

a mountaineer by the name of Hastings was the guide of an emigrant train that went south of the Great Salt Lake. They camped about the Kanaka ranch some time recruiting their stock. This done, they started across the Desert to Pilot's Peak, to the same point as the Donner party, and so close to the Donner road it is a wonder that they could not have seen it. The only reason that could be given is that both started across in the night. In places the roads are still visible. The stock giving out for the want of water, had to be unhitched and driven to Pilot's Peak. Here the Indians fired on them, killing many, but the emigrants, having good guns, drove the Indians away. Some of the emigrants went back after some of their wagons, others left theirs. They still stand where they were left, still in good preservation except the spokes near the ground have been worn nearly off by the sand blowing around them continually. The iron is almost all rusted off by the salt action. The yokes and chains still lay where they were dropped.

I have tried the Indians on several occasions to tell me all about the fight, but none of the older ones that could tell will do so, believing that they would be punished yet. A younger one told me the Indians held the emigrants for many days. When the feed was all gone and some of the stock was stolen and the rest suffering, the emigrants moved to the mountains about twenty miles from Pilot's Peak, to a little spring in a pass now known as Hasting Pass, on the Deep Creek and Toano road. Here they built a stone wall or fort against the granite mountain, and made a desperate fight. But the Indians had them surrounded and in the night stampeded and stole all their stock. From day to day the Indians had nothing to do but to kill any one that showed himself in sight. Some were left to bury the rest—how long they did live no one now living does know. What these people suffered no one can even imagine, much less tell, and it was all for gold!

Fred Barth told me when he crossed many years ago, many of these trains perished for the want of water, he and some others saving themselves by killing an ox and drinking his blood.

There is a road now by Granite mountain. In this mountain is water, making the drive forty miles on one side and thirty-seven on the other without water. Nothing but light rigs or horse backs can travel that with safety, and that only in the summer. There is no place on earth where man and beast want so much as they do here. The air is full of salt and alkali. These and the heat make travel arduous and almost intolerable.

We are often asked why people do not go around. Howard Egan, "Ball" Roberts, the Huntingtons, myself and a few others, in the interest of the Overland Mail company, did explore and make a road around the south of the desert, but in wet times it is hard to travel. In one place the road is fifteen miles around and only four miles across. On the round road in wet weather the ground has the appearance of bread before it is baked. The Fish Spring sloughs, as the through road is called, is the best, because it is shorter to water by fifteen miles, and about as good as the other. This is a case when a man that takes one will wish he had taken the other. The mud will take the paint off your wagon, the color out of your clothing and it will make a solid wheel so you cannot see the spokes. I crossed it once with a light wagon and four mules—no load except my wife, child, and a sick man. It had rained and when I got across the sloughs the mules stuck in the mud, the wagon settled down to the bed and I had to

unhitch the mules to save their lives. There was but little on the road then, February, 1859. We ate what luncheon we had and went to bed to keep from freezing. In the morning I started back to the mail station, four miles, and when I reached the sloughs I found the ice not strong enough to hold me. They were too wide to jump so I took my clothing off and put it on my head, crossed, dressed, went to the station, got my coffee, saleratus bread and bacon, got a little wood and went back by the same ferry that I had come. With the wood I warmed up the scanty meal, fed my people and went to bed to keep from freezing.

On that day a friendly Indian saw our wagon stationary and came to us. We knew each other, and we were so glad to see him that we could not express it. We gave him our meager fare and he took a note to Simpson Springs, forty-five miles, for help. During the three days that I was stuck, three times I had to repeat my trip to the station with the same modus operandi to get back before succor came.

With that experience on my mind I have no use for Klondike. What people have suffered on that barren and bleak spot no one can ever know or ever attempt to write. How many have perished and been lost on that desert will never be known. When the time comes that the Bible speaks of when the sea shall give up its dead, I hope it will include those that have been left on that wicked desert.

H. J. FAUST.

FOR HOME SEEKERS.

Cardston, Alberta, N. W.T.,
Canada, Dec. 16, 1897.

