

CORRESPONDENCE.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

HONOLULU, March 3, 1856

[Extracts from a letter to Robert Campbell from Elder John T. Caine.]

I preach in this place on Sundays in the English language; my congregations are not large by any means, they have varied from 5 to 30, or perhaps more; but let few or many come to hear I have always endeavored to fill the appointment. I feel that in so doing I have been greatly blessed, not so much with sheaves for my hire, but with the spirit of the Lord testifying to me that my labors are acceptable. Although but one has been added to our little 'foreign branch' since last August, yet our public meetings have not been void of interest, nor without good results among the foreign community.

During summers this place is a great resort for the whaling fleet of the Pacific ocean. This brings a great many men here, and a large amount of trade. During the past season we had more or less of those men to attend our meetings, and I hope that the seed thus scattered among those sons of the ocean may not be without its fruits.

Our native mission is in as prosperous a condition as can reasonably be expected. There are not as many being baptized as in former years, yet the progress of Mormonism is still onward, and many are alive to the work and as faithful as any people could be, situated as they are.

For my own part I am well satisfied with my mission, and if I can only succeed in doing all that is required of me, so as to receive the approbation of God and of my brethren who sent me, I shall feel greatly blessed.

The elders of our mission are all in the enjoyment of good health and spirits, and are laboring faithfully in our common cause, 'the spread of truth.' On the 6th of April we shall meet in general conference on the island of Lanai, at the gathering place, to transact business pertaining to the mission, and to enjoy each others' society for a few days. For although our kingdom is not very extensive yet the elders seldom or ever see any of those out of their own conference, except at general conference, hence it is always looked forward to with considerable pleasure as a season of great rejoicing.

I am about to make a tour around this island, hold my island conference, &c., after which we shall start for the general conference.

HILO, Dec. 23, 1855.

[From letters to Bishop L. D. Young from his son John R. Young.]

There appears to be little doing among the common people, and I must say, that I never even dreamed of seeing so lifeless a race of people as are those with whom my lot is at present cast. Their idleness is not, however, so much to be wondered at, for there is nothing to encourage them to be industrious. Common labor can be had for four or five dollars a month; carpenters and stone masons are in great demand, their wages averaging from three to five dollars a day. However, the country is well suited to the natives—The God of their forefathers has not been unkind to them, but has given them a land where they can almost live by sleeping. Breadfruit grows wild in considerable abundance, and with Kalo and potatoes is the staff of life with the Hawaiians.

Government is not, or does not appear to be, able to give that encouragement to industry which is necessary to advance the wealth and prosperity of a people. The natives are generally poor, and from all that appears at present will always remain so.

The common people are of medium size, but the chiefs are a large and noble class of men. In color they resemble the American Indians, have high cheek bones, and rather flat noses, and many of them have curly hair. They have a mild vacillating eye, expressive of the bump of sleepiness, which is very prominent on the craniums of Hawaiians. I have seen many a native drop into a sound sleep during an interesting, and lively discourse. A person with 'the good old tone' could mesmerize a congregation, and transport them to a paradisaical slumber with but little trouble. They are easily excited, and continually on the move, like the various bands of Indians that roam over our mountain home. They are here to-day, and there to-morrow; for this reason it is a hard and perplexing task for the elders to keep track of the members.

HILO, Jan. 1, 1856.

My health is still good, and I am in fine spirits. Br. H. P. Richards is here, and we are spending the holiday together. The saints at this place have commenced cutting timber for a meeting house. The click of the axe sounds like music to my ear, for I fancy that I see 'Mormonism' taking a fresh start in this quarter.

To-day is a general fast throughout the kingdom, by order of the king. Whoredom, adultery, murder and drunkenness appear to walk hand in hand in Honolulu. While the laws of the land are shamefully trampled under foot by enlightened Americans and civilized Englishmen, the 'Elele,' a Hawaiian paper, is calling loudly for something to be done to keep christian Hawaiians' wives and daughters from being prostituted by Uncle Sam's pious seamen.

Upwards of 40 whalers have recruited at the Islands this winter; they have, as a general thing, met with poor success in laying in oil.

CAPT. A. O. SMOOT'S COMPANY.

TEN MILES EAST OF LARAMIE,)
May 19, 1856.)

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—

We have just met the mail, in company with which was Elder Smith from South Africa, in good health and spirits. We arrived at Laramie yesterday about noon; obtained a supply of

provisions from the post by paying 15¢ cts. for bacon, flour and pilot bread. The commander, Colonel Huffman, treated us kindly, and all parties about the Fort showed us marked respect.

On the fourth of May the snow fell at this Fort two feet deep, since which the ground has been bare only about one week. The weather for the last two days has been excessively hot, a change the more severely felt, as the day before yesterday we were riding over snow banks.

All of the camp are enjoying excellent health. I have rode for the past week all the time on horseback, a considerable feat for a man weighing two hundred and fifty pounds.

Grass for the animals has been plenty, and they begin to show the effects of it.

We were informed at the Fort that the Sioux are all at peace; the Cheyenes want to make peace.

GEO. A. SMITH.

THE DESERET NEWS.

