

EDITORIALS.

MORE VALLEYS AND NEW DISCOVERIES.

BROTHERS Harvey H. and Jasper Perkins, of Bountiful, who have recently returned from a trip to the Salt River Valley region, lying over the rim of the basin north-east of Montpelier, in Bear Lake Valley, report it a splendid country for stock-raising. The upper valley is about twenty miles long and six wide, and covered with grass, forming the best range that they ever saw. There is an abundance of water, the streams running into Snake River and thence towards the Pacific. The soil is rich, dark and deep, but the altitude forbids the hope that it can be used successfully for general agricultural purposes; an experiment, however, is being made with a crop of oats this season by one of the Rich family, of Bear Lake. The timber on the mountain slopes is abundant and easy of access. Deer, elk and other game abound, and there are immense quantities of fish in the streams, some of which, flowing from innumerable springs, are as large as City Creek. There are several sulphur springs in the valley, and in the middle of one creek a rocky cone arises about seven feet high, from the top of which issues a hot sulphur spring, while the water that runs around and past its base is clear, cold and tasteless.

The Lower Salt River valley they did not visit, but it is much larger than the upper valley, and lies about eight miles distant from the latter at the foot of the Three Tetons. Those brethren are enthusiastic over the country, and describe it as one of the loveliest spots, and, without exception, the best stock raising regions in the mountains.

On their way home they located a vein of fullers-earth in the neighborhood of Randolph, on Bear River. We have some specimens of the marl, which may be seen at this office, and it appears to be pure and of excellent quality, much better than that which is imported from the East. If fullers-earth were used more plentifully by our woolen factors there would not be so much grease left in the cloth, with its unpleasant odor and tendency to catch dust. And there is no need to import it by the carload, as is sometimes done, for there is an abundance of it on the spot above referred to, and we are told that another large vein, unworked, lies in the neighborhood of Hardy's Station, east of this city. We think this marl should be utilized, and indeed all the mineral deposits of these everlasting hills should be brought into use for the benefit of the people and the general advancement of the material interests of our growing Territory.

VERDICTS BASED ON "GENERAL IMPRESSIONS."

A TRIAL for murder has recently been concluded in New Jersey. A policeman by the name of Smith was found murdered in his bed early one morning; his skull had been broken in by some heavy weapon and he had been stabbed in the side with a knife. His wife first gave the alarm, and stated that she had been awakened from sleep by the side of her husband by a man wearing a mask, who placed something to her nostrils and she became unconscious. When she recovered, her husband was dead. A bottle which had contained chloroform was found in the room, and a sash weight, with which it is supposed the wound was inflicted on the murdered man's head, was subsequently found in a closet. Mrs. Smith's clothing was not stained with blood. She was arrested for complicity in the crime, and a young man named Covert Bennett, with whom she had been very intimate, was also arrested as the murderer. No traces of blood were found upon any of his clothing.

During their confinement in the jail awaiting their trial, Bennett managed to pass several letters to Mrs. Smith, and one of them was

produced in court, in which he expressed his ardent love for her, and his willingness to accuse himself of the murder rather than she should suffer suspicion. Some expressions in the letter led to the idea that he had done something wrong, but rather conveyed the impression that it was some simple affair between these parties than anything like the great crime for which they stood arraigned. Bennett set up an alibi on the trial, which was pretty well established. But the general impression was unfavorable to the accused, because of their illicit relations.

The evidence against them was almost entirely supposititious, yet some of the very circumstances which to many minds would be taken as proof of the woman's innocence, were construed by the judge as pointing to her guilt. For instance, the absence of a spot of blood upon her clothing, which would ordinarily be considered favorable to her case, was pointed out as evidence against her; for the judge argued that it was impossible that she could have lain in the bed when her husband was murdered without the blood reaching her, unless she had put something between them to stay its flow and this would indicate at least her guilty knowledge of the crime.

