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## EXTENSIVE IRRIGATING ARRANGEMENTS.

It is well known that in consequence of the small amount of water that has been made available heretofore for irrigating the large tracts of farming land west of this city, on both sides of the Jordan, no inconsiderable amount of which has been fenced, and efforts have been made to cultivate, most of the farms thus made have been to a great extent valueless, and the amount of grain, and other products of the soil grown on them has been quite limited, not sufficient to repay the husbandman for the money and labor expended in fencing, tilling and endeavoring to make the soil productive. At some seasons of the year the surplus waters of the mountain streams passing through and near the city, have been used to some advantage in watering the farms on the east side of the river, that were so situated, that the water, after reaching the low lands, could be made to flow over them, but in the season when most needed, the amount of water thus obtained has been small, and not at all sufficient to irrigate the crops to the extent required for their growth and maturity. Under these circumstances, the farming interests in the vicinity of the city on the west have languished, and several farms that were made, and fenced at a great expense, not having been paying establishments, have been abandoned.

Some four or five years since, those having possessions on the west side of the river, and north of the Tooele road, by making some preliminary but not very scientific surveys, became satisfied that by making a dam in the river, a short distance above the bridge, they could take the water to their farms very easily, and made application to and obtained permission from the county and city authorities to erect a dam and take out the water for that purpose. Arrangements were entered into by the parties interested in connection with some visionary or other schemes having in view the propelling of machinery, to build the dam and dig the required canals, but either from the magnitude of the concern as planned, the want of faith in its utility and consequent backwardness of some in paying up subscriptions, or perhaps by some mismanagement of matters, the work did not progress very rapidly, and some two years ago was wholly suspended, and what had been done from the dilapidation and waste that followed, became nearly valueless.

Some changes having taken place, and a new spirit of enterprise springing up, surveys were made early the past spring, by which it was ascertained that a much larger tract of land could be watered and brought into cultivation than had previously been inclosed by taking out the water of the river at the point originally contemplated. Arrangements were made by persons having the energy and the means requisite to carry out their plans, to complete the dam that had been commenced and abandoned; excavate the principal canal as originally contemplated, and not only supply with water, farms that had been previously fenced, but bring into cultivation thousands of acres of grass and farming land hitherto lying waste, or used only for public grazing purposes. The work was commenced immediately on the maturity of the plan of operations, and from present appearances, success will soon crown their efforts.

On Friday last, in company with our kinsman, Elder George A. Smith, and Messrs. Bullock, Campbell and Jaques, we visited and made an examination of the dam that is being built, and will shortly be finished, under the supervision of Alderman A. H. Raleigh, of this city, and of the canal and other works connected with this extensive irrigating enterprise, which, when completed, will greatly conduce to the interests and consequent wealth, not only of the parties immediately

interested and engaged in carrying on the work, but to the agricultural interests of Great Salt Lake County, and the wealth of the citizens generally. The work is being done in a most substantial manner, so far as the erection of the main dam is concerned, and the structure cannot fail to resist the action or force of any flood that may be expected to occur in that zigzag and somewhat sluggish stream. The principal dam is built on a canal that has been dug across a bend in the river, of sufficient width and capacity to contain all the water of the stream if necessary, into which the river is to be turned as soon as the dam, which is so constructed that by a very simple process, the water can be raised or lowered four feet easily and quickly, is completed; after which the old channel is to be closed up by a dam of a less expensive, and in our opinion, not of the most substantial nature, altho' our knowledge of hydrodynamics is somewhat limited, and we may have overrated the force that such an amount of water as will at times unavoidably bear upon it will exert.

The excavation of the canal, which is taken out a short distance above the dam, is far advanced, and it will be ready to receive the water and convey it to the land on which it is to be used, by the time the other works are completed.

A canal has also been surveyed on the east side of the river, the construction of which, in consequence of the intervening of the creek and the unevenness of the ground above the Tooele road will be attended with more expense than the one on the west side, as several aqueducts will have to be made; but when completed, as it is intended to be at no distant day, nearly or quite every foot of cultivable land below said road can be irrigated and made productive. The land now inclosed and tilled will be greatly increased in value, and hundreds of acres of land that have been lying waste will be brought into cultivation, adding materially to the amount of grain and vegetables grown in this county.

