

## Correspondence.

SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND CO., PENNSYLVANIA, January 13, 1870.

Editor Dear Sir:—My dear Bro.—Having received instructions from Pres. Burton, of New York, to proceed to Shenandoah City and fill a call made for an Elder at that point, I left Philadelphia, accompanied by Elders J. and H. Houtz, on the 7th inst. We met with Elders H. J. Rudy and Geo. Moesser, at Pottsville, and all journeyed together to hold a meeting with the Saints living in and adjacent to Mahanoy City. We visited among them until the morning of the 9th inst., when we met together and had a good meeting, at which each of the Elders spoke, giving evidence of the spirit of God working through them.

Elder J. Houtz and myself walked to Shenandoah City the same afternoon and were kindly received by Elder J. E. Ellis, Jr., at the house of his father. We found the people of that district very ignorant of our principles, and having procured the use of the school-house, bills were circulated informing the people that a meeting would be held and a discourse delivered upon the first principles of our faith on the evening of the 10th inst. At the hour appointed for the meeting, Elders Rudy, H. Houtz and Moesser joined us, when your humble servant delivered a discourse upon the first principles of the gospel, and was followed by Elders Rudy and J. Houtz, who bore testimony of the truth. Although there were but a limited number in attendance, (owing to prejudice, I presume) we had a good meeting, and I trust to hear of Elders Rudy and Moesser, who are laboring in that part of the State, doing a good work. As these two Elders can fill all the calls for preaching in that vicinity, Elders Houtz and myself took passage for this place.

On our arrival at Sunbury we were kindly entertained at the Junction House by Elder Jacob Houtz's sister and her husband, Dr. Jos. Eyster. Sunbury is the county seat and numbers about 4,000 inhabitants. It is pleasantly situated on the eastern bank of the Susquehanna, in sight of the town of Northumberland, and just above and between the east and west forks of this beautiful river. An unusual amount of trade is conducted in this place owing to the vast coal fields adjacent, and four railroads forming a junction here.

I was asked by Dr. Eyster to deliver a discourse upon the "History of Utah and the Mormons" yesterday, on condition that they could get the Court House, which I promised to do, providing the people who were poor be admitted free. There is some mania for money making through lectures in this region, I was afraid to engage, without an understanding, lest I might be found making merchandise of the gospel.

The next thing brought to my notice was a bill floating around town, headed "A Free Lecture this evening at 7 o'clock, in the Court House, by a Mormon Elder of Salt Lake City, Utah Territory." I learned that Dr. Eyster had visited his associate Judge Alexander Jordan and his Associates, who proposed to call their Court at the appointed hour in the evening and immediately adjourn. It for our accommodation, providing the Commissioners were willing. The consent of the latter being given we found a full house, well lighted, the Court assembled, the bell ringing and the Judge in position, ordering the clerk to open and then to close the Court: "I almost wept to witness so much kindness shown us, it reminded me of the manner in which strangers are treated in our own home, and I could not help contrasting it with the illiberal feeling manifested to us in other places I have visited."

I occupied one hour and a half, giving a sketch of the rise and progress of the work of God to the present time, including our religion, sufferings, hopes, country, trade, manufactures, schools, politics, and our social institutions as part of our religion. The Court and members of the Bar remained during the service and, together with the congregation, gave the greatest attention to the close; and I will say that God was with us and I never had a better flow of the Spirit.

At the close of our meeting Hon. G. F. Miller spoke of Elder J. Houtz and said he was the member elect from the 13th district to the 39th and 40th Congress and had taken an active part in defeating the Ashley bill. Elder J. Houtz had a conversation with Hon. J. B. Parker, member elect from the 13th district to the 41st Congress, who said he had little doubt with regard to our admission as a State, providing that polygamy is part of our religion, which he (Mr. Parker) was not prepared to dispute.

I leave the brethren to-day and go to Hyde Park, near Scranton, where I will remain over Sunday and then return to Philadelphia. This morning resembles an April morning more than January. There is very little ice in the river and there has been but very little winter up to the present time.

Give my kind regards to your family and to my associates and all friends in which the Bro. Houtz join.

I remain your affectionate Bro.

ANGUS M. CANTON.

Forty-six of the sixty-six members of the United States Senate are lawyers, and seventeen merchants or bankers. The remaining three (Harlan, Brownlow and Tipton), have been clergymen. Cameron, the eldest, was born in 1798; Osborn, the youngest, in 1839.

New Orleans, at this season, is occasionally visited by a mysterious fall of flakes from the atmosphere—minute feathery particles. This ash-like snow is the result of the burning of prairie, miles away. It is the work of the hunters, and the grand hunt at dusk is readily distinguished from tower and steeply by a bright, hectic spot on the horizon. The distance to which these ash flakes are borne by the winds is almost incredible, and sometimes they are said to originate from fires thirty miles distant.

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