

a wide flat stem. This is grasped in the middle with the hand and the woman bending double scoops the potatoes out of the hills. Barley is cut with little sickles with saw teeth and such rude hoes as are used have handles so short that the workers have to bend close to the ground to use them. The plowing is all done by oxen with rude wooden plows, to which a point made of a flat iron bar about two inches wide is fastened. A long tongue or beam extends from the plow to the yoke, which is tied to the horns of the oxen, the weight of pulling the plow being done with the head and not with the shoulders, as with us.

I have given you some idea of how freight is carried here by wagon. Very few goods are taken from one part of the country to another on wheels. The greater part is carried on donkeys, llamas or on the backs of men and women. There are no baggage wagons or drays in La Paz. We met with none on the road to Oruro, although we passed droves of animals loaded with all sorts of burdens. There were scores of donkeys carrying bundles of coco leaves on their backs to the towns further south. There were llamas loaded with bundles of silver ore stalking proudly along with cocked ears, and there were many trains of mules carrying goods of all kinds. Each train was managed by one or two Indian men and women, who walked with or behind the animals, and who, as far as I could see, never ride them. Most of the women had bundles on their backs and not a few carried little babies there slung in shawls. All prospectors here use mules for traveling over the country. All supplies for the mines must be carried through the mountains in this way. The machinery for mining in Bolivia must be made in sections, no piece of which can be larger than a mule can carry on its back, and every bit of machinery has to be carried in this way. The merchandise which our exporters intend for Bolivia should be put up in boxes or bales of about 100 pounds each, so that two of the package will just form a load for a mule. Otherwise the chief centers of Bolivian trade cannot be reached.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

#### THE LAND OF THE INCAS.

In 1877, Rudolph Falb, an Austrian professor, visited Chile to follow some investigations about a theory of earthquakes. After completing these investigations, he was led to pay a visit to the shores of Lake Titicaca, in Bolivia, where live two civilized tribes, the Quichuas and the Aymaras, who claim to be the descendants of the old Incas. (See the letters of Frank G. Carpenter in the "Deseret Weekly," July 16 and 23.) Prof. Falb studied some of their language, and was very much surprised to find so many Hebrew and especially Arabic root in these languages, with nearly the same unchanged signification, so much so that he had to give up his first supposition that this was only a result of chance, but rather to admit that there is in the language of the Quichuas and Aymaras a very ancient element which can be traced to the languages of the Old World. For instance, the word *maliku* in Aymara, which means a chieftain, is the same as the Hebrew *melek*, a king. Mr. Falb thinks that he has discovered in the sound "hua" the key to the relation between the languages of the New and the Old World.

This was brought about by his visit to the Temple of Tiahuanaco, a day's journey from La Paz, in Bolivia. The west end of that mountain presents a sculptured figure, with a face like the sun, crowned with rays, and out of each eye flow three drops of tears. In its right hand this figure carries a single

scepter, but in the left a double scepter, in the shape of a Y, formed by two serpent heads above, and below a bird's head with a comb like that of a rooster.

With much ingenuity Prof. Falb goes to work to speculate about this figure, and sees in it the symbol of a deluge of water and of fire, in other words, of a volcano. He further holds the idea that the earth goes every 10,500 years through a period of great physical upheavals, such as floods and volcanic eruptions; and that thousands of years ago, after the nearly complete destruction of the human race through such a cataclysm, the whole earth was again filled with inhabitants from a portion which had been spared on the Peruvian highland, as the shores of Lake Titicaca, as this, according to Prof. Falb, is evidenced by a comparative study of languages—and in memory of this great historical event this temple monument was erected to teach future generations.

In 1879 Prof. Falb started on his homeward journey through California, where he took sick; passing through Ogden, he was interviewed by Mr. Leo Haefell, the editor of an Ogden paper, to whom he made some mention of his discoveries. Elder Franklin D. Richards, the Church Historian, asked the writer to find out whether Mr. Falb had published any book on this subject, and being fortunate enough to get it for him through a bookseller of Leipzig, the above is presented as a short and imperfect review of Prof. Falb's work. A. RAMSEYER.

#### ON THE BOUNDING SEA.

Five hundred and fifty miles from land, July 25.—A steamer has just hove in sight and we have a chance of sending mail. Will write from Honolulu.

