

contemplated this doctrine when he said: "Beloved, now we are the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he [Christ] is pure." What did Jesus mean when He prayed unto His Father that His disciples might be one with Him as He was one with God, unless He meant that they might attain to the same privileges, development and glory they enjoyed? Oh, I know too well how such a doctrine as that announced in the world is met by the cry of blasphemy. I have heard it too frequently to forget it. Yet, take the case of the Son of God contending with the pharisees when they accused Him of blasphemy because He said He was the Son of God. He said unto them, "Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he [God] called them gods unto whom the word of God came—and the scripture cannot be broken—say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified and sent unto the world, Thou blasphemest, because I said I am the Son of God?"

Now these are the doctrines of the holy Gospel. What glory is in them! What thrones, what powers, what dominion, what honor do they not hold out to man! What an incentive is here to righteousness! Who so base that, learning the possibilities that open before him in the Gospel, will squander his heritage and shut the door of God's Kingdom against himself for the privilege of enjoying the doubtful pleasures of sin for a season? I find, upon contemplating these things, an incentive to forsake evil and work righteousness that I cannot find in any of the fine-spun theories of the philosophers of the world. It is possible that the heights to which I have pointed you seem immeasurably distant from our present standpoint, yet be not discouraged on that account. If the journey is long, if the struggle is hard, if the distance is great, I pray you remember that you have eternity in which to work out the problem, and you will have God, the Father of your spirits, to aid you in attaining to that final excellence to which I would have you aspire. May the Lord bless you, and may these thoughts, uttered brokenly as I feel they have been—and altogether unworthy of a theme so grand—yet I pray that these doctrines may have an influence upon the lives of the Latter-day Saints to lead them toward God. Amen.

ABOUT THE KANGAROO

Everyone knows that Australia is the largest island on the globe, being nearly as large as the United States; but perhaps everyone is not acquainted with the many peculiarities of the country, as regards natural products, both animal and vegetable.

In speaking of the animals of those antipodal regions, as a matter, of course, that long-distance jumper, the kangaroo, comes to mind directly. This animal is found, I believe, in no other country but Australia. A few of them are to be seen around the cities, where they are kept in enclosures as pets, but as a rule they do not compare with their untamed brothers of the bush. The average height of the kangaroo is about five feet, though some approach six feet. The head is small and somewhat re-

sembles that of a good-sized fawn. From the head downwards the body gradually becomes heavier in its construction. The color of the under part is gray, approaching white in some places, which gradually grows darker on the sides and culminates in a very dark gray on the back.

Since the kangaroo does not make use of its forelegs to any extent, they are small and lightly constructed. But the hind legs make up for all deficiencies of the fore, for they are very strong and long. That wonderful appendage, the tail—all the world to the kangaroo, and such a powerful auxiliary in his migrations—is quite a lengthy, weighty affair, as indeed it need be; for were it not for it, the locomotion of the kangaroo would be a problem—one he could not possibly solve. The tail enables the animal to utilize to best advantage its power to spring; it balances him in the air and supports him alighting; and were it not for the tail, the graceful jumper would exist no more as such. So well is this known to the "lads and lasses" of the "bush," that many love-sick swains, toothache victims and others who feel miserable from time to time, frequently compare their depth of misery to that of a kangaroo without any tail. And while the simile may be coarse, and savor of rusticity, it is, in view of what has been said of the importance of the kangaroo's tail, wonderfully expressive.

Thirty or forty years ago the kangaroo was found in great numbers near the large cities, which either speaks well for the moderation of the blacks who killed no more than they could use, or badly for the effectiveness of their far-famed boomerang. In those early days there were no kangaroo hides in demand; for, strange as it may appear, the blacks or natives made little or no use of the furs of the animals around them. But since those days, the arms of modern civilization have proven themselves more than a match for the swift kangaroo. He moved swiftly, but could lead outstripped him and laid him low. Even when half a mile away, he was still within deadly range; and the race that thrive and multiplied in the face of the boomerang, nulla and spear, gradually drew off into the interior, their numbers becoming less and less with each year. The high prices paid for the skins of these animals has had much to do with this wholesale extermination; they being much sought after on account of the fur, but more especially because of the fine leather the hide affords when tanned.

It is needless to say that kangaroo-hunting is deemed good sport in that country. And I must confess the game is now just about scarce and shy enough to make good sport, for a good deal of hunting and some knowledge of the habits of the animal, is necessary in order to bag even one. One method that is generally adopted when the party is a large is this: When tracks of the game are seen, the party divides up—some stationing themselves in a line across a gulch or ravine, or near the paths of the animals at a safe distance from each other, while the horsemen steal as quietly as possible down the gulch a few miles and then separate and scour the bush, scaring everything in the direction of the ambush, where many sometimes bite the dust, and others run the gauntlet safely. Sportsmen, who are alone generally, sally forth a little before sunset and lie in wait for the animal as

it passes by to drink. The great thumps of its tail, at every jump, can be heard some distance away in the quiet shades of evening; and though the animals are comparatively harmless, the beating of the heart is quickened nevertheless.

By looking at a picture of one of them it will be seen that the hind legs are very long and strong. They support the weight of the body, but are very useful when the animal is brought to bay by dogs, in protecting itself. When the dogs spring at the throat of an "old man," as an old male is termed, he lifts the powerful hind leg, and by a vigorous kick, either throws the dog yards away, or cuts him badly with his sharp, goat-like hoofs. Dogs out for the first time will very often spring at the kangaroo first chance from the front, but the older dogs, who have been there before, take things quietly. When fagged out by a long chase the poor animal sets his back to a tree and faces the "music." Left to himself the kangaroo is death on dogs, if he can but get protection for his back.

The hunt is an exciting chase for the horses, dogs and men, but a cruel one for the poor kangaroo, who has been known as a last resource to take to water, only to be drowned by the dogs. Another thing in this connection is, that owing to the long distance from habitations to where the animals are killed, the bodies are left to rot, the skin being all that is carried off. True, the fore-quarters are not worth much, for there is nothing to them; but the hind-quarters, tail included, in flavor excel mutton, which the flesh greatly resembles.

The kangaroo is very fond of its young, and the provision nature has made for the care of the little ones is wonderful. On the under part of the female a kind of pouch is placed, and the little ones that frisk and jump about so gayly when all is quiet, upon the slightest provocation tumble into the pouch and are borne away from danger as fast as the sixteen-foot jumps of the mother can carry them. A little girl to whom this was told once, said she thought the baby kangaroo must be awfully shaken up by that mode of travel; but strange to say, the locomotion is comparatively easy, even if it is effected by a series of jumps.

—AUSTRAL.

GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA.

SAFFORD, Graham Co., Ariz.

February 24, 1895.

We very seldom see anything in the News from our settlement; hence a few lines from this remote southern clime may be of interest to your many readers.

We are located almost in the south-east corner of the Territory, and visitors tell us that we have the finest climate there is in the United States, not so oppressively hot in summer, nor so very cold in winter. Our valley is about seventy-five miles in length from east to west, and varies in width from about three to twenty miles. The western part of the valley is occupied by the San Carlos Indian reservation; the eastern portion is occupied mostly by white people, with some few Mexicans.

There are ten settlements in this part of the valley. Beginning at the east is Holomonville, including San Jose, the Mexican part of Holomonville. Five miles west we