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COAL AND IRON—GOLD AND SILVER.

Many strenuous but abortive efforts have been made, by certain parties, within a time that may be called quite recent, to discover gold and silver mines in this Territory, of sufficient richness to create a rush for what is usually termed the precious metals. Much time has been spent in "prospecting," and the mountains, kanyons and gulches, throughout the Territory, have been sedulously hunted over and through, but the desired results have not been reached.

The mineral deposits of this Territory are unquestionably rich, and of a character much more valuable to us than gold and silver would be at the present time. There is something far ahead of the possession of these metals,—the development of those energies that produce increasing prosperity and true power, and the becoming worthy to possess the riches of the earth. The commercial value of coal, iron, copper, lead, etc., is much less than that of gold and silver, but their value for general applicability and use is much greater. A coal mine on the bench, with a tramway into the city bearing a stream of wagons laden with coal, would be a thousand-fold greater blessing to its inhabitants than would a gold-mine, no matter how rich the auriferous deposits might be.

Gold and silver have been the ruin of many countries, coal and iron, never; but they have been sources of wealth, power and greatness. What would England have been had it not been for her coal-fields and beds of iron? In point of territory she is one of the most insignificant in the great family of nations, incapable of sustaining a moiety of her inhabitants from her agricultural resources. Her coal feeds the vast machinery she has in motion; it generates the steam by which her railway cars are propelled, the cotton spun, the woven fabric turned out of the loom, her cutlery made, her armor forged and the great bulk of her population sustained. Coal is the motive power, that drags the iron ore from the bowels of the earth, from which her machinery and implements of progress for war or peace are made. So it is, to a great extent, with our own nation; but it is more perceptible in and more important in England than to the United States. England has many vast territories, and a great number of sources of greatness, but she is a small country, which the limited extent of England denies to her inhabitants. Cut off from England, to-morrow, her coal and iron, and in a very short time she would sink down to a fourth-rate power.

We are more isolated than England is. She is within two hours of the continent of Europe, within ten days of New York, within two months of India. We are, for practical purposes, weeks from the nearest place where we can procure supplies, or obtain the aids and appliances of industrial progress. Yet the elements of England's power lie at our feet. She obtains her cotton from the eastern and western hemispheres, we can raise it within our own territorial limits; she imports much of her wool, we can raise our own; she obtains her silk, her wine and her spices from

other lands, much of these we can raise and produce ourselves; she has to lay the east and west under contribution to supply her luxuries, and many of her necessities, we can become more independent because more self-sustaining than she ever could be, for we can produce, ourselves, most of what she is compelled to import. And the great levers of her power and influence are within our reach.

It is not a matter of speculation or uncertainty. The coal and iron are around us in inexhaustible quantities. So, too, are other minerals of vast importance in the arts and sciences; and all that is needed, is capital, enterprise and skill, to obtain them in quantities to meet our every want that they can supply. The query arises, who will make the effort to obtain iron? who will further develop the coal-veins lying underneath in profusion? If we must speak to selfish interest and ambition, there is wealth in the undertaking and successful prosecution of the enterprise. There is a name, also, in it. Denim, the merchant and general dealer, will die and be forgotten, when Smelter, the foundry-owner, will be remembered with blessings.

It is not right to expect one or two to lead out and labor alone in matters that affect the public welfare. Our leaders are continually seeking to promote the interests of the community, striving to open up and develop fresh sources of industry, wealth and power, but it is only reasonable they should expect others, who have the ability, to follow in their wake and emulate their efforts to benefit the community. We have energy, and enterprise; the whole history of this people proves it. We have industry and perseverance; these valleys, teeming with the products of man's labors, cares and toils, and smiling back thanks and gratitude to that God who has so abundantly blessed us, bear record of an industry unsurpassed in the history of mankind.

As a people, we have done much, very much, in the time; and much more has yet to be accomplished. Our leaders point constantly and earnestly forward, and lead in the direction that our hopes, aims and the ultimate attainment of the objects we have in view, require us to travel in. Coal is needed, not merely for domestic purposes, but to give birth to the great motive power of the age, steam, and to give us greater ability to bring the elements of power around us subject to our use. Iron is needed for a thousand purposes. There is no necessity of trying to prove this, for it is admitted on all hands. We give pre-eminence to coal and iron now, because other matters and the development of other minerals will naturally follow in succession. Can we get more coal, and contiguous to this city? Can we get iron fluxed and workable? We are satisfied both can and will be done, sooner or later; in fact, the force of circumstances will yet make it more of a necessity than it is at present. We say nothing of the prospective Pacific railroad, which is a great blessing to this city.

Efforts have been made in the past to manufacture iron here; but various causes prevented the process of fluxing, and the experiment was for a time a failure. The necessary ingredients to be mixed with the ore, so that it would flux easily and make pig-iron, were either not known, or there was a lack of knowledge of the proper quantities to be used in the process. Smelters of ore know by experience with various ores, that one quality requires different quantities of the requisite ingredients from another quality; and where they fail with an ore different from what they have been accustomed to, they draw

upon their experience and experiment till they succeed. Still, iron has been produced here from the native ore, though in a very small quantity, and of a quality rivaling the best Swedish. Since that date till now we have advanced steadily and rapidly. There is much more capital now in the community that could be made available; there is the experience of the past; there have immigrated here men who have been accustomed to work among iron in its various stages, from digging the ore till it was turned into manufactured material. And, though the ore here is different in quality and the nature of its admixtures, from what they have been accustomed to, still, their knowledge and experience, with the knowledge and experience of those who experimented here in the past, raise strong hopes that a successful issue might be reached if the enterprise was entered upon with vigor and determination.

