

Correspondence.

The Election—Ladies' Co-operative Conference—Gone.

ST. GEORGE, Nov. 7, 1876.
7.30 p.m.

Editor Deseret News:

The largest vote ever polled in St. George was polled to-day. The work of the county central committee has proved effective, and the consequence is 414 votes for the People's Delegate, Hon. George Q. Cannon. The polls were strictly watched and not an illegal vote was cast. Some few were offered, but were promptly ruled out by the judge of election. Not an opposition vote was offered in this precinct.

To-day the board and stockholders of the St. George Ladies' Co-operative Store met and declared a profit of 80 per cent. They have only been doing business for six months, and they have sold goods cheaper than any other institution in town. This proves that the ladies can do business, and it is to be hoped that the time will come when stout young men will learn trades, work in the fields, and do other manly labor, instead of standing behind the counter selling "notions" to the ladies, with their hair parted in the middle, when the ladies are perfectly able to help themselves to notions, &c.

Mrs. McArthur is President of the Ladies' Co-operative, Mrs. Anne Ivins Secretary, and the following named ladies members of the Board—Mesdames Moody, McDonald, Woodberry and Romney, and Sisters Snow. The general feeling here is, "God bless the sisters in their enterprise." The stockholders have decided to vote "viva voce" in their business meetings. One dollar constitutes a share.

Conference commenced on the 3rd. The attendance was not so large as usual. Still a good spirit prevailed and the speakers were generally interesting. Prominent among them stands the name of our worthy President E. Snow, who thoroughly comprehends gospel principles and is wise in his counsels. On the evening of the 5th the Conference was adjourned until the 10th, when we anticipate the presence of President B. Young and other visiting brethren. The only changes were A. F. McDonald and David H. Cannon were appointed assistants to President E. Snow as President of the Southern Mission.

Since my last, Col. Alden A. M. Jackson has "shuffled off this mortal coil," and his body now lies cold and dead, in our handsome cemetery. While living he was a perfect gentleman in his deportment, which made him many friends, who mourn his loss. Yet we feel that Bro. Jackson has gone to his reward among the Saints. He died firm in the faith. Peace to his ashes.

AMRAM.

Going Ahead.

CLARKSTON, Cache Co., Utah,
Nov. 10th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

In invading your sanctum from this locality, I do so feeling quite well assured that a few items connected with our local interests would not fall short of the general appreciation of the many readers of your valued journal, and yet warm the dormancy of the phlegmatic into a living flame of exertion. To us enthusiastic "school-marks," the monotony of everyday drudgery and blank inactivity is a depreciation of our more vivid and glowing ideal of human excellence; and, breaking through the frigid barriers of progress, we endeavor to brand the public mind with a spirit of high moral and intellectual exertion, and forever inscribe on the tablet of memory our ensign, "Excelsior." To say, however, that we of this little village are now striving to keep pace with the advancement of laudable achievements would be but noting the result of a reform. In this connection it is necessary to state that our official catalogue has undergone a decided change. The calling of ex-Bishop Simon Smith on a mission, incurred the necessity of his successor filling the vacancy, which is done in the person of John Jardine, who was introduced to the people in a crowded meeting last Monday, 2 o'clock p.m. Himself, in company with Bishops Littlewood and

Hughes, and Bro. Carpenter, of Logan, favored us with instructive counsel upon that occasion, and it is mutually gratifying to us that the "new bishop," with his distinguished friends, met with a generous welcome. This has occasioned other and important changes, which, according to the controlling law of Nature, may be productive of favorable results. Our society for mutual improvement is also an important medium of advancement, and, connected with our *Literary Gazette*, a written periodical, form grand stimulus to intellectual exertion. Indeed, Clarkston is turning rapidly to the station assigned by natural advantages, for, as it is well known that she is greatly blessed temporally, she is endowed as well with talent and energy. Live men are taking hold with vim, and a destiny, which, if not dazzling, is at least couched in the shrine of excellence, and offers to us a ready hand of acknowledgment. All in all, we are justified in reporting favorably, both temporally and spiritually. The cause is being restored to new life, and the doctrine of the latter-day work is now receiving renewed and increased attention. Every settlement heard from bears the same message, and gratifying it is to acknowledge this noble reform.

