

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Centennial—Great Britain and Her Dependencies—Spiral Spark Arrestor—Paper Boats, etc.

PHILADELPHIA, May 27, 1876.

In the main Centennial Building, which is the one of most general attraction, the visitor will be impressed with, and, perhaps, pleased to see, the comparatively large space covered with the excellent exhibits of that kingdom or empire (which is it?) to which we are most nearly related in language, institutions, and laws. Next to the United States, Great Britain and her colonies occupy the largest space, or about one-sixth of the entire area of twenty acres. By her almost complete withdrawal from competition in Machinery Hall she tacitly confesses her inferiority to the United States in mechanical devices, but, knowing her strength in manufactures of every description, she has made a superb display of textile fabrics, pottery, and cutlery. In these, as well as in house furniture, she excels any thing that we have produced.

The arrangement of the British colonial department is systematic, an excellence which distinguishes it from almost every other country. Exhibitors sending their goods were compelled to entrust them to their commissioners, hence the exhibits have been arranged, not as our own, to advertise certain firms, but to illustrate the resources, natural and industrial, of Australia, India, Canada, etc. Canada, although less remote from Philadelphia than some of the States, has followed the same excellent plan. Her exhibits have been arranged by a board of commissioners, consisting of three from the Dominion at large, and one from each province. Our nearest neighbor has appeared in this arena full panoplied. Those who know her from the school geographies only as a lumbering, ship-building, mining, and trapping region, will be surprised to find that she has thrown down the gage to Boston and New York in the manufacture of pianos; that her sleighs and skates excel those made in the States; that she is not far, if at all, behind in the manufacture of shoes and boots; and that she has a very creditable display of furniture, pottery, and marble work. In the Canadian department of Machinery Hall there is a very clever display of the results of inventive and labor-saving genius. I was particularly impressed with the merits of Hawksworth's "spiral spark arrestor and draft improver," exhibited by Henry Colford, Esq., of Halifax, Nova Scotia. It consists of a cylinder with triangular plates arranged spirally on the inside, and is like a winding stair with what carpenters, I believe, call the "riser," that is the vertical board, removed. This simple and cheap device fitted to any flue, chimney, stovepipe, or smokestack of a locomotive, increases the heat, economizes fuel, makes the escape of sparks an utter impossibility, and so improves the draft that it is only necessary to fix it upon the most incorrigible chimney to cure that evil which the proverb, in despair of adequate reprobation, has coupled with a scolding wife.

The display of Canadian row and pleasure boats is very fair, but in this department the Dominion is eclipsed, as are all other competitors, by the paper boats exhibited by Waters & Sons, of Troy, New York. They are miracles of lightness, strength and beauty. One man can easily carry one of these boats that will bear three or four persons in the water. Waters & Sons have on exhibition racing boats, sail boats, and a family boat, all made of paper, and they constitute one of the most interesting exhibits in Machinery Hall. In the British Colonial Department, India does not make so imposing a display as Canada, which was to be expected from her immense distance; her exhibits, however, are well worth inspection, consisting of rare and costly shawls, silks, carpets, jewelry, and exquisite specimens of carving.

The Australian colonies have wisely confined their exhibit almost exclusively to the rich natural productions of the country. A day in this section devoted to the study of the almost perfect geographical and geological maps, and to the large painted photographs representing the natural scenery, architecture and folk life of the country, will give the visitor a far more vivid and correct conception

of the inhabitants and resources of this comparatively new land than he can get from reading many volumes of travels. Here the industrial exhibits consist of leather, including beautiful specimens of tanned kangaroo skins, which I was surprised to learn were used in the manufacture of fine boots and shoes; metals in great variety; the amount of pure gold dug in a certain period, represented in mass by an immense gilt column. There are also collections of botanical specimens, timbers, wools, cereals, wines and canned meats, including kangaroo soup. No one can leave this department without being impressed with the wonderful natural resources of Australia, though the country is yet too new to make a very imposing industrial exhibit.

