

prayer; but as most things have an end, so did the prayer finally come to an end, greatly to the relief of two of the congregation at least. On the whole we felt amply paid for our visit to

THE LITTLE METHODIST CHURCH ROUND THE CORNER,

to hear the one-armed parson preach and the lay member pray, the congregation groan and see the little darkey boy grin and show the whites of his eyes.

This town has a few quite fine buildings, a large free school house, nice city hall, fine butcher shops, well supplied with as good a display of choice meats and poultry as I ever saw out West, and oysters, fresh, sold by the quart. They have water works, but no gas or electric lights for the town at night.

The city is situated on the Animas River, in a kind of an oblong valley, the sides of which are lined with pines, firs and cedars. Business chiefly mining and stock raising.

My health is good, and I have enjoyed the trip thus far very much. From here on to Bluff City, distant about 100 miles, we will have to rough it. I design being back by the 15th or 20th prox., providence and the weather permitting.

Your brother in the Gospel of Peace, F. A. HAMMOND.

EDUCATION IN UTAH COUNTY.

Editor Deseret News:

Since my last communication to you on school matters, the teachers of this county held a six day's session for the purpose of

PLANNING A COURSE OF STUDIES

to be adopted by and with the approval of the trustees in their respective districts throughout the county. The object was accomplished and to-day the graded schools are working according to the plan. It starts on its important mission at a period of the child's school life, thence upward through the graduation in the ascending scale and through a successive series of physical and mental developments in their natural order.

Methods of teachings were aptly illustrated by many of the teachers, which went to show that their application lead to principles and the principles to a practice that culminates in the fullest perfection attainable to the individual, and hence to society. It was agreed that too much stress had been placed on the faculties of memory in the old system of instruction, and too little on the awakening of the reasoning faculties, and the cultivation of the moral qualities. Therefore it was the sacred duty of the teacher of to-day to advance thought from its incipency through its numerous stages until it became self-reliant and independent in its allotted sphere. The convention was a decided success. In it an impetus was given, nay more, an inspiration, and a more thorough knowledge of the great importance of correct instruction and of the ultimate results depending upon the character of the teacher and his teaching.

Much has been written in that synonym of depravity, that wallows in its own wretched filthiness, about

SECTARIAN DOCTRINES BEING TAUGHT

and of sectarian books being used in the district schools throughout the Territory. How far this may be true regarding parts of the Territory, other than Utah county, I am unable to answer definitely; but, so far as the charge applies to Utah county, it is infamously false. Neither "Mormon," Christian, Jewish, Islam or Pagan doctrines are taught in any of the district schools of this county nor books of any religious creed, sect or denomination used in any of the said schools either as text books or otherwise.

Following is a list of the books now used as recognized by law: Independent Readers, Charts and Geographies, Spencerian Copy Books, Swinton's Language Lessons, Ray's Arithmetics. Add to these popular histories, blank books for drawing, and you have the full complement. Even the Age of Reason, Darwin's Apology and Ingersoll's Noisms are excluded. Again, the teachers in this county are engaged by the trustees upon the presentation of a certificate from the Board of Examiners which certificate shows the possessor to be of a good moral character, and his percentage sufficient to the grade to be instructed by him. It is not now, nor has it been the practice here, for the Board of Examiners, nor the trustee to ask of any applicant whether he is "Mormon," Methodist, Presbyterian, nor what his views, conviction or practices are in religious matters. Indeed, the fact is generally understood and the principle involved appreciated that the above officers are elected by the people for the people and not by and for any religious sect whatever.

COUNTY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

holds its regular meetings semi-monthly in Provo under the very able management of County Superintendent Brimhall. There the teachers impart and receive instruction, exchange views and discuss topics of education, from the rostrum, through diagrammatic illustrations, and potent Query box.

In addition to the many interesting and instructive themes of this association are the lectures delivered by one of Utah's leading educators—Professor

Karl G. Maeser, and those of the energetic, studious Talmage, a young man of extraordinary mental activity. Side by side with these gentlemen stands the skillful, zealous and earnest superintendent, whose every fibre connects itself with this cause of education and advancement. A branch of this organization is found in each leading district; meetings are held once a week for the purpose of reporting progress, statistics, and results, of explaining and comparing methods, reading school journals and other works on education.

It is expected that the schools of the county will follow the

EXAMPLE OF SPANISH FORK,

in combining the educated hand with the educated head, by producing samples of knitting, sewing, crocheting, garden products, and articles made of paper, wood and metal, and in connection therewith establish a district school county fair for the purpose of exhibiting hand and brain products.