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ALBERT CARRINGTON, EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4.

LABORERS have now an excellent opportunity for paying their dues to the 'News office,' by working on the Big Cottonwood Canal and presenting Judge Smith with a certificate of the amount done, for which they will be credited. This is an opportunity which should be cheerfully improved, for it enables a person to pay up while at work on a job which will benefit him as much as it will us, and opens a way for those to subscribe who have not as yet done so on account of their being short of cash, provisions, &c.

Agricultural.

We perceive that Hon. J. C. Little, the Treasurer of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, by advertisement in No 12, announces that he is prepared to receive names and issue tickets of membership.

We recommend our friends and the community in general to become members of the Society, and to use every reasonable exertion to obtain premiums in the various branches of agriculture and manufactures.

Nearly all are engaged in pursuits for which they have a peculiar fancy and fitness, and by bringing their mental faculties and physical powers to bear on those pursuits, a degree of eminence can be attained in any branch of science or art highly advantageous to the common weal. We need not write at length to stir up the minds of the people on this subject, for their alacrity is proverbial in all laudable movements requiring enterprise, ingenuity and intelligence.

We understand that the plowing match is to come off on Governor Young's land in the five-acre lots' field, and doubtless a large number of competitors will be ready to exhibit their skill in that most useful department.

The prizes are liberal, considering the infancy and circumstances of the society, and what skillful plowman will fail to compete at the first annual plowing match in 1856?

From the number who are ready with their pen, we expect that the inducements in class H will elicit many excellent locally practical essays, which are certainly much needed; and we have ever taken pleasure in publishing communications upon subjects included in that division.

The Directors now offer 12 silver medals, 205 diplomas and \$380 in cash, thus extending a liberal hand in the right direction and indicating their confidence in the patronage and support of the people.

Trusting that deserved success will attend their praiseworthy exertions, we again invite all to join the society, and to make its interest and prosperity coincident with their own, for it is designed to benefit all.

The act organizing the Society and its By-Laws were published in No. 7 of our current volume.

THE MAIL FROM INDEPENDENCE, we learn from Elder L. I. Smith, left that place on the 1st of May, and arrived at Weber river, 44 miles east of this city, at 1 p.m. of May 30th, since which time we have heard nothing from it up to 6 p.m. of the 3d inst.

In crossing the river on horseback br. Smith had to swim his horse for about a rod, which circumstance makes it rather strange, to say the least, that the mail had not arrived by noon of the 31st ult., and VERY SINGULAR indeed that it had not reached here long before the time for 'locking up' this number of the 'News.'

We are not disposed to judge a matter without hearing both sides, and hence do not feel free to offer comments until the conductor arrives. But where, at best, we are allowed a mail but once a month on a route of the most importance to Utah, all must admit that it is worse than annoying to see a mail depart on a long trip, while the one due is tantalizingly near and freighted with important letters requiring the earliest attention.

THE MAIL FOR INDEPENDENCE—Left between 9 and 10 a. m. of the 2nd inst. Courtland Livingston, Esqr. and a little son of Elder Coward, who is now on a mission to St. Louis, accompany it as passengers.

ELDER LEONARD I. SMITH arrived, May 31st., in good health and spirits, from his late mission to the regions of South Africa.

He journeyed with the mail, which left Independence May 1st., until it reached Weber river at 1 p.m. of the 30th ult., when he left it and crossed the Weber on horseback, the horse having to swim about a rod of the distance.

Br. Smith will please accept our thanks for several papers of late date, in advance of the mail.

TRESPASS AND LAWLESSNESS.—Is it possible that the Government surveying party throw down fences, turn their animals into fields and upon enclosed mowing land, and use fence poles for fuel?

We have understood that such lawless deeds are committed by them, but no definite proof having as yet been furnished, we waive further comment at present, except to inform fence and field owners that all such conduct is trespass, and is as illegal and as punishable by law here as a like course would be in a State. In all such cases a complaint to any justice of the peace or judge having jurisdiction will soon settle the question.

SHIRKERS AND WHINERS.—As the soil is becoming very dry, and there is but little prospect of rain soon, it is very necessary that more water be had in this city, or many fruit trees and much vegetation will perish.—For this reason there has been an urgent call made for men to turn out, and so far complete the Big Cottonwood Canal that water can be let into it as speedily as possible. Independent of future use for boating stone, this canal will immediately benefit every owner of lots in this city and the big field adjacent.

Is every such owner using proper effort for the immediate completion of this work, in accordance with the request of the First Presidency and the urgency of the case? If not, let no one shirk now and then whine for water after his neighbors have brought it to his door, as has sometimes been the case.

GREEN PEAS.—We tender our thanks to Brother and Sister Longstroth for their liberal and very acceptable present of green peas on the 1st inst., the first we have seen upon a table this season. Being very fond of gardening and good gardens, and having some pride in their successful cultivation, we candidly admit that we were a little chagrined that our own did not first afford us a supply; but the edge of our chagrin was entirely removed by the palatableness of the gift, and by the tangible evidence that many others are using commendable skill and industry in the early and careful cultivation of gardens.

