

Saturday, 13th.

A Sabbath-day's journey brought us to St. George—a city beautiful for situation, as good a site as any south of Salt Lake City. On reaching the public square, old friends flocked around us, with warm hearts and cheerful countenances. Our company were soon ensconced with their friends.

In the bowerly was deposited a wagon load of melons, which had been brought there as a treat for our company, and such melons as do not grow anywhere in Utah, north of Washington county; they had a fine rich flavor, luscious to the taste, some of them weighing from forty to fifty pounds.

The city is laid out in blocks 32 rods square; each block is divided into eight lots, the streets running north and south, and east and west, as in G. S. L. City. The soil is a fine sandy loam, and is capable of producing nearly everything that is adapted to a southern climate. Almost everything put into the ground grows with amazing rapidity. As a sample, I may state that one brother called my attention to a row of very thrifty-looking shade trees, of the round-leaved cottonwood variety, which he told me had grown from some stakes he chopped off five feet above their roots last May, trimmed off the branches and brought them home for firewood. They remained in the wood pile three weeks, when it occurred to him that he would follow the example of his neighbors, whereupon he made small holes in the ground with a crowbar, put in those straight sticks; they made root and have grown into nice shade trees, equal to those of three years' growth in Salt Lake City. This is the way the St. George people raise all their shade trees, never taking the trouble to dig up roots for transplanting.

In the afternoon the President and such of the company as chose, together with a number of the folks from St. George, visited Santa Clara, where we saw br. Jacob Hamblin's peach orchard, containing, it is estimated, one thousand bushels of fruit, but those ripe were only of poor quality. The President, with his friends, walked round and viewed the effects of the late flood (an account of which has been published), and then returned to St. George.

Lying between St. George and Santa Clara is an immense quantity of volcanic cinders, here and there piled up in large heaps, looking as though there had been a train of railroad cars tipped over in that vicinity. The bed or ridge that we crossed over I judge to be a quarter of a mile wide and three miles long, at least—the range of our vision being confined to this last distance by the intervening mountains north and south.

About ten or twelve miles north of this point, I understand, are the craters of two extinct volcanoes; their depth, I believe, has not been fathomed. Everything in this neighborhood has the appearance of having been burnt out. This part of the Territory has doubtless been the scene of some most terrific volcanic eruptions, for the whole country around seems to have been deluged by rivers of molten lava.

Since the destruction, by last spring's flood, the inhabitants of Santa Clara have gone to work to build the houses on the bench lands. They are erecting a school-house, and making large quantities of sorghum syrup.

Sunday, 14th.

At the meeting held in the bowerly, there were present President Brigham Young and six of the Twelve Apostles, namely, Orson Pratt, John Taylor, George A. Smith, Ezra T. Benson, Lorenzo Snow and Erastus Snow. The President preached an excellent sermon on the building up of the kingdom of God on the earth in the last days, preparatory to the coming of the Son of Man, and pointing out the labor devolving upon the Saints, in connection with the building of that kingdom. He enjoyed great liberty and gave much suitable instruction to the people of St. George and Washington county generally.

Elder Lorenzo Snow bore testimony and made remarks on the necessity of present and perpetual contentment, and of being ready for every circumstance and change of life. Made reference to the first mission of the quorum of the Twelve to England, and to the labors of President Young and his brethren to establish the principles of the gospel in the city of London and elsewhere.

In the afternoon the sacrament was administered by Bishop Robert Gardner and counselors. Elder John Taylor addressed the congregation on obedience to counsel and the importance of every Latter Day Saint being ready for whatever change in condition, location and circumstances the Spirit of the Lord may suggest. Elder Geo. A. Smith gave a brief history of the first settlement of Washington county, and showed what had been done since that time. Alluded to the numerous springs which the Almighty has caused to spring up along the banks of the Santa Clara since the brethren commenced to settle there, and said that it was his faith that there would be an increase of those and all the other blessings promised by the President, and such others as are suited to the wants of the Saints. Elder Benson bore testimony to the truth of the doctrines set forth in the morning and afternoon meetings. Bishop Warren pronounced the benediction.

