

Correspondence.

The Drama—Music Hall.

LEHI, March 23, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

The Dramatic company of this place was organized some eighteen months ago, with Mr. James W. Taylor as president. Under his able management they have been energetic during the past winter in trying to amuse and please the citizens, also themselves, and many a pleasant time has been enjoyed by them, during the long and stormy nights of the past winter.

Last Saturday night the company presented "Ten Nights in a Bar Room," to a good house, gratuitously tendering their services for the benefit of the Relief Society of this place.

A few enterprising young men of this place are erecting a music hall, a building, if I am rightly informed, 65 x 30 feet, built by shares of \$25 each, for musical and theatrical purposes. It is not finished, but it is so that it has answered very well for temporary use. It is the intention, I am told, to complete it the present season. When finished it will make a very convenient place.

The health of the people generally is good. The weather is pleasant after a week of storm and cold.

AN OBSERVER.

Insects Destructive to Fruit.

MINERSVILLE.

Editor Deseret News:

As some inquiries have been made in regard to the destruction of apples in and around S. L. City, I have concluded it would be interesting to the many readers of your paper to know something about this very troublesome insect in the States. To guard against the ravages of insects successfully we must first make ourselves familiar with their habits.

In the fruit growing sections of the States much time and money have been expended to ascertain the exact habits, as near as possible, of the different insects. The only insect that troubles fruit is the curculio. It resembles a small black spider, only more wasp-like in shape.

In the first place the fruit while quite young and tender is stung and an egg inserted by this curculio. This egg soon hatches, producing a minute worm, which feeds on the fruit, causing it to rot, especially the tender fruits.

Nature has provided that this worm shall mature as the fruit does, and be ready when it falls to the ground to come out at its air hole in the fruit and deposit itself in the earth, where it remains till Spring. During the months of May and June a transformation takes place and up comes a new-born curculio, which proceeds to sting and deposit eggs in the young fruit as before, and so on year after year.

The curculio worm is found in the hickory-nut and many of the wild fruits and in all the tame ones. It is particularly fond of the wild haw, plum, nectarine, and apricot, on account of their tenderness.

Fruit stung by the curculio seems to ripen prematurely and leave the tree sooner than the balance of the fruit. In Southern Illinois, where you will find from five to one hundred acres in an orchard, this insect is very bad, and often in a succession of crops it is almost impossible to market more than half of a crop. The fruit growers argue that they come from the hickory nut trees in the woods, which are very plentiful. There are several modes of destroying this insect. The one most practiced and seemingly the most economical, is to put hogs enough in the orchard to eat up the fallen fruit as fast as it falls, thus doing away with the crop of curculio for the coming year. It has been ascertained that if all having orchards would practice this strictly, the curculio could be kept from doing any great amount of harm.

In cases where specimens of new varieties are wanted, white sheets are spread under the tree and the tree is jarred or shaken, which causes the curculio to fall to the ground and lie apparently dead long enough to be gathered up and destroyed. This must be repeated for several days in succession and would be too expensive for more than a few trees.

From these facts it would be natural to suppose that the same insect is the cause of so much destruction of apples in the orchards in Salt Lake. If such should prove to be the case, too much care cannot be taken to guard against it, owing to the succession of crops and the proximity of the orchards.

I also notice a disease among the peach trees in Utah, which will eventually destroy a large majority of the trees if let run. I would suggest that steps be taken by those directly interested to call the attention of the people generally to those things. M. C. WINTERS.

We have not heard of any ravages of the curculio in Utah, and we believe that fruit growers hereabout are unanimous in imputing the destruction of the apple crop last season to the codling moth. Neither have we heard of any serious special disease among the peach trees.—ED.

The Temple—Hotel and Bakery—Weather and Health.