JOS. A. REES, Cor. Sec. of the U. C. T. A. Spanish Fork City, Dec. 26th, 1884.

ST. GEORGE STAKE CONFERENCE.

ST. GEORGE, Utah, December 16, 1884.

At our December Quarterly Conference of St. George Stake, we were blessed with the presence, counsels and teachings of Apostles Erastus Snow, Francis M. Lyman, and George Teasdale.

President Joseph V. Robison and others from Millard Stake and Bishop James C. Owens of Woodruff, Arizona, were with us, and before we finally separated our genial and whole-souled fellow-laborer, President John R. Murdock of Beaver Stake was with us.

The weather in this region for a few days before conference was unusually stormy, which prevented the attendance of representatives from the more distant mountain and river settlements; but notwithstanding this, the audience was unexpectedly large from other parts of the Stake.

The usual Stake Conference business of reading reports, statistical, educational and financial was attended to, also the presenting and sustaining by unanimous vote of the general authorities of the Church and of the local authorities of the Stake.

The Apostles were blessed with the spirit of instruction, and administered the word of God freely to the people.

During our gathering the following conferences were held in addition to the Stake Conference: The Relief Societies, the High Priests' and the Primary Associations, The Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations conjointly held their Conference, and, in connection with the Stake Conference, occupied the Sunday morning session.

On Sunday evening Apostles Lyman and Teasdale were listened to with profound attention by an audience of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Improvement Association, and others in the Lyceum, which was filled to its utmost capacity.

And on Monday evening, the 15th inst., the social season for St. George was inaugurated by the giving of a social party under the auspices of the Presidency and High Council of the Stake, at which the Apostles and visiting brethren as well as the other guests freely partook of the spirit of innocent recreation.

Thus has ended another of our very best quarterly gatherings.

JAMES G. BLEAK, Clerk of St. George.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LEHI, Dec. 27, 1884.

Editor Deseret News:

On Friday December 19th, 1884, Bishop T. R. Cutler gave a grand ball and supper to some 87 young men of Lehi who had hauled some \$225 worth of wood for the poor of our ward. The ball was given in the Lehi Music Hall and proved a success. The cooking department was superintended by Mrs. Austin, the tables by James Kirkham, and the whole by the Bishop and his Counselors. Some 200 or more partook of the supper and plenty was left which was given to the poor the next day. The Kirkham brothers furnished the music while Messrs. A. J. Evans and Jos. Gaddie did the managing and prompting. All felt that they had done a good work, to help our Bishop in providing for the poor, for all who live in our Ward never want for something to eat and burn.

On the 22nd the Y. L. Association held a bazar in our Hall, which was a fine success.

On the 24th the Y. M. and Y. L. Dramatic Association gave us a performance and presented the "Midnight Watch." Messrs. J. Gaddie, Thurman, and Evans carrying the role. Mrs. Sarah Thompson and Mrs. Clark acted their parts in good style, and we hope to see them again.

Christmas brought its mud, snow and rain, two balls and other amusements. Respectfully, J. K.

PRETTY WOMEN.

Ladies who would retain freshness and vivacity. Don't fail to try "Wells' Health Renewer

A PROBLEM IN LAW.

HOW A LEGAL COMPLICATION WAS SATISFACTORILY SIMPLIFIED.

Judge Abraham Gildersleeve of Whiskey City, New Mexico, had a case in court on last Tuesday which illustrates the ease attending the solution of law problems on the frontier, as compared to the tedious methods employed in our effete civilization.

It seems that one Mr. Jack Sellers, while engaged in the pursuit of his profession as a desperado, found a hair lariat on the outskirts of Whiskey City one night, and conveying it several miles toward the mountains, discovered that there was a mule at the other end of it. Said mule was the fee simple of a fellow-citizen to whom a complicated ocular trouble had given the name of Squint-eye Charley, and who, at the time the mule was discovered, was bearing down in hot pursuit. According to the custom of that section, both gentlemen drew their revolvers on arriving within speaking distance, and at the first fire, he of the eccentric eye fell, pierced by a bullet which the sheriff afterward found to exactly fit Mr. Sellar's pistol. The vigilantes had closely followed the now deceased gentleman's trail, and taking both Mr. Sellar and the mule into custody, marched back to Whiskey City. There the citizens had already, with much forethought, provided six yards of rope and a white cap, and Judge Gildersleeve had impaneled a jury to sit upon the case.