The Exposition is becoming every day more attractive, the ignorant attendants, policemen, gate-keepers are gradually learning their duties, and one may occasionally be found who can tell you the way of exit from the main building or the grounds; but some days must elapse before the Exposition will be completed in all its departments and in all the countries represented. France, Russia and Turkey have as yet made no display in the main building, and some other countries are still unpacking portions of their exhibits, and the discord of the hammer and saw breaks in on the music of Gilmore's band.

The show has not been a financial success, so far; the daily expenses are about \$15,000 while the daily receipts have not averaged much more than \$5,000, but the managers derive comfort from the stated fact that the receipts so far have exceeded those at Vienna during the first sixteen days of her Exposition. There is little doubt that the number of visitors would be more than treble by a reduction of the admission fee to twenty-five cents. To this the managers may come at last. Hotels and boarding houses have already reduced their prices, but there is still margin for further reduction within profitable rates. The Sunday admission question is still agitated, and if the majority could control the matter, there is little doubt that the gates of this moral show would be open on the first day of the week; but the Exposition is controlled by an irresponsible oligarchy, against whom the heathen rage and the newspapers strive in vain. C.

Preaching—Opposition Debate Wanted.

BRODHEAD, Greene, Co., Wis., May 22, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

In company with Bro. Zebedee Coltrin, Jun., I left Salt Lake City on the 1st inst., on a mission to the North-Western States. We reached this place on the 11th, and were kindly received by Mr. Aretus Armstrong, a relative of Bro. Coltrin's. The next day he introduced us to his neighbors as "Mormon" ministers from Utah. From that time to the present we have been asked all kinds of questions about "polygamy," and other things, and we find the people nearly all inclined not to listen to any religion; they care nothing about God or the Devil, and do not believe there is any hereafter. All they care about is the god of this world.

According to previous appointment we held a meeting in a place called Decator, yesterday afternoon at two o'clock. A very attentive congregation listened to our remarks. As we were about to dismiss, a man by the name of Douglass arose and said that he wished to ask us a few questions. Leave being granted, he began to accuse me of saying things that I did not say, and tried to misconstrue the meaning of my sentiments. He said that the Bible was a self-contradictory book, and that no man had ever seen or knew of the existence of God; and that Jesus Christ was a revolutionary man, promising things that he could not give, and that he was finally killed for his folly. This I denied, showing the prophecies concerning Christ, how minutely they described his life and death, &c. I also replied to his other accusations, proving the falsity of the same. He was not satisfied with my answer, and commenced with the same string of abuses again. After we had said a few words in defence of our religion the meeting was dismissed.

He then presented the following challenge—

Resolved, That the Bible is a self-contradictory, lying book, devoid of reason and common sense, and that no rational man will believe in it.

This we did not accept, as we did not consider it a portion of our religion to hold debate. We told him that we came to preach the Gospel, not to debate.

May the blessings of God attend all those that are laboring for the cause of Zion is the prayer of your brother in the gospel of Christ.

NICHOLAS SMITH.

Stock—Breadstuffs—Improvements—New Canal—Stores and Tannery—The Temple—Good Roads and Bridges—Tithing Barn—The Roaring Provo—Road Through Parley's.

SALT LAKE CITY, May 31, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Having just returned from a trip to Wasatch County, I thought a few items from that locality might be acceptable. The loss of stock occasioned by the long and severe Winter has been very light, as compared with other and milder settlements. There will be a scarcity of breadstuffs before harvest; this is partly owing to the fact that a great deal has been fed to animals to preserve them alive. A larger breadth of small grain has been sown this Spring than usual and the crop looks promising.

Improvements are to be seen in every direction in the shape of new and substantial residences, barn, fences, etc., completed and underway. Bishop Hatch is agitating the practicability of enlarging the canal which taps the Provo River three miles above Heber, and is desirous that it should be continued to Charleston, five miles south of said city. When this is accomplished (and it will be), it will make several thousands of acres of land available for farm purposes.

The co-operative store at Heber continues to pay twenty per cent. dividend per annum to shareholders. The stores at Midway, Wallsburg and Charleston are in a healthy condition. The tannery at Heber with its sixteen vats is fully supplied with hides furnished at home, and though only started in February, 1875, is now furnishing leather to the boot and shoe shop that is being operated in connection with it.

The people have responded promptly and liberally to the call for the temple. Four workmen from that county will start on Monday, June 5th, for the Temple block and stone quarry.

