Saints, do you think that there is a possibility of you succeeding if you either keep yourselves or your children? Think you that you can look a witness of the mission that you have been called to and not pay attention to those plain duties that have been enjoined upon you? Nay! If you will keep the commandments that have been given to you in the past, if you will hearken to the words of the Lord to you this day, then indeed shall success crown your labors, the kingdom of God shall be built up, Zion shall arise and her glory shall be seen of all the nations of the earth, the law shall go forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem, and it shall be said of the saints, "Well done, thou good and faithful servants and handmaidens, enter thou into the rest provided for the faithful." On the other hand, if we fail in keeping the commandments of the Lord, then shall the tale overtake the Latter-day Saints that will come upon Babylon; then shall come upon them the fulfilment of those things which have been prophesied concerning the world, when their hearts shall fail them for fear of the things that shall come upon them, that if they shall prove true to themselves, true to the vows and covenants they have made in holy places, true to our Father in heaven, true to the faith of the Gospel, they shall stand preeminently before the world as the saviors of the human race. Which may God grant, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE FAR NORTH.

SWEDEN.

A "people's" kitchen is to be established in the city of Helsingborg.

Bishop von Scheele arrived at Visby the other day from his journey to America.

A. F. Johnson, a lumber dealer of Uybro, has disappeared mysteriously. Foul play is suspected.

The wholesale merchant, A. L. Pleom, of Gothenburg, died at the age of sixty-six years.

F. Holm, a miner of Norberg, has been elected a member of the lower house of the Swedish Riksdag.

A railroad will soon be built between Varberg and Smoland. The city of Varberg has granted 300,000 crowns for the purpose.

The buildings of the new match factory in Vestervik are now being completed, and it is expected that the manufacture of matches will begin next October.

Mrs. Ada Nelson, of Stockholm, committed suicide by drowning herself because one of her sons had become a criminal.

An American named Ide will probably be appointed chief justice of the Samoa Islands instead of the Swedish court chamberlain Cederstavis.

A 25-foot high so-called "runta" stone will be erected at the Rostvik church Dalecarlia, in memory of Gustavus Vasa.

There were 145,500 tons of iron ore transported by rail from the Gellivara mine to the Baltic during the first seven months of this year.

The miners of Malmo struck recently for higher wages, and their demands were granted after the course of a few days.

At a regatta near Gothenburg the Gothenburg boat club was beaten in a two mile boat race by the boat club of Christiania, the time being 11:38 3-5.

Gustaf Wilhelm Bellman, of Haparanda, is said to be the last relative in Sweden of the great poet by that name. Mr. Bellman has been in the service of the state fifty-five years, and is now over eighty-two years old.

In regard to the reduction of the salary of the king as king of Norway, the Swedish Ostgoten says: "This is well done. If we were to make any remarks it would be to the effect that the reduction ought to have been much greater and made a long time ago."

The sheriff interrupted Victor Lenstrand in the midst of a public speech at Torsorp, and ordered him to stop at once. The speaker, who was charged with blasphemy, had to obey the sheriff's command in order to avoid being arrested.

NORWAY.

The King-Jergenson bills has been chosen for the army of Norway.

Even the semi-religious Vestland's-Posten seems to be pleased with the reductions of the salary of the king.

Ivar Aasen, the linguist, was eighty years old the other day. He was entertained by his friends at his home in Southmoen on the occasion.

Mrs. Ole Bull is spending the warm season at Lysoen, and Mr. Alexander Bull is stopping at Mariaturn. He intends to give a series of concerts in America next fall.

A freshet has torn away a large number of bridges and done other damage in Vinstdalen. In some cases the farm houses were surrounded by water so fast that the animals escaped only with great difficulty.

"The shirking of Norway has closed its session," says a German daily. It is the last session but one. One more and new elections take place, but it is very doubtful whether the union between Sweden and Norway will be in existence at that time, and whether the republican Norway will still have a national king. The movement against the present union with Sweden is continually gaining strength. The recent session of the storthing has almost severed the last bond which connected Norway with the monarchical Sweden, and if this policy is continued in the future, Norway will, without doubt, soon be a republic.

DENMARK.

There were 13,525 foreigners who registered their names at the hotels at Copenhagen in July.

Valuable and extensive improvements are being made in the Orsted Park, Copenhagen.

Near Gudthberg street, Copenhagen, a large stretch of ground has been set aside for horticulture, and will be rented out in small patches to private parties living in the neighborhood.

The owner of the vessel "Leif Ericson," a counterpart of the famous "Viking," did not make much money at the Copenhagen Fair. The "Leif Ericson" has left for Hamburg, where the owner expects to do better financially.

