



GEORGE Q. CANNON.....EDITOR

Wednesday,....Sept. 29, 1869.

## NOTICE

ALL the members of Zion's Camp, who can conveniently come, are invited to attend the approaching Semi-Annual Conference, to be held in this city, October 6th, and to receive the hospitalities of Bishop Hunter and counselors, at the Social Hall, at the close of the Conference.

## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

At 11.30 on the morning of Thursday, the 16th inst., Presidents B. Young, Geo. A. Smith and D. H. Wells, and Elders W. Woodruff, Geo. Q. Cannon, President Joseph Young, sen., and Elders J. Squires, H. J. Faust and J. H. Smith, left the city for the purpose of holding a two days' meeting at Heber City, Wasatch county, visiting the settlements on the Weber river and dedicating the new meeting house at Coalville. Stopping to dine and to feed the animals at American Fork, where the Elders were hospitably entertained by Bishop L. E. Harrington, the company reached Provo at dark. The next morning, the 17th, accompanied by Bishop A. O. Smoot, the company left Provo for Heber city. This place is situated in a small valley known as Provo valley, about 28 miles from Provo city. The road for nearly the entire distance runs up the cañon of the Provo. To reach the canyon, in Provo city, a mountain has to be climbed, from which a grand view is obtained of Utah Lake and valley and many of the settlements. Admirers of the picturesque and beautiful are amply repaid for the trouble of climbing by the magnificent view which they obtain of mountains, lake and valley; but in the case of wood haulers, and others who have frequent occasion to pass in and out of the cañon with loaded wagons, the romance soon wears off; and for their sakes we were glad to learn that the building of a new road is contemplated, by which the ascent of this mountain can be avoided.

The road up Provo canyon is a very excellent one, and when the rugged nature of the country, through which it passes, and the violent character of the stream on whose edge it is built are considered, it is a great credit to its builders. The people of Provo City keep it in repair to a point supposed to be near the boundary line of Utah and Wasatch counties, and the citizens of Heber City and Midway perform labor on it from their end to that point, and also from their settlements up the stream—a labor of no small magnitude for them. Though this road may be occasionally blocked by snow slides there is no reason why the citizens of Provo valley should not, by it, be able to keep communication open through the winter between their settlements and Utah valley. In other lands this cañon would be a place of resort for its fine scenery. A grand waterfall is formed by a stream nearly as large as City Creek tumbling over the precipitous side of the mountain, several hundred feet in height, and other tiny ones pour over its bold front, looking like ribbons of silver as they descend to the bottom of the canyon.

After ascending the cañon some ten or twelve miles the country became more open, and the mountains on each side of the stream were not so high, bold and precipitous as they were lower down. Excellent feed covered them, and large flocks of cattle and sheep can be kept on them to advantage through the summer. From the point of which we speak until we reached Heber City the most striking feature, from a utilitarian stand point, is the great abundance of grass. Excellent meadows are to be found in the bottoms, and the finest of grazing on the surrounding hills. Before reaching Heber City we came to

a considerable quantity of land fenced in for cultivation and the production of hay, and at every place, as well as Heber City, there were the most satisfactory evidences of the excellence of the crops to be seen in the huge stacks of grain and hay which stood in the vicinity of every house. The season has been a most bounteous one, and the people should now profit by past experience and store away at least two years' supply of grain.

On the opposite side of the river from the road which we travelled and close to the base of the mountains, nestled the little flourishing town of Midway. This place is distant from Heber City about four miles, and is seen by a person coming from below some time before a glimpse is obtained of the latter place. We intended to visit Midway, but the storm on Saturday prevented our doing so. It is well worth a visit to see the remarkable mounds which are formed by the springs in the neighborhood. We were told that it is not more than eight miles from Midway to the lake at the head of Big Cottonwood Canyon, and that there is a trail across the mountains between the two points. In these mountains, on the side nearest to Midway, a fine quality of marble has been found.

At the edge of Heber City the President and his company were met by the children and an escort, and the usual demonstrations of welcome were extended to them.

BISHOP Abram Hatch, who presides in Provo valley, and the people generally, gave the President and his company a hospitable reception. They were made welcome to the best they had, and they felt that they were in the midst of warm and devoted friends. During the latter part of the journey from Provo city the wind had blown an equinoctial gale, carrying with it such clouds of dust that upon arriving at Heber it was difficult to distinguish one of the company from another by the features. The wind continued to blow with great violence through the afternoon and night, and it seemed probable that the bowery which had been erected for the purpose of convening the people would have to be abandoned. During the evening the company was joined by Elders Brigham Young, Jr., and Robert T. Burton.

