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WE BUILD THE LADDER.

"Heaven is not reached at a single bound,
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to the summit, round by round.

"I count this thing to be grandly true,
That a noble deed is a step toward God,
Lifting the soul from the common sod
To a purer air and a broader view.

"We rise by the things that are under feet,
By what we have mastered of greed and gain,
By the pride disposed and the passion slain,
And the vanquished ill that we hourly meet.

"We hope, we aspire, we resolve, we trust,
When the morning calls us to life and light;
But our hearts grow weary, and ere the night
Our lives are trailing the sordid dust.

"We hope, we aspire, we resolve, we pray,
And we think that we mount the air on wings.
Beyond the recall of sensual things,
While our feet still cling to the heavy clay.

"Only in dreams is a ladder thrown
From the weary earth to the sapphire walls;
But the dreams depart and the vision falls,
And the sleeper wakes on his pillow of stone.

"Heaven is not reached at a single bound,
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lowly earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to the summit, round by round."

—J. G. Holland.

IN LINCOLN COUNTY, NEVADA.

On Saturday, April 2nd, with young Franklin Ferry as guide, I traveled thirty miles in a northerly direction, over mountains and through dense forests of cedar part of the way from Clover valley to Panacca, where I spent the following day (Sunday) and preached three times.

Panacca (an Indian name for rich, or much money) is a fine little settlement situated on the east side of the Meadow Valley Wash, and is surrounded by a limited quantity of good farming land, which, together with the townsite, is irrigated from warm springs gushing out of the ground a short distance north of the settlement. The peculiar feature of the surrounding country is a number of white clay hills and ridges which in some instances extend for miles in the same direction, and in many places assume the most peculiar and fantastic shapes. Grottoes, caves, crags, etc., are plentiful, while the harder formations stand forth in fine imitations of lofty pinnacles, domes and numerous other shapes. Some of

the most interesting of these are met with on the road from Panacca to Eagle Valley; and a white clay hill with a flat top also towers up to the height of nearly seventy-five feet in centre of the Panacca settlement; this odd formation is called Court House Hill by the citizens; two other hills, somewhat similar in shape, rise to about the same elevation immediately north of the town; and a temple-shaped ditto standing out in bold relief above the surrounding hills to the northwest put one in mind of Chimney Rock in the Platte River valley, so well known to overland travelers years ago, before the advent of the railway.

Panacca ward (with a numerical strength of 42 families, or 300 souls, presided over by Bishop Milton L. Lee, with George A. Wadsworth and Alfred L. Syphus as counselors) embraces the town of Panacca, two families in Eagle Valley lying eighteen miles to the northeast, and two families in Spring Valley, five miles further up the stream (Meadow Valley Creek.) There is in fact a whole string of little valleys above Panacca, which are named in the order in which they are reached by the traveler as he goes up the stream range as follows: Round valley, at present inhabited by a French man, who has a dairy there. (2) Dry valley, which once contained a little settlement of Saints and afterwards a mining town, clustered around a large stamp mill. (3) Rose valley, a beautiful little place, once inhabited by about twenty families of our people and now containing a solitary ranch. (4) Eagle valley, which is about three miles long, with an average width of half a mile, containing a village (with eight families) beautifully situated in the north end, which once had a population of thirty families of Saints, or more, with a complete ward organization, and (5) Spring valley, which is reached by passing through a canyon four miles long extending up from Eagle valley. Spring valley is the finest of all the above named valleys, although the highest and coldest, but it contains some excellent farming and meadow land, and by a judicious and well regulated distribution of the water for irrigation purposes could easily sustain a population of twenty-five or thirty families as well as the eight families who now dwell within its borders. Here as well as in Eagle Valley existed a flourishing branch of

the Church, prior to the difficulties with the Nevada officials in 1871, when most of our people moved away from here for the same causes that led to the evacuation of the settlements on the Muddy. Spring Valley abounds in beautiful mountain scenery, perpendicular cliffs skirting both sides of the valley in many places; the valley extends from southwest to northeast for a distance of about nine miles, with forks reaching up several miles further toward the rim of the basin. The average width of the main valley is a quarter of a mile.

My experience in visiting these valleys, as well as the now much reduced mining camp of Pische, on the 4th and 5th inst., was quite pleasant, save for the capsizing of our vehicle into a wash, by which driver, historian and a lady passenger were thrown into the brush in as rather unceremonious manner; but a the horses behaved well, and the driver stuck to the lines, we all escaped with unbroken limbs, and after "righting" the buggy continued the journey as wiser people, determined to drive more carefully in the future.

The close proximity of the mining camp of Pioche to Panacca has had its effects upon the inhabitants of the latter place. Instead of our people wielding an influence for good morals and proper behavior upon the miners, these seem to have been successful in leading some of the Saints into crooked paths, and exercising an influence that has led into a state of carelessness and lethargy some of those whose knowledge of right and wrong and power to discern between good and evil ought to have been proof against the example of the evil doer; but the history of the world for nearly six thousand years has proven that mankind generally is more inclined to take the downward course than that which leads upward, and that men of darkness have so frequently overcome the people of light. Let us hope for better things in the future.

But Panacca has some good people; many of the Saints there have stood up manfully against the corrupting evils which have been courted by others; and great credit is due to those who in the midst of the many trying circumstances which have surrounded the Saints in this locality during the last twenty-two years have kept the faith and are still actuated by a desire to serve the Lord and keep His commandments.