

slopes and gulches and natural lay of the country. The main street runs nearly north and south and extends all the way up from the base to the top of the hill or mountain on which the city stands. Main street and others of the principal thoroughfares abound with fine stores and business blocks. There are also some good churches and school buildings. The court house is a substantial and fire-proof structure, costing \$140,000. It has a prominent central location and commands a magnificent view of the city and valley.

The city is well lighted by two electric works and a large gas plant. The health of the city is said to be excellent. This is largely accounted for by its favorable location which permits the best possible drainage. But it is hard for a visitor to believe that the immense volumes of smoke and poisonous gases which ascend from the numerous smelters and which cause a dense fog at times to rest upon the city are not injurious to health.

Butte is one of the most important mining cities in the world. It produces millions of pounds of copper every year, and silver and gold equal to the revenue of a principality. The ground under the upper part of the city is honeycombed with tunnels and drifts, and palatial business blocks, pretty homes and mining industries are mixed up in veritable confusion. The country surrounding Butte is picturesque, and the railways getting in and out—at least on the east—are very much tangled up in the mountains. As a mining camp Butte certainly ranks very high, but as a residence city, there are thousands of places in our great country which would be much more desirable. The altitude is 5,701 feet above the level of the sea, but owing to its location on the sunny side of a mountain, the place is much warmer than other towns in Montana of about the same altitude.

The county of Silver Bow, in which Butte is located, is the smallest county in Montana, and has a population of nearly 45,000 people, more than two-thirds of whom reside in Butte or its immediate vicinity. The surface of the country is very mountainous and broken, abounding in lofty mountain peaks, pleasant valleys, deep gulches and verdant canyons. The soil of the valleys is very productive and inhabited by ranchmen, who find a ready market at good prices for every product raised.

According to the U. S. census, Montana had in 1890 a population of 132,000. In 1880 there was only 39,159 inhabitants; hence the increase in ten years was over 237 per cent. There are perhaps over 150,000 people in the state now. The great majority of these are dependent upon the mining industries. According to official statistics recently compiled Montana has up to date produced gold to the value of about \$190,000,000 and silver worth over \$200,000,000. Of this \$3,100,500 in gold and \$29,800,000 in silver were produced in 1893. The output of gold commenced in 1862, that of silver in 1876. The production of lead is nearly equal to that of silver and that of copper vastly more. As a sample it may be stated that Montana produced 164,000,000 pounds of copper (worth over nineteen million

dollars) in 1892. During the same year 25,715,197 pounds of lead, valued at \$990,035, was produced.

The area of the state of Montana is 145,210 miles, nearly twice that of Utah. The temporary capital is Helena and at the next election it will be decided by popular vote where the permanent capital is to be. Anaconda, a mining town situated twenty-seven miles west of Butte, will pull against Helena for the possession of that boon. Butte, though the largest city in the state, is not in it this time, as she only ranked as number three in the former race for the possession of the capital; Helena and Anaconda pulling the heaviest vote were thus, according to legal enactment, left as the final contestants for the future capital of Montana.

ANDREW JENSON.

### VISITING WAYNE STAKE.

The following account of a visit to Wayne Stake and of meetings held with the Saints there is much belated, but it will no doubt be read with interest even at this date. It is from the pen of Elder P. C. Christensen, of Mayfield, Sanpete Co.:

On my journey from Richfield to Wayne Stake I left Richfield the 26th of June, and arrived at Grass Valley and held a Scandinavian meeting the same evening. It was well attended and there was a good spirit, and the following day I stopped there and visited many old friends and had a good time. On the 28th I traveled over the mountains to Rabbit Valley in Wayne Stake, and arrived at Loa and held a general meeting the same evening, and held meetings in all the wards in Rabbit Valley, which are five in number, and very nice settlements with fine fields of grain and meadows of grass, and a good deal of land that isn't yet taken up, though there is plenty of water and room for several hundred families yet. On Sunday, the first day of July, I stopped over in Loa and attended a Scandinavian meeting in the forenoon and a general meeting in the afternoon, also meeting in the evening at East Loa. I had a good time with the Saints and leading brethren in the Stake, and on Monday, the 2nd, Brother Willis E. Robinson, president of the Stake, and his one counselor, Brother Baston, took me to Teasdale ward and we held meeting, stopping with Bishop George Coleman, where we had a good time. Next morning we drove through a canyon and came to a place called Junction. We there found some very nice orchards and vineyards, with abundance of fruit such as peaches, apricots, apples and grapes, and all the trees were loaded. We stopped there for noon and then traveled through the rest of the canyon and found many fine places similar to this one. We then traveled through a wash named Capital Wash—very narrow in places, so much so that it is all a wagon can do to get through. The walls are of rock and perpendicular, from four to five hundred feet in height, according to our best judgment. After we had traveled between forty and fifty miles that day we came to a ward called Cainesville, and held a meeting the same evening. We had a good attendance, and noticed the fine fields

of grain and orchards of all kinds of fruits. Next morning, the 4th of July, we traveled for twelve miles to Blue Valley ward, and attended a celebration of the day at 10 o'clock; had a fine time with the people and in the afternoon went to the meeting house and watched the young people have their different kinds of enjoyments but all in good order, directed by leading men. We drove from there out in the fields and found them waving with heavy crops of grain of different kinds; and in the evening we drove to a ward called Clifton, where we found wheat and barley turning, and in a few days would be ready to cut. There were fine orchards everywhere. Next morning, the 5th of July, held a meeting at Blue Valley ward at 10 o'clock. The people had come from other wards and we had a good meeting.

I found the people all united throughout the county, which all belongs to Wayne Stake; and I can truly say that President Robinson and his counselor take deep interest for the people and show them a fatherly love. There are thousands of acres of land to be taken up, plenty of water for it and room to enlarge their settlements; and the leading men and the people in general are willing to assist on good conditions. It is a new country yet but they will have a grist mill in this fall and my advice is to any of the Latter-day Saints that need a home that here is a good chance. There is room for many hundreds of families more, and there is a good chance of market for the surplus produce. These places lie about fifteen miles north and east from the Henry mountains, where there is some business going on. When I left there on the 5th of July the alfalfa was about ready to cut the second time, and the people that had experience told me that the frost never comes till along in October, so you can see they have a long summer.

We left there in the afternoon on the 5th of July. I started for Emery, Emery county, and traveled for two days and a half over a very rough country, and reached Emery on Saturday, the 7th, and attended meeting on Sunday, the 8th. I can truly say I have enjoyed my travels very much with the Latter-day Saints, and as a general thing I have found them in possession of a good spirit and determined to serve God. I have found in the outskirts that the people give much attention to home industry in different departments in order that they may become a self-sustaining people.

I traveled through Emery Stake, visited all the wards, and was very kindly received by the Bishops and especially by the president of the Stake, C. G. Larsen. There are a good many wards in this Stake; the last one I visited was a small one called Castle Gate, with seventeen families, mostly coal miners. They had a complete organization and a fine meeting house. I enjoyed myself and felt well in visiting with old friends that I have met and traveled with in Europe, both lately and in years ago. It pleased me very much to find them true and faithful to the Gospel.

With kind regards to many friends, your brother,

P. C. CHRISTENSEN.