

Correspondence.

BRIDGEWATER, Burk Co., N. C.

August 4, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

Since Elders W. C. Burton and C. J. Brain came to our assistance, we have extended the borders of our field of labor into the counties of Mitchell and Yancey. A rough mountainous district, the people of whom somewhat resembling the country, but though rough, still independent and high minded, being by no means so vain, neither bowing to the popular shrine or public sentiment to the degree of their more fashionable neighbors of the lower regions.

It seems that lofty mountains inspire lofty sentiments, and give independent characters to the inhabitants; at all events this fact, like in many other places is well demonstrated here, where the people are living on and cultivating the steep mountain sides and tops, from which they look down on their lowland neighbors and call them "land lappers," while in turn the "land lappers" take special pleasure in calling the highlanders "mountain boomers." The names are derived from the immense number of insects called "land lappers," living in the sandy plains below and the innumerable little animals in the mountains called "mountain boomers," the latter resemble our chip monk. The mountain people are very hospitable, and when their churches and public halls are closed against us, some will open their private dwellings and shady groves for the stranger, who bears the message of glad tidings of great joy, in spite of the angry efforts of our "charitable, pious" enemies, who claim to abound in love and mercy toward all men, until perchance two humble servants of God enter their midst with words of eternal life and light.

Their pretended meekness and mercy is now turned to vengeance and bloodshed, their piety to rage and clamor, exclaiming: "Away with them! away with them! hang, shoot, mob, hickory, anything to get rid of these bearers of a strange doctrine." "Do unto others as you would that they should do to you" is applicable to all but "Mormons." The once holy and infallible volume no longer means what it says, when they read, "Be careful to entertain the stranger," "to prove all things and hold fast that which is good."

Elders J. M. Barlow and C. J. Bran have been laboring in the mountains where they have done a valuable work. Although they have as yet made no additions to the Church, they have opened up a good field of labor, made many friends and believers in the truth, who bid well to become Saints. While visiting this district we were much pleased to meet a Mr. Wiseman, who has been in Colorado for some time and seems to take pleasure in stating that the "Mormons" are the best, most clever people he has met in his travels. Said he had been in the San Louis Valley where they lived, had worked with many of them on the railroad; that they were the only men there who failed to work on Sunday and carry firearms; that they were the most obliging, clever people to be found, and wondered why those who did not know them acted so foolish over them. This has accomplished more for our cause than we could possibly do in a considerable time, as he is a native of this locality and highly respected. This proves to us the great care the Saints at home should have in living their religion, that when honest men do happen in our midst they may see the fruits of the gospel and be led to glorify our heavenly Father.

Our success seems to raise the ire of Sabbath hirelings. Two years ago they were not pestered with the "horrible Mormons," now they have four ministers regularly preaching in various parts of five neighboring counties besides in other parts of the State. One good Methodist minister suggested that the governor be petitioned for our immediate exodus; another brother Baptist proposes (with the piety of a Pharisee,) the unrestrained use of the hickory. And so they talk, while the bees of Deseret work.

There has been so much said that the people finding our principles strictly scriptural, and their questions propounded to their ministers regarding us rarely ever answered satisfactorily, earnestly entreated their ministers in all directions to publicly meet and expose us. This

was claimed to be too small and trifling for them to stoop to, still they could "compass land and sea" to preach about us and tell lies that surely have no parallel in the world's history. But such did not satisfy all, so at length the Baptist mustered the courage to send us a challenge for a three days public discussion, one minister insuring us that he would be there if he lived.

At the place and on the day appointed, we with others long and patiently waited for the heroes of the day, for they had made great declarations of what they would do, but we could neither hear from them or see them. However, we have since heard that they have survived the awful day, and, like the truant soldier, to fight another day, which they are doing with no little zeal; but they endeavor to keep at a respectful distance. I am here reminded of the following lines composed by a little daughter of one of the Saints who recently embraced the gospel in this county:

"If you want to see the people tremble and fear,
Just tell them the 'Mormons' are in their rear.
Hurrah! hurrah! for a people so bold.
We will all die defending the gospel of old."

