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## OGDEN VALLEY.

Ogden valley is one of those pleasant Utah summer resorts which in the winter season is seldom visited by persons whose homes are situated in warmer climes. Often, in past seasons, when the roads in the valley below would be dry and dusty, snow would cover the ground in this more elevated valley to the depth of several feet. This winter, however, has so far been an exception to the general rule, as there is barely snow enough here at present to afford a comfortable sleigh ride. In driving up from Ogden the 21st inst. I found the road dry and almost dusty in places until I reached the mouth of the canyon; thence for the next three miles it was slippery and hard with frost, until the snow limits were reached near the point where the "Hermitage," a favorite summer resort for Ogdenites, stands in the shade of a romantic mountain. From there and until Ogden valley is reached the snow was somewhat deep, and the wind, which blew as I passed up, cold and piercing. But on reaching the open valley the atmosphere at once became milder, and the landscape at the same time quite attractive. Of the thirteen miles which intervene between Ogden and Huntsville there is about about eight miles of canyon road proper, as the distance from Ogden to the mouth of the canyon is nearly three miles, and Huntsville is situated about two miles above the head of the canyon. The road only crosses the river twice.

Ogden Valley is about fifteen miles long, extending from northwest to southeast, and has an average width of about four miles; its mean altitude above sea level is about 5,000 feet, or nearly 770 feet above the Great Salt Lake; consequently only the hardier kinds of fruit, grain and vegetables can be raised successfully. The surface of the valley is considerably broken by the three main forks of the Ogden river and their smaller tributaries which cut through the country. These three main streams respectively known as the South, Middle and North forks form the Ogden river proper immediately above the head of the canyon where they all come together to form one main channel, which during the long centuries past has cut its way through the main range of the Wasatch mountains, in order to send the waters from the melting snows in the mountain sys-

tems farther east into the great inland sea, which from the enormous Lake Bonneville finally confined itself to the present boundaries of the Great Salt Lake. The Ogden river drains an extensive mountain country lying east and northeast of the valley of the same name. The latter was undoubtedly formed in pre-historic times by the actions of the vast amount of waters which must have accumulated here before an unobstructed channel was cut through the mountains westward.

Huntsville, the principal settlement in Ogden Valley, is beautifully situated on an elevated bench lying between the South Fork and Spring creek. The town is laid out in regular eight acre blocks, the streets crossing each other at right angles. Facing the public square from the north stands the Huntsville meetinghouse, a fine brick structure with a lofty and finely shaped tower on the south end. Immediately east of this lies a recently erected two story brick schoolhouse, one of the finest country school buildings in the county, and west of the public square stands the old rock meetinghouse which was used for many years for meetings, school and social purposes. There are quite a number of handsome and commodious dwellings in Huntsville, and nearly every settler has large and comfortable stables and barns, which indeed are necessary considering the hard winters generally experienced in this high altitude. The place has a population of about one thousand people, of whom 894 souls, or 167 families, are Latter-day Saints, constituting the largest ward in the Weber Stake of Zion outside of Ogden City. About three-fourths of the people are of Scandinavian origin. Huntsville has perhaps furnished as many missionaries for foreign fields as any other settlement of the Saints in the mountains; and during the recent prosecution of suspected or real transgressors of the Edmunds law, Huntsville seemed to be a favorite rendezvous for the United States deputy marshals, who were "untiring in their zeal" to "uphold the majesty of the law." Their adventures, however, were not always fraught with success, as the "tricky descendants of the old Vikings of the far north" often became invisible just as the representatives of the law, after having encountered the storms and snows of the canyon at night, made their appearance in the streets of the slumbering village.

These experiences, however, now belong to the past, as the good people of Ogden valley are complying with the law, and the nightly raids of marshals and their deputies belong to the historic hygone. The Bishop of Huntsville is our genial and hospitable friend—David McKay, of Scottish mission fame, and his counselors are Soren L. Petersen and C. F. Schade, who have both performed successful missions to their native land. P. C. Gretsen, extensively known from his long missionary career in Denmark, also resides at this place.

Eden is the next settlement of importance in Ogden valley; unlike Huntsville, where most of the people live on the townsite, most of the people of the Eden ward reside in a scattered condition on their farms, and only a small per centage of them occupy a cluster of houses surrounding the public square which constitute the village of Eden, where the school house, the only public building in the place, is situated. The village lies about four and a half miles from Huntsville in a northwesterly direction, and about the same distance from Ogden as its neighboring town. The Eden ward, which last year numbered 459 Latter-day Saints, or 90 families, has recently been divided into two wards, the upper portion of the same being set off and organized into a separate ward named Liberty. The Bishop of Eden is Elder Josiah M. Ferrin, who for many years has been a public man, and has also served one term in the Utah Legislature. After spending Sunday with the Saints in Huntsville, I addressed an appreciative audience in Eden on Monday evening last, and yesterday proceeded to Liberty, where I spoke to the Saints in their new school house last night.

Liberty ward, embracing the Saints residing in a scattered condition in the upper or northwest end of Ogden valley, bids fair to become a prosperous locality in the near future. With such good neighbors as Eden on the south and Paradise on the north it certainly has advantages which no other settlement in Utah can boast of. Elders Judkins, Wade and Ferrin constitute the Bishopric of Liberty ward, which embraces about half the members that formerly constituted the Eden ward before it was divided. It was in the south portion of that district of country now included in the Liberty ward, when the first permanent settlers of Ogden valley erected their pioneer