

Poetry.

[Written for the DESERET NEWS.]
WHY SHOULD WE FEAR.

God is our Father! then why should we fear,
Though danger is met in the way we must go?
What though the angel of death should be near,
And our footsteps are found in the shadows of woe?

Death is the slave of our Father's command;
He can surround us with hosts from above;
Can He not hide, in the shade of His hand,
Those who rely on His promise of love?

God is our Father! then why should we fear,
The shades of misfortune or poverty's chill?
Hid in the cloud, lo, our God may be near,
To chasten, to humble, to sanctify still.
Through poverty's vale there's a path to the skies;

Anxiety feasts on the glitter of gold;
In virtue and faith there is wealth that ne'er dies,
And our souls!—they are treasures of value untold.

God is our Father! then why should we fear
The hate of the mighty, the rage of the strong?
Let calumny whisper, let enmity sneer,
We'll ne'er be overcome by the doers of wrong.
O, let us not forfeit His fatherly care,
And vain is the rage of our mightiest foe;
We'll see through the maze of our enemies' snare,
And wisdom shall light up the way we must go.

God is our father! then why should we fear?
The thrones of the mighty may totter and fall;
All nature convulsed a dread aspect may wear;
The joys of the nations be turned into gall.
Mid the wreck of creation the righteous shall stand,

As firm as the throne of omnipotent power;
O, the light of God's eye, and the might of His hand,
Shall secure the redeemed in calamity's hour.

R. SMYTH.

Correspondence.

We take pleasure in laying before our readers the following interesting copy of a letter forwarded to President D. H. Wells and B. Young, Jr., by the brethren presiding over the Saints immigrating on the Belle Wood:

SHIP "BELLE WOOD,"
Off New York.

PRESTES. WELLS AND YOUNG: May 30

DEAR BROTHER:—After the departure of yourselves and the Elders who accompanied you, from your visit to our vessel in the Mersey, we all stood gazing after you, with emotions only known to Saints who have long enjoyed each others society, until your forms were no longer distinguishable, when we turned our attention to the practical duties before us, and proceeded to get the baggage below, and all made secure for the night. We then held a council meeting, at which the ship was divided into nine Wards, with the following Elders as presidents: 1st. Ward, Charles Carpenter; 2d. Ward, E. F. Bird; 3d. Ward, William Willis; 4th. Ward, George Sims; 5th. Ward, F. W. Cox and Henry Walters; 6th. Ward, M. P. Romney; 7th. Ward, G. W. Grant; 8th. Ward, Alfred Lee; 9th. Ward, Matthew Lyon. Elder Robert Pixton was also appointed Captain of the guard and police, and Elder George Sims Clerk. Most of the people were too sick to attempt to hold meetings the next day, and those who were well were busily occupied in ministering to the comfort of the rest. The number of aged, feeble and sick rendered it necessary to appoint some persons whose special business it should be to attend to them. Accordingly, Elder William Willis, and a female Sanitary Committee, consisting of sisters Cecilia Campbell, Wixey and Eliseman Savage, was appointed to that important labor of love. This office they cheerfully accepted and faithfully performed the onerous duties devolving upon them, dispensing sage, tapioca, arrow-root, hot tea, coffee, soup, boiled rice and dried apple sauce, with other little luxuries, which were carefully prepared and proved very grateful and nourishing to the invalids. By the kindness of Captain Freeman, in permitting these nourishments to be prepared at his own galley, it enabled us to supply the sick with a little light refreshment at an earlier hour than could have been done at our own fire, which was a source of much comfort to many in a debilitated condition. The Saints are unanimous in their expressions of satisfaction and gratitude for the liberal provision made by you for their comfort and health on the voyage. It was really amusing if not interesting to watch the variety and number of dishes sent to the galley, and

many on board lived better than they had done for many years.

Sister Campbell and her associates were untiring in their exertions both by day and night, to nourish and nurse the sick, and to the providences of the Lord, the ministrations of the Elders and these careful attendants, including Elder William Willis, may be attributed the rapid recovery of many, and the general good health that has been enjoyed. Elder Barfoot has proved himself invaluable, having been most efficient in the discharge of his duties as Passenger Steward, and both he and Elder Fowler merit the gratitude of the whole ship's company for their indefatigable labors.

To supply the Saints with regular meals, an organization of brethren for cooking was formed. Elders Shaw and Holt were appointed Superintendents, to preside alternately and direct the labors of bro's. May, Wise, South, Richards and Bowen, who were very vigilant and patient in the discharge of their duties, supplying three good meals a-day. The Saints were notified to prepare their dishes, which were brought to and taken from the galley by brethren appointed for that purpose from each Ward. The Wards cooked in rotation, commencing with the 1st. Ward one morning and the 9th. Ward the next. Water and provisions were served in the same order. This arrangement gave the middle Wards about the same hour for cooking every day and gave general satisfaction.