At ten a.m. on Saturday morning the Elders and people assembled in the Bowery, which had been made as comfortable as possible by surrounding the sides with quantities of bushes. Presidents D. H. Wells, Joseph Young, sen., and Elders Geo. Q. Cannon, W. Woodruff and Presidents Geo. A. Smith and B. Young addressed the people upon a greater variety of practical subjects. The addresses were brief and pointed, and consequently interesting. When the meeting was about half through it was necessary, in consequence of the violence of the wind and the clouds of dust which filled the air, to adjourn to the stone schoolhouse, at the side of which the Bowery was built. Throughout the afternoon and night the rain fell freely, and on Sunday morning the surrounding mountains and hills were white to their bases with snow.

In the evening of Saturday agricultural addresses were delivered at the schoolhouse by Elders W. Woodruff, H. J. Faust and A. O. Smoot. We do not recollect ever listening with greater pleasure to addresses of this character than we did that evening. They were eminently practical, well adapted to the audience and, withal, humorous. We wished the people of the entire Territory could have heard them; for upon the correct carrying out of the views they enunciated on the subject of the cultivation of the ground, the selection, the propagation and the proper care of horses, cattle and sheep, our future prosperity depends. Such subjects will bear considerable ventilation, and there is a crying necessity for their thorough discussion in our midst. The ignorance which prevails respecting them in some places is a serious obstacle in the way of the progress of the people. Many who are not ignorant are careless, and in such case the result is equally bad.

Sunday was a beautiful day, but the ground was too damp to admit of the bowery being used, so the schoolhouse was again occupied, the women being seated inside the building, and the men crowding the aisles, the windows and every place within earshot of the speakers. President G. A. Smith, Elder B. Young, Jr., President B. Young and Elder W. Woodruff addressed the people. Their remarks were very instructive and were listened to with profound attention. An appointment having been sent to Kamas, that a meeting would be held there in the evening, the meeting was adjourned at half past one to give time

to partake of refreshments and to reach Kamas.

Heber City and neighborhood are admirably adapted for the raising of stock and the manufacture of butter and cheese. The grass is sweet and nutritious, and the butter made there is very excellent. Under the skillful and very able guidance of Bishop Abram Hatch, in availing themselves of the abundant facilities which abound in that region, the people should soon become wealthy. Fuel and timber are convenient, and as fine a red sandstone is within easy distance of the city as any that we have seen in these mountains. It is found in seams of almost any thickness, is easily quarried, and rock of any size can be obtained for steps, flagging or any other purpose, which requires but little work with the chisel to make it ready for use. Already there are several fine stone houses built, and if a proper degree of enterprise be manifested they will have as elegant public buildings, residences, barns and fences in Heber City as can be found in any country. The materials are already there in any needed quantities to accomplish this, and they only await the skill and industry of men to bring them forth and give them shape and beauty.

We anticipate profitable results from the coming Fair, to be held in this city on the 4th and 5th proximo, for such places as Heber City. If stock-raisers take the interest in it which they should, we shall have a fine display. The people who live in good dairy and grazing districts, if they come to the Fair, will get their ideas brightened in relation to the best kinds of animals for them to breed. They can learn if they will, that the breeding of scrub horses, cattle and sheep is not profitable, and that improved breeds, though the first cost may seem excessive, are in the end infinitely more profitable and satisfactory. When our farmers and stockmen become thoroughly imbued with this idea, then, and not till then, will the business of stock-raising become a valuable interest in our Territory.

KAMAS is distant from Heber City about fifteen miles. The road thither runs up the Provo for about nine miles, it then leaves the stream and ascends a mountain which is long and steep and difficult to climb. From the top of this mountain the view is very fine. Large bodies of timber cover the mountains in the direction of Uintah valley, from which very excellent lumber can be made, much better than is usually found in many parts of the Territory. The descent into the valley is easy. After climbing such a mountain as we did, a stranger to the character of this country would never expect to find a habitable valley like this of Kamas in the tops of the mountains. To reach the settlement, which was near the base of the east mountains, we drove across the valley.

Kamas, or Rhoads valley—named thus after Bro. Thomas Rhoads, who first settled there, and who was a mighty hunter of grizzly bears—is famous for the superiority and extent of its range, and as we traveled through the fine grass, which grew so luxuriantly on every hand, and observed the sleek looking cattle and horses on the range it needed no further evidence to assure us that its advantages in this respect, had not been overrated.