The jury brought in a verdict of guilty against both the prisoners. It is probable that a new trial will be obtained; for, though the general opinion may be that the defendants are guilty, yet the evidence adduced by the prosecution—and we have sifted it carefully—apart from popular sentiment and belief, was insufficient to establish the crime charged in the indictment.

The New York Herald, commenting upon the case in an editorial, calls the conclusion of the jury, "A verdict on impressions and not on evidence," takes the same view of it as we have expressed, and says further:

"It is a verdict based on New Jersey popular belief and not on evidence, and the Judge's charge to the jury is an indication of how deeply the impression of the guilt of the accused has eaten into the New Jersey mind."

* * * The theory of the law is generally understood to be that an accused party must be held to be innocent until proved to be guilty. In this remarkable trial the theory seems to have been reversed. The prisoners were evidently held to be guilty and required to prove their innocence."

We are forcibly struck with the similarity between the course taken on this New Jersey trial with that pursued in the Miles case in this city. General impression and popular belief condemned the accused in both instances, for there was not a particle of direct evidence in either. And the general theory of the innocence of the accused, and their right to the benefit of a doubt, were in the Miles case reversed as clearly as in the Smith case. This is altogether wrong, and justice demands that juries should be sufficiently impressed with the duty of deciding strictly in accordance with the evidence produced in Court, unaffected by any general impressions obtained from any other source which may be unfavorable to the accused. No well balanced mind will object to a conviction for any offence established by evidence adduced on the trial, but all just people must condemn the finding of verdicts upon common rumor or popular impressions.

AMONG THE "MORMONS."

FOOLISH rumors have been circulated in Arizona, in regard to the "Mormon" colonists who are redeeming portions of that Territory from barrenness and solitude. One or two Arizona papers, taking their cue from unprincipled sheets published in other places, have assisted in circulating false reports concerning our industrious friends in the south, while others have taken up the cudgels in their behalf, and the interests of fair play and justice. The prevalent drouth has been taken advantage of, by malicious persons, to excite feelings against the "Mormon" settlers, who have been accused of using water for irrigation to the detriment of other settlers. The following letter, with the above heading,

published in the Territorial Expositor, dated May 20, and written by "one of the party," refutes the rumor, and bears testimony to the true character of the new colonists:

"On Saturday a party of stockholders in the Griffin and Farmer's Canal Company, 14 in number, started up Salt River, to discover, if possible, a remedy to save at least a portion of their suffering and sickly-looking crops. We had been told that the Mormons had taken at least one-half of the water out of the river, and that they flooded the desert with the greater portion of it.

About 14 miles east of Hayden's Ferry we arrived at the first Mormon settlement, Mesa City, a thriving little village, containing about 250 inhabitants, including a few Gentiles. The first impression this newly built town makes upon the mind of a stranger is that the inhabitants are an intelligent and an industrious people. Their streets, orchards, etc., are sufficient evidence of their diligence.

On our arrival at Mesa City we were well treated and entertained, which surprised us somewhat, as we had held the belief that these people were a set of ill-bred ruffians. We found them to be gentlemen, in the truest sense of the word. They told us that they had but a scant supply of water, and a look at their canal gave proof that they spoke the truth. They told us they had been short of water for some time, but knowing that we at the lower end of the valley were in need of a larger supply of the life-giving fluid, and that our farms were dried up, and our crops suffering, they had not increased the volume of water in their ditches, but contented themselves with one-half the quantity of water necessary to insure a safe crop.

Being convinced that the Mormons were not the vicious, meddling and selfish people they had been represented to be, we took our departure for the Jonesville settlement, four miles east of Mesa City. Mr. Jones gave us a cordial reception, and as night was drawing near, we accepted his very pressing invitation and "camped" for the night. Mr. Jones, settled here about two years ago, and during that time has made some wonderful improvements. The orchards and vineyards are in a flourishing condition, everything is systematically arranged and the fruit, crops, etc., cultivated with the greatest care. After "doing" the farm, we went with Mr. Jones to the head of his *cequia*, a little ditch not carrying more than 500 inches of water. Our host gave as his opinion that the old ditches should be lawfully protected, and should not be deprived of the water justly belonging to them by the large ditches, such as the Grand Canal and others.