ST. GEORGE, March 18th, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

Ten of the stonemasons who were called upon from Salt Lake City to work upon the Temple arrived here on the 6th, and commenced their labors on the 9th. The work upon the walls is progressing rapidly. The south wall is finished up to the water table (about 16 feet from ground level) and the first water table was laid on the 14th. The west end of the building will be laid to the water table in a few days. The digging of the foundation for the pillars inside of the building is also commenced and the pounding machine is at work preparatory to the laying of the foundation thereof. The dimensions of the Temple are, length 141 feet 8 inches, width 96 feet 4 inches, height of walls to the square 80 feet, length of main halls 90 feet, height of basement about seventeen feet, first floor thirty feet, second floor twenty-six feet. On account of severe weather and heavy snows no lumber has been as yet produced at Mount Trumbull. Snow there on the 13th was three feet deep. Several of the hands have come home until the weather becomes more favorable. Prospecting parties have been out endeavoring to find a better and nearer route to the pinery, and the general expectation is that it can be found.

Bro. Erastus Snow's large house has been converted into an hotel under the superintendence of Bro. A. F. Macdonald. It is capable of accommodating about eighty boarders. There are about forty of the hands who are engaged on the Temple boarding there at present. Also in connection with said hotel a large bakery is being erected, which is to be conducted by Bro. Joseph Oxbury, a resident of this place and a practical baker.

Our new co-operation is progressing nicely in our southern settlements. Several companies have already been organized, and have commenced their labors, and a general good feeling prevails with the people in the majority of our settlements.

The upper story of our court house is now finished and the large hall therein has been opened to the public for dancing and festive parties, being more suitable for such gatherings than any other building in our city.

The weather is still stormy and quite unprecedented for our Dixie; heavy rains and snow squalls have been quite prevalent here of late, and the roads are almost impassable in certain localities. Still no doubt such weather will prove beneficial to the farming interest, but is rather detrimental from time to time to our public works, on account of the changeable weather. A good many are complaining with severe colds, and whooping coughs and other complaints amongst children have been rather on the increase among us. THISTLE.

Snow and Rain—Temple—Progress.

ST. GEORGE, March 16, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

Snow and rain have been falling all day, making walking anything but agreeable. It is something very unusual in "Dixie" land at this season of the year, but giving rise to hope of an abundant harvest.

The Gardener's Club intend holding their annual festival in the Court House in this city next Thursday evening, commencing at 6 p.m. An evening enjoyment is anticipated.

Pres. John W. Young and party returned last evening from the East, where they have been locating a site for a road to Mount Trumbull, from which locality we expect to receive our lumber in the future.

The work on the Temple is progressing rapidly; all seemingly rejoice in the good work.

The health of the people is good. We receive excellent instructions from the pulpit on the Sabbath day, principal text being, "Except ye are one, ye are not mine." Appearances indicate "the Kingdom is rolling." PARK.

About Schools.

FAIRVIEW, Sanpete Co., March, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

I often hear people talk about the crisis, but whether it has come to us or not, I am not prepared to say, things generally bearing a very dull and dormant appearance. Money is very scarce, good schools are almost equally so in this county, and still I do not think that the latter is caused by the former, for the people generally are prosperous and many are wealthy, and nature has supplied this county with an abundance of material for having the best of schools in successful operation. The thousands of bright, intelligent children are calling loudly for schools that answer the demands of an enlightened age. The parents look forward with fond hopes on the rising generation and plenty of means to back them, but the intellectual endowment, as far as training and education are concerned, seems to place their progress in that direction on very limited ground, and wherefore?

We have what are called school-houses, of different kinds, accommodated in many places with peg-legged-slabs-benches, and four feet high unsuitable tables, cut up with the destructive knife of men and boys, with windows adorned with old hats instead of glass, with greasy and smoky walls instead of maps and charts and other instruments for the convenience of pupil and teacher. These houses often present a spectacle of confusion and disorder, on account of their frequent use for meetings, and dances and other performances go on therein, and for which the schools are sometimes entirely broken up. No wonder that teachers are discouraged to find their tables and benches, miserable as they may be, out in the snow, the children's first duty being to restore order out of chaos.

