

Written for the DESERET NEWS. SALT LAKE VALLEY.

BY JOHN LYON.

Part Second.

The squared metropolis elegant though small
Of Deseret! the city of a day!
Where court-house, chapel domes, and City
Hall

Reflect their forms in Sol's enlivening ray—
There, palace sites, and humble cottages portray
Quiet scenes of wealth; while commerce far
and near

Has stores, saloons, and boarding houses gay—
Where Mormon, Jew, and Gentile mingle
here,
Trading in mines, and other necessary gear.

Famous city! raised in solitary life—
Now grown a centre-Mart, from sea to sea,—
A desert drear, now populous and ripe
With all the fruits of home-made industry!
There visitors of high and low degree,
Come pleased to see, or hot in holy rage
To view the "Elephant"—polygamy!
Where briefless pests join demagogue and
sage—
To write and preach on this eighth wonder of
the age.

Team-transport o'er the desert's now run out,
Thanks to improvement on the roads and
rails

Where the steam horse now shortens the long
route,
Bearing the cars, with goods and foreign
mail,

And 'truck' of every kind, boxed and in bales,
Transported safe, from east to western shore.
Now we've fresh goods, and larger import
sales,

Compared with what we ever had before—
When freight's delay brought ruin to each
empty store.

From railroad stations, to our famed hotel—
Comfortous street cars run their hourly
round—

Conveying passengers, who come to dwell
For a short space, where comfort can be
found,

At Townsend's, or where other lions abound.
And ever, where the telegraphic wire,
Far 'neath the sea, and over hilly ground
Conveys intelligence—dispatch requires,
Which every soul (but thief, or murderer) ad-
mires!

Land, once submerged, now rich in cultured
soil,

And mines surpassing most of other States—
Where air salubrious makes the patient smile,
And mineral water sickness soon abates—
That quack could wish were given to the
sates,

Or Hates, that he might live at ease—
By poisonous nostrums, sickness irritates,
Producing pain worse far than the disease—
Combined with what's to come—his mighty
bill of fees,

The Tabernacles on the Temple Block—
For size and structure admiration claim,
Sacred to God and to the humble flock

Who gather there to praise Jehovah's name,
And the great organ, second for its fame,
In size and sound, on this great continent;
I lined to a choir Appollos would not blame
For in chord, that Careless can prevent—
Even angels would pronounce par-excellent.

How an English Clergyman Reformed the Morals of a Community

Monsieur D. Conway, writing from
London to the Cincinnati Commercial,
says:

There has just come to my knowledge
an instance of the moral effect which
may be produced by making the Sab-
bath attractive to the minds and tastes
of the poor, which may interest some of
your philanthropists. A clergyman of
the Church of England, Rev. Frederick
Silver, was appointed twenty-two years
ago to a parish in Shropshire called
Norton-in-Hales. This parish was noted
for drunkenness, lawlessness and every
species of vice which is harvested from
general ignorance. Being a man of
some means as well as of good sense, he
determined to make a bold stroke to
compete with the gin-shops for the in-
terest of the roughs on Sunday. Sun-
day, he perceived, was the very worst
day in the week, Satan always finding
plenty of mischief to be done by the
idle hands of the Nortonians on that
day. How to deal with the matter?
Some suggested prayer-meetings, and
others ritualistic entertainments. But
the rector conceived another idea. For
many weeks there were seen going up
to his door large and peculiar boxes and
cases, which greatly excited the curios-
ity of his neighbors. Then he purchas-
ed the largest suite of rooms he could get
in the town. After the curious cases
had been coming in for a month or two,
lo, the people of Norton-in-Hales were
one morning astonished by the appear-
ance of placards on every wall and on

the trees far away in the country, an-
nouncing that Silver had made up a
museum, and that it would be open to
the public throughout the following
Sunday afternoon. The dissenting par-
sons groaned; the deacons were dumb;
the roughs rubbed their eyes. On Sun-
day they first crowded to hear the Rev.
Frederick Silver preach. He modestly
related how he had recognized, as he
believed, the chief need of the town, and
why he had resolved to collect a
museum. In the afternoon they crowd-
ed to the museum. They saw there
over one hundred capital paintings,
among them works by Carlo Dolce, Del
Plombo, Curacci, Westall, Hogarth, N.
Poussin, Wouvermans, Gainsborough
and Landseer. They saw a model of the
Alhambra in Spain; specimens of
cocoons at work, and the 136 colors silk
can take; a fine model of an elephant
taken from a palace in Delhi during the
mutiny; cases of English coins, from
William the Conqueror to Queen Victo-
ria; antique watches and jewelry; a
case of remarkable autographs of great
men; a noble ornithological collection,
including thirty-two fine Australian
specimens, a whole room filled with the
costumes, boots and shoes, nets, imple-
ments, weapons, etc., of New Zealand,
Madagascar, North America, China and
India. They saw Cromwell's sword. But
I must not try to give you Silver's
catalogue, which implied that the good
man had devoted his whole means to
his project, and levied contributions up-
on important sources. Well, this thing
has gone on for over fifteen years; the
result is that there is no seat in Silver's
church unoccupied, but his museum has
revolutionized the community in
Norton-in-Hales. I saw, not long ago, a
Shropshire paper which declares that
the rector found that parish "so lawless
that its name had obtained a notoriety,
and that it is now one of the happiest
communities in England." The cottages
are so large and so handsome that
travelers ask, "Where do the laborers
live?" A school has risen, a new medi-
cal dispensary, and a library. The rec-
tor's church had to be rebuilt to hold
the large crowd, and during the work
he was in the habit of aiding it with
his own hands. This is the way Sabbath
breaking has demoralized the Norton-
ians, who are so infatuated that they
recently held a festival in honor of their
rector, whom they declared by resolu-
tions, "the leader in every good work
which could promote the intellectual
and moral character of the people." If
all rectors were like Silver we should
hear little talk of disestablishment.

