

THE DESERET NEWS.

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Our Southern Tour.

Having some business to transact in Utah and Juab counties and wishing to see that part of the Territory again and witness the improvements that have been going on there during the summer, we took passage in the Fillmore mail coach on the morning of the 29th ult., giving the office hands but a few minutes notice of our intended absence for a few days from the city, to take an airing in the country and see what was transpiring outside the metropolis of Utah.

The day was pleasant, but somewhat cool for the season and, as the recent showers had wet the dust so that there was none in motion, it was much more comfortable traveling than it usually is in this country where dust and sand are in such profuse abundance.

It was late in the evening when the stage arrived at Provo and, as it started a little too early the next morning for our convenience, we took passage with Messrs. F. D. & S. W. Richards, who were going to Juab with a comfortable carriage, and went to Santaquin, arriving a little after dark.

The next day, October 1st, in company with the Messrs. Richards, Levi Sawyer, B. F. Johnson and Bishop McBride of Santaquin, we took a stroll over the north part of Juab county, visiting the mountains, the streams and the meadows, and viewing the herds of cattle that were grazing on the range in that vicinity, and returned to Santaquin, or Summit Creek, as it is often called, in the evening.

Having accomplished our purposes thus far satisfactorily, after attending meeting in that little town in the forenoon of Sunday, where the Elders Richards addressed the congregation that assembled in the village school-house, we came back in the evening to Payson, otherwise called Peteetneet, and went to a meeting that was held there, which was numerously attended.

The next day, taking a passage in a slow coach in company with some friends, we pursued our course homewards, arriving at Provo about 4 o'clock and at 7 p.m. took passage in the mail coach for the city, arriving on Tuesday morning, a short time before the last number of the *News* was ready for the Press and in time to see the exhibition of stock at the "fair" on that day.

A more pleasant excursion we have never had since residing in this Territory. We met with old neighbors, friends and acquaintances in nearly every town, village and settlement through which we passed; accomplished all the business desired, and returned a little sooner than expected at the time of leaving.

During the trip, we examined as closely and as extensively, as time would permit, the little villages of Union and Draperville, in the south part of this county, and Lehi, American Fork, Pleasant Grove, Provo, Springville, Spanish Fork, Piontown, Payson, and Santaquin, in Utah County, and, of course, formed an opinion of the spirit of enterprise that prevailed in each town and city respectively, from the improvements that have been, and are being made, and from the general appearance of the people, their dwellings, their lots, their fields, their streets, roads, and every thing unto them belonging.

We do not intend at this time to make any remarks either commendatory or otherwise in relation to our friends in Utah county. The notes taken will be preserved, and hereafter some allusion to a few items may be made for the benefit of those concerned. However, we will just say that in some places they unquestionably have no road-makers, otherwise, the streets and roads would not be as they now are in several places, impassable.

A Rumor.—It has been currently reported during the last two days that the California mail, which left here last Wednesday, was attacked some two or three days out from Camp Floyd and several men killed. We did not believe the story when we first heard it, and have neither seen nor heard anything since to change our opinion. That such an occurrence might transpire, no one acquainted with the history of the times would doubt; but in this instance, circumstances do not favor a belief that anything of the kind has taken place. The report has undoubtedly been put in circulation by some person having sinister motives, either wishing to injure that mail line or to subvert some speculative scheme he or his friends may have in view.

Herding.

The practice of having cattle and other kinds of stock herded exclusively by boys, as is too often the case in this Territory, is productive of much evil and is often very expensive to those who have fields or other inclosures in the vicinity of the ranges where the stock is thus kept or sent to graze.

In our opinion the herding of cattle, as now practiced, especially in the vicinity of cities and villages, is a nursery of vice that should be dispensed with so far as possible, and the sooner the boys engaged in that business are relieved from the service, the better it will be for them, for their parents and all concerned.

Complaints are frequently made, that fields of wheat, corn, oats and other kinds of grain have been destroyed by cattle in charge of boys, who unhesitatingly take down the fences and turn them in, regardless of consequences. It is much easier herding cattle in a field than on the open plain, or on the sides of the mountains, which boys soon learn and practice to a great extent, and the damage that has been done this season to the crops in the vicinity of Great Salt Lake City in that way is incalculable. It has been more or less so in days gone by, but instead of any improvement being made in that respect, the spirit of destruction is more plainly made to appear as years pass along, and it is time that an end was made to such proceedings.

