the various nations of Europe, from Asia, some from far-off a and the islands of the sea, every State in the United ; they have gathered out, until ey are numbered by thousands of thousands throughout valleys, and wherever you with the people and talk to either in their own habitaby their litesides, in the in the public gatherings, or ver they may be, the univertimony of these people called day daints is that they, in nce to the requirements which communicated unto them by ed blessings, and the Spirit has been poured out them and the gits thereof ested down upon them. And evidence of this we see this that I have spoken of. We as this love. We see the ring of the people to. . We see such a love as is capled anywhere upon the the earth-the leve that exthe midst of the Latter-day in these mountains. You averse the wide earth and averau very religious denomination on to those of Pagan belief, where else will you tee such ibition as this I have spoken you witness here. And yet cople are illiterate. There are unlearned. These people arious nations of the earth. rent oreeds, belonging to dif churches, speaking different gos, they have been trained tent habite; not of one naot of one form of thought, not ed together from one town. from one neigh borhood, but rious nations and neighbor hith this diversity of beliefof former belief and educa-training. Now, what would nciple accomplish amongst a homogeneous people than people more united than ginally, more one in thought aining-what, I say, would inciple accomplish among inciple accomplish among by, we can imagine what it in years to come, as the riserations of this people grow nood and womanhood under uence of this principle-we gine what the results will be ple banded together as no by the tonds of the new erlasting covenant, by the fithe Holy Priesthood that restored to the earth, and dministration of those didinances which constituted rer of the Church of Christ was upon the earth. It is was upon the earth. You Guspel restored again. point to a single feature that erized the Gospel of Jesus as dministered by His Apostles tot to be witnessed among ter day daints-not a single I defy the world to point leone. Every characterismade it great, that made it in the earth, that made it belongs to this Church of hrist of Latter day Saints. he ancient Saints persu-So are we. Did they the truth of their s? So have many of our peothey have to flee from their Were they driven by their because of their religion? we had to flee from our this nineteenth century, and of boasted liberty, the nation and the freest name the face of the globe—we d to fiee to these mountains refuge here because we ben those ancient principles ause we contended for the on of this ancient power.
weven in these mountains and men estroy us; not because we not because we do injury to we; not because our land is wickedness, because it is because we are full of strife upon our neighbors and destroy them; not be ause of hese things is our destrucght; but because we believe has spoken from the heabecause we believe in a that has Prophets and , and has the Holy Chost lifts in it, because we believe together in love and not each other, and are not ainst each other in parties; wase of this we are consider-erous, and our existence is

a menace to our neighbors, and that of excellent people in the world-our destruction is a desirable thing. people as good as any that are num-Now, while we do not profess to have the faith that we should have have the faith that we should have of Latter-day Saints—scattered—we could all do with more—yet it through all the sects and in the latter aim, it is the object of the Pagan world and in the infidel teachings of the Elders of this world. I do not confine my feelings teachings of the Elders of this Church to en leavor to instill into the minds of the people faith in God, to have them contend earnestly, as the Scriptures say, "for the faith which was once delivered to the Saints." While this is the aim and the object of the teachings of the Elders—and we are well aware of the weakness of the people—yet we do testify, in the most solemn manner, that God has restored, the andent gifts that were in the Church. The sick are healed. There are hundreds of families in this Territory, thousands of them, who never think of anything else but sending for the Eldere, as the Apostle James for the Elders, as the Apostle James said they should do, in cases of sickness, "Is any sick among you? let him call for the Elders of the Church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick," said the Apostle. Now, among the people called Latter-day Baints this is an almost universal practice, and an almost universal practice, and we solemnly testify that—while we are far from being what we should be, far from having that faith we be, tar from having that take we should have—there are numerous instances of the cick being healed by the laying on of hands. You know this, my brethren and eleters, Not only have the sick been healed, but the blind have been restored to sight, the deaf have been made hear, and the power of God has been manifested in accordance with the promises he has made. And it is the outpouring of the Spirit in this manner, the confirmation of God's promises upon the people, that makes the Latter-day Saints so united. It is not the strength of impostuse. It is not the delusion of shrewd men. It is not because wicked men have deceived this people. It would be impossible to hold them together under such conditions. To do so would be a greater miracle than that which we now behold in the existence of the people. people united together and held to-gether by a few impostors, scattered as they are over this extent of territory-No, such a thing is abhorrent to reason. No man with reason can telleve such a statement, and accept that as the solution of this organization—that is, of the problem con-nected with it. No man can think There is something more than this. There is some power beyond this; for, as I have said, if it were not so, we should have some exhibition on the part of good in establishing such a s as we now behold. behold. would think they would show their power in organizing. But it is the outpouring of the Spirit of God. Men and women and children, throughout all the congregations of the Latter-day Saints in all these rettlements, if they had the opportu-nity, would bear solemn testimony, in the name of Jesus Christ, that they did receive those promised blessings, that that was the cause of their continuing their association with the people of God, and that that was the reason of their gathering with them to this land or of their coming here.

