

HISTORICAL LOCALITIES.

A Visit to Points of Interest in the States of Illinois and Iowa.

Nauvoo, Hancock County, Ill.,
October 6, 1888.

Editor, Deseret News:

While the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints is holding its semi-annual Conference at home we are holding our little conference in the "City of Joseph," the once beautiful Nauvoo, the city that the Saints "loved so well" in years gone by, and which they expect to possess again, after the Lord has redeemed Zion. Yes, illustrious Nauvoo, we love thee even now, though thy glory has departed from thee for a season. But the river, the islands, the uplands, the flats, the timber and the prairie are still there, and everything necessary to build even a much larger city than the one which once was, and of which the present town is but a sad relic.

Before leaving Kirtland, Ohio, on the 2d instant, we were shown where a thief some years ago had broken in by digging his way under the northeast corner-stone of the Temple, with the expectation of being rewarded for his trouble by finding costly treasures, which he imagined had been stored away by the Saints. It is needless to say that he was disappointed in his search, but he was very successful in damaging the building quite considerably; for in undermining the corner-stone, that particular part of the Temple sank, causing the wall to crack in several places and the plastering to peel off. As soon as the Josephites came in possession of the building they repaired the damage as far as possible by bracing up the floor and filling up the cracks in the wall, but the traces of the injury done the building will always remain.

Our journey from Willoughby to Chicago was uneventful; we passed through some fine country, both woodland and prairie, and saw several pretty sites where we thought Stakes of Zion might be organized and Temples built some time in the future.

Chicago is a great city. Of all the large towns in the United States none has grown so rapidly as has this the grand metropolis of the West. She now claims 500,000 inhabitants. In 1833 it was a mere village.

In perusing the documents of the Historical Society library at 132 Dearborn Avenue, we saw the first number of the first newspaper published in Chicago. It was called the Chicago Democrat, was dated Nov. 25, 1833, and published by J. Calhoun. It was a twenty-four column paper, printed on what was then called a royal sheet and quite ably edited. There were 21 columns of reading matter and three columns of advertisements. No. 2 contained the following at the head of its reading matter:

"The Democrat is published every Tuesday in the village of Chicago, Illinois, in the building on the corner of South Water and Clark streets."

The terms were \$1.50 per annum in advance.

We will say in connection herewith that at the Historical Society library are found some very interesting and valuable works and documents, although the institution lost all its old collections in the great fire in 1871. Among other things that interested us was a large history of Hancock County, published by Chapman Brothers, Chicago, and an "Illustrated Historical Atlas of Hancock County," by T. Andreas, now a prominent author. This atlas, which is very handsomely gotten up, contains a well-drawn map of the city of Nauvoo, including Commerce and all subsequent additions. The history of Hancock County devotes considerable space to the history of the "Mormons," and we took the liberty to call on the principal author and publisher, Charles Chapman, Esq., at his office, 123 Van Buren Street. He appeared to be a gentleman of high culture, and when we alluded to the history of the "Mormons" in Hancock County as being exclusively an anti-"Mormon" production, and that justice had not been done to our side of the question, he said that he had not written it himself, but that it was the product of a man who had been all through the troubles and considered himself well posted—a mobber, no doubt, who took an active part in shedding the blood of innocent people. Mr. Chapman was frank enough to acknowledge that the author had written it from a standpoint altogether unfavorable to the "Mormons," and that he attempted no far as (Mr. Chapman) knew, had been made to get any information from our side. This is enough to give the readers of the News an idea of what that part of the history of Hancock County treating on the "Mormons" is.

