

CORRESPONDENCE.

Travelling—Preaching—Baptizing—Organizing.

WINNEBAGO AGENCY,
Blue Earth Co., Minn.,
June 12, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Brother—Since my last I have travelled many miles, held a good many meetings, baptized a few persons and blessed several children, and organized two branches, one in Burns, Anoka Co., and one in Monticello, Wright Co. In the last place I found one old sister, Margaret Houghton, wife of the late Eli Houghton. She was glad to see me. I baptized her daughter, Debora H. Riggs, and two of her sons, and blessed her other children, and also baptized Mr. George W. Riggs, wife and servant girl, and blessed the children. The baby was very sick, a little girl, and we anointed her with oil and prayed and laid hands upon her and she got well. In this place I had the Congregational Church on Sunday. The minister, Rev. David Jenkins, gave out my meeting to his congregation. At 2 o'clock p. m. the people gathered, after the ringing of the bell. The choir came and sang and a lady played the organ, and I invited the reverend gentleman to come and take his seat behind the pulpit. I had a good, respectable audience. The church is a fine structure. The reverend gentleman now reads the Book of Mormon.

In Buffalo the Lutheran priest comes to my meetings, and also the Baptist minister.

I traveled through the different counties and came to St. Peter, Nicolet Co.

Last Sunday I came to Mancale, a city of about 20,000 inhabitants and sixteen churches. I had the privilege of holding meeting in the Advent Church, and was also with them in prayer meeting and Sunday school.

Last night I came here to Mr. Hyrum Nichols, and to night I intend to have a meeting.

The grasshoppers are very numerous, and have taken many farms clean. Last Saturday night, between the 9th and 10th inst., we had a heavy frost, which killed corn, beans, potatoes, and many other things. Caterpillars are eating the leaves off the trees, and things look gloomy; but I am mostly received and treated well, except by the Lutheran priests and other Pharisees. In Farmersville Brother Hofen and I were belted with rock on the high road. Brothers Swenson and Hendrickson travel together, and Brother Hofen goes now alone among the Germans, and I as before.

Your brother and fellow-laborer in the kingdom of God,

B. P. WULFENSTEIN.

Fence or No Fence?

PINE KANYON,
Tooele Co., June 11, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Sir—Fence or no fence in this county is a question of public discussion. I have considered the affairs of this county to affect the county in particular, and not the Territory, but the question being agitated through the press, its columns should be open to all correspondents. I therefore request this letter to be published at the earliest date possible.

I am in favor of good fences according to territorial statute, namely, four and a half feet high, to protect the crops from animals.

First—Because this community are stock-raisers on a small scale, and can not provide for and sustain them if they have not the benefits of the ranch; we are also an agricultural community, and both interests are indispensable in our present condition to make a living. With good fences both the agricultural and the small stock interests are safe, and the community may live in peace and prosperity. In this county a few cows and their calves, and the work animals owned by each farmer, comprise the main stock interest of the people, with but few exceptions.

The complaint is made that fencing material cannot be profitably obtained in the mountains. The reply to the foregoing proposition is that the coal burners do find at \$5 per cord in the mountains what in one season or summer would fence most part of this county with good fences. One cord of pine logs,

sawed into fencing, would make considerable fencing, and there has been, and no doubt will be, very much timber got from the mountains, and burnt into coals, and hauled to the smelters for the greenbacks. The cutting down of the timber for coal is made a business of by many, which proves that fencing material is tolerably abundant.

The no fence party tell us they want to do the poor a good (we suppose in a similar way that hawks do good to chickens), by preventing the cows and calves of the poor from having the benefit of the ranch outside of their fields, and if they travel a few steps from the unplowed land to the plowed, to the pound they are driven, and the poor are charged with damages, poundkeeper's fees, appraiser's fees, and making out of papers, and if the money is not forth-coming the poor have the mortification to see their little interest sold to pay costs. This looks like eagle's friendship to young lambs.

It would be good if selfishness was not the prevailing motive, to accumulate at the inconvenience of the great majority of the people.

The no fence proposition at present is considered by the most of the people as a very mischievous and indirect deprivation of the poor's privileges.