The witnesses were duly sworn and examined, the evidence was clear and satisfactory to the rope committee, and all pointed to a happy conclusion and a hanging, when an unexpected point of law was raised by the accused himself.

The border line between Arizona and New Mexico runs through Whiskey City, and the laws of both territories hence obtained. It appears that Mr. Sellar had found the lariat and mule on the New Mexican side of the line, but had shot its owner on the Arizona side. By the statutes of New Mexico it was death to kill the man, but nothing to steal the mule, and by the statutes of Arizona it was death to steal the mule and nothing to kill the man. This as can readily be seen, complicated matters to such an extent that even the most sanguine of the rope committee were led to believe that the proposed festival they had contemplated would have to be indefinitely postponed. Mr. Sellers read the statutes covering both these points with great clearness and force, paused for a reply, winked with enthusiasm at a friend on the jury. Judge Gildersleeve buried his face in his bandanna for several minutes, as an impressive preparation for the delivery of his charge. Then he said:

"Thish yar Sellers haz got law to kiver the case on both sides, and thish yar cote hez got iter maintain the law 'n statoots pervided. Ef Sellers hed stole thish yar mule in Arizony 'n shot Squinty in New Mex, the sentence of thish yar cote would er b'en ter hang him by the neck until he war dead 'n and may God hev mercy on his soul. But thish yar mule war stole in New Mex, 'n Squinty had his toes turned up in Arizony, which is the reverse of the contrary."

Here the judge paused for a moment, and the accused smiled confidently. The judge continued:

"It therof' remains for this cote ter maintain both laws 'n statoots 'n ter give Sellar the benefit of the doubt. Ef Sellar pleads guilty under the statoots 'n laws of New Mex, Sellers must be acquitted for the mule 'n hang for the man."

Sellers hastened to assure the judge that he desired to plead under the statutes of Arizona.

"Then" said the judge with a sigh of relief, "yhu is acquitted fer Sqinty and hangs for the mule. This cote will now adjourn 'n a front seat will be provided at the ceremonies." —Life.

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Le Bey has been made an officer of the French legion of honor.

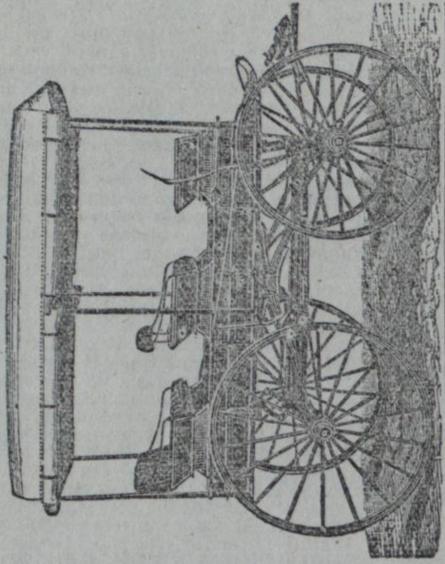
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Mrs. Lamar, wife of U. S. Senator Lamar, died on Monday night at Oxford, Miss.

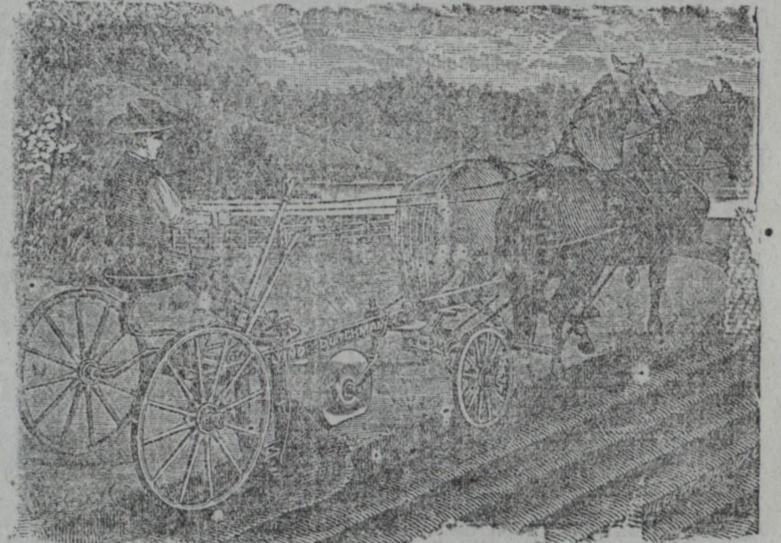
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