

everyone? The Apostles of old, in the eyes of their contemporaries, were ordinary men—impostors, in fact—and mankind thought they were doing God service by slaying them. Joseph Smith was a great Prophet inspired of God, appointed to lay the foundation of one of the greatest works ever witnessed; yet he moved among his fellows as an ordinary man, and was murdered in cold blood. So it had been with all the Prophets. Nevertheless, this spirit of inspiration rested upon us, and this people had been guided by it from the very day the Church was organized until now. They had suffered and gone through all sorts of difficulties, but had always come out uppermost. Those who had fought against this work and sought to destroy it—from the highest in the land down—had not prospered in their aims. This had before been noted and commented upon by those who were not of their number. There seemed to be—he would not say a curse, but a condemnation resting upon all who fought against this people.

The Latter-day Saints had been blessed of God. They had in some respects been sinners—full of faults and shortcomings, and occasionally merited a severe punishment at God's hands; but when they repented and turned unto Him, He had mercy upon them, because He knew that they had been willing to do everything in their power to serve Him, to leave all on earth for the sake of the Gospel, even to the laying down of their lives.

He took great pleasure in bearing his testimony to these things, as a living witness of their truth. He had proved them throughout his life. Oh, that the inhabitants of the earth would listen to the true Gospel and receive the great joy, and peace, and heavenly knowledge which God extended to them. God help all who had embraced the truth to cling to it and be valiant for it all the days of their life.

The choir sang the anthem,  
"Let God arise."

The benediction was pronounced by Elder Seymour B. Young.

### FROM THE SOUTH.

*Editor Deseret News:*

On Saturday, May 30th, I traveled thirty miles from Circleville to Panguitch with Brother Willis Johnson, of the first named place. After leaving Circleville we passed through a canyon thirteen miles long, in which the road crosses the Sevier river twice. At the head of the canyon, where massive rock walls rise to a majestic height on the west and present a great variety of beautiful scenery, the traveler enters a fine valley, through which the south branch of the Sevier takes a serpentine course in a northwesterly direction. There is a number of ranches located here and there on the bends, or on the creeks putting into the river. Passing along we reach a ranch called Tebberville, on the west side of the river, nearly opposite the spot where Fort Sanford of Blackhawk war fame once stood on the east side. Traveling eight miles further we reach Panguitch; the headquarters of the Panguitch Stake and the county seat of Garfield county

At Panguitch I met Apostle Lyman, who since last Sunday has been traveling in the Sevier and Panguitch Stakes, holding meetings with the Saints in Koosharem, where he organized the Grass Valley ward, and at Cannonville, where an entire new Bishopric was installed. Yesterday and today the fifty-third quarterly conference of the Panguitch Stake has been held at this place. All the meetings were well attended, excellent instructions were given, and we had a time of rejoicing.

It will be interesting for such readers of the News who dwell in warmer climes to note the fact that while we today the 1st of June, were engaged in divine worship inside a commodious and comfortable meeting house, snow flakes were falling fast on the outside, and for a short time the ground was covered. But the residents of Panguitch assure us that this does not happen on the 1st of June every year; in fact old settlers have told us that it has never snowed before so late in the season while they have dwelt in this upper country.

Tomorrow morning Apostle Lyman will leave for Beaver and Salt Lake City. I am to remain and write history, and for this purpose must visit every ward and settlement in the Panguitch and Sevier Stakes of Zion.

Panguitch is, in my estimation, a fine place; it is in some respects unlike any settlement of the Saints I have visited so far. Nestling pleasantly at the foot of gently sloping mountains on the south end of a broad valley, its fine brick buildings present themselves to the gaze of the traveler in bold relief as he approaches from the north, there being no shade trees or orchards to obstruct the view, save a few scattered cottonwood trees and a pretty thrifty growth of willows which fringe the Panguitch creek to the right and the Sevier river on the left, the town being situated in what may be called the forks of the two streams.

There is an air of comfort about Panguitch that one feels at once after getting there, notwithstanding the absence of fine gardens like those met with in a lower altitude; the homes are generally well furnished, and most of the modern conveniences met with in the older settlements of the Saints are also found here. Three stores doing a good business are located in the central part of town and a modern roller flouring mill situated on the Sevier river,  $\frac{1}{4}$  miles east of the town, is patronized by the people who live within a radius of nearly seventy-five miles.

The Panguitch ward, presided over by Bishop Allen Miller, embraces all of Panguitch valley, and also the country lying south, or the ranches on the head waters of the south fork of the Sevier, clear to the rim of the basin. This southern part of the country once had a separate ward organization called Hillsdale, but is now a branch of the Panguitch ward, known as the Mammoth Branch.

The people of Panguitch as a rule appear to be happy, healthy and God-fearing, and are also hospitable to strangers who are friends to their interests. A saloon is here and receives some patronage but not from Latter-day Saints. Saints don't tipple. Judging from the healthy and robust appearance of most of those who

attended the conference, we should think them exemplary in their habits; but if they have not been so hitherto they surely will be hereafter, if they follow the advice given during the meetings just held. It would be inconsistent to think that the brave sons and noble daughters of Utah, who have every opportunity placed before them to become men and women of the first rank, would cut themselves off from the blessing of health, strength, long life, intelligence, wisdom and grace by contracting habits of intemperance and impurity. Oh, no. Let us hope that the sons and daughters of Zion will be exemplary in their habits, that they will guard virtue and chastity as they guard their lives, and do the work of righteousness that they may become peers of all creation—may excel in everything that is good and noble in the sight of God, angels and righteous men and finally through their good examples and teachings redeem the whole world from its low and fallen condition.

Panguitch valley proper is about seventeen miles long from north to south, and has at its south extremity a width of nearly eight miles, tapering off to the north until it terminates in a canyon through which the south branch of the Sevier river finds its way to the lower valleys on the north. The Panguitch valley is separated from what is locally called the "East fork," or on the map Plateau valley, by a range of mountains called the Sevier Plateau, the highest peaks of which are Adam's Head and Mount Dutton, whose snow-filled crags and canyons are plainly seen from Panguitch. West, the valley is separated from the Little Salt Lake valley by the range of mountains known in geographical circles as the Markaount Plateau, from the midst of which Little Creek Peak and Bear Creek Peak rise to a considerable height. South, an extensive low mountain system separates it from the Hillsdale and Mammoth Creek country.

The altitude of Panguitch, as given on West's map of Utah, is 6273 feet, but the residents think they are nearer heaven than that, and the clouds, which during the last few days have been in uncomfortably close proximity to the earth, seem to bear them out in this.

The Panguitch people are nearly all stockraisers, but raise their own bread-stuff, and some to spare. The sheep business is very profitable here, and perhaps one hundred thousand sheep, owned principally by the people of Garfield county, are grazing at the present time in the surrounding slopes and mountain plateaus, mainly on the East Fork.

The Panguitch stake of Zion embraces all of Garfield county, a part of Piute county, and a small portion of Kane county, Utah; it embraces seven organized wards, of which Panguitch, with a membership of 902 souls, or 144 families, is the largest. Next in size is the Escalante ward, distant about seventy-five miles to the southeast, with 741 souls, or 108 families; then comes the Cannonville ward, distant thirty-five miles north, with 274 members or fifty families; then Junction ward, close to Circleville, with 234 members or 41 families; after that Marion ward, in the lower end of Grass