

posite the Cathedral of Panama, and facing the plaza, about which the soldiers paraded in the morning and in which the band played at night.

I happened to be in Panama on Sunday. There was service at all the places of worship in the morning, and after that the town was run on what Chicago's young mayor calls "the wide open" order. Promptly at 1 o'clock the Panama lottery had its weekly drawing; at 2 a cock fight came off, and at 4 there was a bull fight inside the ruined walls of one of the great churches of Panama's past. Five bulls were tortured and one was killed by the bull fighter thrusting a sword into it, and having missed its heart, pounding and stabbing it in the back of the neck while the audience howled with delight. In the evening the whole town turned out and walked up and down the plaza, while the band played. There were many pretty girls among the promenaders, but each of the respectable maidens had one or more of her sisters, her cousins or her aunts of maturer years with her, and there was neither flirting nor spooning openly seen. I am told that even an engaged couple are not allowed by the better classes of Panamanians to go about alone, and that if one invites his best girl to the theater he is supposed to include all of the ladies of the family in the invitation. One of the Americans now on the isthmus when he first came here gave a young Panama lady such an invitation and when he arrived at the house found a party of thirteen old and middle-aged women ready to go along with him and his innamorata. The bills for that night were more than his weekly salary, and it was only by chance that he happened to have enough money with him to pay for them.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

### A PERILOUS SEA VOYAGE.

Payson, March 28, 1898.

Having seen it stated many times in print that there has never been a ship lost emigrating Latter-day Saints to Zion, in honor of the illustrious dead I will mention one instance of a shipwreck that happened in the year 1855, with forty-one Saints on board. It was the fine clipper bark Julia Ann that sailed from Australia. I get this account from the mouth and journal of Elder James Penfold, who was president of the company. We left Port Jackson and Sidney, New South Wales, Sept. 1st, 1855, on the bark Julia Ann bound for San Pedro, Cal. We had a pleasant voyage for the first thirty days, but about this time the Saints quarreled on board and were very contentious, that I was afraid that something would happen to the ship. On the 3rd of October the night was very dark and the wind was blowing almost a gale and we were running about ten knots an hour. We were in the midst of many islands and reefs. About 4 o'clock in the morning the man on the lookout cried out, "Land ahead!" and we could hear the breakers dashing against the rocks. Our noble captain Bond gave orders to take in sails and tack ship, but it was too late. All were called on deck and the next moment a sound was heard like thunder and the bow of our ill-fated ship rose out of water about four feet, and a crag of the coral reef run into our ship and broke a hole as large as a barrel and we could hear the water gushing in. Orders were given to cut down the boats. They were lowered and it was found that the water was only about knee deep on the rock, and so all were in the water and nearly all in their night clothes. But it was high tide and the water went down and left the rock

bare by sunrise next morning.

