

Correspondence.

COALVILLE, UTAH TERRITORY, June 21st, 1869.

Editor Evening News.—Dear Sir,—As you were pleased to print the communication I sent a few days since, I take the liberty of sending again. As I am passing through your country and gathering up the wonders of God's glorious and beautiful world, I may occasionally jot down a few lines that may prove interesting to some minds among your various readers.

In riding along I sometimes become weary in holding the head so long up, gazing on these mountains upon mountains, and trying and ever vainly trying to take them in. How childish the idea of this region as gathered from maps of the "latest edition." There they, the Rocky Mountains, are all marked out. Does not every one know all about them? Can they not be seen? But when you come to the Rocky Mountains, you will find your latest edition maps need re-constructing. From the time you strike the Medicine Bow Mountains, the eastern range of the Rocky Mountains, until you leave the Great Bear Mountains, the western range of the Rocky Mountains, you have upwards of four hundred miles in width of mountains. These ranges run in every possible direction; and as you climb to the highest summit, it is but to behold a vast area extending to the horizon, covered with peaks, and occasionally a loftier range upon whose sides the snows yet linger. Fire and water are the prominent agencies whose effects are everywhere visible here. As a whole these mountains cannot be described. We must confine ourselves to some particular localities, and only make a rude sketch of these. In one place, for miles, there is as if some great ocean had rolled its long ground swell, and just as they were ready to crest, had stood still in stone. In the back ground is the long graceful curve, then the crest standing out in perpendicular rocks several hundreds of feet in height, and from their base again commences the beautiful curve, thus forming and breaking for miles and miles, until the mind involuntarily falls back into contemplating the forces that have acted upon or the immense periods of time that have passed in the formation of these stupendous exhibitions.

And it is when standing on the edges of these crests and looking down upon the ruins below, that we become deeply impressed with the forces producing the geological changes now altering the features of our planet. The immense rocks scattered all over the plain, at their bases show the agencies of water, frost, air, ice and gravitation. And the vast caverns worn into their sides, hundreds of feet up, show the action of the winds and waters. Some of these are as smooth as if polished by the most skillful and careful hand. Descending from these heights we shall be none the less astonished, though perhaps in a different manner. The rivers for many days are generally so muddy that a glass full of the water can scarcely be seen through. The waters undermine the lowest edge of the banks and then they cleave off and settle perpendicularly down, to be again worn off and again settle down, and so on until that cleavage is washed away; then it commences another. I have seen some places where no less than three of these cleavages were going on at the same time, so that the three great steps were carpeted with green, and the ridges painted in the reddish colored soil. This explains to us the reason of these canyons having their walls so perpendicular and in many places abrupt, also the difficulty of forming bridges and roads in this section.

Turning the eye from these scenes and letting it rest on the vales which skirt the river's brink, it dwells upon a luxuriance as vast as it is exquisite. The wild flowers are seemingly without limit either as to quantity or color. In some places they are in masses, in some they are in small beds. And when we enter the coal mines and walk along through a chamber after chamber, whose walls are made of shining carbon, and see that hundreds of feet of rock are above us, we try to figure to our minds the vast areas of sea weed or of forest, that have grown up, flourished and decayed, to form these dark strata, and the mind is again led into calculations that lead it up to an eternity past, as absolute to our finite comprehension, as the eternity which lies before us.

Thanking God for the privilege of wandering among the wonders of His power and goodness, as displayed in your Territory, I subscribe myself truly yours, a lover of the

CURIOUS AND WONDERFUL.

We are indebted to the courtesy of President George A. Smith for the following:

HARRISBURG, WASHINGTON CO., June 4th, 1869.

Friend Geo. A. Smith.—Dear Brother:—It is a general time of health. Bread is very scarce. Our cotton looked well till yesterday, when the "hoppers" paid us a flying visit and eat it up; some pieces of corn were also destroyed. The "hoppers" have been flying north and south as the wind carried them for some time. On Saturday, the 12th instant, Middleton was visited by large swarms, and much damage was done. At this place, last spring, we lost all our wheat, fruit, young trees and vines. No grapes this year, and we did hope they would rise up alone. But only hope now is to raise a crop of corn; we shall plant as late as August 1st if we can get the seed. Corn is very scarce for seed, being no more than three dollars per bushel. The bread question is quite an important one at present. What is ahead we know not. Our only trust is in Him who rules all things. Our orchards and vineyards are sadly injured, and we shall hardly get a taste of fruit this year. Washington loses one-third of the wheat crop; St. George one-half. The crops being destroyed in the northern settlements, will make it hard for us if we raise no corn.

William Laney, of Harrisburg, was cut off from the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, June 12th 1869, by the High Council at St. George.

The town of Leeds was visited on the 12th instant by the "hoppers," and the fields stripped of cotton and corn. Bennington has changed its name, it is now called Leeds. With assurances of respect I remain your brother,

JAS. LEWIS.

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