

Correspondence.

COALVILLE, Summit County,
July 14, 1867.

EDITOR NEWS:

In company of President Joseph Young I left G. S. L. City on a missionary tour on Tuesday, 2 p.m. At L. W. Hardy's station, 14 miles from the city, in Parley's Cañon, we found a branch of the Church lately organized, numbering about 40 souls, in rather a scattered condition. Their meetings are held at present in a bowery. There is here a saw mill, lath mill and turning lathe. There is but little farming done at the place, but some potatoes, peas and other vegetables looked very well.

The best portion of Parley's Park is contained within about two miles square, respectively fenced. After passing high mountain gorges and hills, the view of this beautiful green Park of grain and grass, skirted with high timbered mountains, with thousands of cattle on the hills, Kimball's fine stone mansion and surrounding buildings and Snyder's mills on the west, mark well for the hardy pioneers who have settled it.

From Hardy's station there are quite a number of families scattered along, much exposed to Indians. Two Indians were detected at the head of Silver Creek last Saturday night, in the act of driving off stock, but the pale face being on the watch, red face made off in haste.

We passed over an additional park, two and a half miles to the head of Silver Creek Cañon which empties into Weber, where the cañon widens out into the Weber bottoms, forming an elegant site for the town of Wanship, the County Seat of Summit County. Here reside 40 families. The road is in excellent traveling condition and occupied, as we passed a continuation of coal wagons from Coalville, nine miles north of this place, on their way to Great Salt Lake City. At Weber we passed free over the toll gate and two bridges kept by H. W. Brizzee, all in good condition, and put up at his house, after passing through a heavy thunder storm. Here are beautiful fields of grain, one of which, owned by Brizzee & Co., containing 100 acres of small grain, is looking remarkably well, and no grasshoppers to hurt them. The grain here is mostly jointing and in boot, while in Great Salt Lake County we passed some which will be ready next week for the sickle.

On Saturday, the 13th, we filled an appointment at Wanship, in a new, unfinished stone meeting house. The meeting was well attended. There is one saw mill and a grist mill at Wanship with abundance of timber and excellent building rock, all things favorable for Wanship becoming at an early period quite a flourishing city.

At 2 o'clock we filled another appointment at Unionville, where about 40 families reside, mostly in a fort, some of the brethren accompanying from Wanship. Here the brethren felt cheered and determined to be onward in the good work of Zion. Bro. Hoyt has an excellent grist mill at this place.

We put up with Bishop Wm. Cluff who is energetic in his care of the Saints throughout Weber settlements.

EDWARD STEVENSON.

MILLERSBURGH, Washington Co.,
July 7, 1867.

EDITOR DESELET NEWS:

Knowing the deep and abiding interest which yourself and the majority of the readers of your ever welcome paper take in the prosperity and prospects of all parts of our Mountain Home, I pen a few lines to give a short description of Millersburgh, known to travelers to California as the Beaver Dams, as well as a few items in regard to our so called "Dixie" generally.

Millersburgh is located on, or near the junction of, a great wash in the Rio Virgen, 30 miles southwest of St. George. This wash drains the chain of high mountains that form part of the southern rim of the great basin and is about 50 miles long, generally dry the greater portion of its course, but in times of severe storms contributes a large stream to the turbulent Virgen. In this wash, opposite town, rise springs of pure water, in the midst of a fine grove of cottonwood and willows, which run into the river a creek large enough to propel machinery. There are only two small fields low enough to be irrigated by this stream; the bulk of our richest land, several hundred acres, lies above

on the wash, and is not yet brought into cultivation. It will need a canal about three miles long to conduct the Rio Virgen upon it. To accomplish this President H. W. Miller estimates \$5,000 worth of labor necessary, and we have, therefore, to see it unaccomplished until we have the good fortune to add at least 50 families to our numbers.

We have numerous bottoms of various extent along the Virgen, which are easily watered, some by springs rising just high enough for them, as if purposely so contrived, and some by ditches out of the river, whose supply never fails.

The resources of this place are ample for forty times the population we now have, but they require the application of energetic labor for their development. There is a bottom of rich alluvial land, called Mesquite Flat, about ten miles below here on the river, containing some 4,000 acres of excellent cotton land, which will probably be farmed from this place at some future time, unless there can be pure water discovered there for family use, as the Virgen water is not drinkable, though excellent for irrigation, containing fertilizing substances. Judging from the yield of similar land in this place, we can safely estimate that this would yield from 500 to 800 pounds of lint cotton per acre, which would make busy cotton factories and plenty of clothing for tens of thousands.

