

ture. Cain was a tiller of the ground; Adam dressed the Garden of Eden. Could they have engaged in these domestic employments without the necessary tools, such as spades, pruning knives, etc? Such a thought is inconsistent with the statement that the Lord God planted a garden and put Adam there to dress it and to keep it. Adam was not a barbarian, but a skilful workman, and as such would have used the most appropriate and convenient tools. Men from the very first period of time, as they spread abroad from the Garden of Eden, were acquainted with metals. Noah and his son carried this knowledge through the period of the deluge, and introduced that knowledge of antediluvian arts into the new world. It is safe to say that the earliest nations were accomplished and skilful in all manner of useful and ornamental arts, and that among them were many profound scientists and philosophers. Unquestionably, a vast amount of useful knowledge has been lost to the world through the returning of races to barbarism, on account of the extinction of many nations, tribes and peoples by devastating wars, as well as by religious persecutions; and when, through the industry, enterprise and progress of a people the knowledge of the lost treasures have been restored, the discoverers have claimed the honor and credit as creators thereof. All that modern nations or individuals can do is, however, to bring to light what has before existed. There is "nothing new under the sun," and there will be a "restoration of all things."

Are the people of the nineteenth century the only ones that are favored with inventors? The Nephites were a highly educated and refined people. Why should there not have been inventors, explorers, and discoverers among them? The following is from the pen of the late William Wire, of Virginia, on the subject of the ancient inhabitants of America:

"The mighty remains of the past, to which we have alluded, indicate the existence of three distinct race of men, previous to the arrival of the existing white settlers. The monuments of the first or primitive race are regular stone walls, wells stoned up, brick hearths, medals of copper, and silver swords, and other implements of iron. Mr. Flint assures us that he has seen these strange ancient swords. He has also examined a small iron shoe, like a horse shoe, encrusted with the rust of ages, and found far below the soil, and a copper axe, weighing about two pounds, singularly tempered and of peculiar construction. These relics belonged to a race of civilized men who must have disappeared many centuries ago. To this race are to be

attributed the hieroglyphic characters found on the limestone rock.

"To the second race of beings are attributed the vast mounds of earth found throughout the whole western region, from Lake Erie and west Pennsylvania to Florida and the Rocky Mountains. One of these mounds was leveled in the centre of Chillicothe, and cart loads of human bones removed from it. Another may be seen in Cincinnati, in which a thin circular piece of gold, alloyed with copper, was found last year.

"The third race are the Indians, now existing in the western territories. In the profound silence and solitude of these western regions, and above the bones of a buried world, how must a philosophic traveler meditate upon the transitory state of human existence, when the only traces of the being of two races of men are still strange memorials! On this very spot, generation after generation, has stood, has lived, has warred, grown old and passed away; and not only their names, but their nation, their language has perished, and utter oblivion has closed over their once populous abodes! We call this country the New World. It is old. Age after age, and one physical revolution after another, has passed over it, but who shall tell its history?"

JOHN H. KELSON.

(To be continued.)

RAMBLES IN STAR VALLEY.

Early in the morning of the 28th of September I left Montpelier in Bear Lake Valley for Star Valley, Elder Christian Hogen, Sen., taking us in his comfortable two horse carriage. After leaving Montpelier the road takes up the main canyon, following the same in a northeasterly direction for about ten miles; then it turns to the right up along a small tributary of Montpelier creek, thence to the left over a summit on to another tributary of the same creek, and next it takes to the right again crossing a steep summit on to the headwaters of Thomas' Fork, we ascend the main divide—the rim of the basin—which divides the waters falling into Bear River from those emptying into Snake River. This lofty elevation is about half way between Bear Lake Valley and Star Valley, and must be nearly eight thousand feet above the level of the sea. From this summit the descent is quite steep for about a mile, until a tributary of Crow creek is crossed, and down along said creek the grade is gradual and the road good until Star Valley is reached at the mouth of Crow Creek canyon. Until the present summer this mountain road leading from Montpelier to Star Valley was very rough and the crossings of the different streams both miry and dangerous, but last spring an agreement was entered into between the citizens of Star Valley and Bear Lake Valley to the effect that if the Star Valley people would make a good road to the main summit from the east side, Bear Lake county would build a good road from Montpelier to the summit. The Star Valley brethren finished their part of the work in June last, and the Bear

Lakers have just completed their portion of the work, including the bridging of every creek crossing on the whole road, thus making that once dreaded route of travel one of the best mountain roads in the Rockies. Consequently (before the floods of another season shall have damaged this good road) now would be a good time for such as desire to see Star Valley to make a visit thither.

In emerging from the mouth of Crow Creek Canyon the sight which meets the traveler is a very pleasing one. Stretched out before him, surrounded by lofty mountains, lies one of the finest valleys, a few years ago empty and desolate, but now dotted with thrifty settlements of the Saints. The place which first attracts the attention is the town of Afton, which is beautifully situated on a bench at the mouth of Clear Creek canyons and near the base of the mountains on the east side of the valley. Owing to the elevated situation this settlement can be seen from nearly every part of the valley, which is nearly twenty miles long from north to south and from one to six miles wide. Its average breadth is nearly four miles. Salt River which rises in the mountains southeast of the valley passes through its entire length, but sinks in the upper end to emerge again to the surface from a subterranean passage in the lower end of the valley, and is at once a stream of considerable rise, after receiving Crow Creek from the west and Cottonwood and Swift Creek from the east as its principal tributaries in the valley. While the surface of the country in Bear Lake Valley is somewhat broken and undulating in many parts, the land in Star Valley as a rule is level and consequently easily irrigated; the natural vegetation is grass and rabbit brush; sage brush is seen only in a few places. The meadow lands along Salt River in the lower end of the valley are among the finest in the mountains, and the facilities for pasturage there and on the foot hills surrounding the valley but principally on the west side, are almost unbounded. The farming land is generally good and very productive and the timber in the mountains plentiful. The fresh, invigorating breezes and the beautiful clear streams, in which the settlements are situated insure health and vigor to such an extent that I can truthfully say that in all my travels in our mountain country I have never seen a healthier or more robust looking people than I met in Star Valley. And the people here are not at all selfish so as to have a disposition to monopolize all these advantages to themselves, but they extend the hand of welcome to other good God-fearing people to come and cast their lots with them and help them to develop the resources of the country, for which purpose a land committee, having representatives in every settlement, have been appointed, whose special duty it is to wait upon all new-comers and give to them all the information necessary concerning the country and its advantages. Politically the valley is a part of Uintah County, Wyoming, the seat of which is at Evanston, and a very friendly feeling and mutual good understanding exists between the county officials and the Saints in Star