Indian Wives—A Curious Question.

It has been a common custom among
the settlers in frontier States to contract
what are called Indian marriages. There
is scarcely a hunter or trapper in the
wilder of the Great West who has
not an Indian wife and a number of
half-breed children. They select their
wives when among the Indians and far
from civilization, and wed them accord-
ing to such marriage custom as may be
in vogue in the tribe to which the wo-
man belongs. The question has now
been brought before the Missouri Courts
whether the issues of such marriages
can inherit property as legitimate heirs.
This is a question of great interest in
the West, as in Missouri, Arkansas,
Texas, Iowa, and nearly all the Territo-
ries, there are a great number of persons
who are the offspring of such irregular
marriages. The case which has opened
this novel question of legitimacy is one
of peculiar interest. William Gilliss,
one of the first settlers of Kansas City,
and its most wealthy citizen at the time
of his death, some time ago died a bach-
elor, as every one supposed, leaving his
property to his niece, a Mrs. Troost,
who afterwards also died, leaving be-
quests for the erection of an opera
house, a church and a seminary, and for
the establishment of a park and other
public improvements in Kansas City. Mr.
Gilliss, it appears, in early life, had
been an Indian trader and had contract-
ed an Indian marriage. His half-breed
children have contested the will of Mrs.
Troost, on the ground that they were
the legal heirs of Gilliss, and the case
has been tried before a jury in the Cir-
cuit Court, who decided in favor of the
Indian heirs, thus setting aside the will.
Of course an appeal was taken from
this decision, and the case will be car-
ried before the Supreme Court, when
the question will be definitely settled
whether a marriage contracted accord-
ing to Indian customs constitutes such a
marriage as the laws of the country can
take cognizance of and enforce as legal
and binding in all respects.—*Territorial
Enterprise.*

Decision in the United States Land Office.

As the question whether land is min-
eral or agricultural is one of great im-
portance and frequently arising, we give
below the opinion of the Register and
Receiver of the Sacramento Land
Office in the contested case of Blakely,
mineral applicant, vs. Johnson, agri-
cultural claimant. The Register and
Receiver, after reciting the record facts,
proceed as follows:

The evidence shows that Johnson, the
agricultural claimant, settled upon the
land in contest in the year A. D. 1849,
and has lived upon it and made it his
home ever since—rearing upon it a fam-
ily of children.

Blakely, the mineral claimant, and
his grantors, went into possession of a
small part of the disputed premises in
September, 1867, under a contract with
said Johnson, who was then in possession,
by the terms of which the posses-
sion was to revert to Johnson after the
expiration of four years and nine
months from the 20th day of September,
1867.

Johnson has valuable improvements
on the land, is a bona fide settler and
has been since 1849, and filed on the
land in time.

It is insisted by counsel for the min-
eral claimant that the only question to be
decided in this proceeding is whether
the land in contest should be treated as
mineral or agricultural. We will there-
fore examine that question first.

The present case differs from most of
the cases tried in this office which in-
volves the character of the land. As a
general rule in that class of cases, the
land claimed to be agricultural is the
common red land of the mountain
slopes of the Sierra Nevadas. Such
land is very valuable for the cultivation
of the vine—a branch of agriculture yet
in its infancy—and of fruits of almost
every variety. With a little manuring,
and such careful cultivation as lands in
the Eastern States receive, it would suc-
cessfully grow nearly all the grains and
vegetables. It is generally believed by
those best acquainted with the subject
that in a few years the most thrifty far-
mers of the State will be found on this
character of land. Still such land could
not with propriety be called exceedingly
rich and fertile. It could not be
classed with the first quality of agricul-
tural lands. The soil is light, and ex-
haustive crops would soon make manur-
ing necessary.

It is in the kind of land above de-
scribed that gold mines are generally
found or claimed. It overlies gravel
hills and ledges of quartz; and as the
general estimate of its agricultural value
has been very low, and as there is a good
deal of such land, the fact that it con-
tains gold mines which will pay ordi-
nary wages by extensive working,
has been deemed sufficient warrant for
its destruction by mining processes. This
rule of decision has perhaps been
carried too far in view of a wise consid-
eration of the future; but under the law
and the decisions such land must be
held mineral, when it can be mined
with any profit whatever.

