

ELDERS' CORRESPONDENCE.

JERSEY.

[From Elder W. C. Dunbar to Elder Daniel McIntosh.]

CHANNEL ISLANDS,
June 16, 1855.

On the 30th of March I started, with Elder Lamoreaux and about 70 saints from the Channel Islands, for Liverpool. At the time, in addition to disease in my spine and kidneys, my lungs were so affected that I could not speak ten minutes without coughing and spitting blood. The saints thought I was mad in undertaking a journey in that condition, going a deck passenger from Jersey to Plymouth, then to Dublin and from thence to Liverpool. When I arrived there, if you had seen me, I guess you would have ordered my coffin. When the brethren saw me they wanted to get a petition for me to be sent home, but I would not permit their kindness, but asked them to lay their hands upon me instead.

Bro. Franklin invited us to hold a meeting at his rooms in his new office. We met, and if the Spirit of God was not burning then it never was. How did we feel, large, proud, and full of pomposity? No, Sir. We felt humble as children; every heart was full to overflowing, too full for utterance, however some of us, but they were afraid to give vent to their feelings, for if they had we would have lifted the roof of the house; but as Bro. Franklin was just taking possession, we kept the "Spirit subject to the Prophets."

Wouldn't it have done Bro. Brigham and Heber good if they had been behind the door and heard their boys, Wm. and Jos., speaking by the power of the Holy Ghost? Geo. D. Grant also. Little do they know what wisdom and intelligence are in them. To see them in the Mountains and hear them here is as much a contrast as seeing me in the "Pulpit" and on the "Stage." True they cannot sermonize like some, but a half an hour's talk from them has more influence and power with the saints, than an hour and a half's discourse delivered grammatically, and scientifically. This has caused a little jealousy, but it ought not, for, such ought rather to learn that there is power in the Holy Priesthood, and that no flesh should glory. Learning, education and oratory are good in their place, if we would let the spirit operate thro' them and give God the glory, but when a man becomes so learned that he can preach as well without the Spirit as with it, I think he is getting in the dark.

We had a good time at our meeting. Bro. Franklin and Spencer gave us some good instruction, and we prophesied and blessed one another. I got anointed, and my cough left and my lungs were healed directly. I suppose I had not faith enough to have all my infirmities removed at once, therefore I must bear them as best I can.

There are brethren in Utah, who went from "Jersey," who according to their own account are saving lots of money and property. I think they ought to be ashamed to send such accounts. Why don't they put some of it into the P. E. Fund, and send for some of their poor brethren who are dying gradually for want of bread to eat? But they have got to be comfortable themselves, and I fear care nothing about those they have left behind; I should like to talk to them for ten minutes upon the subject.

The whole mission, I think, only contains about 250 who are called saints, a number of them are in France, but nobody knows anything about them. About 6 years ago there were about 300 baptized here, the most of them by myself; a goodly number of them have emigrated, and I have just come in time to cut off a few scores of them. It is vexing to do so, but the tree will not bud while so many rotten branches are attached to it. I am glad I am here; I will do what good I can, and leave the result in the hands of God.

In this island they are mad against plurality, and a larger little hell of adultery and whoredom than this island does not exist; it being out of the way, Gents. can keep their ladies here and spend the summer with them. How many children there are who don't know their father it is hard to say. The very men who mobbed the saints here last summer could not tell you how many children they are the father of, and these are the dirty, abominable characters who speak about the immorality of the "Mormons."

But why trouble you about the abominations of Babylon? For one reason only, that it does me good to look at them, for it brings to my mind the prophecies of Joseph Smith, and proves that we are indeed living in the "Last Days," and that the kingdoms of this world are approaching their final struggle and dissolution.

But far more pleasing is it to reflect that the kingdom of God is established upon the earth, that Zion is prospering in the mountains, that her children are increasing in light and understanding, and that her borders are extending.

From the "Deseret News" I learn that you have been making great progress in improvements, building houses and inhabiting them, planting potatoes, cabbages and pumpkins and eating them; but best of all you are learning the laws of God through a pure and uncorrupted channel. What a privilege!