After seeing all that was to be seen, our party returned home, satisfied that Arizona has room for thousands of such Mormons as have already settled in this valley."

Another correspondent to the same paper, writing from Yuma, under date of May 14, says:

"I am glad to see that you are inclined to do the fair thing by the Mormons. I know nothing of these people, except that when they came into the Territory they were warmly welcomed and encouraged to come. Since they have been here they have demonstrated that they are capable of sustaining themselves by their labor, on land that was heretofore considered worthless. They are now beginning to reap some of the fruits of their labor; and it appears to me that the *Enterprise* howl against them is instigated by persons who desire to reap where they have not sown—in other words, to drive out the working bees in the interest of the drones. This is an old dodge; but it is not the first time religion has been made use of for the same purpose. Your friends here wish you success."

AMERICAN ANTIQUITIES.

AMERICA is often referred to by Europeans as "a new country." They date its civilization from the time of its settlement by the Pilgrim Fathers, and pointing with pride to the ruined castles, crumbling towers, ancient cathedrals and ivy covered relics of old time architecture, turn with a supercilious smile to the modern structures of

the New World, and say that they sadly lack the charm of the antique.

But when this broad and blessed land is explored, and its waste places are opened to the gaze and industry of the all-conquering race that leads the world in art, science and general enlightenment, the most convincing proofs are discovered of the extreme antiquity of civilization in America. The researches of travelers during the present century have been amply rewarded. The remains of great cities, with magnificent temples, kingly palaces, vast fortifications, architectural adornments, splendid arches, peculiar terraces, grand galleries, paved roadways, sepulchral urns, delicate pottery, works of art in colors surpassing in fadeless beauty the tints known to the moderns, engravings, hieroglyphics, sculpture, carvings, and other evidences of skill and learning have been found, under conditions indicating not only the intelligence and culture of the people who erected and adorned them, but also their extreme antiquity. The existence of these wonderful ruins and the remoteness of the period when they stood erect in their glory cannot be disputed. But a thick veil is drawn over the history of the people whose handiwork they were, and who have apparently passed away from earth leaving no remnant behind to tell the story of their origin and fall.

There is one peculiarity in the character of these antiquities which should not be lost sight of by those who are curious in these matters. That is, they give evidence of the work of two distinct races, one anterior to the other. All the travelers of note who have written on this subject refer to this fact. The style of architecture and the whole feature of the more remote are strikingly different from those of later date. To the believer in the Book of Mormon this is all clear and comprehensible. The works of the Jaredites were of another character to the works of the Nephites, and he who traces the journeyings and places of habitation of these two nations, and compares their history in the Book of Mormon with the discoveries of modern travelers, will find in the latter complete corroboration of the former.

A Tucson correspondent of the Chicago Times, a short time since, wrote a very interesting letter in regard to some of the ruins in Arizona; and we make the following extracts from the communication for the consideration of our readers:

Arizona has been justly termed by travelers and historians the "Wonder land," and it truly opens to the scientist and archaeologist a vast and as yet unexplored field of interesting and inexhaustible study. You cannot travel over 12 square miles of the Territory without finding either inscriptions or hieroglyphics upon the rocks, traces of wide and deep ditches, or ruins of habitations and cities, about whose founders and their ultimate destiny history and even tradition remain a closed book. In most instances the outline of walls are just discernible above the earth, almost hidden by tall grass or crumbling stones, in many places situated upon high elevations, at the present day far removed from water.

"North of Prescott are said to exist important ruins of stone buildings and fortifications, showing expert masonry. Those found in the Gila Valley are of adobe or concrete, while in more remote districts among the mountains they were built of mud and cobblestones.

