

FALSEHOODS REFUTED.

Franklin, Idaho, June 9th, 1898.

The following clippings have been cut from English newspapers by my friends both in England and Wales, and many British newspapers have copied them; and thus our Elders have been assailed. As the whole story is one tissue of barefaced falsehoods, I deem it my duty to give the truth through the "Deseret News," hoping that the Millennial Star will be kind enough to copy it, and that some of our Elders will take a copy of the "News" or of the Star to the Wolverhampton Express and Star, published in Queen street, Wolverhampton, which first published this and other statements that have been widely circulated to the injury of the Church both here and abroad. The object of these false statements that have been sent to benevolent people is to get money, and large sums have been sent here, and more is being asked for. These begging letters are frauds, being the acts of artful dodgers. Following is one of the clippings:

"AN ANTI-MORMON STORY.

"Chicago, July 13.—Special.—One of the leaders of the once great English Chartist party, which from 1839 to 1848 battled for universal suffrage, vote by ballot, annual parliaments, the abolition of the property tax for voters, equal electoral districts, the abolition of the penny tax on newspapers, and the repeal of the corn laws, nearly all of which reforms have since been engrafted upon the English statute books, is nearing his end in this country in the distress of poverty.

"This is the information received here today in a private letter from a representative London Radical, and which further states that, on the initiative of the Wolverhampton Express and Star, one of the leading papers of England, outside of London, an appeal has been issued to liberal, radical and reform societies to come to the aid of their fellow countryman.

"The once great agitator and leader of the masses concerned is William Sewell, who, with Feargus O'Connor, Ernest Jones, Henry Vincent, Arthur O'Neill, George Stephens and Harry Hunt, the latter being shot dead on the steps of the town hall in Manchester while addressing a meeting, formed the original nucleus of the executive committee that promoted the chartist uprising with its incidental riots in different parts of the country and its presentation of mammoth petitions to Parliament. Several of the leaders mentioned were convicted of treason and sentenced to penal servitude in Van Dieman's Land.

"According to the wording of the appeal which is being circulated in England, Sewell with his son and daughter-in-law, was some two years ago persuaded to leave London for the United States, where he was promised land, cattle, poultry and other farming supplies free of charge on a Mormon settlement. On arriving at his destination, however, the old man discovered that he had been deceived. The little supply of money that the trio brought with them is now exhausted, and they are stranded at Franklin, Oneida county, Idaho. The newspaper in question has been designated as treasurer to the relief fund, and the appeal asks for liberal subscriptions that will enable Sewell to procure the necessities of life if not to live in comfort, during his declining years. It adds that he has despaired of ever seeing old England again."

Here is another of the clippings: an old Chartist. Some two years ago, "Our attention has been called to the distressing case of Mr. William Sewell, together with his son and

daughter-in-law was persuaded into leaving this country for America, where he was promised land, cattle, poultry, etc., free of charge, on a Mormon settlement. On arriving at the settlement, the old man discovered that he had been deceived. Having expended his savings in paying his passage out, Sewell and his family are now stranded at Franklin, Oneida county, Idaho. The Wolverhampton Express and Star, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, has opened a subscription list and proposes to send the amounts subscribed to Sewell to enable him to procure the necessities whereby he may be enabled to live in comfort during his declining years, as he has despaired of ever seeing old England again. Sewell worked alongside Feargus O'Connor, Arthur O'Neill, and Ernest Jones."

The facts of the case in regard to these people are as follows: I was formerly of Deanshanger, Northamptonshire, England, and am now and have been a farmer in Franklin, Idaho, and have resided here since 1863. My wife is the daughter of the man Sewell, named in these articles.

For many years I have sent the Sewells money to England, and at last at their urgent request, as is proven by their letters which I have now in my possession, saying unless I helped them the Union workhouse would be their doom, I aided them to emigrate. I sold twenty-four and one-half acres of my best land for their emigration. I here present a copy of the certificate sent to the President's office, and it is self-explanatory:

"No. 1204.

"Salt Lake City, Utah, March 14, 1895.

"Received from Alfred Hensen the sum of two hundred and sixty-nine dollars and fifty cents, said amount to be used for the emigration of William Sewell, H. H. Sewell, Ester Sewell and I. H. Sewell. Three full and one-half passengers to Franklin, Idaho.

