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A TEACHER.

Preachers have preached me sermons,
I have slept their sermons through;
All my relations have lectured,
My friends have lectured too.

My foes have given me warnings,
And I have taken them not;
Friends and foes and relations
I never heeded a jot.

Their words were the essence of wisdom,
There was nothing they didn't foresee;
And not one atom of all they said
Has ever remained with me.

They were staid and pallid and solemn,
They were gray and wrinkled and old;
My teacher has cheeks of roses
And hair of the sun's own gold.

His words run into each other,
He stammer and bubbles and cries;
He doesn't know he is powerful,
He never dreams he is wise.

But in three short years he has taught me
More than those graybeards staid
Had taught in the seven and thirty
Before he came to their aid.

—New York Independent.

AMONG THE MORMONS.

[Reading, Penn., Herald.]

On the morning of the 12th when we woke up and went to breakfast we found ourselves in the great Utah valley. It had seemed as though we would never get out of Colorado, but we were out of it at last. When we did get out of it we were better able than before to realize what we had so often heard before, that it was larger than both New York and Pennsylvania combined. When we got into the Utah valley we were in the land of the Mormons, and a beautiful land it was, most pleasing and gladdening to the eyes, though it was deeply covered with snow. The valley, which is from ten to fifty miles wide, is as level as a parlor floor, walled in by lofty mountains. All around as we looked from the windows were such evidence of wealth, thrift and prosperity as we had seen nowhere else in the West; comfortable houses, surrounded by orchards and gardens; big barns well filled and every sign of a prosperous, happy people. It was a sight that the eye did not seem to tire of and everybody marvelled at the good sense of the Mormons in choosing such a land

for their dwelling-place. For several hours we bowled along the floor of this beautiful valley, until 11 o'clock, when our magnificent Wagner special rolled into Salt Lake, the marvelous city of the Latter-day Saints, of which I will talk hereafter.

I want to say that in my humble judgment there cannot be trotted out a railroad ride in the world that equals that between Denver and Salt Lake City over the Denver & Rio Grande and the Rio Grande & Western, and when in addition you are enabled to make it with all the comforts that can be supplied in those modern traveling palaces—the Wagner cars, with the best possible opportunities of observation—it is the event of a lifetime, and I want to say, too, to all the people who have never traveled west that Salt Lake City and Mormondom generally will fill them with the most delightful surprises, producing impressions that will ever be recalled with pleasure.

A LONG-HEADED PROPHET.

You are struck everywhere with the long-headedness and sagacity of Brigham Young. He may not have been a prophet, nor have received revelations from God, but he knew how to found and build up a community that will always make him one of the noted men in the history of this country. There are no more prosperous people today under the sun than his followers. Whatever may be thought of his religion, as a long-headed business man, as a manager of men, in his ability to look into the future and to lay and carry out comprehensive plans on broad foundations, he has few equals in the world's history.

THE HOSPITABLE SALT LAKERS.

Our reception at Salt Lake City was a most generous and hospitable one. A large committee of the press, the chamber of commerce and leading business men took us in charge. We were driven in sleighs and carriages from the railroad station to the magnificent Hotel Knutsford, one of the finest in the West, and after a half hour's rest were taken in carriages and driven to all the points of interest in the city, including the famous Mormon temple and tabernacle. Coming back to the hotel luncheon was taken, when there was an eighteen mile excursion on a special train to the shores of the great Salt Lake,

and later in the evening an excursion to the newly discovered gas wells—eight miles from the city—where a well, blowing at a pressure of 150 pounds, was lit for our benefit, producing a grand and beautiful sight. This discovery of natural gas, if it should be followed by further development of the Territory, will give a marvelous impetus to Salt Lake City and the Territory.

A NOTABLE CONCERT.

Rushing back from the gas wells we were taken immediately to the Mormon Tabernacle, where a special concert was gotten up in our honor. Ranging up on each side of the great organ, which is the second largest in the world, was a choir of 600 voices. I can imagine nothing more impressive in the way of a musical performance than was this. In this gigantic building, shaped like an egg, capable of seating 10,000 persons, and with acoustic properties so perfect that you can hear a pin drop, or a whisper from one end of it to another, to hear such a marvelous choir, to the accompaniment of the great organ played by one of the world's experts, created an impression never to be effaced. It was one of the greatest treats of a trip that was full of wonders. It is said that there is not a better choir in the world than the one that sings in this temple, and from the quality of the solos that were rendered we could well believe the statement that is made, that in Salt Lake City there is as high an order of musical talent as in any city of the country.

A BANQUET IN MORMONTOWN.

At the close of the concert our party were tendered a banquet by the citizens of Salt Lake at the Hotel Knutsford. We were welcomed to the Territory by Governor Thomas, and speeches were made by the president of the Chamber of Commerce, Judge Goodwin, editor of the Salt Lake Tribune, ex-Congressman Cannon, a leading Elder of the Mormon Church, and other distinguished citizens. Judge Powers, of the United States court, presided at the banquet. The reception committee was composed of both Mormons and Gentiles, and all united in extending a hearty welcome and extolling the greatness of the Territory.

MORMONS AND GENTILES.

In the speeches frequent reference was made to the Mormon question, and to the admission of the Territory as a State. Judging from the ap-