



GEORGE Q. CANNON.....EDITOR

Wednesday, June 23, 1869.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

IN CAMP, BLACKSMITH'S FORK,
Monday evening, June 14, 1869.

We left Huntsville about 8 o'clock this morning, accompanied by President Lorin Farr and his brother Judge Aaron Farr, of Ogden, President Francis A. Hammond and his son Francis, Jr., of Huntsville. The people of Ogden kindly sent two wagons, one with four horses and the other with two, to haul the grain for our teams, and camp equipage, and food and bedding for ourselves, for the distance between Huntsville and the first settlement in Bear Lake Valley—St. Charles—is about 72 miles. We started out of Huntsville in a very good-natured mood; the weather was delightful. We were in excellent health and spirits and we had just partaken of a fine breakfast. Wm. H. Hooper, Elder W. Woodruff and myself were traveling companions. Bro. Woodruff prescribed a trout diet for our friend, the Delegate. Fortunately President Hammond had an ample supply of the needed article, and we all thought so highly of the prescription that we concluded to test it ourselves. These mountain trout are delicious, and all felt satisfied that the prescription was an excellent one.

The last time the President and this company traveled on this route was from Bear Lake Valley, in September, 1867. A violent storm broke upon us shortly after leaving Bear Lake Valley, and continued through the day. The evening and night were fine, which made camping out tolerably pleasant; but in the morning we had barely started when it commenced snowing, and it continued until we reached Huntsville.

The contrast between the weather and the appearance of the country at that time and at the present is very striking. We have passed some very fine scenery to-day. Early in the day our road led up a very romantic Cañon; afterwards we crossed several divides and passed through valleys where the feed is exceedingly luxuriant. We have had some charming views. A trip like this we are now taking would be most delightful for those denizens of our city who are closely confined to business during the greater part of the year. By leaving the city, say about the first of August, with the necessary conveniences for camping out, a week or ten days could be spent by families with great advantage to health, in traveling from the city to Bear Lake Valley. The fishing in all these streams is excellent, and ducks are quite plentiful.

This stream is, without exception, the most beautiful and romantic of any in these mountains. The water is as clear as crystal, and a person has only to stand for a few moments on the bank of the river to become satisfied that speckled trout are very numerous. From the point where we cross the stream to where we are now camped—a distance probably of not more than a mile—we have passed a great number of petrified beaver dams, varying from two and three feet to twenty feet in height. In one place there is a succession of these dams, forming a series of beautiful cascades. These dams are undoubtedly the work of beavers. They have built their dams of willow, birch and other materials as is customary with this industrious animal, and tufa has formed upon them and they have gradually petrified. They have continued to build some of them higher and higher until they have reached a great height. By examining the banks you can find considerable quantities of tufa, which has almost the appearance of coral.

Our camp this afternoon and evening is most interesting; it reminds one of old times. Some have taken a swim in the limpid waters of the creek, others are hunting ducks and others, again, are fishing; while the older members of the party are reclining on blankets on

the grass in the shade. The horses are enjoying themselves in splendid feed and the speckled trout can be seen at almost every point.

OGDEN, June 13th, 1869.

The visit of President Young and company created considerable life and animation among the people. The prospects for crops of all kinds in this county are excellent at present. Fruit is especially promising. This is the case also in Davis County. The contrast between the appearance of the trees in these counties and Salt Lake City is very striking. During yesterday the weather was beautiful, and the streets were lined with people coming in from the country to attend the meeting. President Lorenzo Snow came in from Brigham City this morning, and there were many other presiding officers from the surrounding country. The meeting opened at 10 a. m. There were present on the stand, of the first Presidency, Presidents B. Young, Geo. A. Smith and D. H. Wells; of the Twelve Apostles, Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow, Franklin D. Richards, Geo. Q. Cannon and B. Young, Jun.; John Smith, Patriarch, and John W. Young, President of the Stake of Zion at Salt Lake City; and of the local authorities, President Lorin Farr and Bishop C. W. West, and many other elders. After the choir had sung sweetly, for Ogden has not lost its reputation for delightful singing, Elder B. Young, Jr., prayed. The choir again sang, and Presidents Brigham Young and Geo. A. Smith addressed the congregation. Their discourses were reported.

The afternoon was occupied by President D. H. Wells and Elder Wilford Woodruff. At 5 p. m. the School of the Prophets convened, and Presidents B. Young and Geo. A. Smith imparted instruction to the class.

The speakers to-day were Geo. Q. Cannon, B. Young, Jr., Presidents Brigham Young, Geo. A. Smith and Daniel H. Wells. The tabernacle was very much crowded during both meetings, and excellent attention was paid by the people to the instructions, which were delivered with much plainness and power. There were many strangers at the meetings, drawn doubtless by curiosity to hear the character of the teachings and to form some idea of the nature of the attraction which holds the Latter-day Saints together. There was more said upon the first principles of the Gospel at our meetings here than is usual in our visits to the settlements. The spirit evidently led in that direction.

