

that they took wings and flew to another planet or had balloons to sail away in. If they crossed the water in those days with their frail barks, we can go as far in our steel and iron ships as they could. If they journeyed by land, so can we, (the Lord permitting). Thus far and no farther. True, there is something in the way to stop the traveler or explorer—the most natural barrier that could be. From the 78th to 84th or north parallel there is a cold belt that only the bravest and strongest of men can go through and with what little provisions they can take with them, when they come to open water, which is found at about 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° north, the explorers have had to return. If they had had boats there and provisions and continued their journey onward for 5 or 6° they would probably have found about the same condition of things as exist at 77°, vegetation, flowers, etc.

Who ever reaches as far north as 90° should not stop to look for the pole, nor for a hole. Nor should they think it strange if they should find footprints, for those who made them are not far away. They may be trying just as hard to find their lost brethren, the two tribes, who were lost to them when the Lord piloted them to that land and put up the bars, or shut the gate, by placing that cold belt, where the inhabitants of this earth found it. Beyond any doubt the seasons are changing. One proof of that is that off the banks of New Foundland, the icebergs have become so numerous as to make it necessary for ships plying between Liverpool and New York to change their course. Those icebergs are on their way south, borne by the strange current from the north. The same evidence is found on the shores of north Greenland and in the Spitzbergen. In the ocean there is a strong current, not so easy to perceive in the water, but ships come in contact with large flows of ice traveling at a great speed and crushing everything in their path. Some are of immense size and when they are broken loose from their moorings they start south. The changed seasons have brought it about on natural principles.

That the seasons have been changing in the far north is no longer a surmise, but a fact. The seasons are warmer. Some proof of it is that vegetation grows now where twenty or thirty years ago there was none of that kind growing. The ice is softer and easier broken loose from places where the bergs have been for ages, and they are found going south with the current as never known before until the last few years.

The ship may now be afloat that in going north may find an open space or passage through that cold belt from 78 to 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° of north latitude to where such space has been reported to exist by Lieutenant Lockwood of the Greely expedition that had such a hard time getting back to America. Lieutenant Lockwood in his journey north from where the Greely expedition was camping, kept close to the Greenland coast, and when he resolved not to go any farther north, it was on account of the scarcity of his provisions. At 83° and 24' he found tracks of musk-ox, fox, hairs and some vegetation, although he had traveled over a portion of country where there was no sign of life of any kind. He also saw dark objects farther to the north but whether it was land or open water may be a question. If, as

we have always supposed, it grew colder as we neared the pole, it would be inexplicable that at 80° and 81° there is no signs of life, while at 35° there is plenty. It rather indicates that the climate is milder nearer the pole and that it is possible for life to exist there.

If opposite to where Lieutenant Lockwood, on the north coast of Greenland, on the other side of the pole, probably the same things exist, living animals and vegetation, the two points could not be more than eight hundred miles apart and this distance must be reducing still lower, since the atmosphere is so clear in that climate that a person can see objects very far off. If we now imagine a people numbering five times as many as the population of the known world, they could not find standing room within a nation of seven hundred miles. There are a few historical facts that may give some light on the subject.

Seaweed and bits of wood, both of kinds not known to grow now on this earth have been found floating or imbedded in the ice going south in the current. A few years ago there was an animal found imbedded in the ice, about the size of a buffalo or musk-ox. We have no record of its kind in natural history. Fowls are said to have been killed in a locality 79° or 80° north latitude and they were said to have subsisted on a kind of grain not known in the civilized world. There is no proof that the earth is round at the north, but there is proof that it does not round off. Pieces of wood found in the ice and floating in the water, coming from the north and found in a region where there is no vegetation growing, give positive proof that the current washes a coast that has timber growing along its shores. The specimens of seaweed and body of the dead mastodon point to the same conclusion. The latter was whole except for a small portion that had been eaten by some other animal. The report of this find and a description was brought back by explorers, and natural history was consulted, but there was no such an animal described in its pages and it is not probable that it was the only one of its kind that ever existed. It would be ridiculous to argue that it might have come from some other planet or from land not connected with this earth.

The fowls migrating south at certain seasons of the year having previously eaten grain of a kind not known, is proof that they got it where it grew or where it had been carried. Those large flows of ice that are found in the Spitzbergen are of such a large size that it is not reasonable that they could form on such a small space as six or seven hundred miles of space. Some have been formed, said to be thirty or forty miles across and one hundred and twenty miles long and they had traveled far enough to be under way to crush everything in their path. It is not reasonable to conclude that those large bodies of ice could form on that small space, provided it was all water and if Lieutenant Lockwood reported correctly, there is plenty of land along the Greenland coast; nor is it likely that that is all the land above water about 83° or 84° of north latitude and still farther to the north.

What may come to pass? The ship or vessel may now be afloat that will find a way open through this cold belt and go through with but little hindrance and

go far enough to find positive proof of the existence of the footprints of civilization, and whether the vessel ever returns or not, some of the crew will live to bring the glad news of the discovery far enough back, that it will get to people in other parts of the earth. There may be a land, or a world, as this is called, to the north and they too may be connected by land and water. That land or country may be as productive as this and the climate like ours. There may be beasts, fowls, fishes, etc., in abundance. There may be mountains, rivers, lakes etc., of different kinds, not like ours, perhaps, but having as great a commercial value. The people may be like those that live here and have many of the habits and customs, but not speak the same language. If the explorers should find a stranger in the north, he may know whence he came. They are trying to find their lost brethren, as we are to find them. Their efforts are directed to their south pole, as they would call it, in trying to find us. Our magnetic needle works or points to the north; theirs points or works to the south. We will soon join hands with our long separated kindred.

J. R. W.

JUAREZ STAKE CONFERENCE.

On Wednesday May 19th, the Sunday School conference of the Juarez Stake of Zion was held at Colonia Diaz commencing at 10 a. m. and continued until Thursday evening. Elder Karl G. Maeser was present and many valuable instructions were given.

Friday morning at 10 o'clock the quarterly conference of the Primary associations was held and an excellent programme carried out by the little folks.

At 2 p. m. the conference of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association commenced. Many good instructions were given. The subject of treasurers of the associations guarding sacredly the means intrusted into their care was given special attention, and the subject of organizing a central board for home missionary work among the young men was also discussed. The general and local officers of the respective associations were unanimously sustained.

Friday evening the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Associations rendered a very interesting programme.

Saturday morning May 22nd at 10 o'clock the quarterly conference of the Stake convened, Stake counselor Helaman Pratt presiding. There were also present Elder George Teasdale, of the Apostles, Elder Karl G. Maeser, Patriarchs Lunt, Stowell and Little; several members of the High Council and all the Bishops of the Stake, President Ivins being absent on account of business in Utah and Counselor Henry Eyrin was unable to attend on account of protracted illness.

The several Bishops reported the Saints of their respective wards as being in excellent condition spiritually and gradually improving financially. Prospect for grain crop generally very good but the fruit crop mostly killed by frosts, except in Sonora, where the prospect is good for an excellent crop.

The agent of the board of trade, in reporting the exhibition made by our colonies at the recent exposition in Coyocan, said the exhibit made had greatly surprised the officials of the government.