The President instructed Elders O Pratt and E. Snow to select and ordain a high council for that stake of Zion, and also to ordain the three Bishops that had been chosen.

This closes my brief history of the President's trip south; the account of his return, journey, I opine, will be briefer.

Your friend and brother, in the bonds of the covenant,  
J. V. LONG.

## RETURN JOURNEY OF PRESIDENT YOUNG AND COMPANY.

G. S. L. CITY, Sep. 30, 1862.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

Dear Sir.—It affords me great pleasure to forward you a concise report of the return journey of President Young and his company.

On Monday, the 15th inst., our company commenced its return journey, bidding adieu to our friends at St. George. Called at Washington and indulged in a treat of water melons and peaches, the brethren unfortunately having selected late instead of early varieties. We had a fine view of the cotton fields at this settlement as we passed through the town, and here we saw the best prospect of a good and remunerative crop. Bishop Covington understands the business and goes into it whole-hearted. Arrived at Harrisburg and dined with the brethren, rested two hours and then traveled on to Toquerville, where meeting was held at early candle light, the congregation being addressed by Elders E. T. Benson, J. Taylor and G. A. Smith. Br. Smith observed that during this journey he seen the honey and the wine, tasted the grapes, sat down in the peach orchard and enjoyed himself, and Oh! the water melons! they had been supplied in great abundance; and all raised in D. xey.

Tuesday, 16th.

Bid good bye to our many friends and proceeded to Kanarra. A meeting was called for preaching. During the discourse of Elder Lorenzo Snow, he remarked, "Whatever circumstances we are in, it should be our object to improve and gather up something that will be useful." He felt to say that the blessing of the Lord God of Israel should be and abide with that people. Elder John Taylor made remarks on the practical duties of all who have taken upon them the name of Christ.

Wednesday.

Came on to Cedar, held meeting at 11 a.m. Elders Ezra T. Benson, J. V. Long, John Taylor and L. Snow severally addressed the audience, chiefly upon local improvements, after which Pres. Young bore testimony to the appropriateness of the instructions and to the truth of the gospel taught by the Latter Day Saints. Reached Parowan at 5 p.m. Meeting was held in the "Log Tabernacle." Elder Benson first addressed the congregation.

President Young arose and delivered a doctrinal sermon, showing in much plainness the necessity of being cautious in making covenants, for so sure as we make a covenant, so sure shall we be tried upon that particular point.

Elder Lorenzo Snow argued the necessity of our acting energetically and manfully in the things of the kingdom. Bore testimony to the truth of the mission of Joseph Smith, and also that of the Twelve Apostles, declaring them to be the ones appointed to carry out the designs of the Almighty.

At the close of the meeting, Elder Benson and Bishop Preston started for home, in advance of the company, traveling that night to Paragonah.

Thursday.

This was a warm, dusty day. Our company reached Beaver early in the afternoon. President Young preached in the evening, subject: "No man owns anything in this world." Said man is but a steward over what he possesses here, he cannot be said to hold anything as his own in this life, until he has passed through the ordeals, proven himself worthy and received his warrant deed—his everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of God. Elders John Taylor and George A. Smith bore testimony and spoke favorably of the southern settlements, describing their flourishing condition.

Friday.

Journeyed to Corn creek, staying at Coe creek to dinner. A meeting was held in the evening at which Elders Lorenzo Snow and John Taylor preached, advising the people to build good houses, plant good gardens and orchards, and in every respect make themselves comfortable.

Saturday.

In the morning we came into Fillmore to breakfast. Bishop Callister called meeting at ten a.m. The congregation was addressed consecutively by Elders J. V. Long, G. A. Smith, J. Taylor, L. Snow and A. H. Raleigh. The President then delivered a short, instructive discourse, calling upon the brethren to be alive to their duties.

Some of the brethren at the old capitol are doing well in the fruit business; the specimens exhibited and tested, both of grapes and peaches, were superior to any others we saw on the journey, especially the peaches.