In a few days peas will be very plenty, with all who have used proper exertions in tilling their grounds.

THE TANKARD TURNIP, the seed of which was furnished by the Patent Office, is flourishing finely; is beautifully shaped, sweet and brittle, and has already attained the size of a large turnip.

We are indebted to our Delegate, the Hon. J. M. Bernhisel, for the introduction of this excellent addition to our variety of vegetables.

SAVING SEED PEAS.—As peas are now filling their pods, and provisions still rather scarce, many will be tempted to pluck them indiscriminately. But all, who desire to improve upon the size and the period of ripening, will do well to save the largest and earliest for seed, from any given sowing. Some sow a few rows, or a small patch, on purpose for seed, and even then there is the same advantage in selecting from the best, and in reserving the balance for eating, unless you prefer to be careless about the deterioration of the product.

We understand that br. Joseph Birch, in Session's Settlement, has a very large variety of English pea, if so it would be good policy in him to save the present crop for seed.

CHEROKEES AND CHOCTAWS.—Elder Washington N. Cook writes from the Choctaw Agency, Choctaw Nation, to Prest. Grant, that his reception in that region has been of a friendly character, and that he has been much blest in administering to the sick.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Edward Brain of G. S. L. City, wishes to know of the whereabouts of one JOHN HACKWELL who formerly resided in Bristol, South Conference, England.

St. Louis Luminary, Mormon, and Millennial Star please copy.

Br. Tresseder, in New York City, wishes to hear from his sons Charles and Richard.

Items of News

From papers furnished by br. L. I. Smith.

A Mr. S. J. Jones, Sheriff of Douglas county, was assassinated near Lawrence, Kansas Territory, on the 19th of April, as gleaned from an Extra of the Lecompton Union.

The locomotive with a train of cars crossed on the bridge over the Mississippi, at Rock Island, on the 22nd of April. This is the first bridge that has spanned that river "within the memory of the oldest inhabitant."

[From N. Y. Express, March 29.]

MORMONS AT CASTLE GARDEN.

At the Emigrant Depot in Castle Garden there are 454 Mormons or Latter Day Saints, who arrived here in the Caravan on Wednesday from England. The company consists of men, women and children. There are four Elders. Presidents of the Company, named Leonard I. Smith, Wm. Walker, Daniel Tyler, and Ed. Bunker, besides several deacons and teachers. On entering the Garden on Friday, we observed the company variously employed. Some were taking their tea, others were engaged in the kitchen, cooking various edibles, others still were employed in looking over their baggage, whilst the children were engaged in trundling hoops and other childish amusements. The women generally were young, handsome and cleanly dressed; a very few we saw who looked rather slovenly, and one or two were rather advanced in years.

OUR REPORTER IS INTRODUCED TO AN ELDER.

Mr. Walsh, one of the employees of the Garden, having shown our Reporter round the baggage room, bath room, kitchen, and other places of the establishment, all of which appeared particularly clean and in excellent order, then introduced him to one of the Elders, Mr. Leonard I. Smith, who appears a man of superior intelligence and of gentlemanly manners. Mr. Smith very readily and politely furnished our Reporter with the following brief history of the movements of himself and company:

ADVENTURES OF A MORMON MISSIONARY.

He stated that about three years since he proceeded from Utah to the Cape of Good Hope on a mission for the conversion of the inhabitants of that portion of the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty, and succeeded during the time he resided there not only in converting a number, but in raising a sufficient sum to buy a small brig, which was then for sale, at a cost of £2500 (about \$12,500.) In this vessel himself and seven of his converts proceeded to London, stopping at St. Helena to take in water on the way home. In this famous island he was invited to give a lecture, which invitation he accepted, and spoke to a large audience. Here a large number of their publications (including the Book of Mormon) was purchased, and several rich and influential men of the island, as also the poorer classes at Fort Elizabeth and other places, began seriously to investigate the new doctrines, and Elder Smith had no doubt but converts would be gained there.

They arrived at London after a pleasant passage of 62 days on the 23th of January, and having landed the passengers and crew, proceeded to Liverpool, from whence they sailed for New York on the 16th of February, and arrived here on the 27th of March, after a very favorable passage of 41 days. They will proceed to Utah in a week.

The brig is to be used in carrying passengers to and from the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Smith says that another company, consisting of about 100, may be expected here in about two months.

THE CORRUPTION OF THE PRESENT CONGRESS CONFESSED.—The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Times thus speaks of the shameful profligacy and corruption of the present opposition Congress. He says:—[Chicago Times.]

'Speaking of arrangements, I am quite sure that no Congress was ever assembled in this country in which intrigue, scheming, and I can almost say vile corruption, was practised to a greater extent.

There is a greediness, a selfishness exhibited by a great majority of the members which is quite astonishing, while the crowd of office seekers, lobby-men and wire-pullers are perfectly ravenous for public plunder; but it is Scriptural declaration that 'where the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together.' In this case 'buzzards' should be substituted for 'eagles.'

DUTIES VS DOCTRINE.—When we see persons wrangling about theology, we think how much better it would be for the world if men attached as much importance to the duties as they do to the doctrines of religion!