

should like to mention, but space will not permit.

I have mentioned these few for the benefit of a few of my friends and old acquaintances, who have been anxious to know something concerning Utah. I care naught for the sneering critic, but would address all men wishing to know the truth to come to Utah and find out for themselves. And when they come look with their own eyes. I do not ask too many questions or believe Tom, Dick or Harry, for they were Judases in the time of our Savior, and it is so to-day. *En soit qui mal y pense.*

WALTER H. SCOTT.

A SINGULAR PETRIFICATION.

PLEASANT VALLEY,
June 12th, 1888.

Editor Deseret News:

Mr. Evan Williams, of this place, has been working on the construction train of the D. & R. G., and the 14th of May, he found a stone book in the sand, about 30 yards from Green River, which he brought home with him, and which has been purchased by Mr. David Williams, also of this place.

Last evening, while on business at Mr. Williams' residence he was asked to "show you," as he was going to his secretary he brought out the said book, which I gave a critical examination. It weighed just three pounds, and measures five inches in thickness; the covers are five and five-eighths inches long; leaves or rather the part that we call leaves, five and one-fourth inches long; the covers from edge to where it turned on the back or to "hinges" are two and three-fourths inches; measuring from the edge of one cover around the back to the edge of the other cover eight and seven-eighths inches or around the back side, seven and seven-eighths inches. The curiosity does not show the least mark of an instrument on it except where the finder used some sharp tool in scraping off dirt. In its dimensions it is as perfect as any book of the day. Two of the corners were broken off when found, one is broken badly. I was aware that books when used for only a short time would get the corners bent down so I examined the remaining ones and found them slightly bent. On very close observation I discovered two distinct lines running through the leaves in the same direction. These were just as straight as the leaves themselves. They were not marks of any tool, but were in the formation as a seam in a rock. The book is a white sandstone formation covered with many dark irregular spots about the size of a silver dime. The nearest thing I can compare it to is the pocket Bible printed twenty-five and thirty years ago, of which it is a perfect pattern.

The finder, Mr. Evan Williams, is a quiet, unassuming man, who minds his own business and gets his living by day labor. I have no doubt but it is a genuine petrified Bible, lost by some exploring party or some poor "Mormon" prospector. Indeed it would take a first-class sculptor to make such a piece of work. I cannot find reason to doubt its genuineness. Mr. D. J. Williams will be in Salt Lake in a few days and bring it for exhibition.

C. H. BLISS.

PROGRAMME

OF THE FOURTH OF JULY EXERCISES AT FORT DOUGLASS.

Music.

Meeting at the grand stand at Fort Douglass at 11 o'clock a. m.
Called to order by His Honor Mayor Wm. Jennings.
Prayer, Chaplain Van Horne.
Welcome, General McCook.
Response, Mayor Jennings.

Music.

President of the day, Governor Murray.
Reading, Declaration of Independence: H. M. Wells.
"Song," "Star Spangled Banner."
Oration, U. J. Wenner.

Music.

Sentiments.

The President, Governor Randall.
Music.

Army and Navy, Major John Land, U. S. A.
Music.

Utah, Professor T. B. Lewis.
Music.