

The island of Molokai is forty miles long and seven miles wide; its area is 270 square miles, and the population in 1890 was 2632. The northern part of this island is very precipitous, the cliffs extending to the extreme east. The southern side of the island has a narrow belt of flat land, which broadens toward the west. Molokai is one of the least visited of all the Hawaiian Islands, and has but a few foreign residents. Kalau-papa is a peninsula on the north side of the island. The cliffs which surround it are over 2000 feet high. The only access to the peninsula is by sea, or by a narrow path down the face of the cliffs. At this place is the leper settlement, to which all who have this terrible disease are ordered sent. The lepers live in houses which they build for themselves, or which are erected by the Board of Health. Food is sent from Honolulu and from the adjoining valleys, at the expense of the government.

Of the three branches of the Church on Molokai, two are at the leper settlement, namely Kalanapapa and Kalawao. Both of them have meeting houses, school houses, Relief Societies and Mutual Improvement Associations. J. B. M. Kapule presides over the Kalawao branch and S. Kekai over the Kalanapapa branch. The Kainalu branch consists of Saints residing in a scattered fishermen's settlement situated on the east end of Molokai, presided over by Kaulili. There is a meeting house and Sunday school at this place.

The island of Lanai lying west of Maui and south of Molokai is one of the least fertile islands of the Hawaiian group; its area consists of 150 square miles; its length is 19 miles, its breadth 10 miles. The hills are covered with grass and sheep raising is the chief industry. The water supply is obtained chiefly from rain, since there is only one stream on the island, and this does not reach the sea all the year round. Palauai the highest elevation is 3,200 feet above the sea level. The readers of the News will remember that Lanai was the island designated as a gathering place for the Hawaiian Saints at an early day. The first Saints gathered there in 1855, and when the American Elders returned home in 1858, there were several hundred of them gathered to the island. During the Gibson career from 1861 to 1864 the property known as Palawai was purchased by Saints for money contributed by the natives, but Gibson had the deed to the same made over in his own name; and after he was excommunicated from the Church by the Apostles in 1864, he refused to deed over the property to the Saints who had paid for it, or to the Church. It remained in his possession till his death and is now owned by his heir or son-in-law who resides at Lahaina, on Maui.

ANDREW JENSON.

HOMES IN ALBERTA.

CARDSTON, Alberta, N. W. T. Canada, Aug. 29th, 1895.—Thinking that a few items from this place would be of interest to your readers, I take pleasure in sending you the following:

We are in the midst of a bountiful harvest at present, fifteen self binders being at work. We have been particularly favored in this region by escaping the frosts and hailstorms so common in many parts of the land this season.

The crops of hay, grain and vegeta-

bles are simply immense. Much of the wheat will turn out forty bushels per acre, oats and barley proportionately good,—all without irrigation.

The vegetables are equally good; it may seem exaggerating to tell of rutabagas weighing twenty-six pounds each, potatoes turning out fifty-nine pounds from four hills, beets and turnips weighing fourteen pounds each, and cauliflowers twenty pounds each, but it is a fact nevertheless that such results have been attained here. After nearly forty years experience in Utah, and having traveled from Salt Lake to the Atlantic coast three different routes, and been through a good part of Great Britain, the writer can truly say this region is ahead of anything he has witnessed so far as richness of soil is concerned. We cannot expect to raise the fine fruits and tender vegetables of semi tropical climates in this northern latitude, but corn, tomatoes and cucumbers have been raised here in this part, and at present date, this season's crop of the above is bidding fair to mature in due time.

The sugar beet seems peculiarly adapted to this soil and climate, and fair samples of syrup have been made by way of experiment from beets raised entirely without irrigation.

So far, the rainfall and heavy dews have been sufficient to produce a fair crop of merchantable grain and vegetables every year since 1887, which is the date of the first settlement of this place; but by way of providing for the contingency of an unusually dry season, and also for the purpose of irrigating hay land, trees, etc., a canal is being dug on the south banks of Lees Creek, which when completed, will supply quite an extent of country with water when required, but generally speaking common field crops can be raised here without irrigation from twenty-five to fifty per cent cheaper than by applying water on the lands.

These, the Northwest territories of Canada, are sparsely settled at present, but a steady flow of emigration from Eastern Canada and the United States is tending to dot the land here and there with the homes of hardy pioneers. Still there are thousands and millions of acres belonging to the government, and also to corporations, which can be obtained on easy terms.

The Homestead laws in the Dominion of Canada are somewhat similar to those of the United States, the difference being favorable to the settler in the former, the cost being ten dollars, and the age eighteen years.

Land can be bought from the government, and also from railroad companies at an average price of three dollars per acre, payable in installments.

The winters on the whole are about the same as in Utah, so far as severity is concerned, with this difference: the weather is more changeable here, the ocean breezes from the Pacific Ocean bringing frequent thaws in the course of the season. The summers are not so warm as in Utah for the same reason, namely the ocean breezes.

Intending settlers can bring in what teams are required to haul their effects, with sixteen head of horned stock, tools, books and household goods, clothing, etc., free of duty.

So far the markets for stock and produce have been good. Coal can be easily obtained in many parts of the country. At present a very good

quality of coal can be bought for two dollars per ton, twenty-five miles from here.

We are entirely free from taxes except a selfimposed road tax of two days' labor, or two dollars in cash, yearly.

The month of August is the best time of the year for visitors to get a correct idea of the products of the country.

We say it is a good country for a man who is able and willing to earn his living by the sweat of his brow, and who needs a home; and to all such we say come and see for yourselves. ALTA.

PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE.

PRATT, Allegany County, M.d., Sept. 4th, 1895.—Permit me to report briefly through the columns of your valuable paper the proceedings of what is said to be one of the best conferences that has ever been held in the Pennsylvania conference.

Conference convened on Sunday morning September 1st, in a bowery which had been constructed on the farm of Brother Heymes, by some of the Elders and Saints. Joshua R. Clark, president of the Northern States mission. George B. Matson president of the Pennsylvania conference and all the Elders including five new ones who had just arrived from Utah, were present. Meeting was called to order by President Matson.

After the opening exercises, Elder R. A. Perkes, presented the principles of faith and repentance in a very able and convincing manner; he was followed by Elder Matson on baptism and the Holy Ghost. The speaker quoted many passages of scripture, leaving no room for the sprinkler to stand on. Both speakers were highly favored with the spirit of the Lord.

At the afternoon meeting Elder Emuel Backman delivered a powerful discourse on the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The speaker, as he advanced with his subject, waxed eloquence. His reasoning was grand and logical and swept all obstructions before him like mist before the morning sun. He held his audience for an hour and a half with the closest attention.

At the close of the meeting the people hung around and seemed loathe to leave the place.

Monday morning meeting was addressed by Elder Cornelius Richardson on authority. He demonstrated very clearly who held the authority. He spoke with freedom and force, and was followed by Elder A. J. Allen who dwelt upon the same subject. He proved by many passages of scripture that unless a man was called of God as was Aaron, he had no right to preach the Gospel or officiate in the ordinances thereof. Both speakers spoke with freedom and force.

Meeting convened again at 2 o'clock, Elder Charles Morris, the first speaker, read the articles of faith and commented on them at some length, and said that they had withstood the test of the learned men of the day. He was followed by Elder A. J. Broderick, who touched upon several principles, and requested unbelievers who were present to compare what had been said with the scriptures. Elder Webster followed with a strong testimony to what had been said and to the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith. He, like the