In answer to many inquiries pertaining to this region by intending settlers from Utah and surrounding states, I submit the following for publication, if you deem it worthy of space in your columns:

Distance and Route—The distance from Salt Lake City to this place is seven hundred miles almost direct north, coming by way of Idaho Falls, Idaho; Dillon, Boulder, and Helena, Mont.

Settlers' Effects—Settlers can bring in free of duty what teams and vehicles are necessary to transport their families, and the following effects, viz.: Household goods, clothing, tools, farming machinery and utensils, sixteen head of horned stock or horses, or part of each, or one hundred and sixty head of sheep, common stock, and as many pedigreed cattle or horses as desired.

Homestead Entries—Any male over eighteen years of age, or head of a family, can any time after passing the port of entry, file on one hundred and sixty acres of land, and secure the same from the government, by paying a fee of ten dollars, and residing a period of six months in each year for three years on the land, with a reasonable amount of cultivation, and improvements.

Lands Obtained by Purchase—Lands can be bought from railroad companies and others, for about three dollars per acre in ten annual instalments and paying six per cent interest, or less for cash down.

Farms to Rent—A few farms with residence, teams and seed, can be rented on moderate terms, or unimproved land can be had near this place, those farming it furnishing everything.

Mechanics—There are still openings for blacksmiths, carpenters, tailors, shoemakers and a tinner. All of these who can emigrate themselves, have their own tools, and be able to supply themselves with stock in trade can do well here. Material for working up

by the above, can be obtained more advantageously in eastern Canada than by importing from the United States.

Literary—A few school teachers, who have the necessary qualifications to obtain certificate from the board of instruction in this Dominion, can find permanent remunerative positions.

Climate—The climate on the whole compares very favorably with the lower valleys of Utah, being more subject to changes here, on account of the sea breezes from the Pacific ocean, the snow fall in winter being lighter, and rain in summer more abundant. All kinds of stock are able to subsist on the prairies through the winters with few exceptions.

Soil—The soil generally is a rich black loam, from six to eighteen inches deep, with clay subsoil, requiring no irrigation for small grains and vegetables. The country as a whole is made up of level and undulating prairie, and rolling hills.

Water—There is abundance of water in the country, which can be applied on the land cheaply and to good advantage, if operated on a large scale, which no doubt will be utilized in the future for the production of hay, fruit trees, etc. Small fruits especially do well here.

Crops—Small grains and hardy vegetables are the most profitable crops at present, both of these being produced in immense quantities the past season, for the amount of acreage cultivated, wheat averaging thirty-five to forty bushels per acre, and oats, barley and vegetables proportionately.

Inspection of Stock—Those bringing live stock would do well to have them inspected before leaving their former homes, and bring inspector's certificates with them, and thus avoid delay at the boundary line.

The Canadian government is very liberal with home-seekers, and encourages all lovers of law and order without special regard to creed or color.

SYLVESTER LOW.

YELLOW FEVER DISTRICT.

Sturges, Miss., Dec. 19th, 1897.

President F. T. Pomeroy and his companion, Elder Thomas Condie, of the Missouri conference, spent quite a while with us during the quarantine on account of yellow fever. We think there are few such men anywhere in the mission field; certainly, they have no superiors in self-devotion and energy in the cause. We feel that we have been greatly blessed with their counsel and advice. During the yellow-fever scare, Elders Pomeroy and Condie fasted five days, having requested the Elders of this the Missouri conference to fast at the same time, that the epidemic then raging might be stayed. That self-sacrifice and the prayers of the Elders were doubtless the means, in the hands of God, in protecting the Elders from the scourge, and staying its ravages in the state. At any rate, it was not so malignant as it was in 1878 in Memphis, Tenn., and various places in Missouri. The Scriptures inform us that the effectual, fervent prayers of the righteous avail much. Not an Elder, so far as I know, was affected by the disease, although some of them were very near its ravages.

We were in hopes that Elders Lyman and Cowley in their tour through the South would hold conference near enough to us, that some of us at least could enjoy the benefit of the counsels of these Apostles. But as they will hold forth in Jackson, more than 100 miles away, we must forego the pleasure for this time.

H. F. DOTSON.

At Boise, Idaho, Thursday, J. A. Hudson, while in an angry mood, shot and slightly wounded John and James Marshall. The shooter is in jail.