Reaping Machine Extraordinary.—I was introduced to Mr. J. N. H. Dame, shortly before leaving Fillmore, a man about medium height, broad set, aged 56 years, who has shown his skill and extraordinary powers of endurance this season by cradling an average of over six acres of wheat per day for twenty-six consecutive days, Sundays excepted. For his services during that period he has received 270 bushels of wheat. He states that on several days, at different times, he has cut ten acres in a day. Forty-five acres of the wheat cut within these 26 days, here alluded to was of such a class that he had to "carry the swath," which he assigns as a reason for not cradling more than he did. Who can beat this?

In the afternoon we came over to the settlement in Round Valley, and held meeting at 7 in the evening. Elders L. Snow, J. Taylor and G. A. Smith preached. Choir sung "Oh! say what is truth," and Bishop Henson Walker dismissed with benediction.

Round Valley was settled in March, 1860, by five families. These families went to work and brought the water, by means of a ditch, a distance of eight miles, from a lake known as Round Valley Lake, which is one and a half miles long by three quarters of a mile wide. This lake was discovered by President Young in 1852; it is situated high up in the mountains a little west of south from the village.

There is a lone Indian named Spoomp wandering about this district of country, who claims that he owns the valley and says that he is the last of his nation.

Sunday.

In the morning we started for Fort Gunnison, Sanpete county, having added to our company Bishop Callister, and ten other brethren from Fillmore. Passing over the Sevier bridge we followed a somewhat zigzag and uneven road on the river bottom, but after traveling a few miles the road improved. At a small hamlet called Warm Springs, we saw a field of sugar cane looking well and nearly matured. This was both gratifying and surprising, as it has been the generally received opinion that no grain of any kind could be raised on the Sevier, it having been considered a cold, uninviting and desolate region of country. At Fort Gunnison, there was an immense quantity of wheat still in the field, as much, it is said, as will take the inhabitants a month to haul home. President Young preached an excellent sermon, at half-past six, to a full house. His subject was the "Classification of labor," which he treated in a masterly style. He also pointed out to them the disadvantages consequent upon locating on such a low piece of land, and proposed the selection of another and better site before any more means and labor were expended upon that. This proposition met with a hearty response.

Elder John Taylor followed with some appropriate remarks of testimony and encouragement.

Monday.

We came round to Manti, the train stopping a short time after crossing Sanpitch river, until the President, accompanied by several of the brethren, walked over to the place selected for the new city of Gunnison. This is a beautiful piece of bench land, probably two by three miles in extent, and is just about as near to the farming land as the old settlement, besides being in many other respects better adapted for the building of a large town or city.

At 2 p.m. Elders Lorenzo Snow, George A. Smith and John Taylor preached, followed by President Young with much valuable instruction on local improvements and the classification of labor, showing these to be indispensable to our prosperity and the building up of God's kingdom in the last days.

Tuesday.

In the morning our company reached Fort Ephraim, and went into meeting by a little after tea. The President preached a discourse adapted to the circumstances of the people there, and in all the settlements of that county. Elders G. A. Smith, John Taylor and Lorenzo Snow bore testimony and exhorted to good works.

When meeting was dismissed we proceeded to Moroni, and opened meeting at 2 o'clock. Elder Levi Stewart offered prayer, and the choir sang, "Mortals, awake! with angels join." Elder George A. Smith preached an able discourse on the proper division of labor, the necessity of building good dwelling-houses, granaries, etc. He was followed by Elder John Taylor and the President.

Having eaten dinner with some friends we started at full speed for Nephi, passing through Fountain Green as though we were in a hurry.

Coming through Salt Creek Canyon we met President Wells and friends, who had come out to meet the President. About this time we found ourselves in the dark, and were very glad that we had those along to pilot us who had passed over the road recently by daylight.

Wednesday.

We traveled to Provo, calling at Payson to dine. This being the annual fair day at Payson, we visited the place of sight seeing, and were highly gratified with the many tokens of ingenuity, industry and enterprise which were on exhibition.

The new meeting-house not being yet finished in Provo, the people assembled in Cluff's Hall, where, after singing and prayer, Elders Lorenzo Snow and John Taylor preached.

Thursday.

We performed the journey from Provo to O. P. Rockwell's by 11 o'clock; bated our teams and ate dinner with Porter. All refreshed, we started for home, and only occupied two hours and three quarters in reaching it.

There were in the company thirty-five persons, including five ladies and three boys. All have returned in good health and buoyant spirits.