The expense of making the dam, digging the canals, making the aqueducts, etc., will amount to no inconsiderable sum, not less than ten or twelve thousand dollars, but the profits resulting from the enterprise this year will fully compensate those farmers who have assisted in doing the work, for the labor and money by them contributed for that purpose, and the benefits that may be expected to accrue in years to come are incalculable.

When, if ever, the canal that was surveyed some years ago, for taking the water out of the Jordan at the rapids for the purpose of watering the Jordan plains, or prairie lands will be constructed, is unknown; but whether it shall ever be dug or not, such is the fall in the river, after it enters Great Salt Lake county, that most of the water can be used for irrigating the lands suitable for cultivation along its banks, and on the west side far back from the stream, by taking out the water at different points, and at an expense in no place, as great as at that where a dam is now being built. It is true that in some instances the water would have to be taken a long way before it could be used extensively; but by surveys that have been made, it has been satisfactorily ascertained, that, if the canal conveying the water to the Jordan Mills was enlarged sufficiently to contain the entire waters of the river, above the point where it is taken out, all not required for propelling the machinery now in operation there could be advantageously used on as good farming land as there is in this county, and it certainly would be much more valuable for grain growing than grazing purposes.

It was in contemplation last fall by some of the citizens of West Jordan Precinct, to commence the work of extending the Jordan Mills canal, this spring; but no move in that direction has been made as yet. If, however, the irrigating enterprise now in progress shall succeed to the full expectation of those engaged in it, of which there is little or no doubt an enlargement and extension of the canals above, may be expected, and before many more years shall pass away, fruitful fields and fine orchards will undoubtedly be seen on that side of the river, where the land is now of but little value, and measurably a desolate waste. The waters of the Jordan, as well as of every stream flowing into it from the mountains in Great Salt Lake Valley should be made subservient to the producing of grain, fruit and vegetables, of more value, and having a greater tendency to increase the resources and wealth of the county than all the grazing ranges in the valley.

## Experience of a Cit Turned Farmer.

Our friend "David," late of "the Globe," who for the purpose of engaging in agricultural pursuits, as more conducive to health and to substantial wealth, than a city life, migrated to Sanpete county early in the spring, has remembered his promise to "report progress" occasionally, as we received a short epistle from him a few days since, setting forth that his health was good and his circumstances quite prosperous. His farming operations thus far had consisted in putting in twelve acres of wheat, one acre of corn, one acre of potatoes, three acres Hungarian grass, and had sown or planted two acres with sundry kinds of seeds—nineteen acres in all, which is certainly a good beginning for a man taking his first lessons in husbandry. He sleeps sound, has become a hearty eater, has no fearful forebodings, and feels first rate, blessings which he highly prizes.

It seems, however, that he has not entirely overcome his predilections for city life; although his rural attachments and local bias have become very strong, and Mount Pleasant possessing many natural advantages, with a bright future in prospective, has for him many charms, which from past experience we predict will increase as time progresses, and he will not soon regret quitting the counter to follow the plow.

In these hard times, when business is dull, and many temporary catch-penny establishments have wound up, and others will soon follow, it would be well for all the able-bodied ex-traders, clerks, restaurant and saloon keepers, grocers, distillers, liquor vendors, and petty traffickers, out of business and likely to be, who have not already betaken themselves to some useful trade, profession or calling, as a means of support, to do so at once, and if they have never learned any "trade, art or mystery," which they would prefer to farming, let them turn their attention to agriculture, for "there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed" in these valleys, and if they can obtain none suitable for cultivation nearer than Sanpete, go there or to some other valley, and get a farm and go to work as others have done and not be longing about waiting for something to turn up, that will enable them to obtain a living by other means than manual labor.

We wish all good men well and owe no class of them any ill will, but such are our peculiar notions about caste and rank, especially if assumed that we could see an ex-merchant, clerk or any person having a natural or acquired disrelish for laborious pursuits, following the plow or other agricultural implement, or machine; wielding an axe, scythe, cradle, spade, or other instrument in common use, or doing any kind of useful toilsome labor, without having our sympathies particularly excited thereby. No man in this community should be idle and if any has not moral courage enough to set himself to work, the kindly offices of his friends should be extended in the premises, and he should be furnished with employment without delay.