Mr. John Moses, the custodian of the Historical Society library, is at present busily engaged in writing a history of Illinois, and was very pleased to learn a number of facts from us which he had never heard of before. While Elder Jensen bustled himself with the old records Elder Stevenson was very diligent in posting this gentleman, who had promised he would try to do justice to the "Mormons" in his history. We suggested that we would treat our people fairly, and we should give him the credit for being an exception to the general rule, as nearly every non-Mormon writer so far had misrepresented us. He expressed his total disbelief in the Spaulding story and a great many other silly tales put in

circulation about Joseph Smith and his people; and was particularly interested in the descriptions Elder Stevenson, from his own experience and personal knowledge, gave of the Prophet and his characteristics. But none that equaled Marshall, Field & Co.'s dry goods house, situated on Adam, Quince and Franklin streets and Fifth Avenue—a solid block. This building, in which business is transacted to the amount of \$40,000,000 a year, is an immense rock structure, 323x190 feet, and eight stories high. The employees number 1350. In connection with the wholesale house there is a retail business in another part of the city, where 1300 clerks are employed. Adding to this about 300 men employed by the firm in its factories and warehouses, we have a total of 3,150 persons engaged by Marshall Field and company—enough to make a municipality of their own. The figures given are correct as we received them from Mr. L. M. Williams, assistant superintendent, and Arthur H. Becker a young gentlemanly salesman, who took great pains to show us around and give us correct information.

This is supposed to be the largest dry goods establishment in the world, a distinction previously given to a New York firm, but of late years Marshall Field & Co. have been ahead of all New York houses in their line of trade.

Bidding Chicago good-bye at a late hour last night, we resumed our journey westward in an elegant car of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railway. About daylight this morning we crossed the Mississippi River from Rock Island, Illinois, to Davenport, Iowa, and at 11 o'clock a.m. arrived at Eldon, on the Des Moines River, in the southeast corner of Wapello County. Here we changed cars taking a branch road of the C. R. I. & P. Railway to Keokuk, 63 miles from Eldon. At a point where the Des Moines River makes a sharp bend southward, we passed a little town called Mount Zion, but could not learn whether the name was suggested through any historical connection our people might have had with the place in early days. But the towns of Bonaparte and Farmington, in Van Buren County, through which we also passed, will be remembered by the exiles of 1846. It was the people of Farmington who prevailed upon the musicians of the Camps of Israel to come and play for them, and it was also near Farmington where Wm. H. Folsom and Rodney Swazey were taken by the mob and hung up by their heels until they were nearly dead, because they would not deny their religion. A few miles before reaching Keokuk we crossed Sugar Creek, the memorable stream which can never be forgotten by those who pitched their tents on its frosty banks and drank of its icy waters in the bleak month of Feb., 1846. The railway crosses the stream near the point where it empties into the Des Moines river, but that part of it which is made sacred in Church history through the exiled Saints being camped on its banks is a few miles above to the northwest. We arrived at Keokuk about 2 o'clock. This was an outlying place for the emigrating Saints who crossed the plains in 1833-35, and many of the readers of the News will remember the heights of Keokuk with mixed feelings of sadness and joy. For here a number of weary pilgrims from northern Europe, whose friends and relatives yet reside in the valleys of the mountains, closed their eyes in death, worn out by the long voyage across the Atlantic and up the Mississippi, and before they got ready to undertake the long, tiresome journey of 1,300 miles to the Far West.

When we think of all the sacrifices that have been made in past years for the cause of Zion. When we think of the many who fell as martyrs for the truth in Missouri and Illinois and the hundreds who died through fatigue and hardship, while endeavoring their last mortal strength trying to cross the dreary plains and climb the lofty mountains to reach the land of the Saints, to say nothing of the many who found a watery grave before reaching the promised land of Joseph, then indeed do we realize that the life of a Saint is a life of trials and afflictions, and that were it not for our hope in regard to the future and our implicit faith in the final reward of those who have sacrificed all for Christ's sake, we would of all men be the most miserable. But God is just, and He has all power in heaven and earth; He has therefore also power to raise the dead. And when the trump announcing the morning of the resurrection shall sound, then shall those who fell by the wayside—whose bodies were lowered into the mighty deep, or who sleep in unknown graves on the broad prairies of the west—come forth with renewed and immortal bodies, and rejoice forever that they kept the faith; for it is far better to die in the discharge of our duties than to live and deny the truth. How much better off are those faithful ones whose mortal remains sleep in the hills of Keokuk and, who never saw the mountain home of the Saints—which, in connection with their love for the Gospel, caused them to leave their native homes thousands of miles away—than some of their friends and relatives whose lives were spared, but who since have become engulfed in darkness and have denied the faith.

