

Cabins. Others were making preparations to go work on the railroad for the winter.

New Recruits. The place was a town of tents and covered wagons. It was a serious situation, and the people realized that if the Lord did not come to the rescue, no one knew what would become of all the work they had done. In the humility of their souls they sought the Lord for assistance in that sad hour. A. O. Woodruff urged all to join in the fast and prayer for they were to ask for a very much needed blessing. Not many days passed before assistance came in the following manner:

As the officers of the company were looking over the lands that had been reserved for the townsite on the upper bench, a team and buggy were seen coming over the sand hills, and as they came to the place where the canal officers were making their inspection of these lands, the gentleman stopped the horses and said, "I am looking for the leader of the Mormon colony. I want the gentleman who is in charge of that people." Some of the men in the group, pointing to Elder Woodruff, said, "There he is." The stranger then said, "My name is I. S. P. Weeks. I am the chief engineer of the Burlington Railroad, and I want to let this people have twenty miles of railroad to build." When the Burlington Railroad officials learned that the Mormons were going to plant a colony in the Big Horn Basin, they decided to build a line into the country. Woodruff replied, "I am the man who is directing the movement of the Mormons into this part of the country, and I am glad to meet you, Mr. Weeks. We shall be very glad to do this work for you. The people have been at work on a canal, and it will soon be time to do other things as winter approaches."

Contracts were signed for twenty miles of grading, the price being 13 ½ cents for earth, 24 cents for gravel, 36 cents for loose rock, 80 cents for solid rock, and 50 cents per ton-mile for pipe haul.

Mr. Sessions was to continue to look after the canal and other work in the new settlements, while Jesse W. Crosby, Jr., took charge of the construction of the railroad work from Pryor Gap on the Crow Indian reservation in Montana to Frannie, Wyoming. Charles A. Welch was selected to do the railroad work and look after the commissary.

Burlington. In 1892 David P. Woodruff, a son of Wilford Woodruff, came to Wood River, near Meeteetse, and established a home. When it became quite generally known in southeastern Utah that very good opportunities were to be found in the Basin country, a number of Mormons from that locality came into the Basin in 1893 and established themselves on the Greybull River, about twenty-five miles from its confluence with the Big Horn River, and took out a canal, known as the Farmers Canal. They named the place Burlington.

In 1893 these colonists surveyed a ditch from the Greybull River to irrigate what was then called Liberty Bench, but is now known as the Emblem Bench, lying on the north side of the river. This bench is a very beautiful and fertile tract and contains many thousands of acres. To accomplish their work was a great undertaking, far too large for a small body of poor people. Many of these people became discouraged and sold their interests to a gentleman by the name of Wiley. He enlarged the ditch and settled this bench with German settlers from eastern points. In 1895 the Mormon settlers located here permanently and they named the place Burlington. They decided to build another ditch to cover the lands lying along the river valley as it could be done for much less cost than the bench canal.

While living at Mormon Bend the people met together and by vote sustained William Packard to preside over them in a church capacity, with Harvey Stone as first, and **Martin Black** as second counselors. The lands had to be homesteaded so that every man had to build on the

place he had selected for a home. Things looked very blue to most of the settlers, but they got together and elected Richard L. Proctor superintendent of the ditch, and through his untiring efforts the people rallied around him with such tools as they had. The ditch was sufficiently finished that some crops were raised the same season that work was begun, although the crops that were raised were very late.

The people donated logs to build a school house, 16 by 32 feet. Reverend L. D. Thompson donated two acres of ground on which to erect the building. It was covered with a dirt roof and was used not only for school purposes, but for other purposes by Mormons and Gentiles alike. In the winter of 1896 Elder William Packard called a meeting of the Mormon people to discuss the proposition of building a meeting house. At this meeting there was quite a difference of opinion as to whether the building should be constructed of logs or to build a frame structure. After considerable deliberation the majority favored logs as they could be hauled out of the mountains with labor and there would not be so much cash outlay. William Bate, Sr., donated two acres of ground on which the house could be built. Joseph Christopherson was selected as the foreman, and ten men with teams volunteered to go to the mountains and get the logs out and deliver them on the site selected for the house. Thomas Hibbert furnished the hay to feed the teams on the journey. The men hewed the logs in the mountains, and enough were brought down on the first trip to build a house 24 feet wide by 38 feet long and 10 feet high. Lars Nielson and William Neves, Jr., hauled the slabs for covering the roof, while William Clark and another man made a trip of twenty-five miles down to the Big Horn River and burned the gypsum with which to daub the house. William Neves, Sr., Charles Christopherson and William Packard did the carpenter work. After the building was erected and the dirt roof was on, there were no benches, stove, or anything to make the inside comfortable.

Reverend L. S. Thompson had taken up a desert claim, as did some of the rest of the settlers, and in order for them to reclaim their lands, they had to have water for irrigation, so Mr. Thompson agreed that if the Mormons, fifty of them, would work out four dollars apiece, making two hundred dollars, he would buy an organ for the church house. His proposition was accepted, and how well he did his part can be attested by any person who has had the occasion to hear that wonderful instrument, for it is still in use. The building answered every purpose in those early days, but it has since been replaced by an up-to-date, beautiful ward hall which is a credit to the entire Burlington Ward.