## Death of Ammon.

The well known Utah Indian Ammon, half brother to the late celebrated chief, Walker, died in his camp at the mouth of Bingham's canyon, on the 12th instant, as reported by Mr. Huntington, Indian interpreter. He had been sick a long time, of disease contracted by coming in contact with christian civilization, as practised by a Federal prosecuting Attorney at Nephi, while a District court was in session there some years since, but whether the disease was engendered at that time or since the army came to Utah, our informant saith not.

His death is said to have been extremely agonizing, and one of his horses was killed before the vital spark had fled, and four afterwards in accordance with the religious rites and ceremonies of the Indians on such occasions.

**MOURNFUL OCCURRENCE.**—We learn from *The Huntsman's Echo*, published at Woodriver, Nebraska, that Mr. David Day, late from Cape Colony, Africa, was drowned in a slough near that place on the 9th of May, as he was crossing with some cattle, leaving a wife and helpless family in a land of strangers, where he was temporarily residing, having been unavoidably detained there last season on his way to Utah.

## BY TELEGRAPH AND PONY.

The Pony Express, with Eastern advices up to the morning of the 10th, arrived here on Saturday forenoon.

WASHINGTON.

The New York *Post's* Washington dispatch of the 6th; says there was no doubt but the Government had at last made one military movement, of which the newspapers were kept in ignorance. The steam flotilla lying at Aquia creek, had been reinforced with troops, which looked like an early collision at that point.

The Secretary of War had appointed the following named paymasters in the army: Thomas B. Allen, and Charles T. Larned, of Missouri; John A. Kinsey, Joseph W. Finney, and D. Webster, of Illinois; Mr. Cambank, and W. P. Gould, of Indiana; D. Taylor, John H. Grosbeck, R. C. Beck, and Dwight Bannister, of Ohio, J. Howard, of Michigan, Thomas McKean, of Iowa, J. H. Paulding, of Minnesota. The President had appointed Jonas O. Clark, District Attorney, and J. O. Sitton, Marshal, for the Western District of Missouri.

It will be recollected that some weeks ago the Government seized the dispatches on file at the telegraph offices. The examination of these dispatches is now progressing. Some curious developments were being made. Among them was found a dispatch from Mr. Harvey, lately appointed Minister to Portugal, notifying the Government of South Carolina of the fitting out of the expedition for the reinforcement of Fort Sumter and its destruction. Mr. Harvey's dispatch was the first reliable information the rebels had of the magnitude and destination of the expedition. Mr. Harvey is a native of South Carolina, but for years was a resident of Philadelphia, and editor of the Philadelphia *North American*. For many years, he was the Washington correspondent of the New York *Tribune*. He was appointed to the Portugal mission because of his professed devotion to the Free Soil party.

Col. Bartlett, of the Naval Brigade, states, that General Butler now had orders from the President and Secretary of War to accept the naval brigade with the full complement of one thousand two hundred men and eighty officers as ordered by the President, on the 2d of May.

Additional troops had been ordered to Chambersburg, indicating an early advance on Harper's Ferry. Measures had been taken to ascertain immediately how many of the three-months' men would remain during the war. The result will decide the Administration relative to calling out a new levy.

At the prize court session in Washington several vessels had been restored to their owners.

The Post Office Department had received a copy of Postmaster-General Reagan's Confederate circular, instructing Southern postmasters to retain all mail bags, locks, keys, stamps and all property connected with the postal service, and ledger accounts up to the 15th of May, showing the final balance in their possession.

The postmaster at Memphis refusing to distribute mails, the Postmaster-General had ordered the Memphis office discontinued. All postmasters were to forward to the dead letter office all matter directed to Memphis.

A special dispatch to the New York *Commercial* says that Col. Cummings, of the *World* newspaper, had been appointed a Brigadier General, prior to an appointment as Quartermaster General.

Before closing the postal communication in the rebellious States, the Department sent circulars to all Southern Postmasters informing them of the intended suspension. A large number had replied expressing loyalty to the government.

Offers had been made to the Government to construct steel plated vessels, bomb and shell proof, to be furnished within six months after the contracts.

Senators and members of the House were arriving by every train.

The Government had decided that it would not receive any more contributions from States and hereafter would obtain all the funds necessary for the support of the Government through the regular channels.

The President had recognized Manuel Saragoza, Consul from Mexico, to San Antonio, Texas. This is continuing the policy of treating secession as a nullity.