

take opportunity to express quite definitely and fully his advice upon the matter.

On the third proposition, which is, to quote his own language, "the more productive an acre of land can be made in the same proportion the increase of population is made possible," I must beg to differ somewhat from the writer. Political economists are agreed upon one law more fully than upon most propositions that have been accepted as conclusive, to wit: The law of "diminishing returns." This law justly holds, I believe, that after having passed a certain yield, which I may for convenience now term normal yield of the soil under average condition, an increase is and must be at an increased ratio of expenditure of human force. This law has been partly neutralized by the increased application of machinery and the processes of science. Yet under normal conditions it is true even now that it would take more of human labor after an acre of ground has produced thirty bushels of wheat to produce the second thirty than the first thirty. To pass from thirty bushels under the present economic conditions there would be a greater expenditure of human labor per bushel than it would require to produce the first thirty. This being true, the highly intensive farming of which Mr. Madsen speaks would come about by diminished use of machinery and an increased unit of human labor per unit of crops produced. The world may arrive at the period when it is best to enter upon this extremely intensive farming. I do not declaim against it. I do not deny its validity under conditions that may occur some time in the future, but I point to this one fact and leave the conclusions with the reader; the production per capita in the United States is equivalent of gain is 48.1 bushels, while in Europe, where much more labor is used per acre than here, it is but 16.5. Here machinery is used in extensive farming; that is man handles other forces than human and uses the minimum of human labor per acre. In Europe less machinery is used, and while not the maximum, yet relative to our own farming, the maximum of human labor per acre is used. It is true that there are modifying causes which partly account for this difference, yet if critical enquiry is made into the agriculture of this country it will be found that in sections where the crops per acre are increasing and great, everything else being equal, more labor per acre is being used.

Now, in answering a letter like those written by Bishop Madsen, if one assumes to criticize he can at the best succeed only in being in part misunderstood. I do not wish to be understood as a champion of baronial ways or the results or baronial systems, for such is not my aim. On the pure economic side of the question, however, I very much doubt whether we have arrived at the time when exceedingly small holdings, the holdings of the character of those in France, will be conducive to the highest development of social and civil life, especially as long as the modifying influence of the public schools holds American people to the conservative ways that they have acquired. I cannot, however,

shut my eyes to the fact that the independent owner of the green sward which the feet of his family must press and the hearthstone around which they gather, does have an influence on the character and on the morals of the people.

To enter, however, upon a discussion of these questions in detail would make the correspondence voluminous. I beg to repeat that it would give me greater felicity to read the views of your thoughtful correspondent than to write my own.

Very respectfully,  
J. W. SANBORN.

LOGAN, April 6, 1898.

#### LOGAN LETTER.

The roads are rapidly drying, and in some parts of the valley ploughing has commenced.

The Stutz Theatrical company commenced a five night's engagement in the Thatcher opera house this evening.

A two year old child of Mr. Fred Schanck's fell and broke its arm on Saturday morning. Dr. Parkinson set it.

Three boys were taken before Justice Brigham for stealing eggs. One was fined \$5; the others were discharged for lack of evidence.

Miss Eva Vincent, who recently played here with the local company, received a telegram summoning her to the east. She may return in the fall.

The case of the United States vs. Nathan Eldredge was stricken from the docket on Friday, there being insufficient evidence to hold him on a charge of unlawful cohabitation.

The election held to determine whether the city should be bonded for \$25,000 for the purpose of providing additional school facilities, resulted in favor of bonding, but by only 25 majority. A light vote was cast in each precinct. Logan already has some of the finest school buildings in the West, but she wants more.

A man named Stoker, who lives on Logan Island, borrowed a horse and buggy on Saturday for the purpose of fetching a midwife to attend his wife, who was ill. After the trouble was over he took the attendant home, and drank the new arrival's health in a number of flowing bumpers. On the way back he fell out of his buggy. He was not hurt much but the horse got frightened and ran away with the buggy, that was soon badly demoralized from contact with a telephone pole.

An elderly Swede named John Erickson became insane at an early hour this morning at Smithfield, and stripping himself of every vestige of clothing, ran at racing speed through the town, occasionally trying to enter some of the houses, thereby frightening the inmates. For several hours he continued his career, and Sheriff Kirkbride was telephoned for, but when he arrived the man had been captured, and was lodged in the city jail. He was clothed once more and the sheriff brought him to Logan and lodged him in the county jail. He

will probably be sent to Provo. It is reported that he once had a similar attack in Sweden, and acted in much the same way.

The Logan choir have gone to Salt Lake to sing in the Temple. One of the anthems they will sing was composed by Geo W Thatcher, Jr., and is a beautiful piece of music.

About eleven hundred tickets have been sold at the Logan depot to Salt Lake, and more would have been sold if a more reasonable rate had been given. Many people from the south end of the valley went by team over the hills to Three Mile creek on the S. P., and took train from there to Ogden, traveling over the D. & R. G. from there to Salt Lake.

An elderly lady named Lyman was accidentally shot in the neck at Greenville on Sunday, the 2nd, by some boys who were practicing target shooting, at some distance from her house. The bullet either lodged in the muscles of the neck or rebounded. A nasty-looking wound was the result. Paralysis of one side has since ensued, and it is feared that the lady will not recover. She is eighty years of age.

Fred Turner made an assignment to James E. Hart during the fore part of the week. He lost a considerable amount of productive property a little more than a year ago, when his creamery burned down. He had also bought a nice little herd of cows, under a guarantee that they were full blood, registered Jerseys. These he sold, also guaranteeing them to be registered stock, and agreeing to forward the certificates as soon as he received them from the party of whom he purchased. It has since been discovered that they were not registered, and Mr. Turner has been called on to refund a large portion of the money he received for them at the sale. He also endorsed a note for \$800 which he was called on to pay. The liabilities and assets are nearly equal, being each nearly \$5000. There are preferred creditors for small amounts aggregating \$388.15.

A sad occurrence took place here on Sunday morning, at 1:30 a. m. David Purdy committed suicide by shooting himself in the head with a thirty-eight calibre revolver. Purdy came down from Pocatello some time ago, sick. He had quite a spell of illness after his arrival, and has never fully recovered his health. On Saturday evening he was about town until after eleven o'clock. He then went to the residence of his brother-in-law, John Rowland, whose sister, Lizzie Rowland, he was engaged to. Mr. and Mrs. Rowland were in bed, but Lizzie was up waiting to see him, as he had previously made an appointment with her. He had told her that he was going away for a long time, to improve his financial condition, and asked her to wait for him for two years, which she promised to do. His appointment on Saturday night was made for the purpose of informing her where he was going, and when. He remained with her for nearly two hours, but apparently had not yet made up his mind as to his destination or the time of his departure. When he left, Miss Rowland accompanied him outside. After conversing for a moment or two, Purdy