While we continue to import all the machinery we can from the East, who will lead out in bringing coal and iron within our reach, to be available for every practical purpose?

OBITUARY.

Died on the 26th of September, 1864, of apoplexy, at a point seven miles this side of Little Laramie, Colorado Territory, on his return from a mission to England, John Moburn Kay, aged 46 years, 11 months and 20 days.

Elder John M. Kay was born on the 6th of October, 1817, in the town of Bury, Lancashire, England. He entered the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the fall of the year 1841, being baptized at St. Helens, Lancashire, by Elder John Nightingale, and was ordained an elder immediately afterwards, by Elder John Allen. His first acquaintance with the Latter-day Saints and the principles of the gospel was made under circumstances which exhibited his disposition to resist oppression and defend the weak—a disposition which he possessed through life. One of his fellow-workmen—a small timid man—had joined the Church and been ordained an elder, and occasionally preached the gospel. His shopmates ridiculed him, and even went so far as to attempt violence upon him. Without knowing anything about his religion, but seeing that he was being imposed upon, Br. Kay defended him, and thrashed his leading assailant. He then felt sufficient curiosity to inquire of the man whom he had befriended about his belief, and after investigation, became satisfied of its truth, and obeyed it. After his baptism and ordination, though he labored at his business, he traveled and preached with considerable success in the neighboring villages and towns. But the spirit of gathering had seized him at his baptism, and he spared no efforts to obtain the necessary means to emigrate to Zion. He sailed from England in September, 1842, and reached Nauvoo early in the spring of 1843. In February, 1846, the first camp moved across the Mississippi river on its journey westward; he was one of that camp. He spent the next winter with Bishop Miller's company, north-west of Winter Quarters among the Panch Indians. In the fall of 1848 he reached Great Salt Lake Valley. He was appointed on a mission to England in the spring of 1855, where he remained—with the exception of a few weeks spent in visiting the branches of the Church on the Continent—until the contractor's war with Utah under the Buchanan administration broke out, when in company with Elders Orson Pratt and Ezra T. Benson, and several other elders, he sailed for New York, and from thence by the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco, California. He came from there by the Southern Route, and arrived in

this city in January, 1858. Appointed on another mission to England in the fall of 1860, he started—though suffering severely from an attack of inflammatory rheumatism, as he was also at the time he started on his first mission—and labored faithfully and uprightly, and to the satisfaction of his brethren, for three years and a half in that country. On leaving England to return home, he was appointed to preside over the company of Saints which sailed from London on the Ship, Hudson. After reaching New York, and between there and Wyoming, his labors were very arduous; his ambition prompted him to make exertions which were scarcely suitable in hot weather for a fleshy man as he was—his weight being usually about 250 lbs. He was taken sick after reaching Wyoming and continued so for some distance on the plains. For some days before his death, however, his health apparently improved, and he was able to move about with considerable ease, and even did so the day and evening before he died. His death was very sudden, and doubtless without pain. One hour before he expired, he conversed with his wife, and dropped off to sleep again. He gave a great start which woke his wife, and all was over.

Br. Kay's integrity is exemplified by a remark which he made to the writer before leaving England. Said he, "with all my faults, I never saw a moment, since I knew the truth, that I did not love it and was not willing to place my body in the gap to save my brethren from danger." This was his character. In times of difficulty and danger, he could safely be relied on, and he was always on hand for service. His influence with the Saints among whom he labored was always of an excellent character; he was wise in counsel and took a fatherly interest in their welfare. His death will be regretted by them wherever he was known. But though to his family and friends his death is a loss which they feel severely, it is not so to himself. He has passed away at the close of a mission, faithfully performed, and we can reflect with pleasure on his memory and labors, knowing that "they, which be of the faith are blessed with faithful Abraham."—[G. Q. C. [Mill. Star please copy.]

PRESENTS.—We are informed that Mr. O. H. Irish, Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Utah, in company with Gov. Doty, Secretary Reed and Indian interpreter D. B. Huntington, recently visited Brigham City and distributed presents and gave beef and flour to the chiefs and Indians present who had observed a treaty made some time ago. The Superintendent is said to have given them some good advice, and the Indians expressed themselves as well pleased, at the same time alleging they had carried out the treaty stipulations more faithfully than had one of the other parties. That may be true, for it is neither new nor unusual for Indians to observe treaties more faithfully than whites.

MAIL LOST.—On Thursday the 17th inst., a young man started from this city with the southern mail for this city. We are not aware at what point the coach was left, but when our informant passed the mail sacks were tied upon the back of a horse, and the quasi driver riding upon another, striving very energetically to impel the animals forward. The day being very cold a traveler suggested to the young man, who by the bye is said to be very spare of flesh, slenderly built and lightly clad, that if he continued to ride he would most assuredly perish; the youth thereupon dismounted and undertook to lead the horses. Shortly after this attempt the packed animal broke loose from the other and off he went at a far greater speed than our friend thought him capable of. Discomfited, the young man turned and went to Chicken Creek, where he spent the night. Himself and the station keeper are reported to have hunted in vain the following day for the horse and mail sacks. We have not yet heard of the mail's being found.

COAL.—Nearly all the city blacksmiths are out of coal.