Very respectfully,
W. W. F.

Emigrated—Baptisms—Believers—Non-believers.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA,
Nov. 10, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

On the 20th of last April, I left Salt Lake City on a mission to the United States, with headquarters at this place. My health being poor and the weather stormy the first month after my arrival, I did little more during that time than cultivate an acquaintance with my surroundings. I found a few scattering Saints, and a small branch in each of the townships of Boomer and Calhoun, the former presided over by Elder Wm. Cusworth, the latter by Elder Ezra Vincent.

On the 20th of June, four church members, with family, friends and children to make a party of fourteen persons, left the Calhoun Branch for Utah, leaving only Elder Vincent and wife.

On the 23rd May, Elder Jos. G. Young, who had previously been laboring in Missouri and Illinois, came to my assistance and labored with me until the 10th of August. At that date his health had been poor for sometime. Having been released with the privilege of returning home, he felt to do so, and left for Utah on the above date. He was a pleasant companion and carried a good influence with him among the people.

On the 29th of Sept., I met Elder Eli H. Pierce, off his way home from Pennsylvania, where he had been successfully laboring about eleven months. Learning something of the condition of the work here, he very kindly proffered to remain and assist me about a month. Subsequently, President Young, by letter, directed him to continue with me the ensuing winter, an arrangement very satisfactory to myself.

Since my arrival here there have been eleven first and three re-baptisms, total fourteen. Twelve church members have moved to Utah, making, with family, friends and children, who went with them, a total of 25.

Elders Nicholas Smith and Zebedee Coltrin, jun., have been visiting friends and laboring in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana. They occasionally report progress, and appear to be laboring zealously for the spread of truth.

This section of country contains many old time Saints, from Europe and Nauvo, whose faith measurably failed them when they had accomplished this much of the journey to Utah. It is also the common receptacle of those who, from various causes, became dissatisfied with Utah and have returned to seek an element more congenial with their natures.

I doubt whether there is another spot on earth, under the ever-varying shadow of sectarian Christianity where such a variety of religious elements intermingle. Here are those who try to think they are infidels, deists, atheists. Here may be found all the muddled theories of spiritualism, the various ites who have apostatized from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

day Saints, and every shade of fragmentary Christianity. All these varieties, with few exceptions, have one spirit in common—that of doubt and uncertainty. They are universally skeptical on the subject of religion, often doubting the truth of what they outwardly profess to believe.

JAMES A. LITTLE.

Rail-Road Meeting.

BEAVER, Nov. —, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

A rail-road meeting was held in the Beaver Institute on the evening of the 14th inst., and I beg your indulgence to offer a few reflections upon the main feature of the concern.

The main object is to get up a petition to Congress asking a subsidy of every alternate section of land now unclaimed for a distance of five miles each way from the road for the purpose of its construction. It was admitted by one of the speakers that this was "the first time citizens had been asked to sign such a petition," and I will add it is to be hoped it will be the last. I can but look upon it as a "liberal" dodge to hoodwink the community to ask Congress to do what it has already done, in its liberality to the U. P. and other roads, donate more land than would build them, thus virtually building the roads and give the proceeds to the company, with a margin of profit (in some cases three times the actual cost of construction) for running it. On some of the roads this picture is not overdrawn, and the chances are that it would not be overdrawn in Southern Utah, although it was argued that a heavy portion would be worthless sage-brush and mountain lands. One of the wonderments of Southern Utah is that rich mines are discovered in localities least expected, and in situations different from those ever known to the oldest and most experienced miners. This point needs no proof, as it has been published in your own and every other prominent newspaper in the Territory. On some of these so-called "worthless sage lands" such mines are as likely to exist as in the sterile lands of Leeds in Washington county, and where the grant would extend into the mountains they are as likely to contain the rich metals as those a few miles west of Beaver.