"\$269.50. JACK & SPENCE,

"Per S."

It is represented that Sewell paid his own way; the above explains who paid. He never was a Chartist, and was simply a rural agitator at election times, and a temperance lecturer. He was a country journeyman tailor.

When sending for these people I addressed a letter to President Anton H. Lund, Liverpool, asking him to favor these poor people all he could, and directed that if there was any money over and above the regular passenger fare, to forward it to their home to assist them from home to Liverpool. I had previously forwarded \$10 from Logan, Cache county, Utah, to Darlaston, England, for this purpose, as they were in such a helpless condition they could not furnish anything themselves.

They arrived at Franklin in May, 1895. I met them at the depot. They were loud in their praise of Elder Anton H. Lund for his great kindness to them, saying he not only sent them quite a sum, but as their passage was second class Elder Lund gave them a first cabin passage.

"They stayed at my home ten weeks. I furnished them everything free and in the autumn and winter I furnished them seven hundred pounds of flour, fuel, vegetables, groceries, and meat. Then they rented a house for themselves, which I helped to furnish, and all the neighbors complimented them on their comfortable appearance.

"Bishop Hatch, the ladies of the Relief society, and others besides my family, have supplied their every want up to date. The fact is they are too idle to work and the son, a strong, healthy man, would not work when he was offered by Mr. Samuel C. Parkinson, three shillings a day—English money—and his dinner. They left Franklin, being dissatisfied, but returned again, as they did not find any-

body so foolish elsewhere as to support them in idleness. They say they want to go back to England. I wish they had never left it. But as I said before, they are writing these shameful, begging letters to good and benevolent people. They have received \$87 from the Express and Star company, Wolverhampton, and have collected \$40 among the near Mormon towns, including this. They have written falsehoods about the people who have been thus kind to them. So if these good English and American people desire to support a strong, healthy man in idleness all well; I will not.

ALFRED HENSON."

HOW GRAND VALLEY LOOKS.

The Cisco, Utah, correspondent of the Denver Post says that Samuel N. King, who is just in from the La Sal mountain country, says quite an immigration is going in there this season.

A new road is being built from Cisco, on the Rio Grande Western, to Moab, a distance of thirty-eight miles. From Grand Junction to Cisco the distance is fifty-four miles, making the entire distance from Grand Junction to Moab ninety-two miles by the new route. Ten miles from Cisco the road crosses the Grand river, where a good ferry has been established, and from there the road follows the river to near Moab.

The latter town is the county seat of Grand county, Utah, and contains a population of 700 or 800. It is three miles from the river, in a beautiful valley dotted with farms, orchards, gardens and comfortable homes. The valley is three by twelve miles in extent, and is watered by the Grand river, together with several tributaries. It is one of the finest valleys in the world, with a soil of marvelous fertility.

Nearly 800 tons of freight went into Moab last year, and the country is growing, business is increasing, and the mountains are teeming with latent mineral wealth.

In the Blue mountain country, sixty-five miles almost due south of Moab, stands Monticello, the county seat of San Juan county, Utah. These settlements are prosperous and comparatively self-sustaining and independent. The people in general are Mormons, but they are honest, industrious and have an abiding faith in the doctrine of the Latter-day Saints. They are making these cozy valleys bud and blossom like a garden. Wherever they have planted their footsteps and established their homes the soil is giving up its rich increase. They have their churches, schools, newspapers, daily mails, co-operative stores and they do not experience the aggressive and intense life struggle that afflicts the masses in more densely populated places.

The Grand valley is looking like a garden this season. Seasonable rains have fallen and luxuriant vegetation covers the face of these mesas and plateaus as if they were adorned with emeralds. An unseasonable frost nipped some of the early peach blossoms, the more advanced and tender vegetation, but small fruits, apples, pears, plums, grapes, apricots and other varieties will be bountiful.

All the streams are flush, and the melting snows are just beginning to add their volume to the grand aggregate. The western slope promises a beautiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. Orchards and alfalfa fields are redolent with bloom, and the bees are filling their homes with honey. The great irrigating ditches with hundreds of laterals are distributing water over thousands of arable acres. Everywhere the grass is luxuriant, and cattle, horses and sheep have straightened up, the kinks have gone out of their backs and their old coats have disappeared.