

After that the climate is all that heart could desire—not cold and not hot. Christmas dinners are often eaten under the shade of the trees. The worse feature I see about the country is that there are no rosy-cheeked children. The young ladies have no color in their cheeks, and everybody has a sort of sallow, tawny complexion. This is not occasioned by poor health, for the general health of the people is better here than it is with us at the north. Then there are fears in my mind as to the effects a long-continued residence in the country would have upon the people. I refer now to industry and energy. Usually the people of a country where the climate is warm lack force and resolution. Where nature does so much for men they do little for themselves. Will it not be so here in time? Still, there are lazy men everywhere. I know some few of them in Bear Lake, where it is as cold as Greenland all the year round. A gentleman said to me one day: "You people in Utah ought to have more energy than we have; you rest six months out of every twelve, while we have to work the whole year round." I acknowledge the force of his reasoning.

One of the most attractive features that I can see about the country is the abundance and variety of its fruits. In addition to all of the fruits that we grow in Utah they have figs, pomegranates, dates, oranges, and I am told pineapples and coconuts can be grown successfully. They have fresh fruit nine or ten months of the year and melons from July until January. Almost every kind of vegetable can be grown. Sweet potatoes and peanuts are a common production. Coffee trees could be grown successfully. I saw pomegranate trees grown for hedges, and figs grow so easily that hundreds of bushels are allowed to go to waste. They yield three crops during the season. Among the ornamental trees I noticed the fan-leaf palm, pepper trees, Chinese and Texas umbrella trees, and a number of other varieties that are common in Utah.

Alfalfa can be cut here seven times during the season but few people ever cut it that many times; they prefer to pasture their fields. I asked a gentleman if better returns would not be realized if the hay was cut and fed, as so much of it is tramped under the feet of the cattle and wasted. "Don't you suppose," said he, "that we have anything else to do besides cut alfalfa and feed cattle, especially when we can realize \$35 or \$40 per acre by pasturing it and have no trouble?" I was silenced.

Wheat and barley can be grown here quite successfully, but wheat must be kept in an elevator to prevent its being destroyed by weevil; flour if kept about the house a few weeks is liable to be destroyed the same way. Two crops can be grown on the same land in one season.

The surrounding mining camps afford a pretty fair market for the grain and produce grown. At Prescott, 125 miles away, barley was worth \$1.80 per cwt.; eggs 40 cents a dozen; butter 40 cents a pound; hay \$30 per ton. The main trouble lies in getting the products to the market.

Now as to the prospects to get land. All the land covered by the present

irrigation ditches is taken up. The dry season has been so long that the water supply was not enough this year to go round, and many who had land under the new canals suffered considerable loss; but the recent heavy rains back in the mountains to the eastward has caused an abundant supply of water and all the canals are filled.

Not more than half of the land is now covered by canals that was covered by the canals of the ancients. Excellent reservoir sites are known in the mountains and it is expected that in a short time reservoirs will be constructed that will hold water enough to irrigate every foot of land in the valley. In that event the ancient canals can be utilized and thousands upon thousands of acres of land redeemed from the desert. There will then be an opportunity for every man in Utah who thinks the climate too cold, to get him a farm in a warmer climate; but for the present if he hasn't got money enough to pay \$40 or \$50 per acre for the land he had better stay where he is.

JOEL RICKS.

THE CHOIRS' JOURNEY.

DENVER, Colo., Aug. 30.—Agreeable to promise I take this first opportunity of dropping you a few hurried lines relative to our excursion party. To begin at the beginning—when we arrived at the depot most of us made our way by dint of much crowding through the throng that blocked the train to our respective cars, only to be met at the steps by the information that all baggage, even lunch baskets, must be checked at the baggage room, and placed on the baggage car, a very disheartening piece of information to those who, in the hurry and excitement of "getting off" had failed to eat dinner before starting.

As soon as the train was well under way all seemed moved with a desire to locate their particular friends, and a good-natured crowd jostled and elbowed each other through the aisles. Before reaching Ogden Presidents Woodruff, Cannon and Smith passed through the cars exchanging greetings and shaking hands with the entire party.

The first stop was made at Ogden, where an enthusiastic crowd of friends and well-wishers accorded us a hearty welcome. During the few minutes the train waited many of our party mingled with the crowd on the platform receiving the well wishes of friends for a safe and successful trip. At all the settlements along the Weber we found crowds assembled, who cheered heartily as our train sped past them, warming our hearts with the knowledge that we were accepted by them as the representatives of the Mormon people at Chicago.

Soon after leaving Echo, as it moved by one impulse, all began pressing forward to the baggage car to look up lunch baskets, and those whose berths were nearest certainly had cause to congratulate themselves on that fact. By the time supper was fairly over we were rolling into the hospitable town of Evanston, Wyoming, where we were accorded a royal welcome. A brass band rendered a selection as our train drew up at the depot, and fully one thousand voices were raised in welcoming cheers.

Allighting from the cars, many of the basses and tenors sang a selection which was heartily cheered. J. W. Hamm, who is well known in Salt Lake, on behalf of the mayor and town council of Evanston, gave a short address of welcome and tendered us the freedom of the city even for our short stay, regretting that it could not be longer. Said he: "The Tabernacle choir is an organization of which the people of this intermountain region are justly proud. You take with you our best wishes for your success in the contest at Chicago." Hon. John T. Caine responded in behalf of Prof. Stephens and the choir in his happiest vein, evoking hearty laughter and cheers. The choir sang another selection which ended as the train began to move and there was a rather undignified scramble to get aboard; one young man in his fear of being left plunged head foremost through an open window to the no small diversion of the bystanders.

Leaving Evanston we sped out into the darkness feeling that we left behind us warm friends and taking with us pleasant recollections of our neighbors on the east. As we passed through Rock Springs the vanishing notes of a strain of music (rendered by a brass band, out to welcome us) lingered for a moment in our ears, awakening feelings of regret that we could not stop to acknowledge the courtesy and good will that prompted the welcome intended.

Next morning at eight o'clock we stopped at Laramie for breakfast or for tea, coffee or milk for those who were supplied with lunch. The male chorus sang a selection which was warmly applauded by the assembled multitude. Another selection was sung and as warmly received at Cheyenne.

Arriving at Denver at 8 p. m. the choir proceeded to the concert hall—the M. E. Trinity church—for instruction and short rehearsal, then after dinner dispersed for sight seeing, to assemble again at eight o'clock for the concert.

To dispose of the subject off-hand one need only say that the concert was unqualifiedly a success, both financially and artistically, but that would poorly express the enthusiastic applause with which every number was received. The male chorus and every one of the soloists was given a rousing recall. The large hall and gallery of the M. E. Trinity church was crowded to its utmost capacity, and many ladies even, were obliged to stand during the whole evening as every seat had been taken in the advance sale.

Immediately after the close of the concert we boarded our special train and were soon whirling rapidly towards Kansas City.

P.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 1.—When we returned to the depot at Denver city after our concert we found everything arranged for the night and without waiting even for lunch we all took possession of our berths, and were soon wrapped in restful slumber after the worry and excitement of a long day's travel, followed by the anxious suspense of our "first appearance."

In the morning we awoke to find ourselves speeding through the inevitable plains of Kansas which extended in gentle undulation on every hand to