

Correspondence.

Grain Sown—Rain—The Situation—The Usurpers—Progress of "Civilization"—Improvements—The Railway—Man Shot.

TOOELE CITY, May 9, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

This burgh and the adjoining settlements have presented an unusually lively appearance during the past month, owing to the bad weather in the early part of the season, which per force caused the farmers to remain idle. They have been compelled to make extraordinary efforts in the way of plowing and sowing since the good weather did at last put in an appearance, but notwithstanding the lateness of the season and the absence of many of the teams which have been engaged in hauling bullion and ore, there has been an average breadth of grain sown this spring.

THE RAIN.

For some time fears were entertained that, owing to the excessive heat and consequent dryness of the earth, much of the grain planted would not sprout and that the crops would be light, but at this present time of writing there is a copious shower of rain falling, the earth is being refreshed, all fears of failures of crops are banished, and the husbandman is looking hopefully forward to a bounteous harvest.

THE SITUATION.

The ring protege, our Probate Judge, and his backers and helpers, are still working and sweating their brains over the problem, "How can we get our hands into the public pocket?" So far their machinations and plots have been a failure. True, they have temporarily ousted one of the selectmen and in the plenitude of their power placed one of their own choosing in his stead, and have also appointed an assessor and collector, who immediately entered upon the duties of his supposed office, the collecting part of which is the most pleasant to his feelings. The people, a source of power which these nincompoops ignore, hope that at no distant day the men whom they elected and have confidence in will by due course of law be reinstated in their offices.

SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS.

The Saints are united and earnest in their faith and works, and peace and good order prevail amongst them, notwithstanding the fact that the sectarian Christians, not content with infidelizing the majority of their own people in the States, have settled one of their priests here, who makes himself very prominent in the semi-official clique meetings, and is doing his utmost to unsettle the faith and breed disbelief in the minds of such of the people as he can get to listen to his unprofitable immaterialistic vagaries. His greatest efforts are directed towards the young people and children, and consist in the retailing of sensational stories and the vilifying of prominent men and women of the Territory; but he generally preaches to empty benches, and the two or three persons whom he has succeeded in leading astray have, instead of laying hold of his faith, become confirmed atheists, or worse, spiritualists.

CIVILIZATION.

so-called, is on the increase, if we may judge by the multiplication of saloons and billiard halls, the proprietors of which toil not, neither do they spin, but are arrayed in magnificent clothing and rejoice in the possession of much brass jewelry, purchased with the surplus cash of foolish men and boys who congregate about their dens and pass their time away in the rolling and pushing to and fro of ivory balls or the imbibing of villainous liquors which give to their eyes and noses an ensanguined hue which cannot be called beautiful by any means, instead of being employed at some health-giving and profitable labor.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Many new and handsome dwelling-houses have been erected during the last year, and several more are in course of erection, whilst many old ones have been remodelled and embellished. Shade, ornamental, and fruit trees in great numbers have been planted, making altogether a decided improvement in the appearance of the town and causing the denizens thereof to assume metropolitan airs.

The codling moth has not made an appearance here yet, but fears are entertained that with the large importation of fruit trees last Fall some of these pestiferous little insects have also effected a lodgement.

THE RAILWAY

Has been completed to the old stage station known as the Half Way House, a point distant from this place about eight miles, and the people of this county are already beginning to realize the convenience and benefits which its construction will confer on them. The long unsolved question, "Will the railroad come through Tooele?" has at last been settled. The road will pass about one and a quarter miles west of this place. The fact that Tooele City has an altitude of about seven hundred feet greater than the present terminal point of the road precludes the possibility of its attaining any nearer proximity.

THE GENERAL NEWS

has been profoundly dull and unimportant until the depths were stirred by the occurrence of a shooting scrape in which a man named Billy Bolt was instantly killed. The fracas took place at Martinsville, situated at the foot of the Dry Canyon toll road. The *casus belli* was an unpaid ranch bill, the effects brandished weapons and violent death of the non-paying Bolt, and the sudden flight of the superior marksman and rancher, one Bidkee, who has since been captured, tried and released on bonds of \$500 that he will deliver himself unto the grand jury when called upon.

