

Financial report, beginning June 15th, 1881, ending June 15th, 1882:

Names enrolled, 44; average attendance, 20; meetings during the year, 32; amount in treasury from last year, \$3.55; received during the year, \$7.15; total, \$10.70. Disbursed to the Salt Lake Temple, \$6.50; books, \$1.50; in treasury, \$2.70.

ESTHER A. BENNION, President.
MARY A. HICKENSON, Secretary.

MESA CITY.

Perhaps but few are aware that we have a Relief Society organization in this isolated country, as but very few reports have ever been sent from Mesa City. Our first conference was held March 11th, and a report was prepared and sent by our secretary, but for some reason it never appeared in the EXPONENT. We have quite a number of names enrolled as members, but have not accomplished much financially, in consequence of but few seeming to take an interest in the success of our society; this makes it rather discouraging for those who want to be workers in the hive. But out of the books we shall be judged. We have made a few quilts, but in a country like this, where the thermometer runs up to 115 degrees, the making of bedquilts is rather an unprofitable business. We are also making a very nice quilt, which we design as a Temple donation, and although there are but a few of us, we can see that we are improving both spiritually and temporally.

We have a good, faithful President, who endeavors to perform her duties faithfully, and is well beloved by the Society.

We are not so highly favored as our sisters in Utah, in having the presence, frequently, of those true and noble sisters, Eliza R. and Sister Zina, with their zealous co-workers, who seem to be spending their lives in the great and glorious work, which has been allotted to them to show woman her true and proper sphere in the great work of the last days, and may the blessing of high heaven attend them in their labors; and rest assured, if any of them should ever visit this country, they would meet with a warm welcome (perhaps rather too warm, unless they came in the winter). The EXPONENT helps to supply this want in a great measure. We can read accounts of their glorious meetings and almost imagine ourselves there; therefore it is always a welcome visitor.

Everybody enjoys this climate when they once get accustomed to it. We have about 10 months of the most agreeable climate in the world, to balance against about two months of very warm weather, and even then we frequently have nice cool afternoon breezes, which serve to help us out admirably. It is a very healthy country, which is saying a great deal in its favor. There is not a case of sickness on the Mesa, that I am aware of.

Ever praying for the success of the EXPONENT, I remain your sincere friend,
SARAH M. POMEROY.

An evil speaker differs from an evil doer only in the want of opportunity.—Quintilia

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

Resolutions of respect on the death of Anina Phister, member of the 3rd Ward Primary Association of Logan City:

As God, in His wisdom, has seen fit to call another of His precious jewels, and as she has labored faithfully in the performance of every duty, we, as members of the Primary Association, unanimously adopt the following resolutions:

First—We sincerely condole with her guardians, her brothers and her sister, in this their heavy bereavement, and we tender them our heartfelt sympathy.

Second—May her many virtues be emulated by the members of our Association, so that her noble example may stimulate others to a life of virtue.

Farewell, Anina, we shall miss you,
But you have only gone to rest,
From all troubles and all labors,
With your parents you'll be blest.

Resolved, That we adopt these resolutions as a token of respect and appreciation of her sterling qualities, and that a copy of them be forwarded to her guardians, and also to the Logan Leader and the WOMAN'S EXPONENT.

SARAH G. TARBET, President.

ELEANOR C. COWLEY, } Counselors.
MARY A. TARBET, }

SCENES AND INCIDENTS IN NAUVOO.

BY HELEN MAR WHITNEY.