The land in contest in this case, how-
ever, differs very materially from the
class of land described. That portion
of it which is claimed to be mineral is
rich bottom land, such as is seldom
found in the Sierra Nevadas. It is nat-
ural meadow land, with a rich black
soil several feet in depth. Such land is
very valuable for agricultural purposes
in that region of country—much more
valuable than it would be where such
land is common. It will grow in large
quantities almost all kinds of agricul-
tural products at a locality where such
products command the highest price.
Evidently, therefore, this land should
not be considered more valuable for
mineral than for agricultural purposes,
unless it appears affirmatively that the
washing away of such valuable soil by
mining processes will pay a handsome
profit. But upon a careful examination
of the evidence we fail to see that the
mining already done on this land has
paid the expenses incurred in working
it. The mineral claimant seems to have
been sluicing off this rich soil with the
vain hope of some time or other mak-
ing it profitable. And yet he has
worked out what is evidently the best
part of the land for mining purposes.
There is no probability that what re-
mains will pay better than the part al-
ready worked. He has already sluiced
off the centre or lowest part of this
meadow where the richest deposit of
gold would naturally be. More clear
profit could have been made from the
agricultural products of the land annu-
ally, if it had been carefully farmed,
than the evidence shows to have been
received from mining it. The use of it

for agricultural purposes would have
left the land in its original condition, a
source of continuous profit in the fu-
ture; all of it that has been mined is
practically destroyed. A true statement
of the question is this:

"If the land were owned in fee simple
by a man of good judgment, well ac-
quainted with both mining and farm-
ing, and knowing all about the premis-
es that is shown by the evidence, would
he preserve it for agriculture, or destroy
it by mining?"

From a careful consideration of all the
testimony (and we may add that the
Register and Receiver have both seen
the premises) we are of the opinion that
the land in contest is agricultural in
character, within the meaning of the
law, and should be so treated.

This view of the case makes it un-
necessary to pass upon other questions
raised by counsel. It may be well
enough, however, to add a word as to
the construction of the latter clause of
Section 12 of the act of July 9th, 1870,
which provides that "nothing in this
section contained shall defeat or impair
any bona fide pre-emption or homestead
claim upon agricultural lands or author-
ize the sale of the improvements of any
bona fide settler to any purchaser." Under
this provision, in our judgment
when a bona fide pre-emptor or home-
stead claimant has settled on land and
made valuable improvements long prior
to the location of a mining claim there-
on, as in this present case, the owner of
the mining claim, when he applies for a
patent thereto, should be confined to
that part of the land that is strictly
mineral and held under local customs,
and should not be allowed to purchase
any of the land upon which the settler
has valuable and permanent improve-
ments.

Our conclusion is that the mineral
claimant should not be allowed to pur-
chase any of the land in contest.

T. B. MCFARLAND, Register.
HART FELLOWS, Receiver.

—Sacramento Union.

EASTERN NOTES.

Recent investigations have demon-
strated that all fuels suffer a loss of
carbon by exposure; especially with
bituminous and semi-bituminous coals,
is the loss heavy—an exposure of only
two weeks causing a loss of carbon to
the extent of from ten to twenty-five
per cent.

A cruel joke was played on the good
people of Telfair county, Georgia, the
other day. That unhappy section
never had a circus, and a few days ago
some unfeeling wretch posted the
county seat with show bills without in-
forming the circus. The county turned
out en masse, only to see a stump speak-
er who thought to take advantage of
the gathering to drop a few burning
words on reconstruction.

Speaking of the importance of manu-
factories in a town, an exchange re-
marks "One manufactory employing a
hundred men will support an addition-
al population of five hundred people.
These hundred families or five hundred
people, will annually disburse on an
average the sum of \$755 a year for each
family, or \$75,000 in the aggregate.
This money will be drawn into the
city from outside, where manufactur-
ed products are consumed.

The two naval expeditions organized
to continue the surveys for a ship canal
between the Atlantic and Pacific
Oceans, through the Darien and Nica-
ragua routes are preparing to start,
Commander Selfridge in charge of the
Darien; and Commander Lull in charge
of the Nicaragua project. The first
will begin his survey on the Pacific
side of the Isthmus, at the point from
which the navigable waters of the At-
rato River can be easiest reached. The
second will start from Greytown, on
the Atlantic side.

The Boston Transcript says—

"Those who remember Mr. Seward in
his perihelion, leaning with his hands
in his trousers' pockets against the
rail of the outer row of seats in the old
Senate chamber, and throwing out sen-
tences as sound, polished and clear-cut
as the gold coinage of the mint, with-
out apparent effort, will accept him as
the founder of a new school of Ameri-
can oratory, which dispenses with
windmill exercises and congestion of
the lungs, gives the bird of freedom in-
tervals of repose, and assimilates our
style of debate to the committee-room
manner of the English Parliament,
rather than the sound and fury of
backwoods stump oratory."