

over the Paheed Indians, who, though professedly friendly, might at any favorable moment begin the work of destruction and death. But Apostle George A. Smith prophesied that if the people would be humble, prayerful and obedient to counsel not a soul should be slain. The people took him at his word, and the prophecy was fulfilled to the letter, for although men were many times placed in very dangerous circumstances, not a soul was killed; and the Lord, as at many other times in the history of the Saints, honored and sustained the words of his servant.

J. H. MARTINEAU.

A PLEASANT TRIP.

Many readers of the NEWS will be interested in perusing a brief account of the western trip of Presidents Woodruff's and Cannon's party, which returned from the Pacific coast on Wednesday evening. The outing was a most enjoyable and profitable one to all respects and left nothing further to be desired.

The pressure of business at President Woodruff's office has been felt considerably during the hot weather. President Woodruff's advanced years and President Cannon's recent hereavement made relief from their labors necessary for preservation of health. The first thought was to take a few weeks' recreation in the National Park; but when it was remembered how difficult it was for President Woodruff to breathe in a region as elevated as the Park, it was decided that was not the direction in which rest should be sought.

A trip to the coast, therefore, was decided upon, and Presidents Woodruff and Cannon, with their wives, and Asabel H. Woodruff, son of President Woodruff, left Salt Lake City on August 13th for Portland. Part of the distance to Portland the heat was very oppressive and the dust annoying. The weather was comparatively cool at Portland. The party took steamship at Portland on August 15th and sailed down the Columbia River and thence down the coast to San Francisco. At this season of the year the sea is very calm, and the voyage was therefore quite pleasant.

At San Francisco the party remained three or four days, and then went to Monterey and spent three days at the Hotel Del Monte. This is described as one of the most delightful places on earth. The hotel is beautifully situated, the climate is mild, and the grounds surrounding the hotel are of the most beautiful description—magnificent trees, widespread lawns, and every variety of flower. There is a drive at this point which visitors usually take, of about seventeen or eighteen miles, which is probably unequalled because of the scenery. The ocean and the mountains contribute to add charms to the landscape.

Returning to San Francisco, the party took the cars to San Diego, and registered at the Coronado hotel, which is on an island in the bay of San Diego. The location of this hotel is almost unexcelled, and as a winter resort probably has few equals in the land. It is claimed by the residents there that the summers are very mild, the weather cool and bracing; but while President Woodruff's party was

there the heat was greater than had been felt, it was said by old residents, for twenty-five years.

President Woodruff's fondness for fishing is so well known that it will not surprise any one to hear that he was anxious to try his skill in catching fish in the ocean. On the last day the party was there—which consisted then of the five that left Salt Lake City and Elders Wright, Bushman and Berry, who are laboring in the ministry there, with Sisters Wright and Cooper and Brother and Sister Hammer—they went out in a naphtha launch outside the bay and caught by trolling some six hundred pounds of most beautiful fish, consisting of the barracuda, the Spanish mackerel, and yellow tails. The latter fish is a fine specimen of the finny tribe, and President Woodruff was successful, besides catching a number of barracuda and mackerel, in capturing a large yellow tail, weighing from twenty to twenty-five pounds. Some of the party, particularly Elder Wright and wife, were quite seasick, but the rest enjoyed the day's fishing exceedingly. The master of the launch almost took away the interest that the party from Utah had in fishing by saying they could neither sell fish nor even give them away; that the poor had so much fish at San Diego that they would not accept them—a seemingly incredulous story to those who heard it; but the Elders said they could find persons that would accept all that could be caught, which they did.

From San Diego the party returned to Los Angeles, and after visiting Pasadena and other points of interest around Los Angeles, took rail for San Pedro and embarked on a steamboat which runs between that port and Catalina Island, an island lying off the coast some twenty-eight or thirty miles. This island is a noted summer resort for Californians. The small town of Avalon is built in a little cove in the mountains, and a large number of people from the mainland live there in tents through the summer, which they can do very cheaply and quite comfortably. One of the days the party remained there a naphtha launch was engaged and they went out fishing again. But it was said that the sharks had been around there and had either driven off the fish or had destroyed many of them; for the trolling was not very successful, though a few Spanish mackerel were caught. President Woodruff was exceedingly anxious to obtain a few fish, a large fish which is frequently caught off that coast weighing from two hundred to four hundred and fifty pounds; but after trying for some time failed in getting a specimen. The boatmen made a remarkable statement concerning a species of fish called "groupers." There is a flat stone, it is said, of some two hundred yards width and about five hundred yards in length, which is at a depth of about six hundred and fifty feet. By taking observations from points on the shore the exact location of this stone is found, and hooks are sunk properly baited to the depth of six hundred and fifty feet. The first haul that was made President Woodruff drew up four of these fish, which are very red in color; and

there is this strange feature about fish caught at that depth: when they are brought up, as in this instance, to where the water is shallow their bladders burst and their eyes protrude some distance from their head. Being relieved from the pressure of water causes these effects. Several hauls were made. Brother Asabel Woodruff brought up to one haul six fish at a time. These fish weigh about eight pounds each and were very interesting because of their peculiar form and color and being caught at such a great depth.

From this point the party returned directly home. The visit throughout was exceedingly pleasant to all of the party, and they returned with greatly improved health. President Woodruff, particularly, enjoyed himself, being relieved from the care which rests so heavily upon him here and in the opportunity for rest. A visit to sea level causes very marked improvement in his health. He had been troubled with sleeplessness before he left; but as soon as he neared sea level he slept better, breathed easier, and he could take exercise in walking around as he had not been able to do before leaving home. These were the effects produced on his health last year when he went to sea level. Those who met him this time—and there were many who desired to make his acquaintance, though everything was done possible to avoid publicity—were astonished to see how vigorous a man President Woodruff, who will be ninety years of age on the 1st of March next, is. During his absence he wrote as many as thirty or forty letters with his own hand, and kept his journal written up as closely as he ever did. It is very remarkable that a man at his time of life should be capable of performing labor of this kind. He does his own letter-writing, and he has a very extensive correspondence. Long may he live to be with us, to guide the people by his counsels and to encourage them by his example.

AT LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

LINCOLN, Neb., Aug. 31, 1896.—The remnant of the largest army ever drilled and equipped on the globe gathered here the last week in August to recall events of a great conflict. At the reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic every state and territory in the Union, save two, was represented, and once more the veterans fought their battles over in memory, and talked of the comrades and generals they loved so well. The old state fair grounds were white with tents; blue coats and brass buttons were seen on every hand, and drew attention to gray hair, halting step, empty sleeves and battle-seared faces. Between 20,000 and 30,000 people were on the grounds, and no efforts were spared to give the veterans a happy week of camp life. Patriotic and religious services were held Sunday, August 23, the day of the opening. The vast audience sang America; a quartette of old soldiers sang We Were Soldiers Together; a chorus of twenty voices of colored men and women sang Swing Low, Sweet Chariot; Miss Georgia Hollinger sang Way Down Upon the Suwannee River, the twenty colored people singing the