

From Bro. Richardson.

SALEM, OR., Dec. 11, 1878.

Editor P. C. Messenger:

Thinking it might be a matter of interest to the readers of the MESSENGER to hear from us, I sit down to pen you a few lines after more than a year silence.

Last fall we removed from Waitsburg, W. T., to Monmouth, Or. On arriving at the last named place, we found the house we were to occupy wholly unfit for a family to live in and dangerous to our health.

Salem is in the midst of a vast field more or less destitute of the pure Gospel, accessible too by boat and rail to a great extent.

We remained in Monmouth 15 days. When we left there two of our daughters, Sarah and Mary, were unwell, and continued to grow worse till death closed the scene.

They both died Dec. 2nd; Sarah A. at 11 o'clock A. M., and Mary O. at 6 o'clock P. M., and now they both sweetly sleep side by side in the same grave.

The world renowned success of Hostetter's Bitters, and their continued popularity for a quarter of a century as a stomachic, is scarcely more wonderful than the welcome that greets the annual appearance of Hostetter's Almanac.

Sarah A. was in her 21st year, and for many years a member of the church, and seldom among the absent members.

Our afflictions and the embarrassed state of business in W. T. have determined us to return to Waitsburg at the earliest possible.

We wish, through the MESSENGER, to express our warmest thanks to the brethren and sisters, and many kind friend of Salem, for their expressions of sympathy and timely aid in our deep affliction.

Your brother in the Lord, G. W. RICHARDSON.

There is none under heaven that can comfort me but thou, my God, the heavenly Physician of souls, that striketh and healeth, bringest into hell and drawest on again.

Obituary.

Our columns have become too much crowded for the insertion of long obituary notices, except in cases where the deceased was extensively known among our readers on this coast.

Died, at the residence of her son-in-law, T. J. Graves, near Bethel, Polk county, Oregon, Tuesday morning, Dec. 17, 1878, Sister Mary Shelton, wife of Bro. J. W. Shelton, in her 42nd year.

Sister Shelton had been spending a week with her children who are at school at Monmouth. On Sunday morning she started home, calling on her parents, Bro. and Sister Barford, and then going on as far as Bro. Graves', where she remained all night.

Sister Shelton had been, from her youth, a consistent and devoted Christian. She was the mother of thirteen children, two of whom preceded her to the grave. Her sudden and, to us, untimely departure, is mourned by a husband kind and true, loving children, fond parents, brothers and sisters in the flesh and in the Lord, and a host of warm friends.

Life's labor done, as sinks the clay, Light from its load the spirit flies, While heav'n and earth combine to say, "How blest the righteous when he dies!"

Died, at Pleasant Hill, Lane Co., Or., Nov. 15th, of scarlet fever, Ethel, only daughter of Josiah and Harriett Callison, age 12 years.

Though a child of tender years, she was on the Lord's side having acknowledged Christ as her Savior, and been baptized about a month before her death. She had the simplicity of a child but the mind of one older, as she proved by the selection of a verse from Prov. iii. 3: "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee; bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart."

She was young, fair and lovely, Gentle as the summer breeze; Pleasant as the air of evening When it floats among the trees. Yet she left us very early In the silent grave to sleep; Falling like the pretty flowers, But for her we will not weep.

She has gone and much we miss her; We are sad and full of woe, But the Lord who gave her took her, It is better she should go.

In the grave they laid her body; But her soul is far above In a bright and happy country, In a land of peace and love.

W. L.

Something for the New Year.

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