

and single bones, it must not be supposed these were the remains of all game that had found death in the ravine. They had accumulated only since the last rain storm. Through this gulch a mountain torrent runs when the snows have melted from the mountains or after a hard rain. Then all things, stones, bones and bodies are tumbled together on their way to the mouth of the gulch, whence they are carried away in the creeks or are left to mark the course of the stream and bleach on the table lands. I had noticed near the Mammoth Hot Springs the bodies of mice and bugs, but have never attributed their presence to the deadly gases that were so rapidly killing off the large game of the park.—*Lewisburg Chronicle*.

### THE UTAH WESTERN FRANCHISE.

In reading an article (editorial) in last evening's News on the subject of granting a franchise to the Utah Western Railway Company, I was astonished, indeed astounded, at the statements therein contained.

The facts in the case are these, and can be proven without a doubt, and, I assert, beyond successful contradiction: That about 60 per cent of the frontage on Fourth West Street (as far as it is inhabited) is owned by *bona fide* residents, whose homes are on the street, and *they live there and occupy the land*. (I want to make it plain so that "the wayfaring man, etc., may not err therein.") The above frontage is represented by about twenty-eight families, twenty-four of whom are opposed to the granting of the franchise, the members signifying the same by signing a petition to that effect. Said petition is now in the hands of the City Council committee on streets and alleys. The remaining forty per cent frontage is owned by non-residents, who freely admit that if the franchise be granted it will deteriorate the value of the property on the street for residence property, and the only gain is a speculative one, and not in the interest of our now partially peaceful and quiet neighborhood. I can say, however, that three of the non-residents have said they would oppose the granting of the franchise.

I make these statements notwithstanding the assertion to the effect that "it was impossible to procure a respectable showing" by those who were opposing the road.

It was also claimed in the article that only 170 names "could be mentioned." This may be true, but a great many more could have been "mustered" if the petition had been circulated among people living there and four blocks away from the Fourth West Street, and a man paid ten cents a name for all the signatures he could procure, as was the case with those who were working in the interest of the road.

The petition opposing the laying of the road on Fourth West Street was only circulated among the residents on said street and within a radius of three-

quarters of a block away, because it was deemed a principle of right and justice that the people immediately affected by a proposed measure should be the ones to say whether or not it should be carried out, and that it is not the right or prerogative of any man, corporation or company to say they shall, when they are unwilling to suffer it. Hence the limited number opposing, but yet enough for the purpose. And the City Council will do well to consider this fact.

The article refers to a meeting of members of the Sixteenth Ward, held in the Sixteenth District school-house, to discuss the advisability of allowing said road to be laid on said street, stating that it was almost the unanimous opinion that said road should be laid on Fourth West Street. This is very easy to comprehend. Of course, the laying of the road on Fifth West Street was vigorously opposed, as the members of that ward are building a meeting-house on said Fifth West Street, and we can use our influence to have the road go down Fourth West Street. How does this agree with the royal law in which we are required to love our neighbors as ourselves?

It is urged that, because the road is born in the city, there is no reason why it should not be let out. If it should go out the way it came in, it would be doing no more than another road of the same size as this. The City Council have admitted that they have erred in granting the franchise on the South end of Fourth West Street against the wishes of the people, and I hope the mistake will not be perpetuated.

Respectfully,

JOHN L. NEBEKER.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, August 31st, 1889.

### THE AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK.

There is considerable anxiety among both farmers and stockraisers regarding the effects they may reasonably expect from the approaching winter. The hot and unusually dry season of 1889 is partly the foundation for the fears that arise, and experienced men have examined the conditions that exist, and are considering what course will be safe to pursue. The investigations that have been made show this whole region to be in anything but a favorable situation at present. Except in two or three localities in the southern counties the drouth has been so severe that grass on the hills has been literally burned up, while a great portion of the valleys has been treated similarly.

This has caused the crop of hay, lucern, etc., to fall off probably 40 per cent in the whole Territory. Therefore the prospect for winter feed is far from assuring. The grain crops have suffered likewise, and now that threshing is about done, the full effects of the lack of moisture are beginning to be seen. The wheat falls far short of its usual condition, and in some lo-

calities a large proportion is unfit for flour-making, owing to a failure to "fill out."

For instance, the mills in Sanpete and Juab counties, which heretofore gave 33 pounds of flour to the bushel of wheat, now give but 28 pounds—a loss of over 15 per cent, after sifting out the poorer grain, which in some cases reaches as high as one-fourth of the amount threshed. While all sections have not suffered so severely in this regard, some have escaped, and so far as wheat is concerned, Utah has today a comparatively small supply. There is practically none to be obtained from the south counties, and the quantity in Cache and Box Elder is limited. As yet, the price has not gone up very high, being at 70 cents, wholesale, in Salt Lake, but dealers expect that last winter's figures will be passed.

The scarcity of water has been so general that a few repetitions of the present season would reduce this region almost to the condition in which the Pioneers found it. In this county, for example, there has already been considerable hardship entailed. The city has felt it less than outside; this being due to the energetic efforts made by the city officials to secure water from every available source. In City Creek, had it not been for the opening of many springs by the city workmen, the stream would by this time have been hardly large enough to furnish the mains with water enough for culinary purposes. In Emigration Canyon the creek bed is dry above the springs at the mouth. Parley's creek is away down, all that is now coming being from Lamb's Canyon. Mill Creek and the Cottonwoods are also so low that where people formerly had an abundance none can now be obtained. In fact, many owners of primary rights in the Cottonwoods have been compelled during the past five or six weeks to haul water to keep their trees alive, their portion of the stream being insufficient.

With the canals from the Jordan the same is practically the case. None of them have sufficient water to run their whole length; and in the city canal, which has a larger supply than any of the others, owing to the flowing wells below Lehi, there cannot be obtained enough to get even a small flow into the city.

Following this condition come the intimations of an early and cold winter. If there is plenty of snow, cattle and sheepmen will be overwhelmed with disaster, for their stock cannot survive a heavy winter. Under these circumstances only winter fed stock will be saved. If, on the other hand, the cold season should be comparatively devoid of snow, as was the case last winter, the stock would live, but the farmers' outlook would be very dark, for a light snowfall means little water. So, whatever comes, either stockmen or farmers will be in a bad fix, and the clear-sighted men in each class are adopting means to prepare for the worst, and make their losses as light as possible.