Bro. Brigham's spirit for me. Thank the Lord God of Israel that we have a man at our head who will speak the truth fearlessly, if all hell bell over. Praise God that men are wielding the keys of this last dispensation, who will stand up for righteousness and virtue if all the armies of the devil were in Emulation Canyon. That speech of the President, in No. 51 of the "News," is marrow to my bones; every "Mormon" in all the world says amen to it, I know; it found an echo in every Valley Elder's heart at myrae. When the lion roars we small animals must bark a little, you know. I think I hear you say, aye! aye! his easy to be bold 7000 miles from the battle, and to bark when there's no chance of your being.

They say that Col. Stetee was a gentleman, well I think the least they could do was to send one or two good men to take care of so miserable a lot as were the balance. But he is not to be Governor, I hear that he declined it, still he is just the man I would prefer, if we are to have a ruler. His declining it shows that he has some common sense, for no one but a (what do you call it?) that thing (the large ears) would desire such a position.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

[From Elder H. P. Richards to his brother, Samuel W.]

KOHALA, Hawaii, May 1, 1855.

I am happy to inform you that I am in the enjoyment of good health and buoyant spirits, for which I feel to

thank and praise my heavenly Father all the day long.

I have lately, in company with the foreign elders upon this island, visited the Crater, which is a little over 100 miles from this place.

I started on the 5th of April, highly enjoyed the trip, and felt amply remunerated by beholding one of the most renowned wonders of the world. It was truly a magnificent sight, and I could not refrain from entertaining a feeling of awe and reverence, while gazing upon it.

I will give you an extract or two from my Journal, which, altho' very brief and imperfect, will perhaps give you a faint idea of the scene.

I need not tell you of the joy and consolation it affords me to hear from you, of your prosperity, and of the prosperity of the saints in the peaceful valleys of the mountains; these things you can imagine better than I can describe.

I see by your letter that they are making quite a stir in the valley in regard to the subject of education, forming societies, &c., &c. This I was glad to hear; for tho' I have not much use for the English language here, except by way of writing, I feel the need of it, and I think if I was there now, with what little experience I have already obtained, I should apply my mind pretty closely to study. It is an old saying that "learning is better than riches," but when a person (like myself) is not troubled with either, it comes rather binding sometimes.

In consequence of being in company with the foreign brethren for nearly a month past, I have not advanced so rapidly in the native language as I probably otherwise would have done, but still I am progressing as fast as could be expected, and such is the case with all of the brethren so far as my knowledge extends.

The work of the Lord is still rolling steadily on upon these islands. Members are being added to the church almost daily, and the saints appear to be more willing to listen to counsel the farther they advance in knowledge and understanding; But take them at the best and they are an ignorant, degraded people, and the elders who labor among them have to exercise a great deal of patience, faith, and perseverance to make anything of them.

The gathering place upon the island of Lanai is at present in a prosperous condition. The brethren were successful in raising a good crop there last season, and the saints, a great many of them, are calculating to gather there as soon as practicable.

Exertions are also being made by the brethren on the different islands to raise means for purchasing a schooner to ply around these islands, to be used in gathering the saints upon Lanai, taking produce to market, removing the elders to and from their different fields of labor, &c.

TRIP TO THE CRATER.

[Extract from Journal of Elder H. P. Richards.]

THURSDAY, April 19.—After partaking of a hasty meal and providing ourselves with sticks to feel our way at half past six a.m. we commenced our descent into the Luaipele, or crater, by a narrow winding footpath. After descending some two or three hundred feet, we arrived at the plain below, which had at some former period been a mass of liquid lava, and portions of it had been rolled up in waves against the banks, but it is now cooled, and in settling has produced large cracks, out of the most of which volumes of steam and smoke are ascending.

This main pit I should judge to be some ten or twelve miles in circumference, and has the appearance of having at some former time been in a burning state, and sank to the depth of some two or three hundred feet below the surrounding surface. Upon this pahoehoe, or lava, we proceeded a mile and a half or two miles, when our path became more and more uneven, and not being successful in obtaining a guide we had to feel our way along, the best we could, with our sticks, which was done with considerable difficulty, as we would occasionally break thro' the loose scales of lava, sometimes to the depth of one or two feet.