The last news from the coast says there are several steamboats in progress of construction expressly for the navigation of the Colorado; and according to all natural calculations this great enterprise must, sooner or later, add greatly to the comfort of southern Utah.

Our climate is by all odds the best in Utah. Being situated from 600 to 800 feet lower than St. George, on a southern exposure, we have about ten degrees higher heat than the above mentioned locality in summer, and much milder winters; and there is no climatic reason why we should not raise the fig, the lemon, olive, pomegranate and, perhaps, even the orange. We can raise the best European grapes to perfection, and expect to do it. We have imported the best raisin and some grapes of Spain, Portugal, France, Hungary and the Canary Islands, and we only require the time they need to come into full bearing, to prove to Utah that we can raise as good grapes as ever graced the sunny hills of Spain or the plains of Hungary. This place is eminently suited to grape culture and fruit raising generally, though we by no means lack chances for raising grain; but, as the breadth of grain raising land in this Territory so far exceeds that of good fruit localities, it would seem to suggest itself, as the true policy of places so excellently adapted to fruit as this, to produce their surplus in these scarcer articles.

In regard to Indian difficulties, we have never had any here, and never look for any, from the fact that there are but very few Indians within a great distance of us, and the few are peaceable and friendly; and if they were otherwise, would have but little chance, as they have neither arms nor ammunition, nor horses, nor friends. Last year two men kept the mail station and attended the crops without any molestation.

We have a semi-weekly mail here, connecting Los Angeles, Cal., with St. George, Utah, and rendering good service.

As to the surroundings of our place, the sterility and solitude of the great hill sides of this naked and solemn country bring into bold relief the beauty of this fertile oasis in the midst of the unmeasured and almost untrodden deserts; and, while a few miles north of us, on the slope of the mountain, there is a forest of peculiar cactus, each growing to the height of a scrubby cedar tree, with scores of heads and ten thousand spears, and while in the distance, as far as the eye can reach, barren hills and sand-benches form the chief scenery, varied by a fine crested mountain on the east and the rockbound abyss through which the Virgin rolls its turbid waters, our gardens and nurseries can boast of the finest grape vines that are admired as varieties of the highest excellence in the best gardens of Europe's famous vine districts.

As to the destiny of Southern Utah, in supplying the rest of the Territory with cotton and fruits, and becoming self-sustaining and prosperous, there is now no doubt but all will be realized that our most earnest friends have ever predicted. With a climate fervid as

that of the shores of the Mediterranean, a soil favorable to the growth of every product of comfort or necessity, either esculent or textile, a population tried in the last extremity of endurable privation, and proven steadfast in the purpose of reclaiming the desert, with the first fruits of their indomitable perseverance just beginning to reward their toil, who could expect any thing else than success and prosperity to increase in the land and make it delightful for the Saints to dwell therein.

When our leaders concluded that this region should be made to contribute to the comfort and independence of Israel in the Mountains, they knew it would take means and strength to do it, and they required of many able hands to come and spend their means and strength here for that purpose. How far some have responded to that call can, perhaps, be best answered each for himself.

With my best wishes for the progress of all the true interests of the Latter-day Work,

Yours respectfully,
DANIEL BONELLI.

HAUS AUGSBURGER,
Saint Imier, June 20, 1867.

Through the kindness of br. Wm. Clayton we have been favored with the perusal of a letter from br. Joseph S. Horne, from which we extract the following:—

The weather is very changeable here, only three or four days ago it snowed, and in the night it froze pretty hard on the mountains near this place. Much fruit has been killed by frost, potatoes, beans and other garden truck have been injured, though there is a pretty good prospect for a passable harvest. It is astonishing to witness the actions and expressions of men. The words of the servants of God are being rapidly fulfilled. The contention, mistrust and dissatisfaction which are so prevalent, not only among Congressmen, representatives and men of note; but in towns, villages, houses, and even families; is a testimony of the fulfillment of prophecy. It is not long since a man in St. Imier coolly shot himself; on the same day he was buried the news came to our ears of one who had hanged himself in a neighboring wood, the same week we heard of a child having been left by its mother and torn to pieces by dogs. We often hear of houses being fired, of business men becoming bankrupt, of persons having their homes, "clearing out," to free themselves from their debts, or to get away from their creditors, &c., &c., to say nothing of the seduction of women and girls, breaking of bargains, drunkenness, and other similar pastimes. And I believe there is enough of such work in almost every country to cause the Spirit of God to leave the wicked, which we plainly see is the case. Many are expecting something dreadful, they hardly know what, some think we shall soon have an awful war, others think mostly for to-day and how they can have a "jolly time," and so it goes.