Saturday, July 23.—Well, we are off. The Rio de Janeiro's anchor was lifted this morning at 10:30, and mid the scream of whistles, the music of brass bands, the boom of guns, the flag and handkerchief waving and lusty huzzas from the hundreds and thousands who thronged the quays, and the decks of tugs and steam launches, the second section of the Fourth Philippine expedition started. San Francisco, ever warm-hearted and generous, turned out to wave and sing and kiss her good-by to Uncle Sam's boys from South Dakota and Utah, who were sailing to defend their country's honor on foreign shores. The whole city is dressed in bunting and flags, and many of the houses which terrace each other on Telegraph Hill flew bed-sheets and pillow-slips from their windows and porches and every ship in the great big harbor dipped its flag again and again.

There is something grand and never-to-be-forgotten in the impressive scenes that attend the departure of the volunteers for Manila. At such times one cannot help thinking that every breast heaves and falls with patriotic love of country. Everybody seems to be on the good side of everybody else, and man and woman and blushing maid are one in their desires to soothe the soldier's life and swipe his brass buttons. San Francisco has the most beautiful women in the world, Logan, Utah, excepted, and to judge from their appearance at the departure of the U. S. transports, the most patriotic. Boat loads of them followed us out to the Golden Gate, waving flags and handkerchiefs and shawls and cloaks and singing good-bys all the way. Great cannons boomed forth their farewells, and in connection with the steam whistle's constant toot! toot! toot! made a racket louder than the din of battle.

But as far as this ship is concerned the foregoing is past and gone. We are

now at sea. The dear old land of our birth and childhood, the loved land of our loved ones has gone from view, and for some of us, gone forever. The old ship rolls and tosses on the restless bosom of the great Pacific, and Pat and Jim, and Ike and Joe, and several hundred others who were not going to get sick, have changed their minds, and the rails on both sides are lined with a vomiting, cursing, home-sick and disgusted crowd of blue coats. One well Spaniard could lick a dozen of 'em. All he would have to do would be to pitch 'em overboard, and he wouldn't encounter much resistance. Many of the men have gone to their quarters, and the condition down under deck where the bunks stand in tiers three high and two abreast, is something too sour to talk about.

But taps have sounded and I must to bed. I would add first, however, that our passenger list comprises the following:

Brigadier General H. G. Otis and staff of six officers; fifty-seven officers and men of the volunteer signal corps; two battalions of the First South Dakota volunteer infantry, and 105 recruits for the Utah light artillery. The total list of officers and men is nine hundred and six.

NOD RESSUM, C. C.

#### TWO OPINIONS.

Answering a query from State Bank Examiner R. R. Anderson, Attorney General Bishop sent the following:

In your favor of recent date you ask the following question: "Who should pay the actual and necessary expenses of the State Bank Examiner while traveling in the performance of his official duties?"

Replying thereto, permit me to say in section 2050 of the Revised Statutes, the bank examiner, among others, is enumerated as a State officer.

You are therefore advised that under the provisions of section 2052 which provides that "all State officers, except those otherwise specifically provided for, shall receive, in addition to their salaries, their actual and necessary expenses while traveling in the performance of their official duties," you would be entitled to be reimbursed by the State for any sums actually and necessarily paid out by you in the discharge of the duties of your office, after the same have been duly audited by the State board of examiners.

The following opinion was transmitted to County Attorney Frank K. Nebeker of Logan:

In your favor of July 9th you ask, is it the duty of the board of county commissioners to levy a tax, for the purpose of paying the principal and interest of bonds, upon property which prior to statehood belonged to Logan school district, but which actually was not within the corporate limits of said city, and therefore, under the Constitution cannot now be considered as being within the said school district yet subject to taxation for the purpose of paying said bonds and interest.

Replying, I am of opinion that in the absence of any levy by the trustees of the school district of taxes against such property for the purpose mentioned, it would be the duty of the county commissioners to make such levy. The property having passed beyond the jurisdiction of the trustees of said district they would have no authority in law to levy a tax thereon for that purpose.

It would therefore follow that in such case the only power to levy such tax would be vested, in law, in the county commissioners.