

Wilford has one canal about four miles in length, which carries the fertilizing fluid into a fair section of country; but our largest canal is one from Fall River, northeast of here, and which is said to carry a stream of water forty feet wide and four deep. The canal is already out on the level, so that by next summer we expect to use it on a large plain between the Tetou and North Fork rivers.

Rexburg has a good grist mill, a saw mill, and shingle mill. Teton has a steam saw and shingle mill, and a planer in the mountain east of the town. Wilford possesses a saw mill, and will have a grist mill by the coming spring. We want men of enterprise to build up the country. A few school teachers as well as blacksmiths and other mechanics are very much needed in this valley; and we consider the Snake River country capable of sustaining two hundred thousand people. Timber is easily obtained, and teams often bring home two cords of house logs at one trip, though it takes two days to make it.

The Union Pacific Company, I am told, will run a branch line from Eagle Rock through these settlements to the Yellow Stone Park next summer, so we are looking for a busy season. The country is being fast taken up, and those who expect to come here for homes should hurry along, otherwise they will probably have but little choice. Money is, however, scarce just now.

American Ancests.

The following appeared in the *Cleveland Plaindealer*:

Prof. F. W. Putman, curator of the Peabody Museum at Cambridge, Mass., and perhaps the most distinguished archeologist in America, lectured before the Western Reserve Historical Society last evening on the "Mounds and Mound Builders of Ohio." Prof. Putman has spent the past two months in exploring the great serpent mound in Adams County. He began with a word about the ancient people of America.

"There were," said the speaker, "four great antique races on this continent, or the people, if of one race, show a greater diversity than any other on earth. For instance, we found in one mound in Ohio 1,500 skeletons, and these were of various sizes and differed in their characteristics. The four great races can be resolved into two—the long-headed people and the people with short and broad heads. There is evidence that the long-headed people came from Northern Asia, and, crossing Behring Strait, continued their way downward as far as California. They then crossed to the great lakes, went down the St. Lawrence, made their way along the Atlantic coast as far south as North Carolina, and spread themselves into Ohio and Pennsylvania. There is evidence that they resemble the people of Northern Asia in face and form. The short-headed people had the characteristics of the people of Southern Asia, and resemble the Malay race. The first traces of them

we find in Peru and Central America. From there they worked toward the north into Mexico, New Mexico, Arizona, and, following the rivers which empty into the Gulf of Mexico, notably the Mississippi, they mingled at last with the long-headed people in Tennessee and Ohio, and were finally absorbed by them. The Indian is a descendant of those two races."

The speaker then went on to describe the mounds built by these people. He told how the former method of digging a hole in the centre of the mound, which was at first practiced by explorers, has been abandoned for a more exhaustive method of research. Prof. Putman does not excavate the mounds, but slices them off in perpendicular sections until the whole mound has been laid open to inspection. He describes at length the use of the mounds for burial, and said there were many ways in which the bodies were prepared for interment. Sometimes they were cremated and sometimes simply laid in the ground; sometimes a rough stone tomb surrounded the bodies, sometimes a sort of log-house work of timber.

"Besides the burial mounds there are other mounds," said the speaker. "That is, mounds used for great religious ceremonies. I have been making explorations in the Little Miami valley, and I am glad at this time to pay a tribute to the work of Col. Whittlesay in the Little Miami valley. To him we owe much of our information of the ancient Lake Superior mining as well of the mounds of the Little Miami valley. The mounds in that valley are sacred mounds—that is, they were for the purpose of sacrifice and religious ceremonies. On these mounds fires were kindled and sacrifices were made—not human sacrifices, but sacrifices to the fire. In one of these mounds we found terra-cotta figures, beautifully carved and perfect representations of people in a perfect attitude of rest; there was nothing to suggest action. There were beside these stone images of fine shape. There were copper pendants and thousands of copper beads. Many earrings were found of copper, covered with native silver, and over 60,000 pearls. It seemed as if the pearls of all the tribes had been cast upon this altar. We have found these altars in several mounds, and sometimes we found several altars, so you see many of the great mounds were for no other purposes than burial."

CAPITAL NEWS.

Your readers have been informed by telegraph of the progress and close of the hearing before the House Committee on Territories as to the admission of Utah as a State. But in addition to the dispatches and the letters on this subject, more needs to be said to give the readers of the WEEKLY proper information as to the hearing and its effects.

The Governor made a miserable attempt to work his way out of the

hole into which he fell when he stated that "no person could hold stock in Z. C. M. I. unless he was a member of the Mormon Church," and that this provision was in "the articles of incorporation." When the articles and the proofs that Gentiles do hold stock in the institution were produced, he tried to fall back on a circular issued some years previous to the incorporation, and relating to a preliminary association. But the committee saw through his effort and valued his other assertions accordingly.

R. N. Baskin, who was the last speaker in opposition, found himself in a worse box even than the Governor. It was in this wise: When before the Senate Committee last year, he pretended to quote some of the writings of Franklin D. Richards in the *Millennial Star* on the subject of theocracy, with a view to making things unpleasant for F. S. Richards, the Apostle's son. Reference to the *Millennial Star* showed that Apostle Richards was not the author of the articles referred to, that they were not in the volume from which they were alleged to be quoted, and that from other volumes isolated sentences had been culled and tacked together, without a star or a mark to show any hiatus, and then used in that shape to suit Mr. Baskin's purpose. This was fully exposed in Mr. F. S. Richards' reply. At this present hearing Baskin repeated his old story in the same form, and when challenged by Mr. Richards attempted to bluster his way out. But when he found this could not be done, he jauntily admitted that he learned last year after he went home that Franklin D. Richards was not the author of the remarks. Yet he had come here and repeated the error. When Judge Wilson got after him in the closing speech, he exposed this second attempt to throw discredit on Mr. Richards, and Baskin denied that he had attempted to do anything of the kind. Then Judge Wilson sprang the record of the hearing upon him, as taken by the committee's stenographer, and he was figuratively knocked out and flattened.

Mr. Baskin's whole speech was a shallow attempt to establish the position that "the priesthood in Utah assume to direct every member where he shall live, where he shall go, what shall be his employment and for whom he shall vote." These are his exact words, and in their support he read revelations from the Doctrine and Covenants given from 1831 to 1841, or from forty-eight to fifty-eight years ago, under a different condition of things, and to persons most if not all of whom are dead. But when this was called to his attention, he said the people now were receiving these revelations "all the time." Members of the committee asked him to produce or quote from one, and being unable to do so he pretended to be in a hurry for time. But he could not escape; the miserable subterfuge was too palpable, and the significant looks of the committee showed how clearly they perceived his reliability