

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM WEDNESDAY'S DAILY, DECEMBER 22.

Nephi Republic: Charles Woods, brother of Harriet Lunt of this city, and uncle of Councilman Alf. Lunt, died Monday afternoon of old age. Deceased was born in Willenhall, Staffordshire, England. He joined the Mormon Church in the early fifties and emigrated to this country about five years ago. The funeral services were held in the south ward meeting house Thursday.

Nephi Republic: The announcement by President Sperry last Sunday, in regard to the erection of a monument to the late President Paxman was well received by the people. The gentleman stated that a committee had been hard at work formulating plans to that end, and the committee, before anything further was done, desired to know the sentiment of the people. The unanimous passage of the motion to raise the amount for that purpose was a true indication of the respect which the audience felt for the deceased gentleman. In all his years of work in the midst of the people of this section, the late President Paxman showed that he was worthy the love and respect of the people over whom he presided. His fatherly manner of address, his kind words, and his love for his fellow man and co-laborers has earned for him a monument which should stand to the end of time over his mortal remains as a lasting testimony of the greatness of his life's work. We hope and trust the people will respond liberally to the call for subscriptions in this direction, and help the committee to progress in the grand work which they have started.

Diamondville, Wyo., Dec. 19, 1897.

Since writing you last conditions have improved here; more men are employed and an advance in wages has been given to the employes outside the mine of 25 cents per day. There are now employed in the mine 300 men; outside about 100 men and boys, and the people are generally contented and happy. The mine works every day, including Sundays, of late, and where a little while ago only 1,000 tons of coal was produced, now there is over 1,400 tons daily.

At Kemmerer, three miles north of here, there was a strike which only lasted three days, the men going to work at the same price they came out at. They wanted an advance but were refused by the employers.

The Oregon Short Line Railroad company has lately built a very nice depot here.

We now have a population of about 1,100 people in Diamondville alone, and some coming every day. We also have a large store and a bigger saloon; also a photo gallery, J. H. Cutler manager; in short the town is in a right prosperous condition.

The work of God is also making progress in this part of His vineyard. We have Elders' class, Mutual Improvements, and Relief society. C.

Attorney General Bishop has given an opinion to County Attorney Melville of Millard county, on the following:

"In 1896 the county commissioners negotiated a loan of nearly \$600 to pay for maps for the assessor's office. The \$600 was in excess of the revenue for that year. The obligation is now due and demand is made for its payment. No vote was had by the taxpayers of the county authorizing the creation of the debt. Is the same a legal and binding obligation upon the county?"

Calling attention to section 3 of article 14 of the Constitution, section 5, chapter 131 of the laws of 1896, and section 6 of the same, the attorney general says:

"Assuming that your statement of fact is correct, to-wit, that the indebtedness in question was in excess of the revenue for the year 1896, and that it was not authorized by a proper vote of the taxpayers of the county, then, clearly, under the constitutional provisions, supra, it would be illegal and void. The county government bill from which the above excerpts are taken did not take effect until June 5, 1896. From your statement of fact, it does not appear whether this particular indebtedness was incurred prior or subsequent to that date. I assume that it was incurred subsequent thereto, and applying its provisions in such case, I am of opinion that such indebtedness must be considered as absolutely void, and it could never be the foundation or basis of a claim against the treasury of such county.

"As to whether this statute took effect prior or subsequent to the contracting of this indebtedness is not material, as it can add no force to the constitutional provision above referred to, which is mandatory, and under which such indebtedness would be clearly illegal and void."

Ogden Standard: The building of a sugar factory now being an assured success, every section or locality in Weber county sees some points of excellence in itself especially adapted for site for such an enterprise.

Propositions are now coming in from all over the county. Most of them are verbal propositions made in a general way with nothing specific about them, but Plain City and Warren and Slaterville have seen fit to make bona fide propositions which show that the citizens of each settlement appreciate the great advantage of the near location of such an enterprise, of such magnitude, and intend to make it to the interest of the stockholders to consider their proposals.

