

NEPHI.

Sep. 27.

By sunrise the company were on the road for Nephi, and arrived there by 2 p.m. At 5 the people assembled and the meeting was opened by Elder John W. Young.

Elder Franklin D. Richards:—We have occasion to rejoice above all other people on earth. How different it is with us from what it is with the rest of the world who grope like a blind man for the wall. We know that we have received the Spirit of God, which teaches us in the knowledge of the ways of the Lord, and by which we receive grace on grace, and a knowledge of the truth, that we may be made steadfast in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ. The speaker noticed the state of the religious world in contradistinction to that of the Saints. The Saints have the organization of the church of God, which is efficient and complete for the perfection of the Saints and the work of the ministry.

Elder Geo. Q. Cannon:—Though we are the people of God, and have great promises placed upon us, they are all conditional. If we do His requirements He will most assuredly fulfil His promises; but the moment we deviate from the principles of the gospel, that moment we forfeit our claims to His blessings. When we cease to be united we forfeit the right to the blessings of God, promised to us. When you see men clinging to their brethren it is an evidence that they possess the spirit of the gospel, for it draws men together; they dislike disunion; and however men in this kingdom differ from each other in thought or expression they will not draw off from each other, but they feel to be one with each other at all hazards. Reformers have sought diligently to bring to pass among men the union which they read of in the scriptures, but they have sought in vain; but when the Holy Priesthood was again bestowed upon men, and the gospel was again preached in its purity, then this union began to have a re-existence; and here we are to-day, gathered from all nations and tongues, united into one people. We have become a power—a growing power; and all the rulers of the earth who have studied it fear it, and know not what will be the result. They seek constantly to divide us, and if they thought they could not do it they would despair. The carrying out of these great principles of salvation in our midst is what the prophets anciently saw in vision. Here is a domain extending hundreds of miles north and south, peopled by one people who have united desire that God will exert His power to cleanse the earth from sin and bring to pass the redemption of Zion. It is wonderful how God has blessed this people in this land. When they first came here, who had the faintest idea that we could live here? Yet the Lord has blessed the land, and made it fruitful and inviting to His Saints; and we shall continue to enjoy the blessings of God, more and more, if we are more faithful to God.

Elder C. C. Rich:—The Lord has said if ye are not one ye are not of me. The more we enjoy of this principle of union the better we are able to cultivate it. We see in the world the consequence of the want of it; therefore we can see the importance of cultivating it. When we are walking in the dark we are subject to danger; but when we enjoy the Holy Ghost we see and comprehend the dangers around us, and we can the better avoid them. It is well for us to make ourselves acquainted with the influences with which we are surrounded, and be prepared to avoid the evil and cherish the good. We are in possession of great blessings, and these we should seek to understand, so as to use them for our own benefit and the benefit of all with whom we are associated. We must seek to remove, as fast as we can, everything that is evil, everything that would stand in the way of our progression in holiness. If we wish to enjoy all the blessings which the Saints of God have ever enjoyed, we must obtain them as they obtained them; for the gospel and its results are the same now as formerly. If we would each do all the good we know, how fast we would remove the evil that still lingers in our midst. We only have to labor faithfully to do this; and what a joyful labor it should be to us. We can do more than we have now any idea we can accomplish, if we try in faith before God; and the blessings of God will be with us in this life and in that which is to come.

We were pleased, to hear for the first time in the Nephi meeting house, the sweet and solemn tones of a Cabinet Organ, imported from the East by our enterprising friend and brother, D. O. Calder, for Thomas Wright of this

place. The singing to-night was excellent. The importation of these instruments to our homes and meeting houses develops sources of enjoyment and pleasure that are elevating and refining. In the evening we attended a party, which broke up a little after 10 o'clock. The President was not there.

Sep. 28th.

At an early hour we were on the way for Springville. Rested and fed our animals at Santaquin three hours, and arrived at Springville between 3 and 4 p.m. At Santaquin we noticed a good substantial school house in course of erection, 32 by 40 feet; when finished will measure 15 feet from floor to ceiling, and will cost about \$4,500. Santaquin is situated in a charming locality; it is favored with excellent water; and the large cottonwoods that grow in picturesque groups through the village give it an air of home and comfort that is truly refreshing. The progress of this school house named is indicative of a prosperous future to the settlement which has been struggling for years for an existence. Between Payson and Springville we were met by citizens from Great Salt Lake City, and found at Bishop Johnson's house some of President Young's family, who had come out to meet him. In the evening Bishop John Sharp and Joseph A. Young from the city joined us.

At candle-light we held meeting in the building which is used for a Theatre, the regular meeting house being under repairs.

Elders L. Snow, E. T. Benson and Wilford Woodruff addressed the congregation in an interesting manner.

Sep. 29th.

