

guano. The Bishops family of New Haven, Connecticut, were—and probably are today—the owners of some extremely valuable sugar estates, near Remedias, about 200 miles from Havana, which has enriched three generations of heirs and owners.

As nearly as I can ascertain, about 200 Americans of pure Anglo-Saxon blood—that is, not counting the naturalized Cuban-Americans—own property in Cuba. Among them is Mr. Ramon Williams, formerly of Baltimore, who was once consul general at Havana.

The Spanish-American Iron company, which has its main office in New York and is made up largely of capitalists who have been active in the iron ore business in the Lake Superior region, have also done an extensive business in Cuba. The Colbys, the Elys and the Rockefellers are the chief stock owners. A few years ago the company acquired control of several thousand acres of valuable iron ore deposits between Santiago and Guantanamo, on the south side of Cuba. A very large amount of money was expended in exploring the property, opening mines and establishing facilities for handling the output. There is no harbor nearer than Santiago and in order to ship ore economically, it was necessary to construct an artificial harbor by building a great break-water on the open coast. Extensive loading piers were built, large enough to load four steamers at a time. All these preparations were practically completed several years before they were put to any use. No shipments were made, because the company adopted the policy of waiting for advantageous market conditions. The reduction of the duty on iron ore from 75 cents to 40 cents per ton and the increased demand for Bessemer iron ore in eastern Pennsylvania, finally started the shipments. The Spanish-American Iron company made a contract with the Johnson S. S. company to transport 30,000 tons of ore to ports north of Capt Hatteras. A good deal of it was discharged at Port Richmond, and carried to furnaces along the line of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad.

That is the third large company which has opened iron mines in Cuba. The oldest and largest is the Juragua Iron company, which is jointly owned by the Pennsylvania Steel company and the Bethlehem Iron company. The Sagua Iron company was also organized in Philadelphia. It is estimated that these three companies have invested not less than ten million dollars in Cuban mining property.

FANNIE BRIGHAM WARD.

A TRIP THROUGH THE HILLS.

Midway, Wasatch Co.,

July 3rd, 1898.

I left home last Wednesday with a horse and buggy to take a trip to Summit and Wasatch counties; drove up Parley's canyon and over to Snyderville, where I stayed that night with James Snyder, one of the first settlers in Parley's Park. The next morning I drove up to Park City, to view the ruins of the great fire. There I found a very gloomy sight; men and teams were at work hauling away the debris; smoke could be seen issuing from the burnt ruins. The work of rebuilding is going on quite lively; where the fine new opera house stood is now a pile of melted and broken brick and rock. This building was considered to be fire-proof, as it had a double roof with a thick layer of earth between and sheet iron roofing, but the heat was so intense that the brick melted and crumbled away. As many as fifty of the residences on Rossie hill were licked up slick and clean to the ground by the greedy flames.

After viewing this dismal sight I

drove over the hills to Peoa and Oakley, then through Kamas, and over the roughest road I have ever seen down to Cluff's ranch, thence to Heber and Midway, where I am now staying with the first settler here, Brother Benjamin Mark Smith, who built the first house here thirty-seven years ago last April.

In August of that year (1859) the wheat crop was killed by a very severe frost. Ice froze on the water half an inch thick. A Mr. Mills came up from Provo the next spring, walking all the way—25 miles—wheeling his tools in a wheelbarrow, to build a sawmill up in Snake creek canyon. He made a large box to sleep in, fastening himself in to protect himself from the bears.

Midway is now a thriving little town of over 1,000 inhabitants, and they have a splendid water supply which is brought down from a large spring in the hills in pipes. Each family has the water piped to their houses at a moderate cost. They are not taxed so outrageously as are the people in Salt Lake City; here there is no water tax at all.

The people turned out en masse last night to tender a reception and social entertainment to Elder Attewell Wootton, who is to leave in a few days to perform a mission in England. The Sunday school, (of which Brother Wootton has been superintendent for over twenty years), presented him with a fine S. S. Teachers' Bible as a token of their love for him. Ice cream and cake was served by the young ladies to the multitude assembled. A program of recitations, songs, speeches and dancing was indulged in and a most enjoyable time was spent.