I often reflect upon our condition in these latter-days, and feel to praise and thank the Lord that so many have been able to see and understand things as they are, and are striving to serve Him with full purpose of heart. Our duty is to live humble and prayerful before the Lord, be willing and obedient to carry out the instructions of His servants, which may God help us to do, is the prayer of your brother in the truth.

LOGAN, CACHE Co.
July 17, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS.

DEAR BROTHER:—It is always pleasing to every Latter-day Saint to trace the hand of the Lord and His merciful providences in His dealings with His children, even though the latter are too often unmindful of Him and ungrateful for His kindness.

For several years, as you are aware, the mining regions of Idaho and Montana provided a very remunerative market for the produce of this and other counties of this Territory. Last year the demand for produce, especially breadstuff, for those northern regions was, from various causes, materially diminished, and this year that outlet has been entirely cut off. As an unavoidable consequence the price of produce fell to a moiety of its former value. Considerable grumbling ensued particularly at the merchants; and it seemed rather hard at first, to those who had

been accustomed to handling gold dust and greenbacks quite profusely in exchange for their flour, bacon and potatoes, to have this fountain of apparent wealth, or at least of present ease and luxury, so suddenly dried up. But to me it is only another evidence that the Lord is watching over his people and causing all things to work together for their good, even when by their perverseness, they would frustrate His beneficent designs, if they could. Had there been as great a demand for flour outside of this Territory, the last year, as there was for three or four years previously, there would have been scarcely a pound in the county to-day. As it is, little, if any of last year's crop has been exported, while much that was bought and stored here by freighters and others, has been exchanged with the people for stock that they could spare, as the owners of the flour found it unprofitable to freight it away.

Last fall the future certainly appeared gloomy, and it seemed difficult to tell how the people were to be preserved from suffering. Nevertheless my faith and feelings were that if we would do right and obey counsel as near as we could, use all the economy, diligence, faith and good works in our power, that the Lord would not suffer us to perish for bread. At the same time, though a "Merchant," my constant advice, in public and private, was and is, "Do not spend your grain for anything except absolute necessities; and these are very few." The prospect, at present is more hopeful and encouraging than most anticipated early last spring. The grasshoppers have done an immense amount of damage, and have completely destroyed the crops in a few places, and the danger to the others cannot be said to be entirely over; still, taking the entire valley, including the amount which has been distributed among the people by stockbuyers, there seems every probability that there will be sufficient breadstuff, by wise and economical management, to sustain us till another harvest.

While riding out to one of the neighboring settlements the other day, I was much pleased and struck with the remarks of a brother upon this subject. "Many," said he, "were opposed to planting any grain this spring, but I told them I should sow mine, do the best I could, and trust the Lord for the result. I put my seed in the ground, prayed over it, blessed it, and blessed the land, made it my special business to seek earnestly to the Lord to bless it, by day and by night, did the best I could to take care of it; and, now, I have a more promising crop than I have ever had in Cache Valley." Some, doubtless, will sneer, and say this was chance. But it is only another exemplification of the maxim: "According to thy faith shall it be unto thee." Many, no doubt, have done the best they could and still lost their crops; but this does not prove that none have been saved by faith and good works, that would otherwise have been destroyed, any more than it follows that, because all are not healed who are administered to, therefore the power of the Lord and the efficacy of faith do not heal any.

There has been a great deal of sickness lately among the children, something resembling diphtheria; otherwise the health of the people is pretty good.

A phonographic class has been formed here, under the direction of br. Adam Smith, which is I believe, well attended and making commendable progress.

Praying for the welfare and prosperity of Zion and all who love her.

I remain, your brother,
W. H. SHEARMAN.

VIRGEN CITY, Kane Co.,
July 7, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

Knowing the interest you take in the welfare of all the settlements, I thought a few lines would not be amiss.

Our wheat is excellent; I expect to harvest 100 bushels from three acres. The fruit is good, and there is plenty of it; we had ripe apricots on the 20th of June. All kinds of fruit are doing well here this season. I expect to gather three tons of good grapes to the acre, from two years old vines.

Many in the northern settlements wonder how we live down here. I have plenty of almost all kinds of fruit, and raise my own bread and clothing. It is now about two years since I had to buy my bread. We have one of the best grist mills in the County, and it has plenty of grain to grind. Within the last few weeks it has ground about 1,000 bushels.