Keokuk is now a city of about 15,000 inhabitants. Having had rival neighbors, it has not grown so fast as some of her sister cities on the banks of the Mississippi River, but is, nevertheless, quite a lovely place to live in. Its location on the slope of the hill is quite romantic. Having rambled about Keokuk for an hour, we walked up to the lower end of the new government canal, and two of our party had, for the first time in their lives, the opportunity of seeing how a vessel is lifted and lowered by means of a lock. This canal, which is about seven miles long, was built by the United States government in the years 1867-77, and cost about four million dollars. There are three locks, one at Keokuk, another at Price's Creek, two and a half miles above, and a third one at Nashville at the upper end of the canal. Each lock is 80 feet wide and 300 feet long, and by means of the three locks, vessels are lifted 19 feet. The canal, which was built for the purpose of avoiding the dangers of passing the Des Moines rapids, is about 300 feet wide, and has an average depth of seven feet. It is made of a part of the river bed by building a wall or dam lengthwise in the river. This wall is 45 wide in the bottom and 10 feet wide at the top. The sloping walls are built of square rocks, while the inside is filled up with earth. The obliging captain of the government steamboat "Vixen," Mr. H. B. Whitsey, gave us most of this information. By his permission we sailed on his boat from Keokuk to the second lock, at Price's Creek, from where a good-saturated farmer took us in his light wagon two and a half miles further to Sandusky. From there we went by rail (C. B. & Q. Ry.) 7 miles to Monroe, thence with the ferry boat across the Mississippi River to Nauvoo, where we arrived about 7 o'clock this evening. We at once proceeded to Major L. C. Bidamon's residence, where we have put up comfortably for the night.

ANDREW JENSON,
EDWARD STEVENSON,
JOSEPH S. BLACK.

LAND REVIEW.

The New Homestead Law—Glad Tidings for Homeless Thousands.

Editor Deseret News:

A new land bill of great importance to persons who have hitherto exhausted their rights under the homestead and pre-emption laws has passed the Senate and with important amendments has been adopted by the House of Representatives and returned to the Senate for concurrence in the amendments.

The bill as passed by the Senate permits all persons who have filed under pre-emption or homestead law, but who for reason have failed to acquire title to lands, to again file under the homestead law and acquire title to not more than one quarter section of public land. The first amendment added by the House of Representatives authorizes registers and receivers to grant leaves of absence to those who have made entries and who "by reason of drought, sickness, or other unavoidable casualty," are unable to "secure a support for himself, herself, or those dependent upon them," such absence not to exceed one year at any one time, though the period of such absence shall not be counted as residence upon the land in making proof and perfecting title.

The second amendment provides that persons who have made homestead entries for less than one quarter section may make additional entry for land contiguous to the original homestead not exceeding, with the land in such original entry, 160 acres, or if the entryman elect they may relinquish the original entries and make new ones the same as though they had never made entries, except that no fees or commissions shall be exacted from the entryman for such additional or new entries. The residence which has been made upon the original entry will count as residence upon the additional or new entry in making final proof, and where satisfactory final proof has already been made on the original entry no proof on the additional or new entry will be required, but patent may issue.

This will be glorious news to thousands of persons anxious to acquire homes but debarred from doing so under existing laws. There is little doubt that the bill will pass the Senate as amended.

Copies of the bill can be had by addressing members of Congress.
HENRY N. CORP.

The Missionaries.

We are permitted to publish the following dispatch:

New York, Oct. 16th.

President W. Woodruff:

The company of Missionaries for Europe arrived all well, will sail on the Alaska at 2:30 p. m.