Last Monday night the county teachers and trustees tendered a reception to Elder Wootton at Heber City and as a token of their love and esteem for him who has been county superintendent of schools for over 17 years, presented him with a gold-headed cane. Brother Wootton leaves with the love and good wishes of the entire community, among whom he has labored for so many years unceasingly for the advancement of education. He will be greatly missed by the people of Wasatch county.

July started in with quite a frost; potatoes were nipped. It is so cold in the early morning that a fire is comfortable. The health of the people is very good. No sickness to speak of since the town has been so well supplied with pure spring water. The grain and other crops are doing splendidly and a bountiful harvest is assured.

ERNEST S. PENROSE.

THE OLD FOLKS' DAY.

Salt Lake City, Utah, July 7 1898.

The old folks had a grand and glorious time at Lagoon on July 6. The weather was fine, partly cloudy, seldom too warm, a little cooling breeze occasionally. To pent-up residents of the city, the scenery was paradisaical. "All hearts were light, all eyes were bright,

And Nature's face was gay."

Well, what did the old folks do? They feasted twice to their heart's content on the substantial and dainties so generously and profusely provided by the good people of Davis county. They sat and chatted together, renewing old acquaintance. They roamed around the beautiful grounds, listened to the bands, boated on the duplex lake, and looked at the menagerie of wild animals. In the pavilion there were songs and speeches, music and dancing, votes of thanks, gifts to the pioneers and the elder veterans of the county, cake walks outside, etc. There was a fine spirit of kindly welcome and desire to accommodate and please with Mr. Bamberger and his

aids, the committee of direction, the bands, and the Old Folks' choir. Of course the only George Goddard was there, as usual, "as large as life and twice as natural," and everybody said, "Aye." The young lady and gentlemen waiters outdid themselves in their abounding willingness to serve and cheerful and responsive readiness to oblige, making every heart glad. Everywhere there was manifest a spirit of satisfaction, cheerfulness, mirth, and jollity. I never heard an angry word, nor saw a cross look, all day long. The birds and animals partook of the glad and peaceful spirit. The peacock spread his gorgeous tail, the parrot cawed and cawed, the bears in their pit played and wrestled and fell and rolled, and even the mountain lions screeched repeatedly for the entertainment of the Old Folks. In fact the Old Folks had the finest kind of a time. As the radiant girls would say, "Everything was perfectly lovely." If such a spirit prevailed every day, the Millennium would have begun and this earth would be "like a little heaven below."

J. J.

Salt Lake City, July 7.

The annual outing for the aged of Salt Lake Stake and Davis county on Wednesday, July 6th, was the banner day of all former excursions for the benefit and enjoyment of those of our fathers and mothers whose heads are well sprinkled with gray, and in many cases entirely and beautifully covered with white.

The first train that left Salt Lake consisted of about thirteen cars. The engine was almost covered with our national emblem, the Star Spangled Banner. The cars were also decorated with bunting in honor of the old folks.

The trip from Salt Lake to the Lagoon was made successful. All arrived in good shape, well prepared for the reception they received from the Davis county committee. The bower was occupied by the different wards or settlements of Davis Stake, each branch having its allotment or space for tables to provide for the entertainment of our veterans. The tables were handsomely decorated with flowers and bounteously supplied with the choicest viands to regale and sustain the inner man.

The committee of each department selected their own insignia or dress, and all presented a pleasing and unique appearance, all seeming to outvie each other. But to Centerville should undoubtedly be awarded the palm. The space allotted that place consisted of three tables, capable of seating about forty persons at each table. From the room of the bower was suspended the national colors, decorated with bunches of lovely flowers. The tables were ornamented with handsome bouquets of choice flowers, and at the place for each guest were bunches of cheeries tied with ribbon, and a bouquet of sweet peas, red and white, for each guest. They were expected to dine two hundred but over three hundred were feasted sumptuously at dinner and many with lunch before leaving.

West Bountiful also decorated with Stars and Stripes over head and beautiful flowers, the pansy and white flowers being their choice. Great praise is due to all for the way they provided so bounteously for the aged guests.

Brother George Goddard presided at the pavilion and entertained the company. Compliments are due to Brother Charles Savage for the excellent quality and quantity of lemonade made by him and aids to revive the dry and thirsty guests.

Over twenty years our aged friends have been entertained by an outing, and all have done their best to make them welcome and happy, but Davis county has certainly won the meed of praise for all decided this to have been the best.