When the ship struck all made a rush for the deck. There was a call made for help. Sister Murpherys was very sick and her two children and Sister Harris were heard to say: "I will stay with you and help you and if we have to die we will go together." This was the last ever heard from them. The ship lay in this position about ten minutes and the sailors saved a few things from the deck, after which the ship slipped off the rock and sank and only the tops of the masts were in sight. Now daylight came and all the land that could be seen was a low bar or islet about eight miles away, and Captain Bond and his two mates and sailors took the boats and pulled for the islet. When they arrived at the land they found it to be a low bar about five miles in circumference and about twelve feet in the highest place. It took two days to get all on the islet and now the worst had not come yet. We were all here and mostly naked and not a drop of water and no food, and little children were crying for bread and water. Holes were dug in the sand to protect them from the hot tropic sun. The next morning about four o'clock Elder James Penfold had a dream, or vision. A person came to him and told him to get up and call all up and go to the highest place on the islet and dig on the north side of the reef where they would find cool water. So he called all up and told them the dream and said he was told they would find a turtle on the way and they must kill it for food. All the men now started up to the center of the islet in the morning and they dug as they were told and in about twelve feet they found fresh water and they filled their sacks that they had saved from the ship. In coming back to camp they found a large turtle and had a hard fight to kill it, but they cut off its head and pulled it down to camp and opened it. It was fat and good and was full of eggs and it measured about six feet in diameter and weighed 600 pounds. So they all had a good meal of turtle and water. They had to eat it raw, as there was not any wood nor a green leaf or grass on the islet. So every morning they went up to get the supply of water and on their return they found an old turtle about the same place as before and captured and killed it for food and this was continued for about sixty days and not a soul died or was much sick. There were a few things that floated to the bar from the wreck, such as sails and spars and hard bread, and these things helped to make a shade, or they could not have lived in the hot sun. They dug in the sand in many places and found bushels of turtle eggs, about as large as hen's eggs and equally as good to eat. Captain Bond had saved his quadrant from the ship, and he took the sun and found that we were in latitude 61-28 south and 15-30 longitude west on the Siseley group of uninhabited islands, which are about 45 miles in circumference and a large coral reef surrounds the whole group. After we had been here 21 days in our lonely prison and had not seen ship or a sail, Captain Bond concluded to fit up the life boats and go to sea and search for a ship to take us off; so he took his two mates and sailors and two of the returning missionaries, John Eldridge and Graham, and started out to sea. Their provisions was turtle meat and water and a little hard bread that had been soaked in salt water. They were on the sea many days, and could not see any ship, so they came to the island of Huahina and found a whaler called the Emma Parker, in there for repairs, and Captain Bond hired this ship to go and take off our brethren from their lonely prison and take them to the Sandwich Islands. The Saints were very humble and prayerful

on the island in their long stay, and the Lord did hear their prayers and answered them, and did heal their sick and did change their system, so they could eat raw flesh and get fat on it, but the sun had burned their skin so they were as dark as natives.

Elder E. J. Harris lived here near Payson for many years and talked often of his wife and child that were drowned in the Julia Ann.

AMASA POTTER.

### BANNOCK STAKE CONFERENCES.

The Bannock Stake quarterly conferences having been held in the music hall here at the usual hours Sunday and Monday. We had visiting us Elder M. F. Cowley of the Council of the Twelve. It was his first attendance at a Stake conference since his ordination to the Apostleship, and the Stake presidency gave him a large portion of the time of each session. Of course the Saints endorsed this. Brother Cowley was full of the Holy Spirit which was diffused through him upon us all in a very remarkable manner.

Elder Thomas E. Ricks, Stake president, at the opening session Sunday morning, reported all the organizations of the Stake complete and a good spirit prevailing among all the people. The health of the Saints throughout the Stake is good. Four new meeting houses had been completed since last conference and others in course of erection are fast nearing completion. Forty missionaries from this Stake are abroad and about as many more are getting ready to leave immediately.

The counselors in the Stake presidency, Elders William T. Rigby and Thomas E. Bassett, endorsed the remarks of Elder Ricks. They were more than ever pleased with the condition of the Saints and encouraged all to continue faithful in the work of the Lord.

Elder M. F. Cowley spoke on the necessity of getting the Holy Spirit and keeping it, by every member, from the Stake president to the Deacon, governing upon the principles of love and correct doctrine; unity of the Saints; forgiveness of trespasses and weaknesses of every one in the Church brother to brother; the cultivation of humility and honor of the Priesthood.

Elder Dan G. Miller, recently returned missionary from the Southern States, reported his mission there.

Other leading brethren of the Stake occupied portions of the time discoursing upon the principles of the Gospel. During conference the Stake choir which, under the untiring energy of Prof. Charles I. Durrans, is making rapid progress, rendered valuable aid in the success of our meetings. Quartettes "Nearer My God to Thee" and "The Lord Is in His Holy Temple" by select male voices were also rendered.

Elder Ricks made the closing remarks thanking all for the parts they taken in making conference enjoyable.

Elder M. F. Cowley pronounced the benediction and conference adjourned.

JAMES GILLESPIE,  
Stake Clerk.

The election at Butte, Montana, Monday was for eight aldermen. The Democrats elected seven and the Silver Republicans one. The Republicans and Populists made a poor showing. The next council will stand twelve Democrats to four Republicans and Silver Republicans. The aggregate Democratic vote was more than the combined votes of all the other parties.