I attended the High Priests' meeting on Saturday, 27th ult., and public meeting on the following Sabbath. An excellent spirit was manifest on both occasions.

The good condition of the roads and bridges in that county reflects credit alike upon supervisors and people, and as an evidence of their public spirit I will here state that at the Sunday meeting notice was given that a tithing barn would be commenced the following morning. At 7 a. m. men and teams were upon the ground promptly, Bishop A. Hatch superintending. Laborers commenced excavating for the foundation, teams hauling rock and material for mortar, and at night of the same day the masons had completed the foundation, which contained between seven and eight cords of rock.

The Provo river—well, it is roaring mad, and will not be at its highest for twenty days yet, as very heavy deposits of snow still remain in the high mountains, but will yield to King Sol before July 4th next.

The road through Parley's canyon is very dangerous in several places, and travellers over this road would not consider a liberal appropriation for its repair by S. L. county misapplied.

J. E. T.

Y. M. M. I. A.—Starved Stock—Fencing out the Rabbits—A Thousand Rabbits a Month—Frost and Fruit Prospects.

PAROWAN, May 22nd, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

On the 3rd inst., Bros. Hardy and Young addressed the people of this place, and organized a Young Men's Mutual Improvement Society. Alex. Mathieson was appointed President and Wm. Henry Holyoak Secretary. Bro. Hardy made some unanswerable remarks,

showing up the shallowness of infidelity.

The winter here, as in other parts of the Territory, has been very severe, a good many cattle dying on the range, also a few of the poorest found alive, which were gathered up and brought home with a view to saving them, have nearly all since died.

The brethren have been very busy this spring, fencing around our fields against the rabbits, making the fences rabbit tight, which we hope soon to have completed. We have killed on an average, during the last twelve months, a thousand rabbits per month, and still their name is legion.

While talking about a month ago, with Brother Thomas Davenport, one of our best gardeners, on the prospects for fruit this year, he said to me, "Should you be writing to the NEWS this Spring, just state that our prospects for fruit never were so good in Parowan before," and our prospects continued until the night of the 17th inst., when a severe frost killed nearly everything in the shape of coming fruit, and even a great amount of the young grain in the fields was killed to the ground. It has continued to freeze more or less every night since, up to the present.

A wide area of land has been sown to grain, and as there is a prospect for plenty of water this Summer, we live in hopes of raising large crops this year. Peace and general good health prevails.

Respectfully,

W. C. MCGREGOR.

Preaching—Lecturing Pro and Con—Sectarian Confusion, etc.

JOHNSONVILLE, Ind., May 18th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Owing to the length of the days, and the short evenings, I have not held evening meetings lately, but have and continue to hold one or two services on the Sabbath, filling up the week days with fireside preaching, and working more or less among the farmers, who are very much crowded with their Spring work. Last week a man was sent for to talk against us at a meeting we held at a school-house. When he came he proved to be a merchant, politician and auctioneer, with quite a gift of "gab." After the meeting I invited any one who wished to, to ask questions. This man asked one or two, when a friend of his suggested the propriety of his making a speech in reply to which I readily assented, which he proceeded to do, after the most approved style of "blood and thunder" anti-Mormonism. He gave the crowd a description of all the deeds charged against the Latter-day Saints, from the "burning of innocent women in the Temple at Nauvoo, to the high handed outrage of plural marriage," winding up by warning the audience against allowing educated and learned divines to deceive them with their sophistries.

After he had finished, I replied by first stating that I was born and raised a hoosier, on a farm, and that on the self-same day I had been marking off corn ground all day for a gentleman then in the audience. He had so overdone the "blood and thunder" part of his speech that no one believed him, and in reply to the statement that the "last will and testament that our Saviour left was all that was intended," I could only say that they who had opposed prophecy and prophets in all ages of the world had used the same argument, and it was now left with those present to decide whether we were nearest to the teachings of Jesus, or those who were engaged to fight against us.

After meeting, several came up and shook us warmly by the hands and stated that we had opened their eyes to many things that they never thought of before, so that the result of the effort to bring us into trouble only increased the spirit of investigation that was already very prevalent among the people.

