

FROM SAN JUAN COUNTY.

A BIG COUNTRY AND STILL GROWING—TOO MUCH WATER AND NONE AT ALL—A SPLENDID RAILWAY ROUTE FOR WINTER—GENERAL NOTES.

BLUFF, San Juan Co., Utah, January 8, 1887.

Editor Deseret News:

In my last communication I endeavored to describe the country situated in the southeast corner of San Juan County, in the southeast corner of Utah Territory. I will now attempt a description of a portion of the country situated in the southwest corner of Colorado, and northeast corner of New Mexico.

We will now take a trip from this place (Bluff), situated on the San Juan River, up to Burnham, Ohio, New Mexico, a distance of about 100 miles, where we have a small ward, L. C. Burnham, Bishop. Our road will run along the course of the river most of the way. We travel six miles from here in a nearly eastern course, and we come to a small stream called Recapture, which heads in the Blue Mountains, about 40 miles north, on either side of the stream is found excellent pasture for cattle and sheep. There are now on this range about 50,000 head of sheep and 8,000 to 10,000 head of cattle. The Saluts own about 6,000 of the sheep and about 2,000 of the cattle; the rest are owned by outsiders.

This mountain stream, Recapture, affords an abundance of water a good portion of the year, and with skill and capital could be stored up in the winter and spring season and afford a water supply sufficient to irrigate

50,000 ACRES OF LAND.

The lands found on the great white mesa on the west side of this stream, situated in a fine table land of most excellent sandy, loamy soil, elevated about 5,000 feet above the sea; no snow falls here, to speak of, in the winter, and the heat of summer is not oppressive. We surely must occupy this beautiful location in the near future; if we do not, the stranger will. Plenty of good pine timber is found on the mountains about ten miles distant from this beautiful town site. We now resume our journey and travel about ten miles over a rocky, sandy road, sometimes along the river bottom, and then we take up over the "bluffs," as they are called here, for a mile or two, and then back on the river bottom again, till we come to Montezuma Creek, where our people, a few years ago, had quite a settlement, but it is now entirely deserted on account of a terrible flood that came down and carried away houses, corrals, fences, orchards, vineyards, and in one instance a whole farm was washed away. There seems to be no safety in making improvements on the banks of this river unless you have capital sufficient to fortify the banks of the river the entire extent of your improvements. Every little way along the road are found nice mesas or benches of choice land, some of them two and a half to three miles long and one to one and a half miles wide, very beautiful sites for towns or villages, and plenty of opportunities to build reservoirs and store water sufficient for all the good land found on these first benches above the river bottom, all situated in one of the

FINEST CLIMATES ON EARTH,

where every kind of product can be raised that man needs. The general face of all this country is greatly broken, and carries a desert appearance, with great dry washes coming down from the mountains to the river, where, at times, immense bodies of water rush down, carrying everything before them. We will now hitch up and make a drive of 10 miles, over the same kind of road, and about the same kind of country, when we find ourselves at "River View," the residence of Elder Wm. Hyde, located on a bluff about 100 feet above the river bottom; he was washed out at Montezuma, but now is built on the rock or gravelly bluff. He lost all he had in the flood, but with indomitable pluck and energy, he and his family went to work and established a trading post at this point. The trade consists of wool and goat skins purchased from the Navajo Indians who live just across the river and own immense herds of goats, sheep and horses. Brother Hyde has put in a good ferry at this point and is doing quite an

EXTENSIVE BUSINESS

and also doing much good to the Indians through his association with them. He has a good knowledge of their language, and is very highly respected by them. Brother Hyde has a nice family, and although isolated from the great centres of society, where meetings and schools abound, he has not lost sight of these things in regard to his children, but has supplied them with books and papers so that they are not behind, but are in advance of many children brought up under more favorable circumstances as regards facilities for education. He, and family abound in hospitality; their door is always wide open to the dusty and wayworn traveler.