When our opponents decided not to meet us, they did all in their power to prevent the people from hearing us. However, we announced that we would be there, and many came to hear. Our last day's meeting was interrupted by a meeting being held to decide whether we should hold meeting there or not. The building was erected for all denominations. Bitter speeches were made against us, but we were well represented, and defended by Colonel Carson Vance, a retired lawyer, and Capt. Wiseman, and other shareholders in the building.

The following is a specimen of the arguments against us, also the answer: "It cannot be denied that the founder of the Mormons was assassinated." Answer: "Neither can it be denied that the Founder of Christianity was assassinated." A vote was taken and nearly all the elderly citizens present, with the ladies, voted for us, while a crowd of rowdy boys, members though of the Baptist Church from another neighborhood, with a few of the citizens voted against us, with a small majority, when an objection was made to the boys voting, war was then declared, which was all in accordance with a preconceived plan, as was afterwards proven. However, to avoid trouble, we held forth on the public road some distance away, where nearly all gathered and witnessed the fulfillment of the Savior's prediction, "They will drive you from their synagogues," which thundered a testimony louder and stronger than we could utter.

The Methodists at another place endeavored to prevent our holding services in a building that they used for similar purposes, by very unfair means, so much so that a number of their members and our friends severed their connection with the Methodist Church. While their minister was telling us how they were the owners of the building, etc., he was interrupted by their steward who said, "You are mistaken, the building is my private property, and I purpose giving the Mormons justice," which is something his reverence did not seem to want them to have. The preacher here stated that this affair would break up the best church in the circuit, to which the steward made answer, "If so, may the Lord have mercy on the worst." Then a general trouble ensued, making many friends for us. Now they are talking of deeding the church-house to us. The Methodist minister afterwards said, I think we had better let the "Mormons" severally alone, for neither mobs nor anything else will daunt them, for preach they will.

Elder L. Laker, of the Surry district, reports a number of baptisms, and an awakening interest generally in our principles. The summer is extremely warm, a great drouth prevails, and in many instances the crops will be a complete failure. Many think they are going to have almost a famine, even the trees in the woods are dying, which is something alarming in connection with the comet, to some who think it is an omen of war. Many of the people have had war to their hearts content.

There is such confusion here religiously, politically and every other way, that the people could not well be united on any subject. The time seems near when every man's hand will be against his neighbor.

With unceasing prayers for the interests of Zion, furtherance of truth, and the redemption of fallen humanity, I am sincerely your brother in the gospel covenant,

JAS. H. MOYLE.

The Bear Lake "Monster!"

SALT LAKE CITY,

August 19, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

It appears that the Bear Lake "monster" has been made mention of again as having been seen by some of President Taylor's Party while en route on their northern trip along the shore of the limpid waters of the beautiful Bear Lake.

There has been such convincing testimony given concerning the existence of the "monster" type, by reliable persons, at various and numerous times, during the last twelve or fifteen years, that it seems as if there must be no room left for doubt in the minds of the sceptically inclined.

Why not large things have an existence in the waters as well as the small? Have they not just as good a right to claim a home and traverse the bosom of the liquid deep, if nature has so endowed them, as the minor things? "Well," says the sceptic, "it does not stand to reason that such monsters as reported to have been seen could exist in the winter season when the lake is so thoroughly covered with ice; they certainly must have air." How about the smaller animals, such as fish, etc.; we know that they live continuously the year around? Nature may have endowed these amphibious "monsters" with qualifications to enable them to withstand the difficulties that arise in our wondering imaginations. This question, which produces so much doubt in the minds of the unbelieving, will readily vanish when we listen to the testimony of those who have traveled over the ice covering of the lake in the winter season, who have noticed large holes in the ice, which are generally termed "air holes." Some of these holes, say they, have the appearance of being made artificially, as fragments of ice floated in them. Is it not possible that some animal, for its own convenience, made these ruptures in the ice?