Our first Sunday meeting, May 7th, by the permission of the Captain, was held on the quarter deck, where the Mate, Mr. Graystone, had prepared a sort of pulpit, by spreading the union jack on the harness cask, and had also arranged seats for the accommodation of the Elders. The ship's bell was tolled for half an hour previous to each meeting. The Captain, officers, and as many of the crew as could conveniently do so, favored us with their presence, and paid marked attention. It is but justice to the officers of the ship to state that, during every meeting which was held upon deck, they maintained the strictest order and decorum among the crew. The sacrament was administered and addresses were given by several of the Elders. The spirit of the Lord was copiously poured out upon both speakers and hearers, and your presence was all that was lacking to make it equal to any Conference that we have had the pleasure of attending in England. The speeches were powerful, animated and instructing, inspiring each heart to renewed diligence and faithfulness, and were very comforting to the afflicted. All the Wards had meetings morning and evening, at which prayers were said and instructing remarks made by their Presidents, and frequent testimonial meetings were held. The weather governed us in the choice of deck or steerage to hold our meetings in. A council meeting was held daily at 3 p.m., to provide for any contingency that might arise, and to continue to arrange for order, comfort and cleanliness.

Bros. Fowler, Palmer and Stonehouse were appointed a Committee to make arrangements for social parties for the recreation of the Saints, at which well selected pieces were recited and anthems, songs, both spiritual and secular were executed in a very creditable manner. A small brass band, assisted by two violinists, also by a flute and clarionette, made sweet melody to beguile the leisure hours of our trip, and filled the air with sweet strains of music. Among the amusements may be classed the publication of a paper, entitled the "Belle Wood Gazette," Elder George Sims, Editor, in which daily appeared sundry communications from different correspondents, poetical contributions, reports of the board of health, lost property, Essays, Editorial instructions, &c.

Union and good feeling characterized the conduct of the Saints during the entire trip, and our hearts are thankful to Him who rules on high for the operations of His Holy Spirit which produced these desirable results.

We regret to have to inform you of three deaths that have occurred during the voyage. First, John Edwin Heffiran, of consumption, on May 16; born Jan. 5, 1864, at Dinapore, Bengal, East Indies. Second, William James Hazell, of convulsions, on the 24th inst, born Mar. 12, 1864, at London. Third, Ann Eyre, of general debility brought on by Dysentery, on the 28th inst, born in Exkington, Lincolnshire, in 1798. A few cases of Measles have occurred, but have all terminated favorably.

The Pilot boarded us this afternoon, and as we hope to anchor in New York Bay to-morrow we are preparing our letters to send on shore by the Captain.

We have had an exceedingly pleasant

voyage thus far, having experienced very little rough weather, but considerable rain. Captain Freeman has been very gentlemanly, courteous and patient in his intercourse with us, has proved himself a skilful and careful officer, expresses himself as highly pleased with his passengers, and very desirous of carrying our people in future.

We feel thankful to our Father in heaven for his protecting care which has been over us, and the many blessings we have enjoyed from His hands. We earnestly pray for a continuation of His goodness and protection during our further journeyings, and for the choicest blessings that accompany His Holy Spirit to rest upon you and all the faithful Elders and Saints over whom you preside:

Your Brethren in the Gospel,
W. H. SHEARMAN,
C. B. TAYLOR,
W. S. S. WILLIS.
GEORGE SIMS, Clerk.

The following letter contains further interesting details of the travels of the Belle Wood's company, and their arrival in Wyoming:

WYOMING, N. T., June 17, 1865.

PRES. BRIGHAM YOUNG:

DEAR BROTHER:—I trust you have received my previous letter, written on board the "Belle Wood," giving an account of our voyage, and I thought you would be anxious to learn of our safe arrival at this point.

We anchored in New York Harbor the 31st of May, and landed at Castle Garden the following day. We experienced no difficulty in passing the Doctor and Custom House Officers, who were very courteous and accommodating.

In consequence of unwillingness on the part of Railway Contractors to fulfill their engagements with Elder Thomas Taylor, we were detained in Castle Gardens between five and six days. The weather was intensely hot, the Saints suffered much from various sources of annoyance, and disease made its appearance and began to spread rapidly. I am thankful, however, to be able to say, that, by the blessing of the Lord, we escaped with the loss of but one child, who died of the croup. Under these circumstances br. Taylor had no alternative but to take steps to obtain legal redress, and when the contractors found he was determined to do so they concluded to fulfill their agreement. We accordingly left New York for Albany, by the Hudson River R. R., at 8 p. m. on the 6th.

We arrived safely at this place on the 15th inst., having had a very agreeable trip, without any material detention, with the exception of the short distance between Quincy and the Palmyra Junction, which we had to ride in miserably dirty cattle trucks. At the latter place the Saints—men, women and children—were turned out into the pitiless storm without shelter. We remonstrated with the officials in vain, until I told them we should certainly send our following company by some other route, where they would be treated with something like decency and humanity. The Station Master then concluded to let us into the depot, where the people were tolerably comfortable till they proceeded to St. Jo. About a mile east of St. Jo. the flood, during the night, had washed away a portion of the Railway, causing a detention of a few hours.