We will resume our journey. The road leaving the river, we take an easterly direction up dry washes and over dry plains, but not as rough as it was from Bluff to Hyde's. The country now is improving in general appearance, but is entirely in want of that in-

dispensable blessing—water; yet there are any amount of places where water can be stored and used for agriculture. We travel about twelve miles, when we come to a great mesa, where the road forks, the right leading to Burnham, Ohio, the left leading past the Ute Mountain, Navajo Springs, Aztec Springs and Mitchell Springs, all situated in the great Montezuma Valley. We will take to the right, which leads us across one of the finest districts of country I ever traveled in; it is a great open, rolling country, covered with good bunch grass and white sage, a fine winter range for stock, and now occupied by the Mancos Cattle Company. They are running some 15,000 head of stock here. This grand plain is situated at the south base of the Ute Mountain, and stretches south to the San Juan River, a distance of some 20 miles, and east to the Mancos River, which heads up in the La Plata Mountains, Colorado. By the way, we are now in Colorado, near the line between it and Utah, and in the extreme southwest corner of that State, the corner proper being not far south, just across the San Juan River. This fine country is situated, as to altitude, about 4,000 feet above sea level; the soil and climate are capable of producing a great variety of products, with a good market in Colorado near at hand. We will now travel on over a beautiful country 12 miles further, when we come to the junction of the Mancos with the San Juan River. I may say in passing, this whole country is dotted over with old Aztec or some other people's ruins, remnants of a

RUDE KIND OF POTTERY

were found in almost every place where I have traveled; the ruins as a rule do not exhibit much art. There are caves dug out of soft, rocky cliffs, and sometimes a number of apartments are found in one dwelling place; one was discovered with 14 rooms, on the river side of the bluff, high up above all high-water marks; in other places they are constructed of stone walls laid up in clay mortar; some of these are found over 100 feet long and 30 to 40 feet wide, generally with a large number of small rooms, and near by or around these larger ones; likely the large structures were used as places of worship.

But to resume our journey: We had got to the junction of the Mancos with the San Juan River, I believe; we will have to rest our team, and lunch here, as water is such a luxury in this country, and while doing so we will look about this point and see what we can discover. We look north and see a pine valley lying between the Ute mountain and very high bluffs which make down from the La Plata and Mancos Mountains on the east; looking south we discover the Chillius Mountains on the other side of San Juan River in New Mexico, some 50 miles away, with one very notable peak called the "Cathedral." About 26 miles north, up this beautiful valley, we come to Mitchell's Springs, situated in the great Montezuma Valley, and where the ditch and tunnel company of this valley are now engaged in

BUILDING A CITY.

They have let a contract to two of our brethren to build a large rock building 80 by 50, two stories high, with a promise of a contract to build a \$40,000 hotel next summer; this company have been engaged some time in bringing out the water from the Dolores River into this valley, containing some 300,000 acres of choice land; they bring the water through a tunnel one and a half miles long, from where they tap the river. From this tunnel the water flows into a large cañon well adapted for storing water in reservoirs and from here it enters canals which divide and course down both sides of the valley. The length of the main canal is some two hundred miles; the water will be out and ready for use by the first of May, so say the company. Land is being rapidly taken up, and houses and fences and other improvements are to be seen all over the valley. The company own a large body of land near the center of the valley and are offering it with water insured at very fair rates. We should have a strong foothold here as it is a very desirable point for us to secure. Fuel, coal and wood, are found in abundance all over this region, as also good building rock, limestone and sand, and good clay for brick. The hotel mentioned is to be built of brick; there is also an abundance of good saw timber with good roads to it about ten miles distant. What can hinder a country from growing with such facilities?

