

pressed belief. He has Mormon relatives. With pleasant remembrance we glide out of sight, and six miles down the river we pass two fish traps. Soon after this we took our first shipment of boxes of fruit, and during the eighty miles several calls were made. A beautiful bridge, owned by the O. R. and N., costing near \$1,000,000, spans the Snake river and looks like a network of steel. The Walla Walla train makes connection with the steamer at Walla Walla, where we anticipate another stop.

EDWARD STEVENSON,
M. F. COWLEY.

AT WALLA WALLA.

We concluded our last correspondence at Riparia Junction of the O. R. & N. railway with the steamboat line running from Riparia to Lewiston, 80 miles up the Snake river. The town above named is truly a desolate looking place. The only real thing of beauty aside from human beings that we saw there was the gigantic railroad bridge spanning the river, made of solid steel, costing, we were informed by the agent, upwards of a million dollars. The wind blows bleakly and the sand, which is plentiful, is conspicuous on the floor, table and window sills of the habitation of Riparia.

After a tedious delay we boarded the southbound train for Walla Walla, where we arrived at 11:05 p. m. We took lodgings at the Delmonico lodging house and enjoyed a refreshing rest until the dawn of the morning, when we arose and went in search of a hall to preach in. Your humble servant was impressed to call at the court house. We heeded the promptings of the Spirit and succeeded with but little effort to secure the court house. Mr. Young, deputy sheriff, and Mr. McDonald, one of the county commissioners, readily consented, and we appointed meeting for Friday night Sept. 18th, at 7:30 p. m.

Walla Walla has a population of about 7,500, and is one of the very oldest towns in the state of Washington. Politics are very lively in the town just at present, and notwithstanding the great agitation in the West favorable to silver, Walla Walla is largely a gold standard town. A large silver convention was held in the court house Wednesday night, the 16th inst., and was addressed by Patrick Henry Winston, candidate on the Popocrat ticket for attorney general. Notwithstanding his ability as a speaker and the packed hall of probably 1,200 people, the applause was not frequent nor general, but rather tame. Thursday morning I was taken very ill, and being among strangers without convenience or comfort at hand, I was kindly provided with a bed and attendants at the Catholic hospital. During our stay there from Thursday morning until Sunday, the sisters of charity and other attendants did all that was necessary or could be done to alleviate my sufferings and give me comfort. Kindness and charity are commendable in all people, and the Lord will reward them for all the good they may do, whether they be Catholic or Protestant, heathen, Jew or skeptic.

In the meantime the appointment for our meeting was published in the

Statesman and the Union, the latter printing also the Articles of Faith. We published 500 hand bills and had them freely circulated in the town. At the hour appointed I arose, and though very weak in body, walked to the court house and addressed the congregation for about thirty-five or forty minutes on the fulfillment of prophecy, and bore a testimony to the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The audience was not large but very attentive. Concluding my remarks I retired to the hospital and retired to bed.

Elder Cowley continued the meeting. He spoke about one hour and twenty minutes on the atonement of Christ, and the first principles of the Gospel. At the conclusion of the meeting an Episcopal minister, apparently disappointed at not having something unorthodox or sensational, spoke up and said: "I want to ask some questions: we haven't heard anything about polygamy. What about polygamy?"

Elder Cowley answered that the President of the Church had issued a manifesto on that subject, which had been adopted by the Church in conference assembled, and any one could procure a copy and read it, to know our present position, but as there were intelligent people in the world, not Mormons, who held views favorable to that principle, he recommended that if the rev. gentleman wanted to know anything about the subject, he could procure a book entitled "History and Philosophy of Marriage or Monogamy and Polygamy compared by a Christian Philanthropist."

At this the minister muttered that he did not care to read anything about it, and dropped the subject. He then said: "Well, what about the Book of Mormon?"

Elder Cowley explained to the audience who remained standing and silent while the questions were answered the nature of the Book of Mormon, quoting several passages from the scriptures, pointing to the coming forth of such a record, and that the discoveries of antiquarians in North, South and Central America all went to substantiate the authenticity of the Book of Mormon; that the book does not supplant the Bible, but furnishes proof against the attacks made by skeptics against the Bible. He furthermore pointed out that several prophecies contained in the Book of Mormon have been fulfilled since its publication to the world in 1829. The audience now dispersed without further interrogations.

We might here remark that notwithstanding the close proximity of these North Pacific States to Utah, dense ignorance exists among many otherwise intelligent and well informed people, regarding the doctrines and history of the Latter-day Saints. It is also worthy of note, that in towns where any considerable number of Latter-day Saints have found employment, and conducted themselves in harmony with our professions, the prejudice of their non-Mormon neighbors has largely given way, so much so that in such places as Anaconda, and Lima, Montana, and Baker City, Oregon, a good field is open for missionary work.

The Walla Walla Gazette, a weekly

journal, published a good report of us, and the Articles of Faith. The editors, Mr. Brock and his son, William Fisk Brock, were especially kind to us; and expressed a desire to receive copies of the DESERET NEWS. Dr. M. A. Nelms, a leading physician of Walla Walla, also proved himself a friend in the hour of need.

Sunday morning at 4:55 we boarded the train from Portland and came to Baker City, Oregon. We arrived here at 12:10 p. m. We were met at the depot by Elders Baker, Geddes, Smurthwaite, Geo. A. Wilcox and many other brethren, who received us with open arms, and you can well be assured that our hearts were glad to meet with Saints once more.

Sunday, 20th, was ward conference day in Baker City. President Jos. F. Smith and Elder H. J. Grant were expected, but the heavy wind storm at Oarden delayed them twenty-four hours in Pocatello, as the Portland train had left before their arrival at that point. They arrived, however, in time for the night meeting. In the afternoon the people were addressed by Elder Stevenson, who bore a testimony to the restoration of the Gospel. Elder Cowley spoke on the necessity of being guided by the spirit of Revelation and attending to our practical duties. In the evening President Joseph F. Smith spoke on doing unto others as we would be done by and the first principles of the Gospel. Elders Heber J. Grant and Brigham F. Grant bore faithful testimonies to the truth.

As we have been honorably released, at least for the present, we shall leave for home today or tomorrow. We feel that God has blessed our labors, answered our prayers, filled us with His spirit and verified literally all the blessings pronounced by the servants of God, who set us apart for this mission. We bear witness of His goodness, and to Him be ascribe all the honor, praise and glory, with our gratitude forever. Respectfully,

EDWARD STEVENSON,
M. F. COWLEY.

NOTES.

Coalville Times: Charles Lusty has secured the contract for the building of the foundation of the new L. D. S. Church at Park City, and is now at work on the contract. The building is to be erected next summer, and will be a good one.

Randolph Roundup: N. M. Hodger, our Laketown miller, has been threshing more than a week and will continue for a few days longer. He raised between fifty and sixty acres of wheat this year of most excellent quality which will yield between 15,000 and 20,000 bushels. Threshing is progressing at the rate of a thousand bushels per diem, giving work to eighteen teams and twenty-two men. The wheat is hauled direct from the field where it was cut to the machine, thus saving the time, labor and expense of stacking it. The wheat will be stored at Mr. Hodger's mill where it will be transformed into the various kinds of flour for which this mill is celebrated, thus our enterprising miller conducts the business right through from the time the seed wheat is sown till the flour leaves the mill. A few such enterprising men quickly build up a new country.