

J. W. Irone, of Moroni, Hans Jensen, of Mantle South, John Bartholomew, of Fayette, L. S. Anderson, of Ephraim North, and C. R. Dorius, of Ephraim South wards each made a very satisfactory report of his ward, except the ruffle caused by the late political upheaval. Fast offering, tithing, the general health of the people, an abundant harvest, general prosperity, gratitude to the Giver of all Good for the great abundance bestowed upon all, characterized the reports given. Elder J. B. Malhen spoke upon the good results of the continued attendance at the quarterly conferences. Elder J. F. Allred reported his labors and experience as president of the Y. M. M. L. associations of the Stake.

After the opening exercises for the afternoon meeting Elder Henry Seal gave a short sketch of his labors and observations among the Saints in the Stake.

President George Q. Cannon, having arrived, gave a very instructive discourse upon the influences that from time to time manifest themselves among the Saints; admonished the Saints to look well to their ways, lest they be overcome, and thereby bring the wrath of God upon themselves as God has decreed the utter overthrow of the wicked and ungodly.

7 p. m.—Elder McAlister spoke upon Temple work, exhorting the Saints to remember their obligation to the dead, thereby making their own salvation more sure.

Elder Lewis Anderson called the attention of the Bishops and the Saints to the necessity of gathering up stock tithing.

President Cannon addressed the Saints upon the great work before them.

Sunday, 10 a. m.—Elder J. B. Malhen and President Cannon were the speakers.

President Joseph F. Smith arrived for the afternoon meeting. Sacrament was administered, and the General and Stake authorities presented and unanimously sustained. Presidents Smith and Cannon addressed the Saints, their discourses being full to overflowing with the richest of instructions accompanied by the rich outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which caused the Saints to rejoice greatly, the like of which was a joyous characteristic of all the discourses of the presidency during the conference.

The congregation was large at first and each succeeding one increased until the last one, when had there been another house convenient there were enough who could not be accommodated in the present one to have made a good congregation.

Conference adjourned for three months to meet at Ephraim.

GEORGE TAYLOR,
Clerk of Conference.

"A TIRED TAXPAYER."

In your issue of Saturday, November 16th, is an article under the head of Public Patronage, giving the amount paid city officials and employees. In looking over this article I see some things with which I propose to finish.

First, then, I object to the Mayor's clerk as utterly needless, and declaring

his office vacant would save the city taxpayers \$750 a year. The constant employment of the assistant city attorney is another luxury and a burden on the taxpayers of Salt Lake City, and his salary would save to the people \$1,500 a year. Deputy auditor, per year \$1,200, is another extravagance, and an outrage on the taxpayers. Deputy treasurer is even a more glaring outrage upon the taxpayers of the city, and costs them \$1,500 per annum. Special collector's clerk, per year \$600, is another. Then we have a deputy recorder at \$1,200, and a deputy recorder's clerk at \$1,200. The city should dispense with one if not both of these needless employees. Superintendent of waterworks' clerk is another waste of public money, and the \$1,080 should be saved. Next comes supervisor's clerk, and the poll tax clerk, the former at \$1,080 and the latter at \$750 per year; one of them could be dispensed, as they both are in the same department, and one could easily do the business of both. The watermaster's foreman and the watermaster's clerk at salaries of \$900 and \$360, might, one of them, be dispensed with. Chief draughtsman, \$1,200, in the same department as the chief engineer and two assistant chief engineers, the two latter drawing \$1,500 and \$1,200 a year, and each of these have time and should be capable of doing all the draughting. Inspector of sewers, per year \$1,200; inspector's clerk per year \$900; what is there for one of these men to do but draw his salary? Electric light and fire inspector, \$2,100; this service should also be performed by the sewer inspector at a saving of \$2,100 per annum.

Now, Mr. Editor, while I find no fault with these gentlemen for seeking those places which the patronage of the city officers offers to their special friends, yet the Mayor and City Council are very much to blame for thus wasting public money to employ men whose service is only a duplication of work that the officers whom they assist are well paid for doing and should perform.