We will now return to our camp at the river; here will be a first-class ferry put in immediately by the company, who have just located a wagon road from Mitchell's Springs, headquarters, to this point, and from the river or ferry to "Gallop," a station on the A. P. Railroad, a distance of about one hundred and thirty miles over a splendid route for feed and water and no hills or mountains to pass over. Over this route the freight for Montezuma Valley and all the country contiguous will be hauled. One of our brethren has the freight contract for one year, it will take eight or 10 six-mule teams constantly employed when the business is fairly opened. The wagon route is located on a grade that will permit a railroad to follow, which will soon take place, passing on through the valley north into Grand and Green River Valleys, and so on to Salt Lake City, making the

FINEST WINTER ROUTE

I know of, entirely free from snow. Brethren need not hesitate to come out to this country, for an abundance of labor seems in prospect for sometime in the future. Now is the time, while the country is new and land cheap. Brethren with a small amount of ready means can purchase improved places dirt cheap at Mancos, where we have a small ward of the church. By writing to Geo. Halls, Bishop, they can obtain truthful and reliable information.

We will hardly reach Burnham, Ohio, this trip, and as we are at a good camp, we will lay over and rest until next mail, then we will resume our journey up the river and see what we can discover in that part of New Mexico.

We had a most splendid time during the holidays; a grand Christmas dinner with the inevitable roast turkey, with all that should accompany the same in abundance. Some 250 whites sat down to the feast, after which about 100 Indians were fed; they were stuffed like the turkey, and then plenty left for lurch at our dance in the evening. Also a finely decorated tree for the children and old Santa Claus came and distributed the numerous and costly presents to our dear little folks. All were happy.

Kind regards to you and all associated with you in the office.

F. A. HAMMOND.

BIRTH.

BRIGHTON—To the wife of Thomas B. Brighton, of the Eleventh Ward, a son; mother and child doing well.

DEATHS.

In this city, January 19, 1887, of consumption, Rosa Kahaulehale, daughter of Makaula and Kaoo.

The deceased was born at Hilo, Hawaii, Sandwich Islands, November 5th, 1873, and arrived in Utah with her parents July 4th, 1876.

WHITE.—In this city, January 18th, 1887, of diphtheria, after two day's illness, Phoebe, daughter of Harry and Seraph White, born February 4th, 1883.

NELSEN.—In Manti City, Sanpete County, Utah, January 13th, 1887, Sister Cecelia J. Nelsen, wife of Neils Hansen; born July 6, 1829, in Aalborg, Denmark; baptized into Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints February 6, 1851, arrived in Salt Lake City in September, 1853. Sister Hansen was a kind and affectionate wife and mother, and a friend to the poor. She was the mother of 7 children, 5 having gone before her.—[Com. Scandinavian Star please copy.]

HYDE.—On Wednesday morning, Jan. 12, 1887, at his home in Kaysville, Charles O. Hyde, son of Rosel and Mary Ann Coles Hyde, He was born May 9, 1860, at Kaysville, Utah.

He held the offices of justice of the peace and county surveyor at the time of his death, both of which he had successfully held for some years. In the Church he held the office of a Seventy and officiated as a Teacher in his ward. His influence as President of the Young Men's Association was beneficial, as he was in every respect an exemplar as well as a preceptor. He taught school for a number of years in Kaysville and left the school-room for his death bed. He died in full use of his consciousness to the last, and his last words were: "God's ways are not as man's ways." His wife, whom he leaves with two little children, is the daughter of Wm. W. Galbraith. The universal esteem in which he was held brought together a vast concourse of people, which filled the large meeting house of Kaysville, and sixty carriages followed him to the grave.—Com.

SMITH.—At Egna, Idaho, January 11th, 1887, Mary Sophia Smith, daughter of the late Samuel Smith and Cecilia Prosser, aged 16 years, 1 month and 5 days. Bear Lake and Egna papers please copy.