That which seems most perplexing to the antiquarian is the fact that the ruins of Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado bear no resemblance whatever in their construction to antiquities found elsewhere in our country, nor to those of old Mexico, Yucatan or South America, with one exception of the Casa Grande, 25 miles above the Pina village, upon the Gila River. Here the walls and doorways slope toward the ceiling in a way resembling the ancient structures of Central America.

The Casa Grande has so often been described in works of travel that all interested in antiquarian researches have become familiar with its appearance. Its history must forever baffle the curious.

It was first visited and mentioned by a Spanish adventurer, Cobeza

de Vaca, in 1535, and later by Padre Marco de Niza, in 1537, and was afterward visited by a part of Coronado's army, in 1540, who found it in pretty much the same state of ruin as it remains at present, with the exception of being several stories higher.

But three stories now remain with a small portion of the fourth. It reaches the height of sixty feet and is built of concrete, the wall being between four and five feet thickness, and hard as stone. The outer surface is rough and of a grayish color, the inner walls are smooth and hard finished, "so polished that they shine like pottery," says one of the missionary historians, and are of a reddish yellow color. The building is oblong, and measures as it now stands, in length, running north and south, sixty-three feet, and forty-five feet in width, east and west; there are indications of other rooms adjoining the walls that are now standing, which prove that the building was originally of much larger dimensions.

There were five rooms upon each floor, not more than six or eight feet to each ceiling. The apertures for doors were also very small, not having been larger than four feet by two. The windows were nothing more than port holes.

The ground floor is filled many feet with rubbish and fallen mortar. The upper floors are entirely gone, but the charred ends of large cedar beams, which once supported them, still remain in place, in a perfect state of preservation.

It is a singular fact and coincidence that all these ancient buildings which have been excavated or carefully examined show unmistakable evidence of having been demolished by fire.

There still remains an extensive wall which at one time surrounded the Casa, which apparently was the central building of a large city, as the valley for more than a mile is covered with immense mounds here and there a broken wall standing to the height of ten or twelve feet, while the whole surface is thickly strewn with broken pottery, retaining its bright colors and beautifully glazed in spite of exposure to a scorching sun and all the vicissitudes of weather for centuries. Here, too, are found the ruins of the Montezuma Canal which is well marked for more than twenty miles, of immense size and admirably constructed.

In the Gila basin are ruins of other cities and edifices, showing remains of greater magnitude than that of the Casa Grande.

The Pina Indians, who now occupy the valley, and were found there by the Spaniards in 1535, had no knowledge of the people by whom these ruins were built, although their tradition at that time extended back several hundred years."

In reading these remarks about the destruction of those cities by fire, and the accounts of the places the buried ruins of which have been uncovered by explosion, we are forcibly reminded of the currences which took place on this land when our Savior was crucified in Palestine, as described in the Book of Mormon. We find the following in the Book of Nephi (page 452):

"And behold the city of Galgahave I caused to be sunk and the inhabitants thereof to be buried up in the depths of the earth, yea, and the city of Onihah, and the inhabitants thereof, and the city of Mocom and the inhabitants thereof, and the city of Jerusalem and the inhabitants thereof."

"And behold that great city Jacobugath, which was inhabited by the people of the king of Jacob have I caused to be burned with fire, because of their sins and wickedness. * * * And behold the city of Laman and the city of Josh, and the city of Gad and the city of Kishkumen have I caused to be burned with fire and the inhabitants thereof, because of their wickedness."

This despised Book, the divine authenticity of which some people are so exceedingly anxious to overturn, is the only key by which the mystery that covers American antiquities can be unlocked. Throw it aside, and though the relics of departed greatness lie scattered upon the face of the land, and monumental archaeology proclaims the existence of races that once flourished where solitude now reigns, there is no voice to tell the tale of their growth and decadence, nor whisper a word to break the