Yours truly,
A TIRED TAXPAYER.

STEVENSON'S JOURNEYINGS.

In accord with my usual custom extending far back into the '50s, I find myself making pencil tracks dotting down the incidents of life's journey which pass us so swiftly by.

This time I am on the R. G. W. railway, southeastward bound from Salt Lake, toward a land where my feet have never trod. Just on the tick of time, our slim trim conductor mildly said "All aboard!" What a world of difference in the way words are spoken! The contrast was soon witnessed in a corpulent, coarse brakeman. For more than 100 miles I could but look with contempt upon that coarse-grained brakeman, who spoke words so different, so harsh and gruffly, and so offensively to one of the passengers who was worthy of better treatment.

On the Cottonwoods there was more snow than we were leaving behind us in Salt Lake City. This continued on up to Soldiers' Summit, the highest point on the line in Utah, it being 7,465 feet—while at Salt Lake City, it is 4,225—8,240 feet higher than our city. It was 11:40 a. m. when we reached this

elevation, with double header. We were about 110 miles on our way East.

At 12:30 p. m. we passed Castle Gate at an elevation of 6,120 feet, 147 miles from Ogden. The castle or gateway is 500 feet high, very much resembling the bow of a great ship out of waters widening out a little and just before joining the mountain forms the castle part, it is a wonderful freak of nature. Castle Gate is famous for its coal and coke. At one o'clock we were at Helper, 5,840 feet elevation, 280 feet below Castle Gate.

Price is reached 15 minutes after lunch for seventy-five cents, to those who did not find their lunch baskets at 12 m. Price is worthy of note as it is the outfitting point for the Utah and Uncomfahgre Indian reservations, and the nearest railway station to Fort Duchene, the U. S. military post. Its elevation is 5,547 feet. Population 700—a Mormon settlement. It is anticipated that in 1896, on the Indian reservation will be opened for homestead entry, a very fertile country where it is not mountainous.

In May, 1890, in company with Elder A. H. Lund, now in England, I enjoyed a two and a half days drive through this reservation to the Utah Conference. We are now out of the snow belt, and it is warm sometimes. Green River is the next point of interest, where fruits are raised. A few thousand acres are in cultivation and it bids fair to become a large settlement. Our train sped along very nicely—no snow, but warm sunshine, with plenty of mountain scenery. We pass solid rock walls close by our track, reaching towards the sky, nearly perpendicularly; their like is not often to be found.

Under the La Sal peaks, capped with snow, nestles a small valley in the warm sunlight, free from wind and snow. There immense quantities of peaches, grapes, apricots, cherries, apples, quinces, pears, sweet potatoes, grain and hay are raised. This oasis in the desert is doubly attractive because of its surroundings.

We pass Solitude, Crescent and into the dark and snow again, up, up, clear up to Leadville, 10,200 feet elevation and 475 miles out from Salt Lake. At 3:05 a. m. of the 16th we arrive at Salida, where our party of Elders B. Young, F. M. Lyman and myself are to take a new route to me, and I think to many others. It is the narrow gauge over the mountains into one of the longest of Colorado's valleys, and one so picturesque. It is said to be 150 miles long and from 40 to 60 miles wide. Its Spanish name is San Luis valley.

At Louisville, and before that, I was engaged in a very interesting conversation with a gentleman who was born in Boone county, Mo., and was only a lad when the Mormons were driven by mob violence from that state. He had been in the Mexican war, and was at Chihuahua, Mexico, at a battle which took place there. I knew one of the Missouri mobbers, Wm. C. Owens (Col. Owens), and desired to learn of him regarding Mr. Owens. He knew him, and said it was not required of Mr. Owens to expose himself as he did at the Chihuahua battle, but after filling up with brandy, he daringly rushed out, saying he cared not for his life, and soon found death.

This gentleman further stated that it