

CO-OPERATIVE FARMING.

THE attention of the people of the Territory has often been called to the subject of Co-operation through the columns of the NEWS, but it is a subject of such worth and importance that it will bear, and demands, further ventilation. The success of the Co-operative plan of buying and selling all kinds of imported merchandise has proved such a success, that the idea or expectation of ever reviving the old fashioned method is out of the question. The people throughout the Territory have had their eyes so fully opened to the folly of allowing enormous profits to go into the pockets of a very few individuals, when it is just as easy to have them diffused for the benefit of all, that to argue against the former or for the latter is now superfluous.

In Utah, however, Co-operation is still confined, except in rare instances, to what is denominated here, "merchandising," but as the people, generally, have now experienced the benefits arising from the latter, it is reasonable to expect that all other branches of business will in course of time be conducted on the same principle.

In the eastern States and in various parts of Europe, in order to escape the avarice and encroachments of capital, we hear of artisans of various classes, bricklayers, shoemakers, builders, and even the paper collar makers combining on the Co-operative plan; and wherever it is carried on prudently the results are of the most gratifying character; and if Co-operation does not eventually do away with the relations of employer and employed, there is reason to believe that it will, so far satisfactorily adjust them as to compel Capital to recognize and concede the rights of labor.

One branch of Co-operation that is coming into note, and which promises great results, is that of farming. An experiment of this kind has been in operation at Vienne, not far from Marseilles, in France, for the last fifteen or sixteen years, and its results are said to be of the most beneficial character. In New York State the system is working its way, and from a late number of that most excellent family journal, *Hearth and Home*, we learn that the fifth "annual parliament" of these co-operative farmers recently closed its session at Utica, in that State. At these "annual parliaments," or conventions, the co-operative farmers meet, for the purpose of giving to each other the results of their experience in all the various branches of business that properly belong to the profession in its most extended sense.

This is a branch of co-operation we should like to see commenced in Utah, believing that its production would be a blessing to the people of the Territory. Owing to a combination of unfortunate circumstances, among which may be mentioned the scarcity of money and the enormous expense of freighting, the farmers here, until recently, have been unable to import the labor-saving machinery necessary to carry on their business successfully, and the pecuniary results have not been at all commensurate with their enormous outlay of labor.

Another cause of the comparatively small pecuniary profits from farming in Utah, has been doubtless owing to inexperience among the agricultural population. Many of those who have now gained experience as farmers, probably never worked a day in their lives on the land until their arrival in this Territory. Numbers of them, we have reason to believe, lived in poverty in the manufacturing districts of Europe, and on arriving here they made a dash for independence, and took up land, believing that to be the shortest cut to it; and while gaining experience they have had to grapple with all the difficulties and to contend with all the failures consequent on their want of it.

Still another, and probably far more prolific, cause of small pecuniary returns for the labor of the agriculturist in this Territory, is that farming operations have been restricted, in a great measure, to the raising of grain only; dairy farming has received but a small share of attention. The result of this is that grain has been raised in abundance, and except in seasons of scarcity through the ravages of grasshoppers, has been so far ahead of the necessities of home consumption, that it has been sold at rates much too low to compensate the farmer; at the same time butter and cheese have been, and are still, selling at high rates, and large quantities have to be imported to supply the home demand. This policy on the part of our farmers in the past, and present, for it is still pursued, is very short sighted. But if they would

turn their attention to producing butter and cheese, they would find a constant demand and remunerative prices for all they could produce.

The facilities for raising and keeping stock are as good in this Territory as in any part of the country, and the best breeds can be easily imported. Presses and machinery of the most improved description for dairy operations can also be brought from the East at far cheaper rates than formerly; and though few farmers are rich enough to purchase all that is necessary to establish and carry on a large cheese or butter factory, there is scarcely a settlement in the Territory but what is amply rich enough to do it; and here is where co-operation would be of so great advantage, not only to the farmers, but also to the Territory at large.

If more butter and cheese could be produced than are necessary to supply the home demand, the prices paid for these articles in the East and West are so high that they could be exported very profitably, and a ready market be found for all our surplus.

This is a subject that is well worthy the attention of the agriculturists of Utah, and we hope to see these suggestions promptly acted upon in localities possessing the greatest facilities for so doing. Many of our farmers are now experienced; they possess or can procure every facility necessary for producing both cheese and butter in any quantity and equal to that produced in any part of the world; and with unity of action there might, in a very short time, be established, on the co-operative plan, a number of first-class dairies and cheese factories in the Territory, which would be a source of profit to the shareholders and a blessing to the whole people. Who will lead out in this direction?

THE POWER OF THE PRESS ABUSED.