We came to quite a large mound or chimney, which had probably been thrown up by some volcanic eruption, out of which large volumes of steam were copiously issuing. This we ascended, but were soon forced to retreat, not being able to withstand the sulphuric smell. We then traveled on, picking our way, over large and broken masses of lava, deep chasms, &c., for about half a mile, when we arrived at the mouth of the crater.

This crater or pit, as high as I can calculate, is about 125 or 150 yards in diameter, and some 50 or 60 feet deep. The liquid lava seems to have a strong current running from one side of the crater across to the other, and escaping through an outlet under the bank. In two different places the liquid element below us seemed to be in violent commotion, dashing the melted lava against the bank, something similar to the waves of angry sea, sometimes throwing it 20 or 30 feet in the air.

It is thought by the natives that there is a woman living in this luaipele or crater, and that she is a powerful supreme being, and as such was in former times by them revered and worshipped, and is at present by a great many. If a chief or any leading character dies, they cleave his flesh from his bones and throw them into the luaipele, also a lock of his hair, finger nails, &c., after which they consider he will be transformed into a powerful god. They also offer sacrifice to it by throwing in pigs, goats, chickens, &c., to appease its wrath, as they consider it is able to rise up and destroy them at its pleasure. They also affirm that persons have been destroyed while passing by it.

Some of us started to go around the mouth of the crater, which was done with considerable difficulty, breaking thro' the thin crust of lava which is upon the surface, also having to stop occasionally and catch breath, as the sulphuric steam was very strong. Some of the brethren were forced to turn back, not being able to withstand it.

After viewing the scene before us about an hour and a half and gathering some of the pebbles (which is caused by small portions of the lava passing off with the atmosphere, forming a kind of hair of a golden line) we passed on about a quarter of a mile, descending on to a plain something similar to the one we passed over after descending into the main pit. Here we could see, by looking into the cracks and crevices, the fire in a lively state beneath us. We could also see that there was only a crust of black lava some six or eight inches thick separated us from the crimson element beneath. Upon this crust one of the brethren proceeded some twelve or fifteen rods, but we were obliged to return much quicker than we went, as our feet were getting well warmed enough for comfort. By putting our sticks into these cracks they would

immediately take fire; we also set paper on fire while holding it in our hands. Here we could see the fire bursting forth from the cracks and crevices of the pahoehoe or lava, for the space of some two miles in length and one in breadth. After viewing the scenery before us until we were satiated, we commenced wending our way back to the old house from whence we started in the morning, where we arrived a little before noon, feeling amply repaid for all our journey.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ACCIDENT.

BROTHER CARRINGTON:—

I not only in the last number of the News, a brief notice of the melancholy accident of Sept. 3d at our mill, but as the name of the unfortunate individual is not given correctly, I thought I would write a brief notice, and add some few remarks by way of caution to others who may be in similar employment.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Monday Sept. 3d, Bro. David Charles Williams, while employed in carrying away lumber from the circus saw of Woolley, Snow & Co., Little Cottonwood canyon, accidentally let the board, of which he had hold, touch the top of the saw while in rapid motion, tending to project the board forward with great force, but he holding too firmly to his grasp was thrown directly upon the saw, which carried him over its top and threw him a distance of some eighteen feet, cutting and mangleing him in the most shocking manner. He survived about twenty minutes. He leaves a wife to lament his early death, and many friends in his native country, Wales.

[Will the Millennial Star please copy.]

REMARKS.—The old saying so often applied to fire, "It is a good servant, but a hard master," is equally applicable to a circular saw, and the remark so often made "they are dangerous things" has not much force with me, for what is not dangerous, if carefully used, or misapplied? An axe is a useful thing, but if let fall by some careless fellow from the top of a building on another's head, becomes quite the reverse. A razor is a very useful thing nor yet considered very dangerous, but derives its usefulness and its good reputation only through extremely careful usage. Fire arms, are useful in their place, and perfectly safe except when abused through carelessness or ignorance, or a compound of both. And so of every thing we could mention. Nothing exists which is useful, but may be made dangerous through misapplication.