Another question seems to prevail, especially with those who reside in the "monster" locality, and that is, "if such things as purported to have been seen in the lake do actually exist, where do they keep themselves hid so long from our view? We have lived on the lake shore for many years, and have never seen such animals or any sign of them." Very true. This is no reason for their non-existence. The same argument would, with as much reason, apply to the non-existence of some other animals, because some good old "backwoodsman" had lived all his life in the midst of where such things are said to abound, yet he did not believe they existed, or he should have seen them with his own eyes. There are numerous instances where persons have gone frequently into the canyons and mountains for years, and perhaps hunted the bear, the mountain lion, and other animals, but failed to find anything of the kind. Yet this does not argue that the mountains are void of their presence.

Probably if the lake were to be explored and sounded, large deep holes would be found to exist. These holes would afford ample homes for the "monster" tribe, who may keep themselves mostly secluded in them, perhaps occasionally coming to the surface to obtain air, and once in a while reconnoiter around toward shore in search of food which may become scarce at times in their own localities. Perhaps this may account for them being so rarely seen.

There are other theories that might be advanced why the larger as well as the smaller species of the animal kingdom can exist in the Bear and other lakes, but we have the testimony of numbers of reliable persons that such things do exist; therefore it is not necessary to take up your valuable space in trying to convert, with argument, those who would not believe short of a view with their own eyes.

Respect fully, etc.

ONE-WHO-KNOWS.

HOLDEN, Millard Co., Utah,

August 17, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

Permit me through the columns of your esteemed paper to chronicle the death of one of Israel's favored ones,

Naomi R. Holman, wife of James S. Holman, deceased, who after a brief illness of three days, expired at 7 o'clock p. m., Thursday, at her residence in this ward.

She was born in Leroy, Genesee County, N. Y., Oct. 7, 1816; married J. S. Holman, March 24th, 1833, joined the Church in its infancy (date not known); in 1836 received a patriarchal blessing under the hands of Father Joseph Smith, Sen., which has been a guide to her through life, one which has been of much affliction and tribulation, having been expelled, driven and mobbed, from her home many times for the gospel's sake. She came to Utah, 1848, with six small children, following the footsteps of her husband who came to the valleys the year previous.

She has borne to her husband 12 children; her grandchildren number 52, and great grandchildren 16. Her integrity and faithfulness to the holy Priesthood was firm and unwavering to the last; and she has won the confidence and good will of those around her far and near.

The funeral addresses were delivered by Elders B. J. Stringham, Chas. Wood and Bishop David R. Stevens, who spoke very commendable of her life, character and unshaken integrity to the cause of truth up to the last moments. They advised the many present to be true as she had been true, when the remains were taken to the cemetery and quietly laid away.

Remaining as ever,

Yours in the cause of truth,
BENJ. BENNETT.

GEOLOGIC CHANGES.

JEFFERSONVILLE,

Tazewell County, Virginia,

August 4th, 1881.

Editor Deseret News:

The Appalachian mountain system, extending from Georgia to Canada, is of itself one of the great guides to the geologist in reading the past history of the globe. In the province of theoretical geology, the student may here find those proofs of the shrinking of the earth's crust, which is well shown in the folded, bent and crumpled rocks cropping out by the rivers and roadsides. A bird's-eye view of this mountain system would show a number of ridges extending in a direction generally parallel with the coast, with smaller transverse ridges, knobs and hills lying between in clusters, or isolated by intervening irregular valleys. These larger ridges represent the main wrinkles, and the lesser intervening hills the small wrinkles of the earth's crust, which seems to have been so wrinkled by the shrinkage of the interior foundation, after the rocks, which are chiefly of aqueous formation, were deposited in parallel strata.

In riding over the country, the traveler sees the rocks on one side of a hill inclined at a dip of 40 to 85° to the western horizon, and on the other at a nearly corresponding angle to the eastern. By erosion of the hill tops the rocks may be entirely disconnected, but the smaller folds or wrinkles are in many places intact and show the conformation of the larger. Occasionally may be seen a peculiar result of this folding known as a *fault*. That is, a place where a great fissure must have formed nearly in the centre of the fold, and one part of the fold or wrinkle has fallen down again, bringing the top strata of the fallen side against the lower strata of the part remaining up, thus bringing in immediate juxtaposition rocks of very different ages and character.