Now, I know that in talking in this strain it may sound strange to many who have no knowledge of these things. They may think it a very strange thing that men should

very strange thing that men should teaufy in our day concerning the existence of these things. But let me ask you: Where is the man of God of whom we have any account in this book, from Genesis to Revelation, that did not have communication with God? Where is there cation with God? Where is there one? Not one. You have no account of a single individual who count of a single individual who was a servant of God from the days of Adam, our father, to John the Revelator, who did not have com-munication from our Father in Heaven. God communicated with the people always when they were

faithful.

"But," says one, "we have not now, and we have not had, and therefore God has ceased to come unicate His mind and His will to His children."

is the cry of men who themselves countability for these acts, just as are destitute of this power and of sure as He did the generation who this knowledge, and who take this slew the Apostles and those who means of accounting for it, and of lived contemporaneous with the making people believe that the present condition of things is the people; no condition that should exist and that more than our fellow men in some clock designed the viet. ed a menace to our neigh- God designed to exist.

That a I do not wish to reflect the results of it.

tear and think of it! That a I do not wish to reflect upon any laws more than they do; but never-tother body of people or upon any consess, are looked upon as sect; I believe there are thousands God will not allow His children to co. There are several things I

people as good as any that are numbered in the Church of Jesus Christ of admiration to those who believe even in Jeens, the Son of God, whom I view as my Redeemer and my Savior. I believe that there are thousands and it may be said milthousands and it may be said millions of well-meaning, good people, whom God loves, that are numbered among the Pagans and that are numbered among the infidels to Christianity. But at the same time while I thus believe, I know that God has revealed His everlasting Gospal to be preached to the inhabitants of the earth, and when light comes, if the earth, and when light comes, if men reject it, condemnation follows. And this is the condemnation of our present generation. A great prophet has arisen in their midst. They do not believe it. They do not believe that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God. The basely and cowardly slew him. Yet he was a Prophet of God, just as much as Elijab, or as Isaiah was, or as any of the ancient Prophets were, and be has founded a system that will grow, that will increase, that will yet be the dominating power in the earth, because the promises of God are to this effect. And this is the sin of this generation. This man came in their midst bringing to them gitts from God, bringing to them a message of love and salvation, and they cruelly and bare; slew him in the most abominable manner. But like all the Prophets, his blood has not been avenged. Who ever heard of people being punished for killing a Prophet? Who ever heard of the people turning round and punishing his murderen? Such a case is not known in the history of the world. And it is true concerning Joseph Smith. His blood stains the soil of of the sovereign States of of the covereign States of the nation. He was slain under the pledged honor of that State that he should be protected, and yet his murderers have never been punished. And as I say, this is the sin of this generation. A church was organized by the command of God, and members of that church have been cruelly treated. They have been cruelly treated. They have been driven from their homes. Their pathway has been marked by the graves of those who have died in consequence of their suffering. Our track can be traced, or could be traced from Illinois by the graves of our people-men, women and children-who died of suffering, because they chose to worship God accord-ing to the dictates of their own consciences. And who is there that has raised his voice and said one word against this? A few men have done a few honorable men-have protested against it; but the great body of the people have assented to it, and have not only assented to it, but they have endeavored to follow us to our retired homes here and destroy us. They are not content we should live in this wilderness land which we found so dreadful, in many respects, and so hard to con-quer. We have come here. We have conquered. We have subdued the land by continuous, persistent, and unlimited toil, and we will not cease our exertions to make this a beautiful land, and to extend hospitality to all who visit us. But we have been enwho us. But we vied our little possessions - the fruits for our toll, the hard earn-ings of the last 35 years; we have been envied these; and there are those who think that the best thing that could be done with us is to extirpate us from the face of the earth, blot-us out of existence. Now, I say that this is the ein of this generation. God has sent a mighty Prophet who predicted, among other fore it occured. He told them the cause of it, and the consequences that would follow. This great Prophet has been in their midst and they have slain him, and have destroyed as far as possible those who believe in his destrict fleet will. Do not deceive yourselves. This hold this generation to a strict ac-