RUDIO.

Grasshoppers and Locusts.

George M. Dawson, Geologist and Naturalist, North American Boundary Commission, McGill College, Montreal, is accumulating information, that some knowledge of practical importance, if not scientific interest, may result concerning the devastating grasshopper or locust. He has communicated with the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society on the subject, his questions being given below, and also the answers by the Society named, which will probably be interesting to many of our readers, as historical matter of the Territory, if not otherwise—

1. Has the devastating Grasshopper appeared in your section of country?
2. Were the insects produced from eggs in the country itself? If so, please state:
 - (a.) Date of hatching out.
 - (b.) Time during which they remained and date of their departure.
 - (c.) Direction of their flight on departure.
3. Were swarms of locusts observed to arrive on the wing, or to pass overhead without alighting? If so, state which, and:—
 - (a.) Date when swarms first seen.
 - (b.) Direction from which they arrived.
 - (c.) Length of time during which they remained on the ground or continued passing over the place.
 - (d.) Date of their departure.
 - (e.) Direction of their flight on departure.
4. What proportion of the crops do you believe to have been destroyed?
5. Were Grasshoppers observed to deposit eggs in the district this Autumn? If so, please state whether any were hatched and the young insects destroyed by the frost.

1. Yes, in the year 1855, and again from 1866 to 1872 inclusive.
2. In 1855 came from the West. In 1866 came from the North. Subsequent years' product produced from eggs, while relays came from all directions.
- (a.) April to June.
- (b.) 1855, left in August and September; 1872, ditto.
- (c.) North and East.
3. Both in dense clouds obstructing the sunlight.
- (a.) 1855, came about July. 1866, came about September and deposited eggs.
- (b.) See No. 2.
- (c.) About six weeks.
- (d.) See No. 2 b.
- (e.) See No. 2 c.

4. 1855 about seventy-five per cent of the cereals, vegetables and fruits were destroyed by them. The following Spring the people subsisted largely on thistle, milkweed and other roots.

5. No, Sir. When eggs are not disturbed by the plow, frost does not destroy them. During the years named, they visited all parts of the Territory. Thousands of bushels were destroyed by the organized labors of the people, by driving them, and burying them in trenches, by setting traps in irrigating ditches, by covering the ground with straw, under which they would shelter for the night, and in the morning burning the straw and insects. Men, women and children, with the village poultry, in some places, moved to the fields in wagons and fought the common enemy from hatching to flying time. In some parts, it was estimated there were one hundred bushels of hoppers to the acre.

A notable local mathematician estimated that in one season, one and a half million bushels were destroyed by lighting in Great Salt Lake and drifting on the shores, forming an immense belt.

During all our locust and cricket visitations, we have not received one dollar appropriation or donation from the General Government, or from neighboring States or Territories. Respectfully, etc.,

W. WOODRUFF,

President of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society.

A. M. MUSSER,
Director and Sec'y pro tem.

Conference—Visits to Glasgow, Loch Lomond, Dumbarton Castle, and Edinburgh.

LIVERPOOL, April 28, 1875.

George A. Smith:

DEAR FATHER—On the evening of the 16th, President Jos. F. Smith, Bros. F. M. Lyman, L. J. Nuttall, and John Squires, and myself left Liverpool by the steamer *Bear* for Glasgow. The Irish Sea was almost without a ripple. We were twenty-two hours on the water. We passed along the west coast of Scotland and up the Clyde. The scenery was grand and imposing, and we all felt full of life and joy.

On our arrival in Glasgow we went to Allan's Temperance Hotel, where we were soon joined by Bros. David MacKenzie, Peter Sinclair, R. Hogg, A. G. Ingram, A. MacFarland, and Chester Call. We had a most splendid time in visiting until 12 midnight.

