

he entered our section in the Champ de Mars would gather the impression that the United States was an immense country for the production of false teeth, drugs, Waltham watches, pianos, photographs, carriages, axes, door locks, sewing machines and school books. He would look in vain in the fine art department to find a single picture that suggests, like the works of European artists, anything that is legendary, or typical of national life, habits, manners, and native scenery. For our artists, who have pictures here, have studied and copied abroad, have contented themselves with cleverly and servilely imitating European masters, instead of drinking at the fount of nature and becoming masters themselves.

We have, through a New York firm, a fine display of carriages, buggies, phaetons, sulkeys, etc. They are all lighter and more elegant, but less durable than the French or English carriages, and the prices asked for them are at least 25 per cent. higher than is asked for the same article in Europe. The Watch Co., at Waltham, Massachusetts, and Tiffany & Co. of New York, have both excellent exhibits; they have made the best of impressions abroad, and will no doubt, in the end, reap a harvest for themselves, from the seed sown here, but since they represent special and limited industries, it is questionable whether their prosperity is a matter for national congratulation. In the department of labor-saving machinery, and especially in the machinery of agriculture we will, I think, hold our own. We cannot gain anything in this department, for the superiority of our agricultural implements is universally conceded. The American mowers, reapers, threshers, etc., have, for years, been sold through agencies in the large European cities; many of them are in operation in France, Belgium, Germany, and Russia. Their superior strength, lightness, simplicity, and efficiency has placed them almost beyond competition. It is well, however, that our manufacturers have made the fine display (by far the best in the American section) that they have made here, for the manufacturers of other countries are not asleep, and it is as important to maintain as to gain a reputation. The field trial of mowers and reapers will take place in a few days, I believe on the 24th of this month. More than fifty mowers and as many harvesters will compete for medals, and it may be predicted, with an approach to certainty, that the real competition will be between different American machines, and not between those of America and European countries.

The increasing popularity of our machines abroad is not, however, the roseate auspicious omen for our pecuniary gain that it would at first appear to be. It means that the day is dawning on this continent when the woman and the cow will be no longer harnessed to the cart and plow, when larger areas will be reaped and cheaper bread will be furnished to the millions of Europe. Especially is this true in the light of the great changes that have, in the last two weeks, been made upon the map of Europe. Russia will now have water transportation for the surplus of her fertile plains, and Asiatic Turkey, through the stable government guaranteed by England, may become a competitor in the grain market of the world.

C. A. S.

Jubilee at American Fork City.

AMERICAN FORK CITY,
August 4th, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

The settlements of Pleasant Grove, Alpine and American Fork, united to-day in a jubilee, at which were present, Bishops L. E. Harrington and J. Brown, Superintendents G. Goddard, Willis, Evans, D. Johns, S. S. Jones, W. Yates, J. N. Ballinger, Elders J. Armistead, H. Maiben, Olman, Twelves, and others from the various settlements. Our meeting house, which was very tastefully decorated, was crowded to excess, and although the day was very warm, the exercises were so varied and pleasing, that the heat was forgotten in listening to the programme, which required two sessions of two hours each to present, consisting of songs, part-songs, choruses, speeches, recitations, Questions upon the Restoration of the Gospel, Articles of Faith, etc.

That all present felt imbued with the spirit of God, was evident from their happy faces. Spicy remarks, beautiful rendering of songs and recitations, and general promptness in carrying out the well-arranged programme. May such unions be cultivated, as they elevate, improve and raise the morals of society, and our youth should ever be surrounded with all that leads them to virtue, honor, purity and salvation.

God bless the efforts of all who are working in the harness for the amelioration of mankind and in saving souls.

Yours,

Z.

Deseret as a Farming District.

FILLMORE, Millard County,
August 1st, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

Deseret is distant from Fillmore, in a northwesterly direction, about 30 miles. The principal part of the land now being farmed lies on the south side of the Sevier River. The "canal," which is an old bed of the Sevier, starts from the river in a southerly direction and describes a semi-circle of several miles diameter and, after supplying numerous irrigating ditches, empties its waters into the river several miles below the dam or head of the "canal." The soil varies from a sand and vegetable loam to a heavy clay, all of it being more or less impregnated with "mineral," i.e., salt and alkali.

On the untilled land a heavy growth of "greasewood" covers the soil; and on the tilled land sunflowers, milkweed, pigweed and bitterweed are fighting for the victory, as a general thing with grain in the minority, sadly hiding its modest heads in shame for the shiftlessness or ignorance of the cultivator. The cause of this state of things is found in the fact that there is an abundance of water at Deseret, and as it costs one dollar per acre for it, the people, with the true instinct of the Chinaman, when buying his boots, want to get all they can for their money, and they pour on the water in season and out of season, when it needs it and when it don't need it, and usually the latter.

The land is very level, and the water settles in the lowest places, which causes the "mineral" to raise, and mowing finds the grain as effectually cut off as if an army of grasshoppers had visited it. A large breadth of land was sown last spring, and not over one-third, or at least one-half of a crop, will be raised. In fact, the crops are not nearly as good as those of last season.

Residents of Deseret, men of good judgment, told me that the best grain is that which has had the least water, and those men are the most successful farmers. They assert that early irrigation stunts the grain and starts the weeds, and too much water raises the "mineral," which causes an almost irreparable injury to the land. Those that have farmed in a judicious manner are gradually improving their surroundings, and vice versa. And they unanimously agree that a radical and thorough change in the method of farming must follow or the district hopelessly ruined. For instance a man that is this season farming in a slovenly manner, say 40 acres, must reduce the area of grain 20 acres, cultivate well and carefully, and when the weeds on the uncultivated 20 get a good start, in the latter part of June or first of July, go to with his plow and turn them under, then the following season sow to grain, and serve the other in the same manner, thus reducing his water tax one-half, and getting as much off the 20 acres as he now gets off the 40.

However, the farmers on the north side and a few on the south side of the river, have grown very fine grain, giving promise of what can be done with a little admixture of brains with the "elbow grease."

The appearance of the "survey," as it is called, is anything but inviting, being an almost interminable stretch of greasewood; an occasional sand ridge, with here and there a house, completes the exasperating landscape.

The townsites is the best that could be found in that locality, and shows considerable enterprise, as they have a tidy school house, store, etc.

A small outlay of labor only, would soon make Deseret a pleasant and inviting place. Lombardy poplars, mulberry, etc., grow rapidly from cuttings. Let them and other kinds be planted on section and 40 acre lines, and in a few

years the metaphors will be complete.

Deseret possesses all the elements of substantial wealth, if they are but judiciously used.

With many kind wishes for the prosperity of the Deseret, I remain their friend.

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JUNIOUS.

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