Again, I concur in the sentiment of our delegate that we have no lands in Utah to keep from homestead and pre-emption settlers. If these lands are so worthless, why should the "railroad kings" be so anxious to obtain them? Actual settlers will in a few years need every foot of land in Southern Utah that will be available to any body corporate or as individuals. Again, I would ask our citizens to pause before signing such petition and ask themselves whether they will take a step to inaugurate such a panic in Utah as now exists in the United States through throwing the bulk of means into the hands of railroad monopolies, which actual settlers might put into their own pockets and which legally and morally belong to them by taking homestead and pre-emption claims. I will state here, however, that Congress is surfeited with these swindles and in my opinion would not listen to such an imposition, but I wish, at least, to advise our naturalized citizens, and those raised in Utah who are not posted, so far as my influence will go, not to listen to the suicidal proposition. I am in favor of the extension of the road to a point on the Colorado river where it can be met from Los Angeles or some other contiguous point in California, but I think our rich mines of silver, lead, bismuth, tin, iron, copper, gold, and the Southern California trade should be a sufficient inducement to push the road to completion and I have no fears but it will be done in a few years.

Respectfully,
DANIEL TYLER.

Emigrant Company—Distribution of Elders—The Centennial.

NEW YORK, Nov. 10, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

On Monday, the 6th inst., the Saints from Lawrence, Mass., started for Zion from here. Accompanied by me they left Lawrence on Saturday, the 4th, proceeding by rail to Boston, thence by rail and steamer to New York, where we

arrived at daybreak Sunday morning. It was the intention for them to form a junction with the company from Europe, but the latter were a day ahead of time and left New York for the west on Saturday evening. However, there were a number of Saints in New York, who had also been disappointed in being left behind by that company, and these, with those from Lawrence, made a company of about thirty souls, who all started together in the same car.

On seeing the Lawrence Saints safely off for Zion, I seemed to feel a heavy load of responsibility and anxiety roll off my shoulders, and I felt to thank God most sincerely for the guidance and sustenance which he had blessed me with, and for not only permitting me to reap sheaves, but also permitting me to be instrumental in gathering them up and sending them to Zion's threshing floor. Indeed, when I reflect upon the many blessings and privileges which are conferred upon me by my heavenly Father, my heart is filled with gratitude to him, and I am led to realize my own unworthiness.

A few hours after reaching New York, I was rejoiced to meet, in Brother Staines' office, Elders John Morgan, of Mill Creek, and T. G. Angell, Jr., Salt Lake City. A friend remarked to me, just before leaving home on my mission, that I would see the time when it would be a pleasure for me to look upon a Latter-day Saint. What, then, was my joy to meet face to face these my brethren, having a like faith, religion, priesthood and mission with my own? During several months of more or less arduous missionary labor these were the first Elders, fresh from Zion, that I had met, and they brought a spirit and an influence with them that were to me congenial beyond description.

It being my duty to assign them to their fields of labor, after a prayerful consideration of the matter, I recommended them to go to New Hampshire, which was quite agreeable to them.

Deeming it my duty, in one sense at least, to improve opportunities for seeing what the great world contains while I am out in it, I concluded to visit the Centennial Exhibition before returning to Boston, and accordingly did so, reaching the grounds on Wednesday morning. I was in company with Brother Rudgar Clawson, and before proceeding to the grounds we went to the hotel at which his father, H. B. Clawson, Esq., and Elder T. G. Webber, of Salt Lake, had just arrived, and we all rode to the grounds together, and I have but just returned this afternoon to New York. The buildings were crowded with vast throngs of people. A train of peculiar reflections were suggested to my mind in gazing upon the sea of humanity collected there, and at times I found myself almost as deeply interested in the consideration of the people as in the exhibition.