Few perhaps, if any, have had more experience in the running of circular saws than myself, during which time I have witnessed many accidents, but never yet saw one that was not the result of sheer carelessness or ignorance, though I am inclined to think the greater part of them of the latter.

Few are aware of the danger attending this mode of sawing, through want of caution, unless they have had considerable experience, or have been faithfully instructed, and some will not learn except by experience, and sometimes a very bitter one.

I have tried men with me at the large saw to whom I have talked and scolded till I gave over in despair of ever learning them to be careful, and have discharged them from that post, only to save their lives or perhaps my own.

It was but a few hours before the fatal accident related above, that observing a want of care on the part of the deceased, I stopped the mill and told him wherein he was careless, and explained to him the natural result, in case he hit a board on the saw, telling him it was an even chance to throw him on to it and kill him instantly. Soon, alas, too soon I was compelled to witness a horrible demonstration of the truth of my statement.

But now for a few general suggestions for the benefit of those who will heed them.

First, in removing lumber from a saw, let the operator stand, not in the middle of the board, but a little nearest the end furthest from the saw, by which the end at the saw will drop instead of rising. With this hold let him draw the board endwise, and at the same time bearing or swinging it away from touching the saw, till he is far enough to be entirely clear of it, and keeping his eyes that way, in order to see when it is so, then he can easily change his hand to the middle, if he desire it, and carry it where he pleases. This may appear a simple thing, but if it had been observed, it would have saved two lives in this territory within the last year.

Second, in removing bits of bark or dust from the saw, or oiling, it is far better to spend a minute to stop it, than run the risk of your life, for death stands before you as the result of a misstep or losing your balance.

Third, do not suppose the danger is confined alone to large saws, for a man may be killed by the smallest. A very small piece of wood thrown from one of them, running eight or ten hundred revolutions per minute, would kill a man instantly if it hit him in the temples.

The habit some have of crowding one piece after another by the saw, is a very dangerous one and should be avoided. Let the gauge be set so that the wood will not bind between the gauge and saw, after it passes the cutting side of the latter, then with a light stick kept for the purpose, with a sudden push, clear it of the saw and bench. This is a much safer and cheaper method than employing a man or boy to stand and pull it away, where the sticks sawed are light enough to admit of it.

In cutting small stuff, I would merely observe that the sawyer instead of using his hands too close, will find a stick to answer the same purpose, and if cut into, is much easier replaced than a finger. Yours truly,

B. SNOW.

Sept. 9, 1855.

JULY 21TH AT MORMON GROVE.

WESTON, Mo., July 26, 1855.

EDITOR OF THE DESERET NEWS—DEAR SIR:—

Thinking, perhaps, that an account of our rejoicings amid hardships would be interesting, I send you the following:—

Elder Charles A. Harper, Captain first division of the last P. E. Fund Co., moved from Mormon Grove on the morning of the 24th inst. He and his company returned to the Grove in the afternoon, to join in the celebration of the memorable 24th. We had a good time, the saints were spirited and felt well.

All the saints from the several companies met at 3 o'clock in the "Grove," and formed a procession under the direction of Elder Thomas Gebourn, Marshal of the day, to the following order:—

1. Carriage containing Presidents Erastus Snow and Daniel Spencer, also Elders Milo Andrus and Charles E. Bassett, committee of arrangements.

2. Elder John S. Fu lmer, superintending conductor of P. E. Fund passengers, and Elder James McGaw, Bishop of Mormon Grove.

3. Elders George Rust and Henry Humphries, bearing banners with appropriate emblems and devices.

4. Elders William Willis, orator of the day, and W. G. Mills, Zion's poet.

5. 1st division P. E. Fund Co., under the charge of Captain Charles A. Harper, each company of ten in charge of their respective captains, who acted as assistant marshals.

6. 2d division P. E. Fund Co., under the charge of Captain Isaac Barlow and captains of tens.

7. Elders Sly and Barker from G. S. L. City.

8. Elders James M. Brown and W. H. Wilson, P. E. Fund Clerks.

Elder Isaac Allred, Captain Church Train, and Elder James Pace from G. S. L. City.