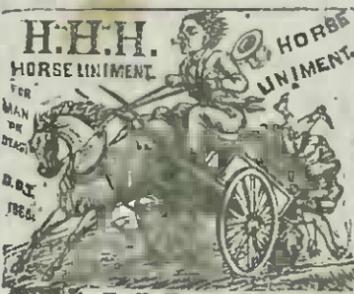
RINGWOOD.—In the Twentieth Ward, Salt Lake City, U. T., on the 19th day of January, 1887, at 4:30 o'clock p. m., of old age, William Ringwood, 90 years and 9 months of age. He was born in Ramingham, Norfolk, England, on the 1st day of May, 1796; was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on the 8th day of May, 1851, by Elder John Lickorice; was ordained to the office of a Teacher on the 12th day of April, 1854, and chosen clerk of the Norfolk branch on August 30th, 1857; was ordained an Elder February 28th, 1858, and on the 8th of August, the same year, he was made treasurer of the branch, and on the 29th of April, 1860, he was called to preside as President of the Norfolk branch. He came to Utah August 17th, 1871, and on the 26th of August, 1876, was ordained a High Priest. The deceased had been confined to the house and quite feeble for a number of years past, and at times has suffered a great deal of pain, but has always been very patient and never complained. He was a Latter-day Saint and passed away peacefully to rest, firm in the faith and loved and respected by all who knew him. He leaves a wife, now in her 88th year, one son and three daughters, two of the daughters being now in England. Millennium Star, please copy.

CORLESS.—At Mill Creek, January 19, 1887, of typhoid fever, Charlotie Ann Patten Corless, daughter of Henry and Charlotte Corless, aged 13 years, 9 months and 16 days.

PICKERING.—In this city, Jan. 21, of membranous croup, at Liberty Park, Franklin W. Pickering, son of B. J. Franklin and Mary Jane Pickering, aged 2 years, 7 months and 3 days.

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The Lectures on Law will be delivered by the Hon. J. G. Sutherland, every Saturday at 10 a. m., or at some other hour convenient to the class. The lectures will comprehend the elements of law, including its nature, sources, and application.

For further information regarding the school, address

JOHN R. PARK, President.

Salt Lake City, January 22, 1887. d&ts 1w

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I HAVE IN MY POSSESSION:

One brown HORSE, medium size, about fifteen years old, small white spot in forehead and on end of nose, both right feet white, shod all round. No brands visible. If not claimed on or before the first day of February, 1887, will be sold to the highest responsible bidder at the Estray Pound, Sugar House Precinct.

GEORGE CRISMON, Poundkeeper.

Sugar House Precinct, Salt Lake Co., U. T., Jan. 21, 1886.

LEGAL NOTICE.

In the Probate Court, in and for Salt Lake County, Territory of Utah.

In the matter of the Estate of Theophilus Williams, Deceased.

Order appointing time and place for settlement of final account and to hear petition for distribution.

ON READING AND FILING THE Petition of John P. Isaac, Administrator of the Estate of Theophilus Williams, deceased, setting forth that he has filed his final account of his administration upon said estate in this Court; that all the debts have been fully paid, and that a portion of said estate remains to be divided among the heirs of said deceased, and praying among other things for an order allowing said final account and of distribution of the residue of said estate among the persons entitled.

It is ordered that all persons interested in the estate of the said Theophilus Williams, deceased, be and appear before the Probate Court of the County of Salt Lake, at the Court Room of said Court, in the County Court House, on the 14th day of February, 1887, at 11 o'clock a. m., then and there to show cause why an order allowing said final account and of distribution should not be made of the residue of said estate among the heirs and devisees of said Theophilus Williams, deceased, according to law. It is further ordered that the clerk cause copies of this order to be posted in three public places in Salt Lake County and published in the DESERET WEEKLY NEWS, a newspaper printed and circulated in Salt Lake County, three weeks successively prior to said 14th day of February, 1887.

ELIAS A. SMITH, Probate Judge.

Dated January 6th, 1887.

Territory of Utah, County of Salt Lake, ss.

I, John C. Cutler, Clerk of the Probate Court in and for the County of Salt Lake, in the Territory of Utah, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of order appointing time and place for settlement of final account and petition for distribution in the matter of the Estate of Theophilus Williams, as appears of record in my office.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court, this 6th day of January, A. D. 1887.

JOHN C. CUTLER, Probate Clerk.