

## OGDEN VALLEY.

The "X-ws" Correspondent Tells of its People and Characteristics.

*Editor Deseret News:*  
Ogden valley is one of those pleasant Utah summer resorts which in the winter season is seldom visited by persons whose homes are situated in warmer climates. Often, in past seasons, when the roads in the valley below would be dry and dusty, snow would cover the ground in this more elevated valley to the depth of several feet. This winter, however, has so far been an exception to the general rule, as there is hardly snow enough here at present to afford a comfortable sleigh ride. In driving up from Ogden the 21st inst. I found the road dry and almost dusty in places until I reached the mouth of the canyon; thence for the next three miles it was slippery and hard with frost, until the snow limits were reached near the point where the "Mormon," a favorite summer resort for Ogdenites, stands in the shade of a massive rock. From there until Ogden valley is reached, the snow was somewhat deep, and the wind, which blew as I passed up, cold and piercing. But on reaching the open valley the atmosphere at once became milder, and the temperature about same time quite attractive. Of the thirteen streams which intervene between Ogden and Huntsville there is about eight miles of canyon road proper, the distance from Ogden to the mouth of the canyon being about twelve miles, and Huntsville is situated about six miles above the head of the canyon. The road only crosses this river twice.

Ogden Valley is about fifteen miles long, extending from northwest to southeast, and an average width of about four miles; its mean altitude above sea level is about 5,000 feet, or nearly 170 feet above the Great Salt Lake; consequently only the harder kinds of fruit, grain and vegetables can be raised here. The climate of the valley is considerably broken by the three main forks of the Ogden river and their smaller tributaries which cut through the country. These three main streams, respectively known as the South, Middle and North fork, for the Ogden river, rise immediately above the head of the canyon where they all come together to form one main channel, which during the long centuries past has cut through the main range of the Wasatch mountains in order to send the waters from the melting snows in the mountain systems farther east into the great inland sea, which from the enormous Lake Bonneville finally confined itself to the basin of the smaller and lower Salt Lake. The Ogden river drains an extensive mountain country lying east and northeast of the valley of the same name. The latter was undoubtedly formed by the prehistoric times by the action of the ice, and the water which must have accumulated here before an undrained channel was cut through the mountains westward.

Huntsville, the principal settlement in Ogden Valley, is a beautiful site on an elevated bank lying between the South Fork and Spring creek. The town is built in regular right angles, the streets crossing each other at right angles, forming the public square from the north side of the Huntsville meetinghouse, a fine brick structure with a lofty and finely shaped tower on the south end. Immediately east of this lies a recently erected two-story schoolhouse, one of the finest country schools in the county, and west of the public square stands the old rock meetinghouse, which was used for many years for meetings, school, and church services. There are quite a number of handsome and comfortable dwellings in Huntsville, and nearly every settler has large and comfortable stable and barn, which indeed are necessary considering the hard winters experienced in this high altitude. The place has a population of about one thousand people, of whom 64 are white, or 10% families are leather goods, 10% tailors, constituting the largest ward in the Water Stake of Zion town of Ogden City. About three-fourths of the people are of German origin. Huntsville has perhaps furnished as many missionaries for foreign fields as any settlement of the saints in the mountains; and during the recent prosecution of suspended or lost trials, Huntsville seemed to be a favorite rendezvous for the United States deputy marshals who were "uniting the majesty of the law." These adventures, however, did not always find success, as the "tricky descendants of the old Vikings of the far north" often became invincible just as the representatives of the law, after having encamped at night and snows of the canyon at midnight, were seen in the streets of the slumbering village. These experiences, however, now belong to the past, as the good people of Ogden valley are complying with the law, and the slightly raised of marshals and constables are superior to the historical hygiene. The blood of Helga is our general and hospitable friend—David McKay, of Scottish mission fame, and his counselors are Soren L. Petersen and C. F. Schude, who have both made many important missions to their native land. P. C. Green, extensively known from his long missionary career in Denmark, also resides at this place.

After landing on the south coast of England, Lord Tollemache put his wife and children in a cab and himself walked to the station, jumping suddenly before a barbershop, he said to the shopman: "I like the look of that wig in the window. How long would it take to shave my head?" "A quarter of an hour, sir."

"I can give you twenty minutes, and I shall then have five minutes to catch the train."

When he joined his wife and children he had the wig on.

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