10. Church Train Co., under the charge of Elders Samuel Harly and Isiah M. Coombs.

Procession moved at 4 o'clock, and marched through the principal avenues of Mormon Grove, and halted in front of the Church Store. The orator of the day took the stand and delivered an interesting oration which was listened to with much interest by the saints.

Elder W. G. Mills then read a beautiful poem composed for the occasion.

The congregation was addressed by Presidents E. Snow, Daniel Spencer, and Milo Andrus. After which several appropriate toasts were off red.

About 7 o'clock we dispersed for supper, and came together again in the evening and had a grand social dance on the green, near the Church Store.

About 11 o'clock we were dismissed, after hearing some very interesting remarks from Pres. Snow.

The celebration was good, and the display of flags, banners, &c., passed all expectation. From the top of every tent and wagon in camp one or more flags were floating, and the saints were out in their best dresses, making altogether a very fine display.

I saw Elder Orson Spencer late last evening, he passed up the river to Atchison, en route for the Cherokee nation. His health is good and he seemed in excellent spirits.

The goods and wares (including paper, &c., for Deseret News) for Messrs. Hooper & Williams' last train passed up yesterday evening; they will be under way in a day or two. Hurriedly yours,

CHAS. H. BASSETT.

REMARKS ON THE CHOLERA, &c.

G. S. L. CITY, Sept. 1, 1855.

EDITOR OF DESERET NEWS—DEAR SIR:—

My engagements of late having been very numerous and unusually burthensome, I have not had leisure to compile a regular monthly report as heretofore. I enclose however a condensed summary of the number of cases under my care since June 30th, and as the great majority have been cases of the prevailing epidemics—bowel complaints and sore eyes, with the usual amount of casualties, I do not think it necessary to occupy your space with a detailed account of individual cases.

The deaths which have occurred have been few indeed, considering the general prevalence of this sickness (which, I am happy to say, is now rapidly subsiding), and we have abundant cause to rejoice and give glory to God, that the power of the destroyer is thus, in a measure, controlled on behalf of this people; whilst pestilence, war and famine are desolating the nations of the earth.

With regard to cholera I have long wished—for the benefit of the saints journeying hither—to impress upon their minds the important fact, that this dreaded disease is not in any degree contagious, nor is it bound by any of the laws which regulate other diseases—but that fear, anxiety and distress of mind, fatigue and loss of rest (all which too frequently lead to the use of stimulants) tend directly to bring the body under the influence of this disease, when abroad in any particular locality. On the other hand a firm reliance upon the power of our God, strong faith and confidence in the ordinances of the gospel, with a diligent observance of the counsel He has given us in matters pertaining to our health, will most assuredly render us proof against all the efforts of the adversary to destroy us.

As to the treatment of this disease, nothing is more simple; first wash the body clean and then administer the ordinance of anointing and laying on of hands, keeping the patient perfectly still and abstaining from all kinds of food or even drink, and especially those things which the Lord has told us are not good—such as hot and strong drinks—liquor are told "is not for the belly but for the washing of the body;" apply it then outwardly if you will, and so also mustard and cayenne drafts to the stomach, the spine and the extremities; bathing the head and rubbing the limbs with spirits will also do good.

These simple means used in faith, according to the word of the Lord, will generally be successful without the aid of any medicine. Such is the practice which I advise, and follow, and hundreds can testify to its efficacy.

Of those that have died, one aged man sunk under chronic dysentery, one died in consequence of an accident, the rest being young children. Yours respectfully,

WM. FRANCE, Surgeon.

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL REPORT FOR JULY AND AUGUST 1855.

Remaining under treatment June 30th,	57
New cases during July (medical)	125
do do (surgical)	62
do during August (medical)	112
do do (surgical)	42
Total	398
Discharged cured or relieved,	333
Dead,	61
Remaining under treatment,	2
Total	398

WM. FRANCE, Surgeon.

LARGE STRAWBERRY PATCH.—Mr. Hammond, of Anne, Arundel county, Md., had a field of strawberries comprising one hundred bushels of berries. He expects to pick this season about five thousand bushels.