respects, only so far as we obey His

be slain without cause nor be cruelly treated. He reigns in the heavens. I thank God that He has revealed himself, and that we know Him. He reigns. His justiced never sleepe. We will be protected and preserved and His anger will and preserved, and His anger will be poured out upon those who have merited it by their transgression. We therefore call upon them in the name of Jesus to repent of their sine, to turn away from wickedness and to turn to righteousness. And if they desire to know whether we tell the truth, let them go to God in the name of Jesus and ask Him, and we will be satisfied with the an-swer. That is what our Elders tell everybody wherever they go. They tell them to ask God in the name of Jesus whother the testimony they bear be true or false. Is not this fair? Certainly it is.

May God help you, my brethren and sisters and friends, to receive the truth and to cling to it all your lives, to love it more than life itself, that in the end you may be saved and exalted in the Kingdom of God.

A NEW-COMER'S TESTIMONY

BOUNTIFUL, Utah, June, 17, 1888.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir.—I ask a small space in your highly esteemed paper for the purgose of giving my friends and old acquaintances an opportunity of showing a few facts concerning the inhabitants of this Territory who are commonly known as "Morare commonly known as "Mor-mons," I arrived here in No-vember last and, up to that time, I never heard much about the "Mor-mon" people, for in my native city mon" people, for in my native city as well as the majority of all other cities, the people have something else to do besides making religious inquiries, except once in a while when a man is elected to office and his constituents demand him to express his religious centiments. But I thought there must be something peculiar about them that would en-able an Eastern man to tell them at first sight, I found them quite tame, walking and moving as other jolks do. I find them possessed of all business capacities, equally so, if not in advance of our Wall Street stock brokers, perhaps not quite so tricky. As a rule they are honest in all their transactions and are composed principally of men and women from all quarters of the globe, who believe in the true doctrine of Jesus Christ, and not only believe in it, but, as a rule, they practee it. I have known some of the farmers in the small towns here that do not turn a key on their barns, granaries, chicken houses, or in fact many of their outhouses or storage rooms the whole season round, wonder what the result would be

in the vesinity of Plymoth Church or in thousands of our aristocatic In fact they are the most industrious people I have seen on the American Continent; they are honest in their dealings and live in peace and unity. In fact their motto is giory to God on High—and peace

and good will to all men. And yet the manner in which our great Republicac Government acts towards them—would not be tolerated by the wandering red man of the forest. I find that as a people they are politically Democratic, that is to say they believe in pure Democratic principles and of course that has ite effects under our present administra tion. There is another thing I notice amongst them that is, some of them had more wives than one; this is done with the free and open consent of all parties conserned, and according to the law of God as they understand it upon Celestial Marri age, and in nine cases out of ten peace and harmony prevails and I things, the civil was that took place may remark right here that we in 1861. It is on second in this book need not come all the way to Sait (the Book of Doctrine and Coven-Lake City to find a man talking to in 1861. It is on record in strict that it is on record in strict that it is on record in strict that it is on the strict that it is on the strict that is you know.

