

shaft upon which it stood was kept standing until a few years since.

The street upon which the old residence of President Young stands, after he had joined the "Mormons" and grown somewhat famous became known as Nauvoo street and, in fact, that part of the town is also now known as Nauvoo.

While living in Port Byron Brigham Young boarded for a considerable length of time with James Pine and wife, who were familiarly called by the villagers "Uncle" and "Auntie" Pine, and when he left that region he was owing them for board between \$38 and \$39, a considerable sum in those days, which he promised to pay when he found himself able to do so, and which the old gentleman expressed his willingness and ability to wait for as long as necessary, as he was then in good circumstances. After arriving in Utah President Young sent to Mr. Pine the amount of his indebtedness, with ample interest for the period during which he had owed it, and about the time of the breaking out of the war he wrote back inquiring about the old couple. This letter was replied to by a young lady neighbor, as they had become too feeble to write, and she took it upon herself to explain that they were in very destitute circumstances, their property, including a large hotel which they had built, having been destroyed by fire, without being insured. The next mail from Utah after the receipt of that letter conveyed to Uncle and Auntie Pine, accompanied by an autograph letter, two fifty dollar postal orders, and at least once subsequently a similar amount was sent them and received with gratitude by the old couple, who never tired during their remaining years of sounding the praise among their neighbors of their generous friend. The old gentleman died about 79 and his wife in 1880, both of them having survived President Young.

Dr. Allen mentioned these circumstances as an evidence of the generosity and high sense of honor and justice which he believed characterized President Young throughout his life, and he was quite prepared to believe it when I expressed the opinion that nothing was known in Utah, not even by his biographer, of his dealings with the Pine family. The doctor has in his possession the letters written by President Young to Mr. Pine and intends to keep them as souvenirs. Dr. Allen visited Utah a second time in 1860, and remained there about forty days, and again in 1876, shortly before President Young's death, during which visits he renewed his acquaintance with him and formed a friendship which on the doctor's part at least still exists.

G. C. L.

MANASSA, Col., June 21, 1891.

#### PHOENIX IN ASHLEY VALLEY.

An account of a recent trip to Utah county, Utah, has been unavoidably delayed, but I now send a few items. For the past two years the writer has contemplated visiting this section, and at last ventured to start out from Price notwithstanding the discouraging reports of the roads and dull prospects ahead. It was a weary three days' drive through the canyons. The roads

were almost impassable and the camping accommodations indescribable. The fare at the canyon hotels reminds me of my experience with the Mexicans in the south, but the "bill" compares favorably with the Hotel Templeton.

On the third day Fort Duchesne is reached, and noon is spent at the post, which according to War Department maps is 5,700 feet above sea level. The Uintah river runs near the post and is about 100 feet wide.

Uintah county can boast of the largest rivers and most promising valleys in Utah. Immense bodies of water flow through the county, and when the time comes for the Indian reservations to be opened for settlers, a vast area of land will be brought under cultivation.

From Fort Duchesne to Ashley is about thirty miles through a broken barren country with no water between these two points. After reaching the summit the traveler has a beautiful view of the valley which is about six miles wide and twenty miles long and contains several thousand inhabitants. It is truly one of the most beautiful valleys in Utah and many of your readers will be surprised to learn that it is only 4400 feet above sea level, or, in other words, 185 feet higher than Salt Lake, and 200 feet lower than Utah valley. The inhabitants are apparently hemmed in on every side by high mountain ranges, and are quite isolated. Green river, on the Union Pacific, is about 140 miles away, Price 120 miles and Heber City, as we learned subsequently by actual travel, is at least 150 miles distant, over a rough road and no ranches or settlements between.

Prospectors are at work in the hills, and we are told that the mountains are rich in a great variety of minerals, and only a railroad is needed to enable them to ship out this hidden wealth. In the meantime, the settlers are actively at work making canals and developing the agricultural resources, building up settlements, making comfortable homes, erecting and furnishing schoolhouses and enjoying the comforts of life free from the demoralizing influences of mining camps.

Vernal is situated about the centre of the valley, and is now the largest settlement in the county, with a school population of about two hundred. The town can boast of several mercantile establishments, drug stores, dentists, three physicians, two large public halls, two hotels, millinery stores, harness and hardware shops, etc. A new commodious meeting house has been erected, also a good substantial school house which has been well and comfortably furnished. An excellent school has been conducted here with Prof. Alma Holdaway as principal. Relief maps made by the students, adorn the walls. The rooms are well seated with new furniture, and the latest apparatus and appliances have been secured, thus indicating the great interest taken in educational matters. A Stake academy also is to be commenced in the fall. The *Uintah Pappoose*, a four-page weekly, is published at Vernal, and is a new little paper edited by Mrs. K. J. Boan.

About three miles northwest of Vernal is the old town of Ashley, which is

still the county seat. It appeared to be the rendezvous of mining prospectors, and everything is very dull in the vicinity. The school house is quite dilapidated, and Ashley cannot be classed at present as a growing town.

Mill Ward is another settlement a few miles west of Ashley.

The Farmers' Co-op. store is doing a good trade at this end of the valley, and a grist mill is also in good running order. Substantial dwelling houses are being erected. Bro. S. Colton has one of the finest residences in the valley, a large two story brick dwelling house, comfortably furnished, and if all visitors are as hospitably treated as your correspondent it will not be too large to accommodate his friends.

Mill ward can also boast of an excellent school, and is determined not to be behind its neighboring districts.

Gilnes ward is located about three miles south and traveling east about fifteen miles we are passing through a section of country which is being settled very fast. Every few miles we pass a school house, and new wards are being organized. There are seven wards now in good working order. The Sabbath schools are not being neglected and we were informed that the Sabbath school children in the valley aggregate about one thousand.

There are three postoffices in the valley located respectively at Vernal, Ashley and Jensen. Jensen is the postoffice for the settlers on Green river, at the east end of the valley, which is known as Riverdale ward, and contains two school districts.

There are good prospects for crops in the valley this season. Large quantities of hay and grain are raised and much interest now is being taken in planting trees. Excellent fruit has been raised and the people are now laying off orchards, and in a few years will have fruit in abundance.

Fort Duchesne will be a good market for produce, but the people should be more united in order to obtain better prices. Last year hay was hauled to the post—thirty miles—and sold at eleven dollars a ton, and other produce is equally low.

With no competitors within a hundred miles better prices should be obtained and only united action is needed to bring about this desirable end.

Some of the farmers are uniting to accomplish this and, judging from the constitution of the proposed union, may reasonably expect success, but a sketch of this plan must be reserved for a subsequent letter.

PHOENIX.

#### THE "ORGAN" EXPOSED AGAIN.

The Salt Lake *Evening Times* has received the annexed letter from Peter McCourt, manager of the Silver Theatrical circuit, dated June 27th:

*Editor Salt Lake Times:*

I have just learned that an article appeared in one of the Salt Lake papers a short time since saying I was the manager of the Salt Lake theatre. This mistake I wish to rectify through the columns of your paper by informing the public that Mr. Charles S. Burton is the president and manager of the Salt Lake theatre, and that the bookings only of the said theatre are under the direction of Mr. Burton, Mr. Al Hayman and the undersigned.

Very truly,  
PETER MCCOURT.