

There is a poem which Teedledee recited for Alice in *Through the Looking Glass*. One stanza of the poem reads:

“The time has come,” the walrus said,
“To talk of many things:
Of shoes—and ships—and sealing-wax—
Of cabbages—and kings—
And why the sea is boiling hot—
And whether pigs have wings.”

Generally, each issue of *Mormon Historical Studies* has been devoted to a specific theme or subject area associated with Mormon history. However, in reviewing the essays recently submitted to our board of editors, we recognized that perhaps “the time has come . . . to talk of many things.”

The first two articles explore fascinating facets of early Latter-day Saint history. Jacob W. Olmstead gives a history of the Hosanna Shout, while Mark Ashurst-McGee researches the question of whether Moroni’s appearance to Joseph Smith was as an “angel” or a “treasure guardian.” The subject of death and mortality is found in the next three papers. Shane A. Baker writes about illness and mortality in nineteenth-century Mormon immigration. Donald Q. Cannon presents Brigham Young’s statements and feelings about life and death. Craig L. Foster looks at mountain law and extralegal punishment in Utah, using a murder in Marriott, Utah, as his main example. The final two articles lead readers to the settlement of Ogden Valley in Utah, and to the Fort Limhi Mission on the Salmon River. Here, Andrew H. Hedges and William G. Hartley paint vivid pictures of early pioneer experiences and hardships.

LaMar C. Berrett was interviewed by Alexander L. Baugh for “Conversations with Historians.” Berrett taught for over thirty years in the Department of Church History and Doctrine at BYU where he was an inspiration to thousands of students, so it is with great pleasure that we honor him

in this issue.

Our desire to provide our readers with a “Historic Research Index,” continues in this issue with Susan Easton Black’s history of the Pioneer Cemetery in Richmond, Ray County, Missouri. Her research also includes the names of known individuals (including that of Oliver Cowdery and several Peter Whitmer, Sr., family members) buried in this small burial ground.

“Early Marriages Performed by the Latter-day Saint Elders in Jackson County, Missouri, 1832-1834,” by Scott H. Faulring, is included in our “Document” section. Faulring provides marriage information of a number of Latter-day Saints who were married while living in Jackson County. His research is significant since it demonstrates that early Mormon marriages were recognized as being legal and valid by local officials.

On 26 May 2001, a dedication ceremony was held in the newly renovated city park in Breckenridge, Missouri. Part of the activities included the placement of a new marker for the Haun’s millstone that is has displayed there since 1914. In our “Historical Sites” section, assistant editor Alexander L. Baugh provides us with a short history of the millstone.

Two book reviews are the final selections in the magazine. Both books are monumental works. Jessie L. Embry comments on the *Encyclopedia of Latter-day Saint History*, by Arnold K. Garr, Donald Q. Cannon, and Richard O. Cowan (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book Company, 2000). Richard Bennett gives his views on *Studies in Mormon History, 1830-1997: An Indexed Bibliography*, compiled by James B. Allen, Ronald W. Walker, and David J. Whittaker, (Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2000).

Besides bringing you a potpourri of different subjects, we also have a wide spectrum of expertise. A number of our authors have published widely in the field of Mormon history, while three contributors are promising new writers. Mark Ashurst-McGee is working on his Ph.D. in history at Arizona State University. Jacob W. Olmstead is a student at Brigham Young University majoring in history and plans to attend graduate school next fall. Shane A. Baker, an archaeologist by profession, caught the “history bug” and ventured for the first time into the field of historical writing.

We hope you will enjoy our selection of “cabbages and kings, boiling seas, and pigs with wings” found within these pages. We welcome your comments.

Maurine Carr Ward, editor