At the close of the afternoon meeting the carriages were driven up to the Tabernacle, and the company took leave of their hospitable hosts, Bishop C. W. West, Presidents Lorin Farr and Franklin D. Richards and the Saints, hundreds of whom crowded around to shake hands with the brethren, who started for Huntsville.

June 13.

The drive up Ogden Canyon is a magnificent one. The time will doubtless come when tourists will travel a long distance to see the picturesque and grand scenery of this canyon. Huntsville is a charming place situated in a lovely valley, known as Ogden Valley. Eden, another beautiful little place, presided over by Brother Richard Ballantyne, lies about three miles to the north of Huntsville. The first feature which strikes the visitor upon emerging from the canyon into the valley, is the splendid character of the meadows and the abundance of feed on the range. The stock look very fine. The remark was made by one of the company on seeing the fine prospect for living here, that if many of the people who now try to live in Salt Lake City could only see how the people live in the country and the opportunities there are for a man to lay the foundation for independence, they would dispose of their property there, invest in young stock and move out. They do not have stock enough here, so President Francis A. Hammond informed me, to occupy their range. The hills around the valley are low, and for about seven miles between the town and the Weber river afford fine range for stock during the summer season.

The Female Relief Society and Sunday School children were drawn out on the side of the road awaiting the arrival of the company. Preceded by President Hammond we drove up to the Meeting House, a fine rock building, which was filled with people. Hon. Wm. H. Hooper, Elders E. T. Benson, Geo. Q. Cannon, President D. H. Wells, Elders W. Woodruff, B. Young, Jr., John W. Young and President Brigham Young all addressed the meeting in a series of brief discourses on a great variety of topics.

The hospitable doors of President F. A. Hammond were thrown open to the members of the company, and they were regaled with a feast of trout. We start for Blacksmith's Fork this morning.

ST. CHARLES, June 15, '69.

Last night, as darkness closed around us, we had a smart shower of rain. The appearance of the sky was very threatening, and we made what preparations we could for a wet night. We found the large Sibley tent, which our kind friends at Ogden had provided for us, a very acceptable shelter. About ten o'clock the rain ceased and the sky cleared off. President Young arose

early and the camp was all astir by a little after three o'clock. President Hammond soon had a fire built, and he proved that he had lost none of his old skill at cooking fish—a skill which I had seen exhibited on many previous occasions when we were fellow missionaries on the Sandwich Islands. His son, Francis, Jr., had succeeded last evening in catching a lot of very fine trout, and though the hour was an earlier one than the company were in the habit of breakfasting at home, yet most of them contrived to make a very substantial meal.

We took leave of our Ogden and Huntsville friends, as they intended to return from this point, and by about four o'clock we were on the road. Finer scenery than we passed through this morning would be difficult to find in any country. It appeared to better advantage in the early morning than it would have done in the full glare of day; for as the sun arose light and shade were beautifully blended, and every point was brought out with such sharpness of outline and in such marked contrast that the effect was very striking.

As we rounded the hill and emerged from Lodge Pole cañon we saw a company of cavalry drawn up on the hill awaiting our approach. The spot was admirably chosen, whether with design or not, to make an effective display. Their fine flag was spread to its full size in the breeze, and as they performed their evolutions to form into line on the side of the road, their arms glinted in the morning sun, and they looked, from the low point where we saw them, a much more formidable body of men than they really were. They were under the command of Col. Joseph C. Rich and Major Solomon Hale. Shortly afterwards we met Bro. Charles C. Rich who had come out to meet us.

We turned from our road in Round Valley to examine Big Spring Creek. Various accounts of this spring had reached us, one was that a man could ride on horseback into the hole, under the mountain from which it issues another that a covered wagon, or a load of hay, could be driven in; but though we found the spring a very large one—a stream of over twice the size of City Creek in Salt Lake City being formed by it, the orifice from which it issued was not large. The water, like that of all the streams in this country, was beautifully clear, and we saw a number of schools of trout in its crystal depths.

We stopped for dinner at Ithaca, called by some Last Chance, a little town at the head of Bear Lake. I am told that stock can winter here on the range and keep fat. At no time for several years has the snow been more than a foot deep at this place, while a few miles distant it has covered the ground to the depth of three feet; and last winter they did not have more than three inches of snow. The appearance of this place will be greatly improved by the planting of trees; some of the settlers have commenced their cultivation.