Thinking it likely that the Elders appointed to labor in New England will proceed to their fields via New York, and it being desirable that I should see and converse with them, I have concluded to spend a few days in this city and Brooklyn, awaiting their arrival, making some calls, etc. When all the Elders destined for that region have arrived and had their respective fields designated, I presume we shall all enter diligently upon the prosecution of what I trust time will prove to be a successful winter's campaign. My faith is, that a good, perhaps a great, work will yet be done in the eastern States in the way of gathering out the honest, and my prayer to the Lord is, that he will bless the Elders called to labor there with such a portion of his Spirit as will fill them with a love for their work and qualify them to go forth boldly, faithfully, humbly and successfully in the performance of it, in the name of Jesus.

Your brother in the Gospel,
B. F. CUMMINGS, JR.

At Home—Minnesota—Crops—Election—Temple.

ST. GEORGE, Nov. 8, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

I am happy to inform you that I arrived safe and sound here last Saturday night and found my family all well and healthy. I am glad that I am at home, but if I had known the good circumstances of my little family I should have stopped in Minnesota a few months

longer. I left many warm-hearted friends that had not yet obeyed the first noble principles of the gospel of the Son of God. But they always begged me to call again and remember them in my prayers.

The population of Minnesota is 597,263, and about 150,000 are foreigners, 100,000 Scandinavians, and 24,000 Germans. The area of the State is 51,701,760 acres of land. The lumber sold in the year 1875 was 327,623,310 feet.

I was treated very kindly by the people in Minnesota, and also by the officers on the different railroads from there to York or the terminus in Utah.

After visiting the settlements in Cache I went south to Bro. John Vickers, at Nephi. He told me that his wheat turned out 44 bushels per acre, and in Helsinger, on the Sevier, the oats were over 80 bushels per acre, and a poor man there thrashed out nearly 1,400 bushels of small grain, 35 bushels per acre on an average. At St. George, Benj. Johnson raised 50 bushels per acre on the average. Many places in the State of Minnesota will average between five and six per acre.

I came home and found my family all well, and to-day I am digging sweet potatoes. They are very fine and large.

Yesterday was voting day here in St. George. No opposition and no crooked whiskey. All the legal voters, male and female, deposited their votes for Hon. Geo. Q. Cannon for Delegate to Congress for the Territory of Utah.

The Temple is nearly completed. That part will be dedicated and the ordinances will be administered in it for the living and the dead.

I remain respectfully, your brother in the Gospel of Christ.

B. P. WULFFENSTYN.

Election Contingencies—The Coming Season—The Centennial.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
November 11, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Everybody is aware, that in the event of Mr. Tilden's election no city will be more directly influenced thereby than Washington, the seat of Government and retreat of office-holders; but it is only a few who can realize the extent of the changes that will be caused by such a turn in the administration. The thousands of male and female employees in the various departments who owe their situations to political influence will have to leave; the easy, indolent office life to which they have become accustomed must be discontinued, they will be thrown on their own resources. Many of them have, in the anticipation of continued tenure of office, invested their earnings in real estate, for which they have not fully paid; the result is that many of them will have to sell out at a sacrifice, in order to obtain money enough to commence life anew at some other place, for not one in ten of the ex-clerks will be able to make a living in Washington without Government pay. The city, however, will by no means be depopulated; the places of those who leave will speedily be filled by applicants for offices under the new administration, and their names are legion!

Irrespective of the actual change in the administration, the coming season will be one of unusual interest. In the event of Mr. Hayes' election by a majority of one vote, it is more than likely that the returns from the Southern States will be looked into by the democratic House of Representatives. It is also expected that an important bill, relating to future presidential elections, will be introduced this season, providing for the election of the President by the total popular vote, instead of, as at present, the electoral votes of the States. Aside from these congressional events, the social season will be one of surpassing brilliancy. No matter whether Mr. Hayes or Mr. Tilden is elected, a large number of office-seekers under the new regime will flock to Washington, and vie with the leaders of the past four years in giving elegant and costly entertainments, for it cannot be supposed that those who have held the reins so long will give them up without a struggle. A large number of foreigners, who have spent the summer months at the Centennial will come to Washington for the winter; and it has so long been the boast that this city is "the Paris of America," that nothing will be omitted to keep up this impression.