Then the teachers; their task was laborious enough under the present system, if system it can be called. Crowd into a comparatively small room from fifty to a hundred children of all ages and stages of intelligence, and see him try to divide his attention among such a number during the flying hours of the day, and any one will easily find out how much personal attention the teacher can devote to each child. Six hours, divided among ninety pupils, will give each child four minutes each day, making no allowance for the time occupied by both teacher and pupil in the absolutely necessary moves in the room, and what can be expected when these four minutes are to be subdivided into the different branches or lessons taught in the school? The result is, the school is a failure.

Some think that free schools would be the remedy. Others think a system might be established under the present order of things. But as long as good competent teachers see no better and surer pay than they have done, you will find the best of them preferring an occupation in the store or other office, and the community obliged to take less qualified, sometimes unqualified, teachers, to get at least the name of a school in the ward.

Is there really no remedy, and where are our superintendents, with their advice, if any there be, for the schools of Sanpete County?

Our resources are abundant for creating comfort and wealth to our industrious population. Our lands are fertile, our water-courses plentiful, our rocks and timber perhaps the best in Utah, and our pastures not to be set aside for the best anywhere.

There has been a whispering

about getting a branch of the Deseret University established for this county, but it looks much like a dream and dark vision to me. System is what we want first, order to govern in the best possible way the elements we are surrounded with now. But who will lead on?

SAN PETE.

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 23.—Boreman, from the committee on territories, reported, without amendment, Ramsey's bill for the formation of Pembina territory. It consists of that portion of Dakota lying north of the 46th parallel, embracing about seventy-one thousand square miles. The line of the Northern Pacific Railroad runs through the middle of the proposed territory.

The Chair laid before the Senate a message from the President, enclosing the report of the board of engineers on the irrigation of the San Joaquin, Tulare and Sacramento valleys, Cal.; referred.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 23.—The four hundred million bill, as passed, authorizes legal tender notes of the United States, to the amount of four hundred millions, to be kept in general circulation, and the total amount of such circulation shall never exceed \$400,000,000.

The bill making an appropriation for the removal of the Kickapoos and other Indians from the borders of Texas and New Mexico to Indian territory, was passed.

On motion of G. F. Hoar an amendment was made in order to the legislative appropriation bill, prohibiting any civil officer of the government receiving any compensation or perquisite from the treasury or property of the United States, or using such property or the labor of any employee of the United States.

WASHINGTON, 24.—After three hours' debate on the Georgia contested election case, the House adopted the majority report, unseating Rawles, and giving the seat to Sloan, the contestant, who was sworn in.

Roberts presented a memorial from 20,000 workmen, in favor of the eight-hour law, and asking the removal of the supervisory architect of the treasury; ordered printed, and referred.

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 23.—A Herald special from Madrid says the Government contemplates the promotion of Burriel to be a field marshal, for his eminent services in Cuba.

CLEVELAND, 23.—The ladies visited a number of saloons on Detroit St., this morning, being every where kindly received. No mob followed them. About 200 women visited the wholesale liquor dealers on Water St., where they were generally invited in, though sometimes refused admittance. To-morrow morning the ladies will visit Lorraine St., where the disturbance occurred during last week's visit. As yet no liquor dealer has signed the pledge.

PHILADELPHIA, 23.—The carpet weavers of Kensington are again on strike.

SAN FRANCISCO, 23.—John P. Clum has recently been appointed agent for the San Carlos Apaches agency.

A letter from Camp Grant, of the 17th, says that Gen. Crook was there personally looking into the cause of the San Carlos outbreak, and the efficiency of the scouts. It is reported that Gen. Crook is convinced that the San Carlos outbreak was not caused by any white persons, but by a band of Apaches under Cochene. Major Randall, of Camp Apache, and Lieut. Schuyler, of Camp Verde, are out in the Pinal mountains with about four hundred troops well equipped. No late depredations are reported. All is quiet in Sonora.

NEW YORK, 24.—A fire in Newark Avenue, Jersey City, this morning, destroyed the store of D. F. Smith, hardware, Armstrong, boots and shoes, Christy, hay and feed, and several horses, and Riley, crockery, also a brush store and beer saloon; total loss about \$50,000.