THE power of the press for good or evil is so great that it is difficult to properly estimate its full influence. It has done an immense work in making mankind acquainted with principles of truth of which they were ignorant; and it has been the principal means of increasing the liberal spirit of which the age boasts. But in the hands of corrupt men it has also been productive of a vast amount of evil. The libidinous publications, which are scattered broadcast in various large cities and sent from them over the civilized world, have probably done more to corrupt the generation, destroy respect for virtue, incite and inflame the minds of the young to deeds of shame and crime, than all other agencies of evil combined. It is pitiable to see men of capability disgrace their manhood and labor to defile and corrupt their race, merely to make a little money, for that is the main object in issuing the obscene or indecent publications to which we refer; and it is almost incredible to right-minded people that others, who assume editorial functions, should continually and persistently write and print column after column of the most glaring falsehoods, which, if told in private life, would subject their authors to expulsion from all respectable society; and, yet, these untruths are copied day after day and week after week by other papers that would feel disgraced by giving them publicity as original matter.

In every election campaign personal abuse is freely poured upon political opponents, and the lower strata of partisan papers do not hesitate to color, warp and twist everything they can against their antagonists, in such a shape as to make it a falsehood to all intents and purposes. But it is against the work of God that this spirit of detraction, calumny and falsehood works with unceasing persistency. It is not a political campaign, but it is a continual warfare that is being waged, and the worst phases of political contests are displayed by those that conceive they have a mission to labor for our destruction. There is no credit in fighting with antagonists that resort to every species of meanness and falsehood to bolster up the cause they defend and injure that to which they are opposed. They are too vile, too contemptible, too corrupt for any truth-loving, honest and honorable man to come in contact with, even as antagonist. Contention is their life, and if they only could get a fight with anything decent it would give them a status such as they could not obtain in any other way.

We have been led to these remarks by some recent notices in our exchanges concerning "Mormonism." We can appreciate and respect an antagonist that will honestly and honorably oppose the views we hold by fair argument;

but we cannot do other than despise the men who will sit down and manufacture "lies out of whole cloth" to injure an innocent people. Among those opposed to the principles of the gospel are individuals of each kind; and the course of some of the latter is so contemptible that their master, from beneath, must be ashamed of the dirty manner in which they do his work.

The most trivial circumstance is eagerly taken and tortured out of shape, until its form, color and texture are so changed that nothing of the original is left. Thus the fact of a gentleman fooling with a young dog and being bit by it, in a few hours is magnified into an attempted assassination with three men and a blood-thirsty knife as his assailants. What dangerous fellows these "assassins" must be, and what wonderful heroes has the winter of 1869-70 developed in Salt Lake City, when three armed men are alleged to have attacked one without doing more than grazing the skin, and five are said to have attacked a boy, with similar results, as was declared with regard to a case of cowhiding!

If people at a distance were to take time and analyze such statements they would see the absurdity of them; but when skillfully concocted falsehoods are published, they cannot so well determine their incredibility. The *Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise* speaks of a Western paper, which is alleged to have had a reporter at the mass meeting of the ladies of this city, held on the 13th ult., and that this reporter made a remark in answer to a question put by one of the speakers. Neither statement contains a syllable of truth; but they are of a character with everything coming from the same source. One paper only, not published in this city, was represented by a reporter at that meeting—the *New York Herald*, whose report we noticed a day or two since. Yet such statements as those we have referred to are eagerly copied by a number of papers that seem to think it would be a serious blunder to publish anything, no matter how true, that might tell in favor of the people of Utah.

It is lamentable to see the power and influence which the press unquestionably wields so debased, and directed to such degrading purposes; for it is degrading to falsify, corrupt and culminate. We do not view it with any particular feelings of alarm so far as the people of Utah are concerned. They are well accustomed to such things, and are satisfied that the future will do them justice; but its influence among the people who patronize and accept it is fraught with serious evil. The expression of the ladies of Utah on the Cullom and Cragin bills, is a fact that cannot be ignored; nor will detraction and aspersion alter its character. It is the outspoken sentiment of free, intelligent, truth-loving women, who appreciate the principles of truth that have been revealed in the restoration of the Gospel. Yet there are enemies to truth, liberty and righteousness, who, as fast as one false assertion is disproved, will employ every faculty divinely bestowed upon them for nobler purposes, to concoct and circulate others equally as false. Their pathway is one of ignominy; and their end will be in shame and contempt.

The *New York Herald* of the 23rd ult., contains a long letter from its special correspondent in this city, giving a very full and fair account of the ladies' mass meeting, held in this city, upon which the same paper offers the following editorial comments, headed,

MORMON WOMEN IN COUNCIL.