We experienced no material difficulty along the route, and were treated with great courtesy and kindness by nearly all with whom we came in contact.

We have had a great many cases of measles, but all have done well, with two or three exceptions. We buried one infant at St. Joseph, and 2 children since our arrival here.

During the journey from New York to this place every possible attention was given to the sick and feeble, the best railway carriage was always appropriated exclusively to their use, and the preference was given to them in all things.

It has been very stormy ever since we have been here, making the country very muddy and disagreeable. The thunder and lightning have been of that fearfully grand and, to me, sublimely magnificent character peculiar to America.

Elder J. G. Holman has done every thing in his power to make the Saints comfortable and to provide for their necessities. Several merchant trains for Great Salt Lake City are starting from Nebraska City, 7 miles below this place, to whom Bro. Holman is engaging many of our single brethren as steamsters, at \$50 per month. Twenty-five men engaged and went to Nebraska to-day under the presidency of Elder William Willes. Elder Holman has selected 20

more men who, he expects, will start with another train on Monday, under the presidency of Elder E. F. Bird. From present appearances it is likely that more will be wanted, and br. Holman hopes to be able, in this manner, to get off many who would otherwise have been unable to go to Zion this season. We all feel very grateful to the Lord for thus opening the way for the gathering of His poor Saints. Bro's Naisbett, Hampton, Bassett, and others have done all in their power to ensure the comfort and welfare of our brethren and families who go with them.

In consequence of the fall of gold and the high prices of every article needed for emigration, bro's. Holman and Taylor are seriously embarrassed for means. Bro. Holman called a meeting of the brethren who wished to drive teams over the plains, and stated the case to them, when nearly every one nobly and cheerfully volunteered to give their wages to the Church to assist in forwarding the emigration, as there are many here without means. I do not think there has ever been a company of Saints come from Europe who have been more generally united and willing to obey counsel than this one.

Provisions are very high here at present; flour is \$5 per 100, lbs. Bacon 18 to 20 cts, Sugar 25 to 30, Coffee 45, Tea 2.50, and other things in proportion.

The health of the returning Elders is generally good. Matthew Lyon has greatly improved, as also father Lee. Bro's C. B. Taylor, and F. W. Cox have gone to see their relatives in the States, but we are expecting them here in a few days. Br. T. Taylor was very anxious that I should accompany the Saints to this point, and I am now waiting the arrival at Nebraska of bro's W. S. Godbe (whom I had the pleasure of meeting at New York) and George Reynolds, when we expect to take stage together for Great Salt Lake City.

While detained in New York, we had some excellent meetings at Williamsburgh, in the Adelphi Hall, at which a great number of the Saints from Castle Gardens attended. By the liberality of br. W. S. Godbe, and the kindness of Elder T. Taylor and others, a very refreshing and substantial repast was provided, for all who had come from Castle Gardens, consisting of rich, sweet milk, new bread, and good fresh butter, spread in our liberal American style. The food was very acceptable and refreshing to the bodies of the fatigued Saints, and the kindness that prompted the movement was still more grateful and invigorating to their spirits, as it showed an interest in their welfare and comfort that can only be fully appreciated under such circumstances.

Br. Holman says he hopes to be able to get the last of the Saints off by the 10th or 15th of next month.

Bro's Holman, W. S. S. Willes, George Sims, and the Elders generally join me in love to yourself, Pres. Kimball, br. Cannon, and the brethren of the Office.

Ever praying for your welfare and the prosperity of Zion, I remain your Brother,
W. H. SHEARMAN.

Irregularities in the eastern mail service prevented publishing Elder Shearman's letter from Wyoming before his arrival, but that will not detract from its interest to those who have friends and relations among the passengers by the Belle Wood.

THE FOURTH.

AT AMERICAN FORK.

Musketry at daylight, and hoisting the national flag at sunrise.

The procession formed at 9 a.m., with Cavalry and Infantry Escort, Martial Band, Committee of Arrangements, Civil and Military Officers, Schools of the city, Citizens, etc., etc., and after marching through the principal streets assembled at the City Hall at 10 o'clock.

Called to order by the Marshal of the day, Robt. Reapemeack.

Song by the Choir.

Prayer by Elder Thos. Crooks, Chaplain.

Music by Martial Band.

Song by the School Children.

Reading Declaration of Independence by Wm. Greenwood.

Song, "Star Spangled Banner," by the Choir.

Oration by the Hon. L. E. Harrington, Orator of the day.

Short Addresses, songs, etc.

Toasts by prominent citizens.

Benediction by the Chaplain.

At 2 p.m. the juveniles assembled for the dance, under their respective teachers; and in the evening, a dance for all who desired.