The training of cereals to grow without water is another assertion which is very doubtful. The natural grasses on the prairie, and in the mountains, produce just in proportion to the amount of rain and snow fall annually—much rain, much grass; little rain, grass scarce; therefore vegetation is subject to the elements of moisture and heat to produce a crop, and where the former is lacking crops never did and never will produce satisfactory results to pay for labor invested. In good soil, with a sufficiency of moisture the tap roots of vegetation can absorb from the earth the pabulum to make a crop. In dry soil, unmoistened, vegetation will not do much good.

The seasons in this county do not regularly give us much to rely on in rainfall, and what does fall is mostly along the base of the mountains during the summer, affording little chance for crops in the valley, except where the soil is damp by subterranean veins of water near the lake and a very few more places.

I am satisfied that very little can be raised to pay the expenses of plowing, sowing, reaping, stacking and threshing beyond a short distance from the mountains, and very much will depend upon the kind of soil and good deep, plowing, without irrigation.

Second—If experiments had demonstrated that crops can be raised in paying quantities to remunerate for capital invested, will it not pay to fence? If it will not pay to fence, ought the community's interest to be sacrificed to gratify a few? If a number of experiments, say for five years successively, had proved satisfactory, then proofs could be produced to satisfy all enquiring minds, and silence all objections. But, as the seasons are with us in this county, perhaps not more than one in ten will pay more than one-fourth of the labor invested in preparing the soil for the seed to raise crops without irrigation, and failure would produce dissatisfaction and indignation on the no fence party. Caution is a good part of valor. Is not the no fence proposition a very reckless one? All farmers in this community have found as much as they could do to raise satisfactory crops with irrigation. But what would they do in raising crops without irrigation? Each one may answer the proposition for himself and govern himself accordingly.

Some say our families should settle by us. Well and good if it can be done profitably; but if not profitably, we shall have to follow the original command, cultivate the earth where it is agreeable to us in Arizona or New Mexico, or any other place. The garden of Eden was not large enough for us all, nor will these valleys sustain all the increase of this people.

Third—The unlawful fences have been a source of much trouble and bad feeling in the community, but the no fence system will be productive of very much more. Many of the people's stock have already been put into the pound, and proofs have already been made, manifestly to make money of those who had no feed for their animals, thus dividing the community against each other and creating law suits and

lasting bad feeling in the community, and the end is not yet.

Fourth—The poor already are destitute of a sufficient quantity of milk and butter. The reason is because they are not able to procure and sustain cows on the small resources they possess, for want of a little more water to supply the deficiency.

The assertion may be safely made that not more than one in fifty perhaps can sustain cows at all, if the ranch is not allowed the cows. The cry is, "Herd them." Two months annually is about all the time the ranch is good to keep the cows in a herd. After that time the grass begins to be burned up, and the few stock the poor possess must be allowed the benefit of the mountains, or linger out a very poor existence, and if they or any of them should come down upon the no-fenced land with a crop on, put them in the pound for damages.

Fifth—The no-fence law will benefit the community but little, because it will deprive the mass of the people of ranch. If there are locations a little damp, suitable for farming, it generally comes to pass that a very few get the advantages of them, and the poor may wait for the next chance.

Sixth—The change is too revolutionary in its nature, and seriously affects the community, before they are prepared. All changes in communities, when the benefits are doubtful, should be very slow, or the people may be subject to serious difficulties.

Seventh—Will any honorable gentleman injure his neighbor? The answer is no. Will not the no fence injure many by its sudden change?

To force any new measure upon any people against their will is not manly. Very disastrous results have been produced by hasty revolutions both in the political and religious affairs. The no fence is a subject involving all the interests of this community and should not be hastily enforced. All extremes produce a reaction, and the enforcement of the no fence law with us is an extreme measure. The republican party went to an extreme with the democrats in the South, which nearly produced another American war, and every extreme will produce proportionate results. The no fence party should be moderate, because moderation is profitable in many cases.

Eighth—There is not sufficient grass land on which to herd the stock of each settlement, therefore the no fence law will not do very well, except the stock are sent off to some other valley, and the settlers of other valleys generally require their own ranch, as well as we who live in this valley require the benefits of it.