In another place in this day's *Herald* will be found a long but most readable and instructive article on the present state of things in Utah. Cullom's bill, now before Congress, seems to have frightened the Saints, male and female, out of their propriety. The letter is chiefly occupied with a report of a mass meeting of the women of Salt Lake City. The meeting was held in the Old Tabernacle. It was, perhaps, one of the grandest female assemblages in all history. The audience was non-masculine, and the speakers one and all were female. We refer our readers to the speeches and to the resolutions; and we venture to say that, whatever may be the individual reader's opinion of the merits or demerits of Mormon institutions, it will not be denied that Mormon women have both brains and tongues. Some of the speeches give evidence that in general knowledge, in logic and in rhetoric the so-called degraded ladies of Mormondom are quite equal to the woman's rights women of the East. In these days, when women threaten to become tyrants, it is refreshing to read such earnest pleadings in favor of the rights of men. After reading this re-

port we have come to the conclusion that there is a spirit in Salt Lake valley which no legislation can crush. It may be necessary for the Mormons to fight. They will fight if they are forced to it. It may be necessary for them to emigrate. They will emigrate if they are forced to it. It may be necessary for them to leave this country and even this Continent. But after they have fought and after they have emigrated and after they have left this Continent they will live and they may prosper. As they survived the first exodus the presumption is they will survive a second. Whether we admire or whether we pity or whether we condemn, it must now be admitted that the inevitable conflict is at hand.

THE mass meetings of the ladies of Utah are calling forth comments from many of our contemporaries; some of which are very favorable. In the *New York Journal of Commerce* appeared a lengthy report of the meeting in this city, on the 13th ult. Upon that report the *New York Evening Express* of the 26th ult., says, under the head of

"IS POLYGAMY A BLESSING."

The *Journal of Commerce* confesses that it has been very favorably impressed with the speeches in favor of polygamy made by the Mormon women, in a recent meeting in the Salt Lake (Utah) Tabernacle, January 13th. The women spoke in favor of polygamy:

"For pure English, ingenious (though fallacious) arguments, and seemingly frank, honest, heartfelt expressions of opinion, (the editor thinks), they are fully up to the mark of the best efforts of Mrs. Mott, Mrs. Stanton, Mrs. Anthony or any other of the female suffrage women who are trying to stir up public sentiment this side of the Rocky Mountains; while in respect of good temper, and the absence of bitter personal allusions, the Tabernacle gathering will certainly carry off the palm."

If three thousand women in Utah, possessing a good average degree of intelligence, and education, can see no harm in "Mormonism," and believe polygamy to be one of those institutions that are "the only reliable safeguard of female virtue and innocence, and the only safe protection against the fearful sin of prostitution and its attendant evils, now prevalent abroad" (in the language of the resolutions), the editor enquires:

"What is there so very different in the mental constitutions of hundreds of thousands of women in other parts of the country, that they may not bring themselves to accept that platform, too, in the fullness of the exposition given by sister Harriet Cook Young, one of Brigham's wives, as follows:

"Every woman in Utah may have her husband—the husband of her choice. Here we are taught not to destroy our children, but preserve them; for they, reared in the path of virtue and trained to righteousness, constitute our true glory. It is with no wish to accuse our sisters who are not of our faith that I refer to these things, but we are dealing with facts as they exist. Wherever monogamy reigns, adultery, prostitution, free love and feticide, directly or indirectly, are its concomitants. It is not enough to say that the virtuous and high-minded frown upon these evils; we believe they do; but frowning does not cure them, it does not even check their rapid growth. Either the remedy is too weak or the disease is too strong. The women of Utah comprehend this, and they see in the principle of a plurality of wives the only safeguard against adultery, prostitution, free love, and the reckless waste of prenatal life practiced throughout the land."

In Massachusetts, where the women outnumber the men by some 70,000, the *Journal* mischievously hints, it would not be a bad idea to give polygamy a fair trial. For that matter, indeed, we are told that a clergyman of Boston has lately published a book sustaining polygamy on scriptural and moral grounds, taking substantially the same view of it that the Mormon women do. The *Journal* adds:

"Powerfully urged, appealing directly to the instincts and apparent self-interest of the 70,000 surplus maids of Massachusetts, a stranger thing might occur than that they should lend it their countenance and support, and a movement be started so strong of impulse and persistent of backing, that great numbers of men not particularly averse to polygamy, but on the contrary, rather liking it, if the women will have it, will sustain it also, and so the State of Massachusetts might become a second Utah."

STRAYED FROM WILLARD CITY!

ON TUESDAY, 18th of January, 1870, One Sorrel HORSE, 8 years old, white stripe in face, branded X on left shoulder and thigh.
One Black HORSE, 7 years old, grey stripe in face, branded A on left shoulder, shod on front feet, both had head stalls on.
Any person giving information leading to their recovery will be liberally rewarded.

JOHN OSTERHOUT,

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Post Office, Willard City.