

visit the cliff dwellings, some 25 miles distant, but they came too high—\$5 per day for a guide, and \$1.50 for horses. Everything to be packed on horseback. It may do for scientific parties, but is too rich for the blood of a landscape photographer; so the cliff-dwellings were passed and allowed to remain unmolested.

It is an all night ride from Rico to Durango, and from all I could glean nothing of special scenic interest is to be seen, so I slept over it to awake at 3:30 a.m. in Durango, and either hant a hotel or sit in the depot until daylight, which we did. My companion, Prof. Daynes, was soon wrapt in the arms of morpheus on a sumptuous waiting room bench, made of the best hardwood obtainable.

Durango is the largest city in southern Colorado. The smelting industry is its chief support. It is beautifully located on the banks of the Animas river; elevation 6,500 feet, population 2,726. It is the terminus of the Rio Grande Southern—a road that does credit to its promoter and to those whose ability constructed it. It is the highway to reach the Mormon settlements of La Jara and Manassa, and the regions where the wonderful cliff dwellers are found. Mr. Otto Meers is the gentleman who opened up this alpine region to the commerce of the world and the gaze of the tourist. Long may we wave!

Look at the map of southwestern Colorado. You will see that it is at once a land of wonders from a scenic standpoint. Innumerable peaks of great elevation form watersheds to irrigate the barren and dry regions surrounding them. Each canyon and peak possesses attractions peculiar to itself.

No one can afford to visit this point without taking a run up to Silverton, a mining town located in a fine natural basin amid peaks and canyons. The road from Durango up there is a panoramic succession of scenic wonder. It is not surprising the Catholic fathers named it "the river of lost souls," Rhode las Animas Perdidas, when they looked into the abysses through which it runs, and no doubt gave up for lost any poor soul that might fall into them. But we glide today around precipices and in the face of bluffs of frightful height with perfect security. The D. & R. G. runs a branch road up here, and if you wish to return to Ouray without going back to Durango, you can take the Rainbow route and then a stage ride of sixteen miles to Ouray, and you will then be near your starting point.

In the words of the old song, "All are talking of Utah" applies to the citizens we met and conversed with. They all want to see our favored land, and would like to visit it, and stay here if they could. When we bring out our canals, harness our streams and develop all our grand resources we will say, Come on! C. R. SAVAGE.

### ST. GEORGE STAKE CONFERENCE.

Conference commenced on Saturday, June 15th, by the Priesthood of the Stake assembling in St. George tabernacle under the presidency of Stake President Daniel D. McArthur, and

his counselors, Anthony W. Ivins and Erasmus B. Snow.

On the same day the Stake quarterly conference of the Relief Societies convened in St. George lyceum under the presidency of Sister Anna L. I. Ivins and her counselors.

On the evening of Sunday 16th the Stake conference was held of the Improvement associations conjoined with the Sunday schools under the presidency of President Edward H. Snow and Stake Superintendent Richard Morris.

On the morning and afternoon of Sunday and Monday, the 16th and 17th, the meetings of Priesthood and lay members were continued under the presidency of the Stake, each of whom addressed the people, as did also some of the Bishops and other brethren; among the latter returned missionaries Niels Sanberg, Theodore Grai and William O. Bentley.

The spirit of testimony to the truth of the latter-day work rested strongly upon all the speakers. The usual conference business was attended to in the Priesthood meeting; in the Relief Society and in the M. I. A. and Sunday school conferences; also in the Stake conference of Priesthood and people, including the unanimous vote to sustain the general authorities of the Church and the Stake authorities.

In the Sunday afternoon meeting it was announced that because of the death of Sister Julia Hill Ivins, Stake president of the Primary association, Sister Mary Goddard Whitehead had been chosen to that presidency, with Sisters Ann Cannon Woodbury and Mary Lavinia Bentley Woolley as her counselors. This choice was ratified by the unanimous vote of the conference. JAMES G. BLEAK,

Clerk of Conference.

### COAL MINE VICTIMS.

RED CANYON, Uinta, Wyo.,  
June 21, 1895.

Dear Sir—John W. Sammon, Esq., clerk of the third district court, Evanston, Wyoming, held a meeting with the widows and dependents of the late Red Canyon disaster last evening in the T. of H. hall, Almy, to consider the answer of the Rocky Mountain Coal and Iron company to the claims of the widows which had been presented to them through their agents, Mr. Bradbury and Mr. Beeman, by Mr. Sammon.

The company's reply to each of the widows is as follows:

"Madam—The directors of the R. M. C. & I. Co. have carefully considered the claim made upon them by Mr. J. W. Sammon to your behalf for damages on account of the explosion in Mine No. 5; and after a thorough investigation of the causes of the explosion have concluded that they are in no way responsible. They have gone over the matter with their attorney and are unable to discover even a shadow of legal liability on their part.

"However, it is the sentiment of the company that a feeling of humanity should and does impel it to make provision for the relief of those left destitute, and if you will make personal application direct to the company it will be duly considered. The company does not care to entertain any

claim made through an attorney on the basis of a legal liability.

Yours respectfully,  
NEWELL BEEMAN."

Mr. Sammon said he had had an interview with Mr. Beeman on the subject of the widow's claims and that gentleman, in behalf of the company, offered one thousand dollars per head to the bereaved families as a free humane gift and not in any way acknowledging the company to be liable for damages; but after further interpleading Mr. Beeman raised the offer to fifteen hundred dollars per head. At this part of the proceedings Mr. Sammon said he would like to hear what the widows had to say, whether they were willing to accept the offer Mr. Beeman had made in accordance with the company's reply to their claims. The Finlander widows were fully instructed by one of their own countrymen and the unanimous decision they gave was: "We are prepared to accept three thousand dollars each and costs as an immediate settlement of our claims on the company or take legal proceedings against them to recover damages."

Mr. Sammon next laid before the meeting the position in which he stood in this case with the company. He said he had done all he could do with them and the only course left for the widows and other dependents to take was to engage four attorneys through whom their claims on the company could be legally brought. After many questions were asked and answered on the legal points of the law, courts and costs of suits, the decision of the meeting was given in the following order: "That John W. Sammon engage four attorneys to consider our case, under the instruction of himself, and that they be Messrs. Lacey and Van Deventer, of Cheyenne, and S. T. Coru and J. C. Hamm, of Evanston."

The whole of the audience expressed full confidence in Mr. Sammon and were satisfied with the course he had taken and wished it distinctly understood that the attorneys were not to endorse any amount less than three thousand dollars and costs.

RICHARD R. HODGSON.

### WASATCH SUNDAY SCHOOL CONFERENCE.

The annual Sunday school conference of Wasatch Stake, was held June 15th and 16th in the Stake house at Heber. Present on the stand, Elders George Goddard and Karl G. Maeser, of the general superintendency, L. E. Eggersten and Elder Rawlings, of the Utah Stake superintendency, and local officers, Superintendent J. H. Lambert presiding. The latter made an opening address of welcome to visiting brethren; and Elder Goddard addressed the meeting, saying that the Sunday school organization was the largest one in the Church; he recommended music in the Sunday schools and closed by singing "Our Lovely Deseret."

The schools of Midway and Wallburg were reported by their superintendents, after which L. E. Eggersten, of Utah Stake, was the speaker, being followed by Elder Karl G. Maeser, who remarked that he always wanted to be included with the children, because, as the Savior said, the Kingdom of hea-