

that purpose I have held meetings with the Saints in nearly every place and have had a good time generally. Last Sunday evening I also spoke to a respectable congregation of Saints and strangers in Castle Gate, a mining town in Price Canyon, and yesterday attended a ward conference at Spring Glen, where the Stake Presidency was in attendance, and today, in connection with that Presidency and Bishops Geo. Frandsen of Price, and H. J. Stowell of Spring Glen, I attended the ward conference at Wellington, on which occasion the Bishopric of that new ward was made complete by the setting apart of Geo. W. Eldredge to act as first and Robert A. Snyder as second counselor to Bishop A. E. McMullen. In these ward conferences much good and practical instruction was given suitable for the circumstances surrounding the Saints in this new country, and the Spirit of God was poured out in a great measure upon all present causing the hearts of the Saints to rejoice exceedingly. After the afternoon meeting today Prest. C. G. Larsen and his counselors (Orange Seely and William Howard) returned to their homes in Castle Dale and Huntington, and I returned to Price, where, in the hospitable home of Bishop Geo. Frandsen, I am fulfilling my historical gleanings as regards the Emery Stake, preparatory to leaving for other parts of the country.

The Emery Stake of Zion embraces nearly all of Emery County, Utah, and consists of eleven organized wards, which, named in geographical order, commencing from the north, range as follows: Spring Glen, Price, Wellington, Cleveland, Huntington, Lawrence, Castle Dale, Orangeville, Ferron, Molen and Muddy. Three of these settlements are situated on Price River, three on or near Huntington Creek, two on Cottonwood Creek, two on Ferron Creek and one on Muddy Creek, all in what is generally known as Castle Valley. This valley has well defined boundaries on the west and north where lofty mountains separate it from other valleys and tracts of country, but on the east and south it extends into an almost unexplored region so far that even the earliest settlers here are unable to define its boundaries. It is, in fact, an open country, traversed by low mountain ranges, barren hills, deep gulches and washes, etc., and in many places it is absolutely impassable for teams. Even men on horseback often encounter great difficulties in getting through, and in some instances are compelled to travel a distance of twenty-five miles or more in order to advance five miles in a straight line. But in the western part of the valley, near the eastern base of the Wasatch mountains, where all the settlements are located, there are comparatively fine tracts of country, which after being brought under cultivation, can most properly be termed an oasis in the desert. Generally speaking, Castle Valley is more suited for pastoral than agricultural pursuits. Still the people have made, and are now making,

farmers a decided success, as in many instances the amount of grain raised per acre compares very favorably with that produced in the most fertile parts of our Territory. The culture of bees has, of late years, been proven to be a very successful industry and it is now generally acknowledged that Castle Valley produces the best honey in Utah, and perhaps the best in the United States. As an example of what can be done as regards quantity I may state that during the past summer Brother Caleb B. Rhoades of Price, produced 5,300 pounds of honey from 22 stands of bees. Noah T. Guyman of Orangeville, and John Zwahlen of Ferron, have been nearly equally successful in their bee culture the present season. The great natural wealth of Castle Valley, however, seems to be its immense coal fields. The coal is found in inexhaustible quantities in the several canyons in the mountains west. The veins, so far discovered, ranges from six to eleven feet in thickness and the coal is of the most excellent quality. But until railways shall have been built to the different places where these immense coal deposits have been discovered they are of course comparatively valueless, except for local consumption.

The Saints in Castle Valley have made great progress during the last few years, and their towns and villages begin to assume the appearance of comfort and prosperity. More settlers, however, are needed and anyone in need of a home who is not afraid to face the hardships and dangers of a new country, will be made heartily welcome by the people of this valley.

Castle Dale, pleasantly situated on the north bank of the Cottonwood Creek, 32 miles southwest of Price, the nearest railway station, is the headquarters of the Emery Stake and the county seat of Emery County. It contains the best flouring mill in the county, and the only one, except the little Pioneer mill at Orangeville on the same creek (Cottonwood). Castle Dale has 58 families belonging to the Church and a few non-members. Henning Olsen is Bishop. A new meeting house, which, when completed, will be the most commodious public building in the county, is in course of erection, and will probably be completed next spring. Two of the Stake Presidency (President C. G. Larsen and his first counselor, Orange Seely) reside in this place.

Orangeville is the other town on Cottonwood Creek. It is situated about three miles west of Castle Dale, not far from the mouth of Cottonwood Canyon, in which very extensive coal-fields have been discovered. There is considerable talk just now about constructing a railway from a point on Price River to these mines. Orangeville can boast of having produced more fruit, so far, than any other settlement in Emery County, and is also surrounded by some choice farming lands. This town has 66 families belonging to the Church, over whom Jasper Robertson presides as Bishop. He is also probate judge of the country.

Ferron, a fine little town on Ferron Creek, is reached by traveling 11½ miles in a southwesterly direction from Castle Dale. The town is situated on the north bank of the creek on a hill side sloping gently to the south. Across the creek, south of the townsite, is a compact body of good farming land. Ferron has the finest and most commodious meeting-house (known as the Social Hall) in the Emery Stake, and a number of comfortable private residences. The strength of the Saints here is 63 families, and Frederick Olsen, a man of sterling qualities, is the Bishop.

Three miles east of Ferron is Molen, an outgrowth of Ferron. It is a pleasant little neighborhood, and the townsite is situated on the north side of Ferron Creek, near where the old Gunnison trail crosses that stream. There is some of the best farming land in the county, but as the quantity is very limited as also water wherewith to irrigate it, Molen will perhaps never become a very large place. Lyman S. Beach, with H. P. Rasmussen and Hans C. Hansen as Counselors, presides as Bishop over the 26 families of Saints who reside here.

After traveling 16 miles through a genuine desert country—broken and desolate—in a southwesterly direction, the townsite of Emery (formerly called Muddy) is reached. It is situated in the north end of a large valley extending toward the Fish Lake Mountains on the south. From here the lofty peaks of the Henry Mountains are also seen toward the southeast. To convey the water of Muddy Creek onto the lands where Emery is situated a long and expensive canal had to be constructed, which for a distance of 1240 feet is tunneled through a mountain-ridge. This was done at an expence of nearly \$50,000. And as the community which had to do this immense labor was poor, it has indeed been a heavy task. But it has been accomplished, and the prospects before the enterprising people of Emery are now very bright compared to what they were a few years ago. The Emery Ward numbers 46 families of Saints, and Wm. G. Petty, one of the founders of Pettyville, Sanpete County, presides here as Bishop.

Lawrence, named in honor of C. G. Larsen, President of the Emery Stake, is a village and farming district situated on Huntington Creek, eight and one-half miles northeast of Castle Dale. It has the reputation of being the best grain producing district in the county. In 1888 13,000 bushels of small grain was raised in this little settlement, which numbers only twenty-four families. No other settlement in the Stake, even those much larger, produced an amount equal to that. Calvin W. Moore, formerly a member of the "Mormon" Battalion, is the Bishop of Lawrence Ward.

Huntington, the metropolis of Emery County, is pleasantly situated on the north bank of Huntington Creek, nine and one-half miles northeast of Castle Dale, surrounded by good farming land. This