A fire at South Norwalk, Conn., this morning, destroyed property worth \$30,000.

PHILADELPHIA, 24.—Brance's burning ship yard set on fire Anderson's mill and other property on Peck's island, and burned \$50,000 worth of property. The insurance on Crump's ship yard is \$130,000.

ST. LOUIS, 24.—Governor Woodson asks the legislature to supply means for suppressing the continued disorders and robberies in the State.

BOSTON, 24.—The following was the final ballot for senator: House, Hoar 68, Dawes 61, Curtis 63, Banks 4, Adams 12, Sanford 16; Senate, Dawes 14, Curtis 10, Hoar 10, Adams 2.

SAN FRANCISCO, 24.—The Senate, last night, sustained Booth's veto of the harbor commission bill, which is another victory for the Independents.

Thomas Ansbro, the private detective who attained an unenviable notoriety in the famous Edith O'Gorman escaped nun case in this city, died last night.

BOSTON, 24.—Oliver Ditson's music store was burned to-night; loss \$50,000.

ELMIRA, N. Y., 24.—The loss by fire to-day was \$260,000; insurance \$152,090.

NEW YORK, 24.—A forest fire on Long Island destroyed \$150,000 worth of property.

The Congregational Council met to-night at Dr. Buddington's church, Brooklyn, and effected an organization with two moderators, Rev. Leonard Bacon, of New Haven, and Chas. J. Walker, of Detroit. After a long debate, a resolution was adopted authorizing a committee of the council to invite the pastor and delegates of Plymouth Church to enter the council, to state their views in reference to the matters in controversy.

HARTFORD, Conn., 24.—Plant's Manufacturing Company's works and the depot of the New Haven and Northampton Railroad, at Southington, were burned to-day; loss \$75,000.

HELENA, Ark., 24.—The tow boat *Crescent City*, from New Orleans, for St. Louis, with seven barges, blew up at eight o'clock this morning, ten miles below here, and sunk in three minutes; the captain, mate, two pilots, watchman, cabin-boy, the wife of one of the pilots and three firemen were lost, five others were injured; the boat, which was valued at \$75,000, was blown to atoms. The barges were burned with thirteen tons of sugar.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., 24.—A telegram from Scott's Bluffs, Nebraska, via Fort Laramie, Wyoming, states that on Sunday, the 22nd inst., one white man was killed, and all the horses at Coad's ranch stolen by Indians. John F. Coad, who resides here, says that the Indians have been killing his cattle daily for the past two months, and that he has telegraphed the governor of Nebraska, asking for protection.

SAN FRANCISCO, 24.—A dispatch from Tucson, Arizona, states that Major Randall had a fight with Apaches, fifteen miles from Florence; he killed eleven Indians and captured thirty women and children. Three soldiers were wounded and Major Randall narrowly escaped.

The Senate, to-day, voted to lay the Freeman railroad bill on the table, which probably seals its fate; the vote was twenty-one ayes, thirteen nays.

NEW YORK, 25.—Platt & Boyd, whose books were seized by Jayne last July, have begun a suit to recover \$50,000 damages for trespass; other victims threaten similar suits.

The Court of Appeals has reversed the decision of the general term of the Supreme Court of this district, ordering the extradition of Joab Lawrence, charged with salt-ging a mine in Utah, and swindling E. B. Ward, on a requisition of the Governor of Michigan.

MEMPHIS, 25.—The survivors of the *Crescent City* arrived here this morning. Six persons were lost in addition to the ten first reported, making sixteen in all. The first engineer, who is saved, says the boat was carrying one hundred and fifty pounds of steam at the time of the explosion, and the water boilers were flush five minutes before. The boat was towing five barges containing fifty tons of coal 600 tons of sugar, and 200 tons of queensware, all of which was lost.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., 25.—Fifty ladies, under the auspices of the State Temperance Alliance, personally presented a memorial to the House of Delegates to-day, for a local option law; the members resigned the hall to the ladies, and left.