The courts of Copenhagen have decided that the "Gold Cure" shall refund seventy dollars to a patient, who was dismissed as cured, but who soon experienced a relapse. If the money is not refunded at once, the furniture of the "Gold Cure" will be sold at public auction.

PREHISTORIC RUINS.

The Temples and Habitations of the Salt River Valley.

HOMES OF AN ANCIENT PEOPLE.

Dwellings of Rich and Poor of Olden Time Plainly Discernible in Arizona's Vales.

SIXTH LETTER.

Editor Deseret News:

When the Jesuit priests entered the Salt River valley, Arizona, upwards of three hundred years ago, they were surprised to find everywhere vast evidences of an old civilization, the remains of a people who, through long periods, had grown and developed, flourished, and passed away. On every hand were the ruins of their homes, temples and forts, reduced by the action of the elements, during the long age that has passed since their abandonment, to mere heaps of earth, on which were growing the mesquit brush and around which stood the great cactus trees like solemn sentinels, as if keeping guard over the graves of the ancient people. In every direction ran the ancient canals which in former times had enlivened the desert and given life to the fields of green that spread like a mantle over the plain. When asked regarding the ancient people, the wild Indians shook their heads. Their traditions had become silent concerning them. Since that time there has been little change in the condition of the ruins. Portions of the mounds are crushed and ploughed until now the rainfall has little effect upon them; indeed we believe that they are still capable of enduring for many hundreds of years to come without material change, that is so far as the elements are concerned; but modern civilization is making inroads upon them and not suffering them from the face of the earth.

The first canal we laid out of Salt river a few miles above the mouth of the Verde, and skirting the base of Superstition mountain for a distance towards the Gila, a distance of thirty-five miles or more. From that point, at intervals of a few miles all the way down the valley to the mouth of the Hassayampa creek, a distance of nearly eighty miles, are traces of the ancient canals. Then, too, the waters of the Agua Fria and Verde rivers were utilized for irrigating purposes, as is attested by the old canals found along their banks. The waters of the Gila were diverted at convenient points and canals carried far out into the desert south of the river, where Casa Grande stands.

I do not think it would be an exaggeration to say that there was more land irrigated by the ancient people in this part of Arizona than is today cultivated in all Utah. And when I consider the productiveness of the soil here, and the advantages of the climate, I believe the country could sustain, and did sustain, more than twice the present population of our fair Territory.

The combined length of these old canals would be more than 1000 miles, to say nothing of the thousands of small canals and ditches radiating in every direction, distributing the waters to every part of the parks.

The ruins of the villages and cities are found almost everywhere, and in that olden time when the buildings were intact and inhabited the people must have been in easy call of each other from one end of this great valley to the other. The ruins of large buildings, which are usually believed to have been temples or places of worship, are found distributed among the other ruins at distances of from three to five miles apart, all over the valley.

One of these buildings I visited is just north of Mesa city. It stands on a level plain and is surrounded on all sides by hundreds of smaller mounds. It is rectangular, being four hundred feet long and about sixty feet wide, and about twenty feet high. On the eastern side was an open or open court the same size as the building, and which was enclosed by a wall ten or twelve feet high. The entrance to the enclosure was in the center of the east wall of the court. The building corresponded as nearly to the cardinal points as it would be possible for our best engineers to make it today. Judging from the vast amount of rubbish that occupies the site of the building and which at one time formed a part of its walls, I believe it to be the opinion that it was from three to four stories high and must have been a conspicuous object on the plain. There are a great many of these temples in the valley, and while they differ some little in plan or building they all were constructed of the same material and have the same air of antiquity about them.

The dwellings of the people are everywhere. You find them thickest on the edge of the mesa among the rivers, and away out on the plain they are glimpses around the temples. But it seems that there was nothing to prevent the inhabitant from building where he chose, as you will find ruins of houses along the canals and scattered about over what must have been the cultivated lands. I have no doubt but that men built their houses wherever they would be convenient to their work. The man whose duty it was to watch and keep the canals in repair lived there; the farmer lived convenient to his farm; but the ruins justify the fact that most favored those in question was in the vicinity of the temple.

There seems to have been as wide a difference between the dwellings of this strange people as there is with us at the present time. Some built houses according to their requirements and their wealth. You will find small mounds, some hence of wealth, that indicate but little more than the humble one-room abode of some poor peasant. In another place we find houses large temples, a house of many rooms, where no doubt lived a man of wealth, relying in all humanity of those principal times. I would be difficult to say definitely just what was the design of these ancient ruins, but after making a careful study of them I believe they were not very unlike our boarding-houses, modified to suit the manner of the present time. That style of a building is very popular in this country, indeed from the earliest times it has been very popular among the inhabitants of the warm countries of the East. It was the prevailing style at Jerusalem, in Egypt, and was even used by the Mexicans at the time of the conquest, three hundred and fifty years ago. The East Indians still build their houses which wear the same principle. It is particularly adapted for the people of a country like this, where the climate is warm and where work, because of its scarcity, brings a considerable price.

