

CHAPTER IV.

THE MORMON CITY AND THE MORMONS.

SALT LAKE CITY is near the south end of the lake, in latitude $40^{\circ} 47'$ north, and is thirty-eight miles south of Ogden. It lies at the foot-hills of the Wasatch Mountains, at the northerly end of a level plain which is about forty miles long and fifteen wide, and is called the Valley of the Jordan. The Jordan River runs northerly from Utah Lake, nearly forty miles south of the city, to the west of the town, and empties into Salt Lake twelve miles distant. These snow-topped mountains, from twelve to thirteen thousand feet high, form nearly a semi-circle on the east of the plain, and nightly cool the city after the cloudless sun has heated the valley. There are no summer rains; but copious mountain streams run through the streets on each side, and the lands around are green and productive from easy irrigation. On the south-west the Oquirr range of mountains seem to bound the plain, and far beyond is a moun-