

brought up from freight service and sent out in place of docked vessels. One other like "substitute" vessel—the human steamer "City of Richmond"—came very near, a few months ago, meeting with the same fate as the "Abyssinia." The risk on freight boats pressed temporarily into passenger service is an hundredfold greater than on the regular "lines." It would be better for passengers to vary the time of departure a week or two for more comforts in ocean life, and for less danger and quicker trips. J. H. A.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 25, 1891.

### E. STEVENSON'S RETURN.

I spent Christmas at Beaver city, also the following Sabbath, attending meetings, lectures, and enjoying the society of Daniel Tyler, of Mormon Battalion fame, and many others of olden times, and making new friends. On the 28th ult. a light snow of one inch at Beaver added to the three inches which had previously fallen. However, the sun smiled and it was a warm day. Eight miles north we came to "Wild Cat Pass," which derives its name from a fight between a great wild cat and an emigrant.

Wild Cat Canyon and over the divide is a spot very much dreaded by travelers on account of high winds and snowdrifts. Pine Creek was reached with difficulty, being eighteen miles from Beaver City. Seven miles north is Cove Fort, a strong stone fort 100 feet square and about fifteen high. This defense was built by President Brigham Young in early Indian times. It still stands as firm as when first erected. High winds and drifting snows about mid-day caused two teams and twelve persons to be snowbound as well as some from the sulphur bed, which are three miles distant and turning out tons of brimstone. This article is being constantly hauled over to Black Rock station, on the railroad, thirty miles.

I remained over night, with the hope of breaking the snow blockade next day. A lecture entertained the strangers and those who hold the fort, and passed a very agreeable evening.

On the morning of the 30th ult. fortune again smiled upon us. The wind veered to the south about 2 a. m. and the snow began to settle. Much to our gratitude and joy, about midnight relief came from Kanosh, 122 miles north of Cove Creek, but the party was compelled to leave a carriage and supplies in Baker Canyon, nine miles north, and wallowed through the snow with the horses. Four horses pulled the empty wagon through Dog Valley—so named by reason of a colony of prairie dogs which hold claims to this pretty valley.

My carriage was loaded upon a sleigh, with two horses to pull through the valley and down Lake Canyon, a short distance, eight miles, from the fort. Leading the single horse we found very little snow in Millard County, but mud and slush on past Fillmore to Holden, forty-eight miles from Cove Creek. Brother David S. Chambers, of Cove Fort, is very efficient in aiding through those snowdrifts. We found the snow bed settled about eight or ten inches. Closing the year 1891, lectures were

given at Kanosh and Holden Springs. Bishop Anthony Stevenson, on short notice, called the people of Holden together in a handsome church, which is held exclusive for religious services, while there are halls ample for other purposes. Expressions of gratitude came as a happy closing of the old year with a religious lecture on the infancy of the Church. The people of Holden are a united little band of about 300. On Jan. 1st, 1892, after leaving Holden near the summit of Round valley, or Scipio, we came across about ten inches of snow. There is good sleighing in Scipio and over to the Sevier bridge, when it became less. On to Chicken Creek there were twelve inches of snow, at Levan and on to Nephi less, while at Santaquin it increased, with nearly bare ground at Springville and Provo, but from Provo bench on to Lehi it was from eight to ten inches, and at Lehi lay still deeper. It has been two feet on the level there, but after passing over the mountains into Salt Lake County the ground is nearly bare until within about a mile of Salt Lake City rather poor sleighing begins.

While at Spanish Fork I learned that one farmer in that prolific grain-growing country threshed 4404 bushels of small grain in 1891, and the same person in 1889 gathered 1325 bushels of lucern seed. Three carloads of lucern seed were shipped that year from Spanish Fork.

I am pleased to return to this city after a round trip of about 800 miles, passing through eleven counties and the borders of Arizona. I delivered fifty lectures and attended four conferences, meeting many old friends, and visiting Mantion and St. George Temples, which are well attended in the doing of work for those who have gone behind the veil.

EDWARD STEVENSON.  
SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 6, 1892.

### THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

A special school board meeting was held Jan. 15th for the purpose of considering a proposition to purchase school bonds. President Scott was absent and the chair was occupied by Vice-President Nelson. The members present were Messrs. Baldwin, Duke, Newman, Pratt, Young, Pike and Downey.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The finance committee submitted the following:

To the Board of Education:

Gentlemen—Your finance committee having had under consideration the accompanying bid for \$300,000 of our school bonds, respectfully recommend its acceptance, conditioned on the legislation referred to.

#### THE BID FOR BONDS.

SALT LAKE CITY, January 14, 1892.

To the Honorable Board of Education, Salt Lake City, Utah:

Gentlemen—In the matter of the proposed issue of \$300,000 twenty-year 5 per cent. gold bonds of your district, dated July 1, 1891, interest payable semi-annually, both principal and interest payable at some bank in the city of New York, we make you the following proposition:

1.—We will take and sell said bonds at par provided you pay us a commission for services in selling said bonds at par, of

2½ per cent. and all interest accumulated to the date of payment of the same, including the interest coupons due January 1, 1892.

2.—That the bonds are to be delivered for payment in the city of Boston, Mass., in installments as follows: \$100,000 on February 15, 1892; \$100,000 on March 15, 1892; \$100,000 on April 15, 1892; we agreeing in case the bonds are not sold by us by the dates named for installment deliveries to advance the payments on those dates less the commission named, such advances to be retained by us from the proceeds of sales when the bonds are sold.

3.—The bonds are to be legally and regularly issued, and full papers evidencing the legality thereof, satisfactory to our attorneys, to be furnished us prior to any delivery of bonds.

4.—This offer is further conditioned upon an amendment of the present law by the Utah legislature, which will authorize the issuance of the bonds, with semi-annual interest, and authorizing the board to pay a commission for effecting their sale.

If this bid is accepted, we offer to furnish within fifteen days the guarantee of the Broadway National bank, of Boston, in the amount of \$20,000, that this contract will be fully and faithfully performed.

This proposition is conditioned upon acceptance on January 15, 1892.

GEO. A. FERNALD & Co.

20 Water Street, Boston.

By W. H. DALE, Agent.

#### FORM OF ACCEPTANCE.

The following form of acceptance accepted and the bid:

Geo. A. Fernald & Co., Boston, Mass.

Gentlemen—We hereby agree to the foregoing proposition for the sale of \$300,000 of the bonds of the school district of Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, and agree to deliver said bonds in Boston, Mass., at the dates mentioned above in your proposition, and to pay for your services in effecting sale of said bonds at par the commission of 2½ per cent., and all interest accrued at the delivery there-in mentioned; provided, that if it is found impossible to deliver the first installment on February 15, as provided, that the delivery shall be made as soon thereafter as possible, not later than March 15, 1892.

#### BID ACCEPTED.

After a brief discussion Mr. Young offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Vice-President (the President being absent) and the clerk be and they are hereby authorized to accept in writing on behalf of the board the bill of Fernald & Co. for \$300,000, school bonds, sold this evening.

On motion of Mr. Baldwin it was decided that the finance committee should have \$450,000 of the bonds printed.

An adjournment was then made.

Captain Wilson, of the English war navy, has just invented a remarkable implement of war. It is shaped like a large pair of scissors, which he places at the bow, and under the water, of his torpedo boats. With this little boat steams straight for the enemy's big ship, which has the bars with the steel netting down, feeling well protected against the attacks of the wicked torpedoes. But Captain Wilson, with his new invention, applies electricity to the scissors, and in a flash the netting is cut and the boat does its deadly work.