On Sunday we held three meetings in the City Hall, which were well attended. A good spirit prevailed and a most enjoyable time was had by all hands.

On Monday we visited the Cathedral and Necropolis, and went to Loch Lomond and had a short ride on its beautiful waters. From there we went to the rock on which Dumbarton Castle once stood, but the old castle is gone and government has built a fort and keeps a few troops there now. We saw and handled the supposed sword of William Wallace. It is about five feet six inches long. We also saw an old hatchet or battle ax, supposed to have been the property of Robert Bruce. We put in a very lively day, and at 7 p. m. returned to Glasgow.

Glasgow is the finest commercial city that I have seen on this side of the water. The buildings are better and the streets are laid out with more regularity and are generally of very good width.

On Tuesday our entire party, aside from Bros. Hogg and Ingram, took train for Edinburgh, where we all arrived safe and sound. In making the trip across the country we passed some splendid scenery, and saw Linlithgow castle, the place where Mary, Queen of Scots, was born.

On our arrival at Edinburgh we went to Drummond's Temperance Hotel, put up our valises, and went to see Sir Walter Scott's Monument, which is two hundred feet high. We ascended some stone steps one hundred and eighty feet, and got a magnificent view of the city. This monument I take to be in the Gothic style. In different places on the monument are figures representing characters in his (Scott's) novels. Underneath the arches is a large statue of Scott, by Mr. Steel.

From the monument we went to the celebrated Edinburgh Castle, which is built on a rock almost in the centre of the city. The castle is well preserved, and is now garri-

soned with troops. We saw the crown and some more of the regalia of the old Scottish kings, which were discovered by Sir Walter Scott in a large oak chest, and covered up among the debris and ruins of one of the rooms of the old castle, but which has been thoroughly repaired. We were in the room where they say Queen Mary gave birth to James, and we looked out of the window where he was lowered down the rock 180 feet when only eight days old, and was carried to France and baptized into the Roman Catholic faith, or I should have said poured upon, before he repented of his sins, and he was left to repent after he grew to years of accountability. We saw all that was to be seen inside the castle and took a look at the outer walls, and a view of the city from our elevated position, which I pronounce the finest of its kind I had ever seen. From the walls of the castle we were pointed out the houses in which the body snatchers and murderers, Burke and Hare, lived.

From the castle we went to the National Library, where a copy of every book published in the United Kingdom is supposed to be deposited. After looking around for a while we took a look into the old Scottish Parliament House. Around its walls were paintings and statues. We then went to the Museum of Sciences and Art, and were there until 5 p. m., when we returned to our hotel.

At 6 p. m. Pres. Smith, and bro. L. J. Nuttall left Edinburgh for Glasgow to take steamer at 8 p. m. for Liverpool. We who remained in the city took a ride on a street car five miles, which makes a circuit and gave us a most splendid opportunity to see the city. We also went to Calton Hill, on which stands a monument to Nelson, which some enterprising Scotchman started to build or reproduce in part the Parthenon of Athens, for as you know Edinburgh is called the modern Athens. Some of the brethren were out looking around the city, but Brother Lyman and I went to work at our journals and tried to make some notes of what we had seen.

At 11 p. m. we all sallied forth and took a look at the city by night. At 12, midnight, we returned to our hotel.

On Monday morning Bro. C. Call and I got up and had our breakfast and climbed to the top of what is called Arthur's Seat, about one and a half miles. The view we had from our elevated position, was the grandest I ever looked upon, with one exception, and that one was from the top of Mt. Trumbull, on the Colorado river. We could see the Firth of Forth with its shipping, and the shore lined with store-houses and fine residences. At our very feet lay the most beautiful city I have yet seen, and in the distance you could see the country mansions with fine farms and lawns. Look at your Appleton's guide book, and that picture in it was taken from Arthur's Seat.

JOHN HENRY SMITH.

Conference.

LAIE, Oahu,
Sandwich Islands,
April 29, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

I am pleased and proud to say that all here from the valleys of Utah are in the enjoyment of good health and alive to the interest of the labors assigned them. Peace and good will prevail, with not only the foreign brethren and sisters, but with all the Saints throughout the group, so far as I am advised by recent reports.