It has been said many times that these old buildings were constructed of adobe. This is a mistake. I have examined many of them and have yet to see one so constructed. They are built with stones, and after the manner that we build our common houses. No one who has seen the ruins can doubt that I speak correctly as they have been placed on the walls now after the other. Will be willing to submit that adobe in any considerable quantity entered into the building, all who have carefully examined the material used in these old buildings claim that lime was used largely in its preparation. The residents of today in the vicinity of the mounds, when they want material for plastering or for laying up their buildings, go to the mounds for it, claiming that it works up much better than the clay found elsewhere on the plain.

In many of the ruins that have been disturbed, the old walls can be easily traced protruding through the mass of rubbish that has accumulated around them, being pointed to by the hunter of the country from the effect of the elements. It and are they that a few with a pick makes little impression upon them.

Who are they, and whence came they? are questions asked by every visitor to the ruins, regarding the people who built them. Up to the present no one has been able to answer the question satisfactorily. A recent writer on the subject says: "The situation of the location of their homes seems to indicate that they were originally a maritime people, from either Asia or Africa, most probably the latter, who, landing on the coast of Lower California where the peninsula was more closely connected with the mainland than at present, worked north and eastward along the coast and thus until they crossed and settled the irrigable land contiguous to each of these streams. This seems the most probable theory as the sites of their settlements apparently radiate from near the mouth of the Colorado." Whether this is the correct theory or not I would not venture to say, but from the fact that the old civilization appears to have reached its highest development in this valley, that you come earth and south indicate plainly that they were only offshoots from that center, that there are wide tracts of land in very direct near-standing them that must be have been capable of supporting a settlement and on which there are no traces of old cities, I incline to the opinion that this particular family came here by sea. They probably came up the gulf of California and spread along the river courses. Everything indicates that their development was gradual and their occupancy of the country extended over a long period of time.

It seems to me that the Book of Mormon furnishes a parallel to what was apparently the history of this ancient people. It will be remembered that about fifty-five years before Christ a man named Hagoth built a large ship and launched it into the Pacific ocean somewhere near Panama bay. A large number of Nephites went on board of it and sailed to some point on the west coast of North America, where they made a home. We are not told where they landed, but the country was evidently a desert, so much so that it was necessary for a time to send the new colonists food by ships. There was no timber there and the settlers were obliged to build their houses with cement, in the working of which we are told they became expert. What timber they used was also sent to them by means of shipping. Now we will not say that those ships coasted along the shore of Mexico and landed at the head of the Gulf of California, for we do not know, but it is certain that there is a striking similarity between the old Nephite country and this one. Another thing about it is how Joseph Smith found out that there were remains of cement houses in Arizona, for without that knowledge it was rather presumptuous on his part to make his ancient people build their cities of that material. Yet we know that at the time he published the Book of Mormon it was impossible for him to have had any such knowledge from actual modern research.

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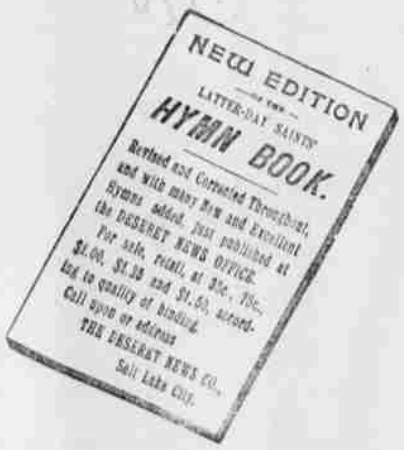

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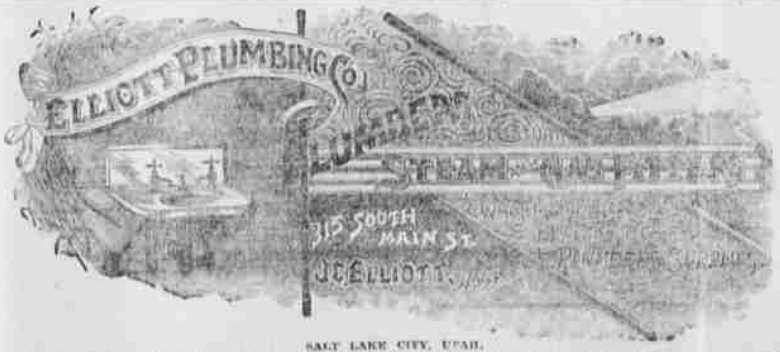

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