The principal portion of the settlers of Kamas reside in a Fort of hewed logs, which was erected as a protection against the depredations and attacks of Indians. Outside the Fort the children and many of the adults were ranged on each side of the road with banners to welcome the President and company, and when we drove inside the brethren took us into their friendly charge and led us off to partake of their hospitality.

At 7 p.m. the people assembled at the meeting house; Sister McCormick having died the previous day a funeral discourse was delivered by President Joseph Young. He was followed by President D. H. Wells, Elder Geo. Q. Cannon and President Brigham Young. This visit was a cause of much pleasure to the residents of Kamas, as it was the first time the First Presidency and Twelve had been there; the encouraging and instructive remarks of President B. Young at the meeting was especially gratifying to them. Bro. Willet Herber is presiding at this point.

On Monday morning, the 20th, President B. Young and a portion of the company went to the south end of the valley, through which the head waters of Provo run, to examine the country, while the remainder, crossing the Weber river which runs through the north end of the valley, proceeded down that river. Passing the little settlement of Peoa, on the Weber, they proceeded to Three Mile Cañon, at

which place an appointment for a meeting had been made. The people of that and the surrounding neighborhoods having assembled they were addressed by President Joseph Young, Elder W. Woodruff, Presidents George A. Smith and D. H. Wells, Elders Geo. Q. Cannon, B. Young, Jr., and President Brigham Young, who had arrived while the meeting was in progress.

This meeting ended, the company drove to Wanship, where an appointment had been made for a meeting at two p.m. The house was crowded with the people, and they were addressed by Presidents Geo. A. Smith and D. H. Wells, Elder W. Woodruff and President B. Young. Elder Franklin D. Richards, also, who had come up from Ogden for the purpose of joining the party, addressed the congregation. After dinner the company drove to Coalville, where they met with the demonstrations of welcome which they had received at Wanship, and which are now universally extended to Prest. Young and company in every settlement which they visit throughout the Territory.

At 7 p.m. a meeting was held in the elegant new meeting house which has just been completed at this flourishing little city. Elders Geo. Q. Cannon, Joseph Young, sen., and Robert T. Burton addressed the assemblage. At 10 a.m. on Tuesday many of the people from the surrounding settlements, as well as the citizens of Coalville, had assembled in the meeting house to witness the dedication of the building which they had erected for the worship of the Lord God. President D. H. Wells offered the dedicatory prayer, and Presidents Geo. A. Smith and Brigham Young delivered addresses of nearly an hour's length each. Directly after the meeting the company started on its return to Salt Lake City. At Bishop Hardy's, Parley's Cañon, while waiting for the moon to rise, the party partook of supper, and driving on reached the city at 11 p.m.

This trip has been a most interesting one to the various members of the party. The region visited has not been seen for years by them; the most of the settlements, therefore, were entirely new, and those of them which were not new had changed so much since last seen as to be scarcely recognizable. For years after Salt Lake valley was settled, but few imagined that the valley of the Provo and Weber could be settled by agriculturists. When those valleys were first known to our people there was no month of the year without frost, and it required considerable faith to believe that grain, vegetables and fruits could ever be produced there. But at Heber City we saw as fine melons and cucumbers as those grown in this valley. Fruit, also, is coming forward, and a great change, which is evident to every person familiar with the country, has taken place in the seasons throughout all the settled portions of those valleys.

Weber valley is destined to be a rich and flourishing region. It is narrow and affords but a limited supply of arable land on each side of the stream; but that is fertile. The range on the hills for stock is very fine, and the facilities for building and other improvements are excellent. Fuel, both wood and coal, is plentiful and is easily procured. The rock of this entire region is of excellent quality, is easily worked and is convenient to the settlements. It is principally white sandstone, and hardens by exposure to the air. Fine dwellings of this material are springing up everywhere, but particularly at Coalville, where the improvements made are of a substantial character. Wanship and Coalville both wear an air of thrift and prosperity, and must eventually, we think, become important points. Coalville is wealthy in her mines, which affords remunerative labor to her increasing population. It will be but a few years, if the people carry out their principles and the instructions they receive, until log houses will almost be unknown, and in their stead will be seen elegant residences of stone. The residence of S. P. Hoyt, Esq., of Hoytville, between Coalville and Wanship, is already probably the finest and most expensive house between the Wasatch mountains and the Missouri river. It is built of cut white sandstone, and, when completed, will be a credit to the country.

The meeting house at Coalville when commenced was thought by many to be unnecessarily large; but now that it is finished it is found to be too small. Population has increased beyond the expectations of many at the time its foundation stones were laid. It is a chaste, elegant building, beautifully finished, and is a credit to the place; but worshippers already want more room.