Plain City and Warren together make an offer of all the land required free of charge up to 300 acres, or more, and offer to secure right of way, survey and grade, the right of way for a railroad from the Hot Springs. They claim plenty of water can be secured from the Pioneer canal, and the drainage and waste can be carried off in the "Little Weber" river. The land offered is located in Warren precinct, eight miles from Ogden city. The proposition is signed by a committee composed of Christian Olsen, Wm. Geddes, W. L. Stewart, P. M. Folkman and H. J. Garner, with John S. Bramwell as secretary.

Slaterville comes forward with a proposition which reads thus: The residents believes that they have peculiar advantages over any other locality, and propose to sell to the Ogden Sugar company 54 acres located twenty-four miles west of the C. P. track and about three miles northwest of Ogden, at the nominal sum of \$2,700, \$1,000 of the amount to be paid in sugar stock. They also call attention to the fact that 1,000 acres more if necessary, may be purchased at from \$10 to \$15 per acre. They have an abundance, and like the Plain City and Warren people feel that this is the very spot for the proposed factory. The Slaterville people further send in a list of subscriptions of work which will be done free of charge, if the factory is located there. The total value of the labor tendered is \$801. The communication

is signed by F. L. Foy, chairman, and James A. Slater, secretary.

Both proposals are accompanied by maps.

Mr. Joseph Clark, who has the matter of location in hand, says, West Weber Harrisville, North Ogden and a number of people from other sections have approached him and made verbal and general propositions, and more definite ones will be forthcoming later.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, DECEMBER 23.

Elder H. Lee Bradford of Spanish Fork called on the "News" this morning, having returned a week ago from a mission to New Zealand for which island he left Utah in January, 1894. Elder Bradford says he had good success in his work and enjoyed good health.

Elder Almon D. Robison of Fillmore also returned on the 26th inst. from a European mission. Elder Robison's labors were in Great Britain, in the Newcastle and Leeds conferences. His work was attended with success. He enjoyed good health and is glad to be among kindred and home friends once again.

Elder Harvey E. Coltrin of Bountiful, Davis county, was a caller at the "News" office on Wednesday afternoon, having returned from a mission to Great Britain the day before. He departed from Utah October 12, 1895, and went to Scotland where he labored until his release to return home. Elder Coltrin enjoyed good health all the time.

There was a collision at Ogden this morning about 9 o'clock between a Southern Pacific switch engine and the Oregon Short Line passenger train for Cache Valley which left here at 8 a. m. Fortunately no one was injured, and the damage, according to the Short Line officials, were very slight. The Cache Valley train, however, was delayed about an hour.

Elder Abraham Wilde of Provo, who left for a mission to Great Britain November 15, 1895, has returned home, arriving in Salt Lake Tuesday morning, December 21st, in company with a number of other Elders. He was president of the Manchester conference in which a good work is being performed. He left England on the 2nd inst. and crossed the Atlantic on the steamer Ethiopia, Anchor line.

San Francisco, Dec. 23.—The inquest into the death of Mrs. Mary Clute was concluded today, and after deliberating half an hour the coroner's jury found Albert Hoff guilty of murder.

Much evidence connecting him with the crime was adduced. Another witness testified that he had seen the coupling pin in his possession and positively identified the weapon with which the murder was committed.

Hoff turned pale when the verdict was read and bit his lips to conceal his emotion. It was evident though, that he had not expected such a verdict. He refused to say anything concerning the matter.

Elder George Bench of Mantel, Sanpete county, and Archibald R. Anderson of Fairview, Sanpete county, called at the "News" editorial rooms on Tuesday having returned on that day from missions to Great Britain. Elder Bench left home November 9, 1895, made many friends, held a large number of meetings and witnessed good results therefrom. Elder Anderson departed for his field of labor October 26, 1895, and on arriving in Europe went direct to Scotland, where he remained until released to return home. His missionary work was confined principally to the cities of Aberdeen, Paisley, Edinburgh and Glasgow.