The "Mormons" as a people are fairly educated. They have splendid schools which are well attended. They have a population of about 170,000, and yet I do not balieve there is a "Mormon" poorhouse; there is a "Mormon" poorhouse; this alone shows their industry. There are a number of people in the larger cities of Utah, (Salt Lake and others) who do not believe as the "Mormons" do, or who do not practice as they do, but who are in the

minority.
The "Mormons" as a rule are a

should like to mention, but space

will not permit.

I have mentioned these few facts for the benefit of a few of my friends and old asquaintances, who have been anxious to know something concerning Utah. I care naught for the aneering critic, but would advise all the metals are the same of the all men wishing to know the truth to come to Utah and find out for themselves. And when they do come look with their own eyes and not ask too many questions or believe Tom, D.ck or Harry, for there were Judiasses in the time of the Savior, and it is so to-day. Honi soit qui maly pense.

Walter H. Scott.

A SINGULAR PETRIFAC-TION.

> PLEASANT VALLEY June 12th, 1688.

Editor Deseret News:

Mr. Evan Williams, of this place, has been working on the construction train of the D. & R. G., and on the 14th of May, he found a stone book in the sand, about 30 yards from Green River, which he brought home with him, and which has been purchased by Mr. David Williams, also of this place.

Last evening, while on business at Mr. Williams' residence he said, "I've a curjosity to show you," and going to his secretary he brought out the said book, which I gave a critical examination. It weighs inet three pounds, and measures two inches in thickness; the covers are five and five-eights inches long; the leaves or rather the part that leaves, five and one-fourth inches it turned on the back or to the "hinges" are two and three-fourth. inches; measuring from the edge of one cover around the back to the edge of the other cover is eight and seven-eights inches, or around the back side wise ten and seven-eights inches. The curiosity does not show the least mark of an instrument upon it except where the finder used some sharp tool in scraping off the dirt. In its dimentions it is as perfect as any book of the day. Two of the corners were broken off when found; one is broken badly. I was aware that books when used for only a short time would get the corners bent down so I examined the two remaining ones and found them slightly bent. On very close obser-vation I discovered two distinct lines running through the leaves in the same direction. Thesewere just as straight as the leaves the medices. They were not marks of any tool but were in the formation as a seam in a rock. The book is a white sand stone formation covered with many dark irregular spots about the size of a silver dime. The nearest thing I can compare it to is the pocket Bible printed twenty-five and thirty years ago, of which it is a perfect pattern. The finder, Mr. Evan Williams, is

a quiet, unassuming man, who minds his own business and gains his living by day labor. I have no doubt but it is a genuine petrified Bible, lost by some exploring party or some poor "Mormon" moun-tsineer. Indeed it would take a first-class sculptor to make such a piece of work. I cannot find any reason to doubt its genuineness. Mr. D. J. Williams will be in Salt Lake in a few days and bring it for exhibition.

C. H. BLIES.

PROGRAMME

OF THE FOURTH OF JULY EXER-CIEES AT FURT DOUGLASS.

Music.

Meeting at the grand stand at Fort Douglass at 11 o'clock a. m. Called to order by His Honor Mayor Wm. Jennings.

Prsyer, Chaptain Van Horne.
Welcome, General McCooz.
Response, Mayor Jennings.

Music. President of the day, Governor Murray.

Reading, Declaration of Independence: H. M. Wells.
"Song, "Star Spangled Banner."
Oration, U. J. Wenner.

Music.

Sentiments.

The President, Governor Ramesy. Music.

Army and Navy, Major John Carland, U. S. A.

Musio.

Utah, Professor T. B. Lewis. Musio.