Thus it may be seen that the President has, in the short space of twenty-five days, traveled through eight counties, visited twenty-five branches of the Church (passing through many others that he had not time to visit), held thirty public meetings, preached twenty-four discourses, and performed a journey of 775 miles.

With great respect, I am,

Your friend and brother,

J. V. LONG.

FROM THE SOUTH.

CEDAR CITY, IRON COUNTY, 2  
September 20th, 1862.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS.

Dear Sir:—Knowing that the people gener-

ally feel interested in every thing that tends to the welfare of the inhabitants of Deseret, I beg to communicate a few items of interest. On the 10th day of July, 1862, a ward Agricultural and Manufacturing Society was organized in this place, when the following officers were unanimously elected: Henry Lunt, President; Christopher J. Arthur, Secretary, Samuel Leigh, Treasurer; Isaac C. Haight, Jno. M. Higbee and James Whittaker, Sen., Directors. The 20th September (to day) was the day appointed for holding the first Fair, which is now being held in the Social Hall, cheering and enlivening the hearts of the Saints, and acting as an impetus for further improvement against the next Annual Fair. The stock and articles exhibited, were a credit to those who raised and produced them, and I trust that the commencement of this laudable enterprise may long be remembered, and may it stimulate us to diligence in all things that tend to our independence.

Prest. Young and Company stayed and preached to the Saints in this place, both going and returning to and from the South; their visit has been a source of rejoicing to the Saints here.

The crops here are heavy and of good quality. We have had no frost yet, which is unusual, as it generally appears early in September.

Trusting you are in the enjoyment of good health. I remain, your brother in the Covenant.

C. J. ARTHUR, Secretary.

CAPT. MURDOCK'S COMPANY.

PARLEY'S PARK, 25th Sep., 1862.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

I beg to forward you a brief statement of our journey from Florence to this point, believing that it will be interesting to you and your numerous readers.

Second Church train, Capt. John R. Murdock, left Florence on the 24th of July, and reached this place on the 23d of Sept., making a short and most pleasant trip in fifty-nine days.

First day out our camp was organized. Charles H. Oliphant was appointed chaplain; John Clerk, sergeant of the guard, and Wm. Reid, secretary.

Our train consisted of sixty-five wagons and about seven hundred souls, of these, three hundred and eighty-four were Danes, Swedes and Norwegians; the balance were English and American.

We have had fourteen deaths, two marriages and six births. The deaths were chiefly from fever and diarrhoea.

I am glad to say that peace and harmony existed with us during the entire journey, and the arrangements made by the authorities gave general satisfaction.

That the honest ungathered may soon have the privilege of being blessed, as we are, is my earnest desire. With kind regards, I am, yours sincerely,

WILLIAM REID.

THE PAYSON FAIR.

The Agricultural and Manufacturing Society of Payson, a branch of the State institution, held its annual fair or exhibition on the 24th ult., which has been represented, by several from this city who were there to witness the display, as a very creditable affair, evincing the progress of the people of that thriving town and of the southern part of Utah County, in the development of the resources of the country and their advancement in the production from the elements at their command of the essential necessities and comforts of life.

The amount of home manufactured articles on exhibition, although of considerable variety was, of course, not so extensive as generally displayed by larger and more wealthy societies, but it was far greater, as reported by those who were in attendance and examined the kinds and quantities presented, than could be supposed from the very brief, modest, superficial report of the fair made for publication, which, we understand, was not official.

It is evident from their works and improvements, that the people of Payson, do not intend to be behind their neighbors, in whatever tends to increase wealth, and lessen their dependence upon others, for the necessities in use. Whoever passes through that town, cannot but be pleased with the thrift generally seen, and mark the difference in that respect, between the people residing there, who evidently take pleasure in beholding and enjoying the works of their hands, and seek to make themselves independent and happy and those residing in other places, that might be indicated, who apparently have not energy sufficient to make themselves comfortable, by producing from the elements existing around them in profuse abundance, those things designed for their use as human beings, and without which they cannot be fed and clothed in a country like this.

The exhibition was, it is said, well attended, by the citizens, not only of Payson, but of the surrounding country.