Our annual conference, held here on the 4th, 5th, and 6th instants, was well attended, and very interesting. Elders Woolley and Lambert, who had previously been laboring here on the plantation, the former as foreman in the sugar boiling department, and the latter as foreman over the hands in the field and elsewhere; Elder Stringham, who had recently returned from a preaching tour on the Island of Maui; and Elders Richards and Branch, who had just returned here from making a circuit of the Island of Kauai, were all present. They enjoyed the spirit of the conference, and each one addressed the meeting in the Hawaiian language, to the understanding of the people.

Sisters Randall, Lambert and Woolley were also in daily attendance, the two latter with their lit-

tle boys, born here, who are great favorites with the natives. Kana-hunahupu, Uaua, Kaleohana, Kalawala and several other veteran native elders from the days of brother George Q. Cannon, were present and gave new life to the conference by their presence and their highly interesting and spirited addresses. We held two long meetings each day, and one, two and a half hours meeting on the closing night, and then all had not talked who wished to. I addressed the conference a number of times, speaking upon various subjects and principles, explaining not only the spiritual, but the practical, duties of the Saints. Much valuable and timely instruction, exhortation and advice was given during the several meetings. A good spirit prevailed, many were here from a distance, and all, both Saints and those who belonged not to our church, seemed to enjoy the conference, and to be well paid for having come together.

Our annual and semi-annual conferences are looked forward to with a great deal of interest and anxiety by both foreign and native Saints, for then we all anticipate a good time, a general re-union after having been separated for weeks and perhaps several months. We all highly appreciate these privileges.

The general authorities of the Church in Zion and throughout the world, with those upon this mission, were unanimously sustained by the vote of the conference. The foreign Elders were selected and voted in to labor as fellows, for the next few months to come—R. G. Lambert and H. S. Woolley to remain on the plantation. W. H. Branch to go to the Islands of Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, which three Islands lie in close proximity to each other, and S. P. Richards and Briant Stringham to the large Island of Hawaii. Several native Elders were also called to labor as traveling missionaries in connection with and under these Valley Elders.

Elders Richards and Stringham started on the 16th inst. for the field of their labors. Elder Branch is now making a circuit of this island (Oahu) to visit the various branches, after which he will sail for his respective field of labor. In justice to all who are now here from Zion, I am pleased to say that each one has been alive to their missions, faithful and untiring in their efforts to do the people good, and to disseminate the principles of truth among the inhabitants of these islands. I am proud to say that each of the Elders here has ever exhibited a ready willingness to either labor abroad over the islands in the ministry, or to labor here on the plantation with his hands, as the presiding authority here might advise. They have each acquired a very fair knowledge of the native language, so that they can read, write and speak quite readily, sufficiently for all practical purposes. The Sisters, too, deserve credit for their patience and faithfulness in performing their respective parts in the mission. Sister Randall continues her English school with the native children, who make fair progress, so that she feels encouraged and willing to continue her labors among them.

Three hundred and twenty-five new baptisms were added to the church during the last six months, with the field open for more the coming six months. It is far easier to convert and baptize this people than to get them to half live the religion after they embrace it, but this is somewhat the case with not a few white Saints.

We hold meetings every Sabbath for the native Saints, and every Sunday evening have a little meeting of the foreign brethren and sisters, which we enjoy much.

Our sugar making has been stopped for a few months past to enable us to make some necessary repairs about the mill, machinery, etc., but we are now going ahead again, but find ourselves short of hands to run the business because of a good many leaving during our stoppage, to hunt work elsewhere.

The NEWS is ever a welcome visitor to our "island home." All here join me in kind remembrance to all friends of this mission.

ALMA L. SMITH.

Presentations to the Prince of Wales at St. James' Palace are considered by the Queen equivalent to presentations to her Majesty. It makes no difference what the common folks, who are presented, think about it.