At dawn of day the company was on the road to Provo, where we enjoyed an early breakfast. Your correspondent visited Cluff's Hall, where the Provo Fair was being held, but in consequence of the earliness of the hour the articles for exhibition were not brought in. We, however, saw some fine fruit and vegetables, and a little good home-made cloth, some exquisite needle work and penmanship, and a few curiosities. President Young and the main part of the company did not stay to see the Fair.

Arrived at Lehi at noon, where we partook of a public dinner served up with that profusion and neatness usual to the Saints in that settlement. We were soon on our way for home, filled with anticipations of happy greetings and joyful welcomes soon to be enjoyed. We were met by an escort about 10 miles out from the city, also a brass band drawn by two span of grey horses, a troop of young men well mounted, and many influential citizens mounted and in carriages, among whom we noticed Pres. Heber C. Kimball and Bishop Hunter. The company was detained a short time, until an order of procession was arranged, when we resumed our journey. On entering the city we passed under a mammoth flag of our country extended across the State road. The road on each side was lined with people to welcome the President and his traveling companions home again, while the band played appropriate pieces. We reached the "Eagle Gate" about 6 p.m.

This trip of the President and his company to the southern settlements has been one of vast interest and importance to those settlements. The teachings, as you have marked in my correspondence, have been full of practical instruction and wise suggestions, which, if properly applied by the Saints in their faith and practice, must lead to mental refinement, to the more permanent settlement of the country, to the increase of wealth in better and more substantial improvements, and to the growth of all the graces of God's Spirit in the faithful.

Respectfully,

G. D. WATT.

G. S. L. CITY, Oct. 12, 1865.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

DEAR SIR:—On the 10th inst. I was invited to attend the festival of "Zion's Camp" which was appointed to commence at 2 p. m., in the Social Hall. The ceremonies were opened by Presidents Joseph Young, Brigham Young and others singing a favorite song of Zion's Camp, "Hark listen to the trumpeters," etc. Among the many reminiscences of Zion's Camp, it is remembered and spoken of in terms of gratitude, by many of those old veterans, that Brothers Joseph and Brigham Young's musical voices cheered many a drooping heart, and encouraged their flagging energies while performing that memorable journey. Bishop D. Evans of Lehi, then offered up a prayer.

If it will not occupy too much of your valuable space, I think that a description of the fatigues, faith, perse-

verance and endurance of the members of that camp, as given in the remarks of Pres. Joseph Young which I here subjoin in their place, will not be uninteresting. Pres. Joseph Young said: "I was in Zion's Camp. I journeyed from the western part of the State of New York to Kirtland, Ohio, and from that place to upper Missouri, with an intent to go to Jackson County. It was a memorable time to me, at that early day of my experience. It was one of the most extraordinary events of my life, up to the time I journeyed in that camp of 205 men. We were organized in the best possible manner, and the best discipline and order prevailed throughout the whole camp; with but a few exceptions; it was an orderly camp, and in this sense a new thing in American history. Bro. Joseph Smith said to Bro. Brigham and me, 'If you will go with me to Missouri and keep my counsel, I pledge you that I will lead you there and back, and not a hair of your heads shall be hurt.' We followed the prophet to Missouri, and kept his counsel every jot and tittle, and we were preserved according to the prophet's words. It was a pretty close time for me; and if I could have retreated from the hardship and suffering I was under I think I should have done it. I often heard the prophet give the word of the Lord to that camp, when we would take fresh courage and march forth singing 'We want no cowards in our band,' etc. Bro. Israel Barlow and myself were the cooks for our company, composed of thirteen men, and we would often have to prosecute this calling until the middle of the night, and be up again at the sound of the horn at three o'clock in the morning, to get ready for another day's march. We would be so sleepy and wearied that when the horn sounded in the morning it was like calling the dead to life. I never suffered more in my life for anything than I did for want of sleep during that journey. Those 205 brave fellows marched up to Zion, and marched in order, to reinstate their brethren in possession of their lands. When we had reached Fishing river we were informed that we should not go into Jackson County, and that God had accepted our offering. Thirty-one years have passed away since that time, and we are here, and I feel glad and rejoice in the Lord. This journey was our first experience in the school of the prophets; and I never went through a more severe trial of my faith; it was as much as we all could bear. We performed 100 miles in three days, in the hottest weather, some of us, at times carrying our muskets and knapsacks weighing some 20 or 30 pounds on our backs, traveling until the blood could be heard in our boots and shoes. The prophet led us to Missouri and we returned to Kirtland again in safety, and when we met Bro. Joseph, the prophet, he said, 'There Brother Joseph and Brother Brigham, have I not redeemed my word?' We replied 'yes.' Hethen said, 'May God bless you.' The men of that camp were a band of brethren, and I little thought at that time that a number of them would ever turn their backs upon the faith; but so it is. Thank God that so many of us have remained to this day. Joseph the prophet led us to Zion, not as a haughty chieftain, not as an arrogant man, but a man filled with the Holy Ghost; and O, how kind and modest he was when he lead us, but how determined and resolute in carrying out the will of the Lord. We traveled through a population of tens of thousands of people, like lambs among wolves, but no man of them opened his mouth to say 'why do you so?'"

