

found memoranda and maps giving a description of the cave and the key to find the room in which the treasure is hidden.

It is not certainly known into whose hands the maps, etc., which Villanueva had, fell, as he had no relatives or friends in this part of the country, but it is certain that the originals or copies of them are now in the hands of parties who are exploring the cave. About six months ago a party of six or seven Americans from the neighborhood of Kenedy, in Karnes county, came out to Loma Blanca, and after looking over the ground commenced excavations, and after clearing away a considerable amount of drift sand came to what was undoubtedly the mouth of a cavern in the side of a hill. The passageway, although filled completely with sand, the accumulations of many years, was well defined, and could be easily followed. The work of exploration is still in progress, but is necessarily very slow. A few days ago one of the explorers told the News correspondent that they were nearly assured that they had reached the neighborhood of the treasure vault described by the old Spaniard. The springs of fresh water and all the passages and rooms so far explored are exactly as they were described in the maps, and the gentlemen who are at work on the enterprise have the most unbounded faith in final success.

### FROM INDIAN TERRITORY.

MANARD, Cherokee Nation,  
April 14, 1896.

Again we ask for a short space in your valuable paper that we may inform our friends that we are still at our post of duty. As the spring is now open, we have entered upon our labors with a determination to spread the Gospel truths throughout this part of the earth we are obeying the call made of us to the best of our ability, but sometimes it looks discouraging, for the people have not only gone out into the darkness, without the spirit of discernment, but they refuse to be piloted out of the meshes of sectarian bigotry and human blindness, though they are being labored with earnestly.

If the people would only investigate they would discover that if the New Testament passages give the identity of the true Church, all the sectarian organizations in the world do not answer the description. They all profess to be the true church and take the Bible to prove their position and all fail to some important particular.

I am happy to say that the cause in which we are chosen servants is slowly but surely breaking down the prejudices that the Elders have had to contend with in the first; yet we all feel thankful that we have been counted worthy to suffer for the word of God. If all had been clear sailing, with no opposition, we would not have known the glorious promises and blessings that come to those who are willing to suffer for His name's sake.

Brother Spillman and I are at Manard, where we are engaged in holding meetings and Sunday school, with fair attendance. Your humble servant is engaged in teaching a day school. We have also Brothers Noble and Richardson, from Smithfield, who are out in the field south, and Brothers Green

of Hooperville and Hawkey of Pocatello. All are meeting with friends, and hope to plant the standard of truth so firmly in the hearts of the people that it will guide them into the presence of the Father and the Son, there to enjoy eternal bliss. We are all in the enjoyment of health and the spirit of our mission, and all join me in wishing the pioneer paper of Zion success throughout the year.

P. H. MARGETTS.

### ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

CANNONVILLE, Utah,  
April 18, 1896.

Having noticed an article in the Tribune of the 12th inst. entitled "Let the People Speak," and after carefully reading the same as well as a lecture delivered in Salt Lake City recently by the Rev. Dr. Iliff "On Mormonism," the writer feels and is prompted by a sense of justice and fairness to the people to accept of the headlines of Mr. E. B. Critchlow's letter "Let the People Speak," and as one of the people does speak, to-wit:

In the first place I am reminded of an old-time adage: "Unwise men are known by two things; anger without cause, and speech without profit." In the case of Mr. Critchlow he fulfils the first part of this maxim; he is indeed angered without cause, while the Rev. Dr. has certainly made a speech without profit, as no doubt he has done upon several occasions.

Now the people of Utah (the Mormons) are boldly accused of insincerity since Statehood, especially so with the head of the State department, His Excellency Gov. Wells. He is accused of listening to and being dictated by a "committee or junta" influencing him in the matter of passing upon legislation in the interest of the Mormon Church, etc. Now, we loudly pronounce these accusations as false, and in using a slang phrase, "pure rot." Men have risen in these days of political auroras, pretending to be patriots and true American citizens, and many of them call themselves the true disciples of Christ, and proclaimers of His Gospel, whose true mission seems to be to create an extended and rather protracted furor in religious and political circles, thereby bringing dissension and confusion in the midst of the people. To more fully consummate their nefarious designs, they appeal to men's passions, prey upon their sympathies and solicit their influence, that they may more effectually and forcibly impress the minds of the American people with such baseless fabrications as the subject of this letter, and that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a source of danger of a malignant type to the republican institutions of our country.

If men and women thus appealed to would but stop to view and truthfully consider the picture presented to them, and reason the question from an unprejudiced standpoint, they would invariably come to the right and just conclusion, that these "doubting Thomas's" are themselves bold fanatics and bitter enemies of the Mormon people and the Republican party, whom they strive to defame. They are genuine croakers and are guilty of coining such rubbish as none but persons in a demented con-

dition, or as maliciously unjust, would dream of.

The assertions (or insinuations) contained in the letter of Mr. Critchlow I consider false in all that the word implies, and savor of mental incapacity on the part of the writer and should (and will) be condemned by all honest people. All these prevarications show very plainly that the makers thereof are at once inimical and avowed enemies of religious and political liberty, especially when these rights pertain to the "Mormons." And indeed, it is high time that the people of Utah should put a final quietus on these impositions, which they are subjected to by this class of individuals; and unless they do this, results may follow sooner or later and what these results may be needs no inspired prophet to tell.

The Mormon people are true to each and to every promise they as a Church ever did make, and they will continue so. The Mormons have done their duty, and will continue to do it despite the infamous calumny and false assertions of blatant demagogues, whose only object for so doing is as indicated by the spirit of their vociferous declamations, a burning ambition to grasp political power. "By that sin fell the angels."

The faith and patriotism of the Mormons, when investigated and thoroughly understood, reveal the fact, that instead of its being a source of danger to the American people, it, on the contrary, proves to be a balm of Gilead and an inestimable boon to all mankind, religiously and politically.

Now it is a gross injustice for any man or set of men in our State to accuse the Presidency or other leading men in the Mormon Church with chicanery or duplicity. The writer of this is a Mormon and in politics a thoroughbred Republican, and has been such (Republican) since he beat the drum in 1864-5 in defense of his country; and since joining the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints some twenty years ago till the present never saw anything in said organization but what was honest and upright. The Mormons are sincere in all that they do under any and all circumstances, and they (as a people) would suffer imprisonment, as hundreds of them did in days gone by, sooner than do a wrong in the matter of their religion, or prove false to any trust reposed in them. So it is foolishness for men in this enlightened age in Utah to fret and worry over the Church dominating in politics, for they do not so desire.

Now my advice to Comrade Iliff and Mr. Critchlow is to let well enough alone. They may keep their eye peeled for any wrong doing and when certain that the Mormons (and the Governor especially) are wire-pulling in the interest of the dominant Church, then "Gallagher, let her go," but not before.

JOHN M. DUNNING.

### FROM FLORIDA.

GREENVILLE, Fla.,  
April 17, 1896.

The place I am at is that of Samuel Rutherford's, a highly respectable farmer, a person unexcelled in hospitality and a warm friend to the Elders. All who have met him and have been made recipients of his kindness can