With all the false traditions in which we were born, and in consequence of the degenerate tide with which the human family have been drifting for generations past, and as the Lord had no organized Priesthood on the earth, it is not to be wondered at that in our ignorance of His ways the feelings of our natures should rebel against the doctrine of a plurality of wives. I remember how I felt, but which would be a difficult matter to describe—the various thoughts, fears and temptations that flashed through my mind when the principle was first introduced to me by my father, who one morning in the summer of 1843, without any preliminaries, asked me if I would believe him if he told me that it was right for married men to take other wives, can be better imagined than told; but suffice it to say the first impulse was anger, for I thought he had only said it to test my virtue, as I had heard that tales of this kind had been published by such characters as the Higbees, Foster and Bennett, but which I supposed were without any foundation. My sensibilities were painfully touched. I felt such a sense of personal injury and displeasure; for to mention such a thing to me I thought altogether unworthy of my father, and as quick as he spoke, I replied to him, short and emphatically, No, I wouldn't! I had always been taught to believe it a heinous crime, improper and unnatural, and I indignantly resented it. This was the first time that I ever openly manifested anger towards him; but I was somewhat surprised at his countenance, as he seemed rather pleased than otherwise. Then he commenced talking seriously, and reasoned and explained the principle, and why it was again to be established upon the earth, etc., but did not tell me then that any one had yet practiced it, but left me to reflect upon it for the next twenty-four hours, during which time I was filled with various and conflicting ideas. I was sceptical—one minute believed, then doubted. I thought of the love and tenderness that he felt for his only daughter, and I knew that he would not cast her off, and this was the only convincing proof that I had of its being right. I knew that he

loved me too well to teach me anything that was not strictly pure, virtuous and exalting in its tendencies; and no one else could have influenced me at that time or brought me to accept of a doctrine so utterly repugnant and so contrary to all of our former ideas and traditions. This was just previous to his starting upon his last mission but one to the Eastern States. Fearing that I might hear it from a wrong source, knowing, as he did, that there were those who would run before they were sent, and some would not hesitate to deceive and betray him and the brethren, he thought it best that I should hear it from his own lips.

The next day the Prophet called at our house, and I sat with my father and mother and heard him teach the principle and explain it more fully, and I believed it, but I had no proofs only his and my father's testimony. I thought that sufficient, and did not deem it necessary to seek for any further, but had I been differently situated like many were without a father and a mother to love and counsel me, probably my dependence, like theirs, would have been on the Lord, but I leaned not upon His arm. My father was my teacher and revelator, and I saw no necessity then for further testimony; but in after years the Lord, in His far-seeing and infinite mercy, suffered me to pass through the rough waves of experience, and in sorrow and affliction, I learned this most important lesson, that in Him alone must I trust, and not in weak and sinful man; and that it was absolutely necessary for each one to obtain a living witness and testimony for him or herself, and not for another, to the truth of this latter-day work, to be able to stand, and that like Saul, we "must suffer for His name's sake." Then I learned that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge," and that "He is high unto all those that call upon Him in truth, and healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds."

In a few days from this, my father started for the Eastern States. My baby brother had been very sick and was barely convalescent when he left.

He wrote me from Pittsburg, that was more than forty years ago; and though his letters are now worn and yellow with age, and the fingers that wrote them are laid under the cold and senseless turf, yet the sublime truths, though taught in simple words, will never perish, no; never; and often as I read them, I drop a silent tear and am led to say:

"I owe thee much. Thou hast deserved from me far, far beyond what I can ever pay."

Here is a copy of the letter written me from Pittsburg, July 10th, 1843:

"My Dear Helen.—I still remember what I told you when I left home, that I would write you. You have been on my mind much since I left home, and also your dear mother, who has the first place in my heart, then my dear children and brethren and sisters who have passed through much sorrow and pain for the cause of Christ.

"My dear daughter, what shall I say to you? I will tell you, learn to be meek and gentle, and let your heart seek after wisdom, and always speak kindly to your dear mother and listen to her counsel while you have her with you, for there is no one that feels the care for you that she does. My child, remember the care that your dear father and mother have for your welfare in this life, that all may be done well, and that in view of eternal worlds, for that will depend upon what we do here, and how we do it; for all things are sacred. God knows my heart and how I feel for my dear family. My prayer is that he will incline our hearts to serve him all the days that we shall live on the earth and our children after us through all eternity, that none of them may