

DEATH OF PIONEER WOMAN.

WAS THE WIFE OF THE PROPHET,
JOSEPH SMITH.

She Was Well Known and Esteemed in
Weber County—Identified With the
Early History of the
Church.

Kimball, of Hooper, died yesterday received word that Mrs. Martha Smith Kimball, of Hooper, died yesterday morning at 5 o'clock, of old age. She was one of the most notable women in Utah, having taken a very active part in the early history of the Mormon church.

She was born in Chester, Washington county, N. Y., March 17, 1805, and was married to Vinson Knight, July 26, 1826. Mr. Knight was for a time presiding bishop of the church and was one of two men chosen by the church to purchase the townsite of Nauvoo and in Hancock county. They were baptized into the church in 1834. Mrs. Knight became a member of the Relief society of the church which was organized in Nauvoo. Mr. Knight died July 31, 1842, at Nauvoo and in August, 1842, she was sealed to the Prophet, Joseph Smith in the Nauvoo temple. She came to Utah in 1850, settling in Ogden, where she made her home for a number of years. She went to Hooper in 1869, where she has lived most of the time since, although visiting often with relatives in other parts of Utah.

After the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith, she was married to Heber O. Kimball, and by him she had one child, who died in infancy. She was the mother of six other children by her first husband, Mr. Knight, and three of them survive her, all of them being between 70 and 80 years of age. They are Mrs. Almira Hanscom, who resides near Akron, Ohio; Mrs. Adeline Belnap, living at Hooper, this county, and James Knight, who resides at Circleville, Piute county. She had a great many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and several great-great-grandchildren. Pictures of the old lady grouped with four of her direct descendants are to be found in the homes of most of her Ogden relatives.

The physical strength and endurance of Mrs. Knight was well-nigh marvelous. For nearly twenty years she had not used spectacles. Her needlework was a model of fineness amongst all her acquaintances for the past fifty years. She was a great reader, particularly of the daily papers, reading every word of telegraphic news, and during the Spanish-American war she was regarded as one of the best posted persons in Weber county on the military operations of the contending forces.

Two or three years ago at a birthday reunion of the family held in her honor, Mrs. Knight was called on for a speech, and prefaced one of considerable length with a recital of the tremendous changes which had taken place in her lifetime, mentioning the steam engine, the modern printing press and the telegraph. The Belnap family of Ogden are relatives.

The funeral services will take place in the Hooper meeting house at 12 o'clock and the remains will be interred by the side of her mother, Mrs. Abigail McBride. The mother was sealed to Jos. Smith, Sr., at Nauvoo.