In some localities, where the eruption or shrinkage of the earth's crust has been of such a force as to break through stratified rocks hundreds of feet in thickness, across large areas of country, the very soil and character of the country has been determined by the erosion and disintegration of these rocks. Thus where the larger valleys are situated, the later tertiary and alluvial deposits not having been disturbed, the soil is fertile, while in the more hilly sections the country is rocky and worthless.

The student who will take a dozen sheets of tissue paper of different colors, and soak them in water, and place them upon a smooth surface, can, by applying lateral pressure, by means of a rule or straight edge, wrinkle this paper into ridges and hollows, quite like the crust of the earth is wrinkled into mountains and vales. Abrading the highest wrinkles would disclose the underlying sheets, and the waste material would answer to the eroded and

decomposed rocks which form much of the soils of the hillsides and valleys, the sheet that has suffered the most wear giving the prevailing color to the debris. Now let the student draw these sheets from opposite edges with sufficient force, and the ridges and hollows will disappear, leaving a surface flat and smooth, except where the eroded parts have been, which will now be the hollows and the debris, the higher parts.

If the theory be correct, that the shrinkage of the earth's crust produced the mountains and vales, the simple experiment shown above would give an idea of the plan by which the Creator can readily bring this prediction to pass regarding the surface of the earth: "Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low," etc. (Isaiah xl. 4.) Any internal force that would stretch the crust of the earth to its former size, would, of course, level the hills and mountains, and raise the valleys, without destroying the surface with its towns and cities, and forests and meadows, and the larger watercourses of the land. As this prediction admits of only a literal fulfilment, may not the stretching out of the earth's surface, instead of the leveling of the mountains and hills into the valleys, be the probable way of making the earth an arable undulating plain, with its watersheds and rivers and forests and prairies all made beautiful for the abode of the Saints of the Lord?

DIRIGO.

His Second Choice.

"Hester!" exclaimed Aunt Susan, ceasing her rocking and knitting, and sitting upright. "Do you know what your husband will do when you are dead?"

"What do you mean?" was the startled reply.

"He will marry the sweetest tempered girl he can find."

"Oh, auntie!" Hester began.

"Don't interrupt me until I have finished," said Aunt Susan, leaning back and taking up her knitting. "She may not be as pretty as you are, but she will be good natured. She may not be as good a housekeeper as you are; in fact, I think not, but she will be good natured. She may not even love him as you do, but she will be good-natured."

"Why, auntie—"

"That isn't all," continued Aunt Susan. "Every day you live you are making your husband more and more in love with that good-natured woman, who may take your place some day. After Mr. and Mrs. Harrison left you the other night, the only remark he made about them was: 'She is a sweet woman.'"

"Oh, auntie—"

"That isn't all," composedly continued Aunt Susan. "To-day your husband was half way across the kitchen floor, bringing you the first ripe peaches, and all you did was to look on and say: 'There, Will, just see your tracks on the clean floor! I won't have my floor all tracked up.' Some men would have thrown the peaches out of the window. To-day you screwed up your face when he kissed you, because his mustache was damp, and said, 'I never want you to kiss me again.' When he empties anything you tell him not to spill it; when he lifts anything you tell him not to break it. From morning until night your sharp voice is heard complaining and fault-finding. And last winter, when you were so sick, you scolded him about his allowing the pump to freeze, and took no notice when he said: 'I was so anxious about you I did not think of the pump.'"

"But, auntie—"

"Hearken, child. The strongest and most intelligent of them all care more for a woman's tenderness than for anything else in the world, and without this the cleverest and most perfect housekeeper is sure to lose her husband's affection in time. There may be a few more men like your Will—as gentle, as loving, as chivalrous, as forgetful of self, and so satisfied with loving that their affection will die a long, struggling death; but in most cases it takes but a few years of fretfulness and fault-finding to turn a husband's love into irritated indifference."

"But, auntie—"

"Yes, well you are not dead yet, and that sweet-tempered woman has not been found; so you have time to become so serene and sweet that your husband can never imagine that there is a better-tempered woman in existence."

John Dillon will leave Ireland for his health.