All settlers, according to providential arrangement, are settled in some place, and ought to enjoy the advantages of their location, and if the no fence law should be adopted in other valleys, then all our stock might be put into the pound for damages. Therefore it appears that the no fence law adopted would create much trouble. Furthermore, Latter-day Saints do not like to go to law with their brethren to produce the bad feeling which lawsuits generally produce.

The no fence law enforced at present will take the butter from the tables of the poor, the milk from their dairies, the beef from their cellars, stunt the pigs in the pens, and rob the children of the milk to their bread. The revolution is too hasty, and a little too inconsiderate.

Wise legislation, in nations, States and counties, will adopt gradual changes; but the no fence law enforced now is too sudden a change and exhibits no ability in its propagators but hastiness.

Grantsville has voted for the fence law, with three exceptions. E. T. city has voted for the fence law, with only three exceptions. Pine Cañon has voted for the fence law; and also Bates' Ranch, with but a very few exceptions. That is, the four aforementioned places have signified what they will do when a county vote is called by the County Court.

If the no fence party call for assistance from other parties than the people really interested, for a barrel of whiskey, how much glory will they gain hereafter?

All agriculturists in every community, to become real benefactors, ought to prove by satisfactory experiments to themselves first, and then give others the same privileges, and when the mass of the

people are satisfied, it will be easy to persuade to make changes of lasting good.

JAMES I. STEEL.

Labors and Prospects.

CAMP UTAH, Salt River,
Hayden Ferry, Maricopa
Co., Arizona.

Editor Deseret News:

We are started on the south branch of Salt River, eighteen miles from Phoenix, and twelve miles below the river Verde. The Salt River Valley is a large level country extending westerly some 200 miles to the Colorado river. The Gila river is about forty miles below us, where the two rivers come together. We are settled about thirty miles from where we (Mormon Battalion) struck the Gila at the Pima village. The Pima Indians are most of them on Salt River, about four miles on the opposite side of the river. They are friendly disposed towards us. One of the chiefs has been baptized, with three other Indians—two Maricopa and two Pima. The talking has had to be done in the Spanish language and then interpreted into the Pima and Maricopa languages. It makes it difficult to talk to them. There is only one of our number that talks the Spanish language, and that is Brother Jones.

We have taken out a water ditch from Salt River. It is about six miles long and has cost a great deal of labor and means.

The labor is great amongst the numerous Lamanites in this country. It seems as though some young men should start and learn the language of these tribes before much can be done. I am willing to help sustain with my labor those that might be willing to take hold and learn the language. I suppose this will sooner or later be done.

Your brother in the Gospel,
P. C. MERRILL.

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

SAN FRANCISCO, 24.—A Boise City press dispatch says the Banock and Shoshone Chiefs who were in council with Governor Brayman, yesterday, left to-day for their camp on Great Camas prairie. One of them, Captain Boise Jim, some years ago served with distinction under General Crook as a scout. Two others, Major Jim and Major George, have done similar service, and Buffalo Horse, a young Banock brave, was a scout under General Miles in the recent Sioux war. Whether the peaceful protestations of these Indians will be fulfilled will depend upon the success of the Nez Perces and their allies. The situation is critical and the influences to which these Indians are exposed are adverse to the safety of the settlements. They number about 500 warriors. Some of the Nez Perces will remain friendly in any event, but they do not constitute any considerable portion of the fighting men. It is significant that the number of Indians moving about or camped near the settlements, this summer, are much greater than usual.

A Portland press dispatch has the following, just received from Lewiston, under date 23rd, from a special correspondent: No further fighting. Col. Miller left Lapwai on Thursday evening for Mount Idaho with 150 men, infantry and volunteers.

General Howard left Lapwai, yesterday, Friday, with 125 cavalry a portion being volunteers.

Capt. Wilkinson is with General Howard. Lieut. Ebstein says, a scout of twenty-five volunteers was sent out this afternoon to go around the head of Grand Round Valley to cut off any Indians who may be on the way to join Chief Joseph.

