

valley. Be it said to her credit that Wyoming has always treated our people fairly and justly, while her neighbor Idaho has exhibited a hatred and vindictiveness towards some of her best citizens that would be more in keeping with the spirit of the dark middle ages than that of the nineteenth century. A few months ago some of the county officials from Evanston visited Star valley and courted the acquaintance of our people there, and they were highly pleased with the thrift and industry visible on every hand, and the wonderful progress which had been made in so short a time.

Star valley now contains five organized wards of the Church, all belonging to the Bear Lake Stake of Zion with a total membership of 906, distributed among 174 families.

Afton Ward, the largest ward of the valley, has 61 families of Saints or 393 members. It includes the town of Afton and the settlers living on their farms and ranches for miles around. The townsite is one of the finest in the mountains, and is being built up as fast as the people secure the titles to their land. This town was first settled in 1885, and has the only flouring mill in the valley; also a saw mill and planing mill, owned and operated by Archibald Gardner. There are also two stores dealing in general merchandise and one furniture store. Charles D. Cazier presides as Bishop of the ward, with Archibald Gardner, late of Salt Lake county, Utah, as his Counselor. Brother Cazier was the first presiding Elder in the valley and until two years ago, when four new wards were organized, he presided as Bishop over all the Saints in Star Valley. The town of Afton is about 45 miles northeast of Montpelier.

Grover ward embraces the north end of Star Valley on the east side of Salt river. It has thirty families, or 204 members, a part of whom reside in the village of Grover (thus named in honor of President Grover Cleveland) which lies near the foot of the mountains, four and a half miles north of Afton. Ole Jensen presides here as Bishop with Edmund Epworth and Edward Thurman as his Counselors.

Auburn ward lies on the opposite side of the river from Grover, and consists of forty families or 183 members, presided over by Joseph H. Holbrook as Bishop. This is the oldest settlement in the valley, dating back to 1879, when the first settlers came in on pack animals and made the first permanent location. Stock raising is the chief industry of the people here, and no grain has been produced until the present season, when a Mr. Kingston raised a crop of small grain on a town lot. Auburn can boast of having the only rock meeting house in the valley, and in fact the only rock building of any kind here, all the dwellings of the settlers so far being the primitive pioneer cabins, and a few lumber and sawed log buildings. The town of Auburn is situated on a level tract of country on Stump creek, two and one-half miles east of the boundary line between Wyoming and Idaho, three and one-half miles east of Grover and eight and one-half miles by road northwest of Afton.

Fairview ward, with twenty-nine families, or 127 members, embraces a

fine tract of country irrigated by the water of Crow creek, on the west side of the valley. The townsite of Fairview, on which only a few houses have been built so far, is pleasantly situated on Crow creek, near the mouth of Crow Creek canyon, five miles southwest of Afton and forty miles northeast of Montpelier. John C. Dewey, Jr., presides here as Bishop.

Cottonwood ward, having fourteen families, or eighty-nine members, embraces the south end of Star Valley, and consists of the scattered settlers living on Cottonwood creek and Salt river, principally on the east side of the latter stream. This end of the valley is considered warmer than the north end and good grain is raised. The Saints here have nearly completed their first meeting house, a small log building standing near the centre of the ward, at a point seven and a half miles south of Afton and about three miles from the south end of the valley. William Parsons is the Bishop of Cottonwood ward, and Thomas Walton is his only Counselor and also acts as ward clerk.

In the night between the 30th of September and 1st of October, the valley was visited by a heavy snow storm—the first of the season. It was quite a curious sight in the morning of the 1st to see the shocks of grain standing ungathered in the fields covered with six inches of snow; but the farmers here don't seem to be alarmed over the prospects on this account, as they have experienced similar things before. Throughout the entire valley a better crop has been raised this year than ever before, and during the last few years the climate has become milder and better every season, and the prospects are that Star Valley, in the near future, will stand second to none of the valleys of similar altitude and latitude. Shade trees are already being set out in Afton and other places, which in due course of time will be followed by the harder kinds of fruit trees, and the valley thus changed from its present somewhat naked and bleak appearance. The smaller fruits are doing well, and Brother Arthur Roberts also showed me some of the finest potatoes, turnips, rutabagas and other vegetables that I have ever seen grown in the mountains.

ANDREW JENSON.

STAR VALLEY, Uintah County,
Wyoming, October 6, 1891.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

DUN & Co., in their report for the week ending October 10, 1891, state that business is improving in all Eastern centres. A notable feature in trade is the absence of all speculative excitement in every department. Failures are rather numerous, but are in nearly all cases the results of a long continued strain since the foreign disasters of last November. The volume of trade is, however, large, though prices are low, profits small, and competition severe. Collections are reported slow in some places. It is estimated that \$12,000,000 in gold has already arrived from Europe, and nearly \$5,000,000 more on the way hither.

In the Northwest wet weather did some damage to unthreshed wheat.

Cotton is reported progressing. Iron is firm in tone. Wool at Boston is quiet, but general business is good, with ample supplies of money. At other Eastern points trade is reported fairly active. At Chicago, trade thus far this year exceeds that of all previous years.

Receipts of wheat are four times that of last year's, of rye ten times, and of wool double. All through the West and South improvements in trade is general. Heavy receipts of cotton are noted at southern cities.

Speculation in breadstuffs has been less active, but wheat has advanced nearly two per cent, with sales of only 29,000,000 bushels, while corn has declined one and a quarter cents and oats an eighth.

Little change in the supply of currency has been made by the treasury. The volume now in circulation is about 1,530,000,000, a gain of 30,000,000 for September. Labor is well employed. Fear of trouble at Fall river has passed. The coal strike at Pittsburg throws out of employment 10,000 miners.

Business failures for the week mentioned were, in the United States, 240 and in Canada thirty. For the corresponding week last year, the figures were 186 for the United States and twenty-nine for Canada.

NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE.

We are in receipt of the minutes of the North Carolina Conference held in Surrey County, Sept. 19 and 20. The report as prepared is too voluminous for publication. There were present at the conference Elder J. G. Kimball, president of the Southern States mission, Elder R. A. Ure, president of the North Carolina conference, and traveling Elders A. J. Gray, F. W. Morgan, Presley Young, J. C. Robinson, Peter M. Folkman, Moses A. Holbrook and James Nelson.

The advice of Presidents Kimball and Ure were timely and wise, and their encouraging remarks gave much satisfaction and comfort. On Sunday afternoon the Elders' fields were changed, but the later arrival of two new Elders—M. J. Bartholomew and N. P. Lee—necessitated the following new appointments: Elders Gray and Lee to Carroll, Patrick and adjoining counties of Virginia; Elders Young and Bartholomew to Surry, Stokes, Wilkes and Alexander counties; Elder Morgan and Robinson to Rowan county, and Elders Folkman and Holbrook to Gilead and Allamance counties, North Carolina; President Ure and Elder Nelson to Pittsylvania and Halifax counties, Virginia, and Person and Caswell counties North Carolina.

The able management of President Ure and his predecessor has put the conference in prime condition.

The health of the Elders is excellent, generally, and their ambition to do good equal to any emergency or hardship. They are enjoying their labors and feel encouraged with the future prospects for carrying the glad news into new parts. Among the things which cheer and comfort the missionaries is the weekly arrival of the pioneer paper of the Rockies.

A. J. G.
SURRY COUNTY, N. C., Sept. 21, 1891.