At four o'clock the company sat down to a sumptuous dinner, and from all appearance we should judge that the advice of President Brigham Young had been faithfully adhered to, viz, that Zion's Camp and guests should eat a light breakfast, no dinner, and come to the feast with a sharp appetite. We were Bishop Edward Hunter's guests, and we were administered to with a liberal hand.

I was much interested in listening to the conversations at the dinner table, and many curious circumstances were related. It may not be amiss, nor uninteresting to your readers if I notice one or two of them. When the camp reached and crossed Fishing river, which the brethren forded without wetting their feet, they were informed that men were gathering from different counties around, several hundred strong, and that before morning they might expect to see hell. Before morning, however, one of the most dreadful thunder storms came on that had ever been seen in that country, raising the main fork of Fishing river 40 feet, and the south fork 30 feet, covering the

ground where the Camp was planted with six inches deep of water. This storm scattered the mob and brought deliverance to Zion's Camp. Again, the prophet had counseled the brethren of the Camp not to kill a snake, and if they obeyed that counsel they should not receive a bite of a snake, for they traveled through a country infested with rattlesnakes. There was a desire in Martin Harris to test the words of the prophet. He took off his shoe and stocking, and contrary to the remonstrances of several brethren who were present, presented his toe to the mouth of a rattlesnake which lay in the road; this he did three times, but the snake refused to strike. This was related by Z. S. Cole who was an eye witness of the circumstance on Grand Prairie, Ill. Br. Cole on one occasion wrapped up a rattlesnake in his blanket and carried it all day, not being aware of the fact until he spread out his blanket at night, when his snakeship made his appearance. Again: It seems that there were murderers in Zion's Camp as there were anciently in the Camp of Israel. Joseph had warned them to repent; at last he stood upon a wagon wheel and said "The die is cast and the scourge of the Almighty is upon you." The cholera seized the Camp, which resulted in the death of some twelve or more men, and many others narrowly escaped with their lives.

The dinner over we repaired to the hall above, where the members of Zion's Camp and the invited guests went forth in the dance. This exercise was alternated by speaking and singing, until after 2 o'clock on the morning of the 11th.

Between ten and eleven o'clock we partook of a good supper, during which we heard many remarks made in contrasting the present blessings and abundance enjoyed by the Saints now, with the scanty fare of Zion's Camp. I was informed that on the return journey from Zion to Kirtland, two of the brethren traveled the last 180 miles in three days, on one meal a day, and lying under the fences at night to rest. We heard a question asked, "Who of our young men would do now as that Camp did then without murmuring?"

The following are the names of the persons who spoke during the evening: Pres. Joseph Young, Milo Andrus, Geo. A. Smith, Levi W. Hancock, C. O. Rich, David Evans, Pres. Brigham Young, Wm. F. Cahoon, Libbeus T. Coon, Orson Hyde, Eleazer Miller, Thomas Colburn, Pres. D. H. Wells, Israel Barlow and Elijah Fordham. The speech of President Joseph Young is a fair representation of all that was spoken during the evening relating to the travels of Zion's Camp.

Erastus Snow and Jacob Gates sang "Wife, children and friends," and Jacob Gates sang "Madam Lofty and I," and L. W. Hancock and Thomas Colburn danced hornpipes.

There were present at this party of the First Presidency, Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball and Daniel H. Wells; of the Twelve Apostles, Orson Hyde, John Taylor, Amasa M. Lyman, Geo. A. Smith, Charles C. Rich, Franklin D. Richards, Erastus Snow, Lorenzo Snow, Ezra T. Benson and Geo. Q. Cannon. Brother Wilford Woodruff was prevented from being present by sickness, and brother Orson Pratt, the other absent member of that Quorum, is on a mission to Europe.

Between three and four on the morning of the 11th the festival was adjourned to the 10th of Oct., 1865, when the President thanked Bishop Hunter and his Councillors, in behalf of Zion's Camp, for their kind entertainment, and blessed the company.

We had not the opportunity of knowing exactly how many of Zion's Camp were present, but there were not so many present this year as last. Respectfully,
G. D. WATT.

FATHER CUMMINGS, a Catholic priest, of Louisiana, Missouri, has been arrested, convicted and sentenced to pay a fine for preaching without taking the Constitutional oath. Having refused to pay the fine himself, or allow his friends to pay it for him, he is confined in the county jail. This case will probably be appealed to the Supreme Court.

It has been ascertained by an instrument called the siren, that a mosquito's wings vibrate at the rate of fifteen thousand times a second, the pitch of the note produced being more than two octaves above the highest note of a seven-octave piano. The wing of a mosquito is so thin that fifty thousand, placed one upon the other, would not form a heap more than a quarter of an inch in height.

The English sparrows imported into New Jersey have cleaned the trees of worms.