THEO. BRANDLEY.

The Scandinavian Immigrants.

The following telegram, in regard to the company of Saints en route to Utah, has been received:

NORFOLK, Va., Oct. 17, 1888.

The Scandinavian company leaving Copenhagen Sept. 27th, will leave Norfolk, Virginia, at five o'clock tonight.
N. P. LINDBERG.

ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE.

The People's Party to Come to the Front in Solid Phalanx.

NO DIVISION ON NATIONAL ISSUES.

But the Party Remains Intact for the Triumph of Local Self-Government.

HEADQUARTERS TERRITORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY.

SALT LAKE CITY, October, 1888.

To the County Central Committees of the People's Party:

Gentlemen.—As the time is approaching for the election of a Delegate to Congress, we deem it wise and proper to address you briefly on the political situation in this Territory.

The People's Party stands upon the platform of principles which has sustained it heretofore. They are founded in the fundamental truths that underlie our national system. They are

IMPERISHABLE AND INDESTRUCTIBLE.

We see no reason to turn from them or to make any change in the character or name of the organization which has successfully maintained them for many years. The People's Party is intact, and should be preserved in its integrity until the people of Utah have obtained their full rights and privileges as American citizens. There is ample room upon its platform for every citizen of Utah who venerates the Constitution of our country and is willing to obey the laws made in pursuance thereof, and who desires the triumph of local self government, no matter what may be his opinions or affiliations upon national issues. It is a party of the people for the people, and is devoted to the people's interests.

There is no need for any voter who wishes for the welfare of the Territory to separate himself from the People's Party in order to work for national purposes. Indeed such a course

WOULD BE DETHIMENTAL

to local interests, while it would accomplish nothing in the broader political arena.

In past contests our strength has been in our unity. We have not been conquered because we would not be divided. The alleged branches of the national parties in this Territory have each resolved and proclaimed that they will not act on party lines, but work under the name of "Liberals" against the People's Party. They set forth in vigorous words, the folly of division as Democrats and Republicans.

Under these circumstances common prudence, if nothing else, would suggest that the members of the People's Party should engage in no movement tending to separate them into other parties or factions, and make no pledges which would prevent their full co-operation with their tried and true friends, in the face of

COMBINED HOSTILITY

against them. Such division would perhaps, not materially affect the result in the election for Delegate to Congress, but might become disastrous when local issues in the counties and cities shall be at stake. In our opinion the time has not come for the people of Utah to organize under any national party name, but every interest and indication urge the necessity of closer union and more determined action as the party of the people.

At the Territorial Convention, Hon. John T. Cairne, our faithful and efficient Delegate in Congress, was renominated by acclamation. Let the voters of Utah imitate their representatives and rally to the unanimous support of the nominee of the People's Party, and, avoiding all entanglements and attachments that would tend to separate their interests and influence, cling to the party under which they have heretofore fought their political battles and achieved a succession of signal victories.

By order of the Territorial Central Committee.

JOHN R. WINDER, Chairman.

ELIAS A. SMITH, Secretary.

A Horrible Death.

One of the most horrible deaths we have had to record is that which befell A. L. Morrison at Glen, Mont., last Monday, Oct. 15th. He owned a large ranch at that place and was having it fenced with poles. Those acquainted with such fences know that these poles rest upon pins driven through a pair of posts. He had procured a machine driven by water power for the purpose of boring the holes in the posts. By some unexplained means, which no one will ever learn as he was alone at the time, he got under the augur while it was in motion. Before he could extricate himself the augur had caught his clothes in the middle of his back between the shoulders, twisted them around and penetrated into the body pinning him to the ground. His family becoming alarmed at his long absence, went out to look for him and found him on the ground, bored through and dead. Deceased was formerly operator at Spring Hill, Mont., and at one time agent for the U. P. at Market Lake and was well and favorably known among telegraph operators and railway men. He was highly respected by all who knew him. It is said that some of his relatives reside in Eagle Rock—Ogden Standard.

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