At another meeting, a Methodist exhorter succeeded in getting us locked out of the school-house, but as the night was pleasant, we spoke in the open woods to a large congregation of men and women, who gave close attention, and when, after the meeting, he made an attack upon us, advocating tar and feathers, the people hooted him down, so that, instead of fighting us, he was necessitated to contend with his own neighbors.

From the above it can be seen

that we are encroaching upon the dominions of the Evil One, and that he is stirring up the spirit of opposition to prevent the people from reaching the fountain of truth.

Bro. Standing left for Canada on the 16th, to visit relations, expecting to rejoin me in this State in the Fall. Meanwhile I shall hold meetings hereabout and endeavor to do all the good I can.

The trees are just covering themselves with their foliage of green, that renders open-air meetings very pleasant, and I shall try to hold as many as possible, though I can feel when alone the force of the reason why Jesus sent them "two and two," and that I need the inspiration of the spirit of the Living God to enable me to cope successfully with the darkness and prejudice that I have to contend with here, and that two Elders should always travel together, as witnesses and to bear each other's burdens. A wide field for preaching will exist in the States as soon as the summer's work is over, so as to enable the people to turn out to evening meetings, and the young and rising generation appear to be gifted with the spirit of investigation, and they all need preaching to, and gladly listen, without any great amount of prejudice. The many religious denominations have become so dead and of so little effect that the people are fast losing any interest in them. Their inconsistencies are every day more and more apparent and no one can wonder at the fact when they come to survey the religious world that surrounds the people here. Such a mass of nonsense and prejudice, it seems impossible to believe ever existed before in the world. The different warring, jarring sects are engaged in an internal struggle that ruins what little good they have in their midst, while all look forward with fearful foreboding to the coming courts of the future, that already "cast their shadows before," and well they may, for if this generation has not ripened in iniquity, then was Sodom cut off before its time. The descendants of those who gave any ear to the early testimony of the Elders all give us a warm welcome and a kind greeting, while they who opposed in other days handed down to their posterity the principle of mobocracy, and if anything it is more rampant with the children than with their fathers.

Trusting that in my labors alone I may have the prayers of the Saints in Zion,

Very truly,

J. MORGAN.

Bloated Cattle—Healthy for Children—Helped them Through—Ten Feet of Snow—High Water—Sunday School—Land Waiting.

PEOA, SUMMIT Co., May 29th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

I observe the DESERET NEWS gives some valuable information in regard to bloated cows from feeding too freely. For the last fifteen springs, each spring, as sure as it comes, some of our cows or horned stock get bloated from eating too freely by the side of the creeks. For three spring seasons of our settlement, in early days, we lost almost every cow that took sick, though a great many remedies were tried. The fourth spring, when eight cows came up sick, our worthy bishop's wife proposed the remedy of a quart of buttermilk, mixed with a large tablespoonful of carbonate of soda, put in a bottle. The cow's mouth was forced open, and the remedy poured down her throat. It acted like magic, and each cow was well enough next morning to turn out with the herd to feed. Every spring since we apply the same remedy, and very seldom we lose an animal by bloating.

Peoa has been settled 16 years. It is noted for summer frost, good butter, fresh eggs, and healthy children; and I believe two or three months' run around here, through the hot summer months, for our S. L. City children, would save the lives of hundreds of them.

This has been the longest winter I have known at Peoa. We fed all the stock 181 days. But the loss of stock has been slight at Peoa. This in part I bear owing to the liberality of Bishop Samuel F. Atwood, who helped those brethren who were short of feed.

There is considerable snow yet in the East Weber Mountains, the drifts are yet eight to ten feet deep, and the Weber River is rising every day. Ogden City and the lowlands below Peoa, will have to look out for a flood of water. Coe and Carter's ties, many of them that have been banked too near the river's bank, are taking French leave and floating away for Echo.

We have a Sunday school at Peoa. The average attendance is a little more than two-thirds the children of Peoa settlement, from the little A B C children, to the Bible and Book of Mormon classes. They have a good, kind Superintendent, and kind, attentive teachers. I really think they must "Love the Sunday School," seeing the way they trudged through the snow storms this winter.