Col. Perry has sent word by a courier from Mount Idaho, that the Indians have gone eastward. The troops leave in one hour for Lapwai. We will leave Lapwai on Monday morning to join the forces now in the field. We will have with us 185 soldiers and about forty volunteers from Columbia County, W. T. All the troops and volunteers here are to go to the front at once. The excitement is subsiding in Lewiston.

NEW YORK, 25.

Robert Dale Owen died yesterday at his summer cottage on Lake George.

MARBLEHEAD, 25.—A fire, which

broke out in the Marblehead Hotel, Pleasant Street, at two o'clock this morning, burned fifteen acres. The fire department could not control it, as the greater part of the department's water supply was destroyed at an early stage of the conflagration. The flames spread with great rapidity, leaping across two or three streets, and spreading in various directions. The simultaneous arrival of steamers from adjoining places alone checked the flames.

In a few brief hours the flames had destroyed two-thirds of the old town, and left, without prospects of employment, fully three-quarters of the male and female workers of Marblehead. One-half of the buildings are destroyed, including barns, factories, and dwelling houses. The loss is estimated at not less than half a million dollars.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, 25.—Forty-six Jewish firms, comprising the best houses in the city, have united in saying the following:

"We, the undersigned, having noted with a deep sense of indignation the uncalled for and unjust discrimination made against Israelites, as a class, by Judge Hilton, of New York, in excluding them as guests from his hotel at Saratoga, protest against this unwarrantable action as a gross outrage on our rights, as an insult to modern civilization, and a stigma on republican institutions. Considering the unanimous stand taken by the press, as the representative of public opinion, we are content, as citizens, to leave our cause as such in the hands of the American people. As business men, however, we deem it due to our self respect, and hereby declare and pledge ourselves henceforth to entertain no relations whatever with the house of A. T. Stewart & Co., of which Judge Hilton is the acknowledged head."

CHICAGO, 25.—A wind and rain storm which apparently started in the vicinity of Kansas City, is now raging in northwestern Missouri, over the entire State of Iowa, in a large portion of Illinois, and a section of Michigan. Telegraph wires are prostrated in every direction.

At Peoria the wind lifted the tin roof off the Chamber of Commerce and the rain is flooding the interior of the building.

Severe hail and lightning storms prevail along the line of the Northwestern Railroad, in Illinois. The wind amounts almost to a tornado.

The damage in Chicago will probably not exceed \$20,000 at the outside. It consists chiefly in broken glass, unroofed houses, broken fences and signs, and overturned vehicles. Two small houses on the north side were destroyed by the wind, and 500 trees in Douglass park were blown down. A carpenter, named Fred Kassner, working at the corner of Eighteenth and Centre Avenue, was thrown out of a second story by the force of the wind, struck on his head, and, tonight, is dying.

TOLEDO, Ohio, 25.—The storm was very severe in this vicinity, and in some places it is reported that the crops are badly injured. The wind was fifty miles per hour.

FRANCESVILLE, Ind., 25.—A terrific wind storm at 1:30 this afternoon destroyed Dunn's hay press and barn, and did other light damage amounting to \$5,000.

OMAHA, 25.—The storm was very general throughout the west. It was first heard of at Cheyenne yesterday afternoon. Heavy hail and rain, with wind, extended north of Sioux City, south of Kansas City, and over the State of Iowa. No particular damage heard of west, but south there are several washouts on the railroad. In Iowa the rain fall exceeded two inches. The Northwestern had a bridge washed out near Logan. At Bear Grove dwellings were blown down. The town is almost destroyed. The rainfall here exceeded an inch and a half. The large bridge was undermined and a number of cellars flooded, entailing considerable loss.

CINCINNATI, 25.—The storm reached here at 4:15, and raged violently for some minutes, doing considerable damage, blowing down buildings and killing one man.

COLUMBUS, 25.—A storm raged here about 5:30, and did damage to roofs, fences, signs, etc.

LITTLE ROCK, 25.—Three masked men, yesterday, shot and killed a negro who was being conveyed to jail by a guard on a charge of having aided in a murder four years ago. The affair occurred at Sonake.

CINCINNATI, O., 25.—Specials from Logan, O., says the excitement is intense over the unusually atrocious murder of John Welden, his widowed sister, Mrs. McClury,