As we descended towards Round Valley, shortly after meeting the company of cavalry, we caught our first glimpse of Bear Lake. One is struck by the deep blue color of the water. Traveling on, the prospect widens, and a magnificent panorama bursts upon the view. The Lake seems to occupy nearly the entire valley; the mountains, especially on the east side, appear to have their bases washed by the waters of the Lake. At no place on that side, I am informed, is the bottom land more than half a mile wide. On the west side the bottom is much wider, and here are the principal settlements. The Lake proper is about twenty miles long, and varying in width from five to ten miles. At the northern end is what is known as the "turnpike." It is a beach thrown up, the greater part of the distance about the width of a wagon road. There is an outlet of about thirty or forty feet wide and about fourteen feet deep, which runs through into what is called the Northern Lake, a shallow body of water, about five miles long, widest at its southern end and gradually narrowing to the northern extremity until it runs into Bear River. It is into this small Lake that Bear River empties from the east.

INSANITY AND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—

On Wednesday morning last, Bro. Jared Porter, residing near Coalville, in a fit of temporary insanity inflicted two dangerous wounds in his throat with a pen-knife, severing the windpipe and parts adjoining. Dr. Borgman, of Echo City, was called in, and Drs. Anderson and H. J. Richards were immediately telegraphed for to render the wounded man the necessary surgical attention. Brother Porter's wounds are severe, but it is hoped with proper attention and nursing, he will recover from the effects of the injury.

SQUALLY.

THE political horizon of Europe is considerably overcast at the present time, the indications of a storm being of such a threatening character that an outbreak would not be at all surprising. In France and Spain popular discontent runs high, and it will require great prudence on the part of the rulers and law-makers of those nations to keep the masses peaceable.

The very meagre accounts, recently received by telegraph, of the French elections, plainly show that the people of France are becoming uneasy under the iron rule of Louis Napoleon, and unless the advice of the Duke de Persigny,—to introduce reform in the administration of the Government,—be carried out,—and, in fact, unless the present autocratic system of government be modified to a representative one, the ruler of France may ere long have to take as hurried a departure from his country as his predecessor Louis Philippe did in 1848. Then farewell to his pet idea of a Napoleonic dynasty and succession.

In Spain the signs of the times continue to wear a very threatening aspect. The revolution, which, it was thought, had terminated with the dethronement of Isabella, seems to be but in embryo; and so far as it has gone it has failed in accomplishing the ends desired by the masses. They were utterly tired of royalty, and abolished it; but the aristocratic leaders of the revolution, unwilling to see class privileges abolished by the triumph of Republican principles and the establishment of a Republican government, are afraid to arouse the indignation of the people by too suddenly placing another king on the throne, and are feeling their way very cautiously before doing so. The example set by these men should teach the people not to expect much from aristocrats. The Spaniards have banished Isabella, but of what benefit will that prove to them if there is to be another occupant of a throne to rule over them? There might for awhile be reforms granted, but if the Spanish people are wise, being now free from royal parasites, they will not suffer the commonwealth to be again afflicted with their presence.

The late telegraphic dispatches contained the intelligence that the new Constitution had been promulgated in every Province of the Kingdom, and one article of that Constitution provides that the future form of the government shall be monarchical; but the great trouble now is to find a man willing to accept the vacant crown. Spain has always been a prolific field for pretenders and aspirants to the throne, and to-day, if one party were to bring forth a candidate the probability is that several rival parties would do the same, and a civil war between those several parties, and between them and the Republicans would most certainly ensue. Under such circumstances it will be far better for the Spaniards to have no more to do with kings and queens.

Some of the supporters of royalty may pretend that the Spanish mind is not sufficiently advanced for Republicanism; but a greater proof of the falsity of such stuff could scarcely be given by any people than was given by the Spaniards in their unity of action in dismissing Isabella, the last of the Bourbons occupying a throne.

Among the phlegmatic, peace and order loving "John Bulls," the present situation of affairs is not the most pacific that could be imagined. The threatened action of the House of Lords in relation to the disestablishment bill has caused, probably, more excitement from John O'Groats to Lands End than has been seen before during the present century. In the conflict now pending between the two branches of the national legislature, if the course threatened by the Peers be persisted in, that very venerable but now far from popular body may be forever deprived of all power to impede any reform demanded by the popular voice.

These indications in Europe show that a great social and political revolution is in progress, and that the ultimate triumph of Republican principles on that continent is but a question of time.

AUSTRALIAN MAIL.—A. W. Street, Esq., wishes to give notice of the discontinuance of mails for the Australian colonies and New Zealand, via Panama, on account of notice having been given by the British Postal Department, of the withdrawal of the steamers of the Panama, New Zealand and Australian Royal Mail Company, from the mail service between Panama and New Zealand. No mails will in future be made up and forwarded from the United States to New Zealand or Australian colonies, via Panama.