The boys who commit such depredations are not always to blame and not unfrequently those who employ them, whether parents, guardians or others, are the ones really in fault.

For instance, every person who sends his cattle into the Big Field, south of this city, to be herded by boys or others, knows as well beforehand that damage will accrue thereby to his neighbors, as he does afterwards, when they inform him that their hay, grass, grain, &c., has been destroyed by the operation.

In such cases there is no difficulty in determining who is guilty and who not, and the offenders should suffer the penalty of law, for them made and provided, to the utmost extent and which, if administered as it should be, would have a most salutary effect.

If men who have their cattle herded where they know that they will destroy the fruits of the field belonging their neighbors were compelled to pay four fold for the damage done by their stock, they would soon learn to do better, and even if they were required to pay only the actual amount of the losses sustained by others in consequence of their lawlessness, it would not be long before there would be a decided improvement in relation to such matters and there would be very few cattle herded where they would be liable to destroy crops of any kind, but they would be kept in pastures or inclosures, if not sent to the range in charge of herdsmen that would take care of them properly and not permit them to stray off nor to commit depredations.

It is not pleasant to refer to such matters; but there are so many evils growing out of the system of herding as practiced by some living in this city and vicinity, that it is high time some action was taken in the premises, and the cause of so much iniquity, so far as possible, removed.

If no other measure can be devised to prevent the destruction of crops by droves of cattle in charge of herd boys, that kind of herding should be discontinued and the boys that are thus employed should be placed in some situation or put to some business equally as remunerative to their parents or guardians as the herding of cattle ever was, or ever will be, and at the same time be learning something that will be of benefit to them in after years, instead of learning to lie, to steal, and to swear, as too many of those young nomads do, who follow the business from year to year.

If it be true that a child who is trained up in the way he should go, will not depart from it in after years, children trained in schools of vice will be equally tenacious in their adherence to the principles thus taught and imbibed, when they grow to manhood and enter upon the active scenes of life. The occupation of a herdsman is not dishonorable, but if the herding of cattle, as practiced in the vicinity of this city, especially in fields, was inhibited, the benefits that would result therefrom would be incalculable.

THE EASTERN MAIL arrived yesterday in the forenoon, by which we received an unusual number of exchanges filled with news, but

on looking over some twenty or thirty papers, nothing of any great moment was found, and, being ready for press, we concluded not to delay, in order to insert anything that we could glean; however, we shall continue our search and, if any thing of interest is discovered, we will give it to our readers, next week.

City Supervisor and Water Master.

Mr. Isaac Groo, of the 9th Ward, has been appointed Supervisor of Streets by the City Council, in place of John Van Cott, resigned; also Water Master, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of E. F. Sheets.

The appointment of Mr. Groo to those two very responsible offices, we have no doubt, will give general satisfaction, though no fault has been found with the former incumbents, further than would naturally be expected, when the one did not keep the streets in repair at his own expense, and the other was very lenient with those who took water for irrigating purposes where and when they pleased, without permission. We heartily approve of the plan of having those two offices combined in one man, as they are inseparably connected and cannot be performed by two persons without occasionally raising the question of jurisdiction.

With Mr. Groo we have no particular acquaintance, but, from what we have seen and heard, we believe him to be an energetic straight-forward business man. One thing is certain; whatever energy or business qualifications he may possess will soon be called into requisition, if he causes the streets and water courses to be put in good order and kept so, especially if he has to do it at his own expense, which, however is not a supposable case; but there is certainly an ample field opened for his consideration and action and, if he faithfully discharges the duties of those offices, he will no doubt soon render himself popular with the female portion of street pedestrians, if not with the citizens generally.

MUNICIPAL APPOINTMENTS.—The City Council has recently appointed Samuel W. Richards, Esq., Alderman of the 2d Municipal Ward, vice N. V. Jones resigned; Theodore McKean, Councilor, vice W. H. Hooper, resigned, and Andrew Cunningham, Councilor to fill the vacancy occasioned by the appointment of S. W. Richards to the office of Alderman; all of which were good selections.—Will these new members of the City Council move those who have had seats there for a long time to be more energetic in the discharge of their official duties?

FIRES.—Last Thursday, some boys in lighting a match for the purpose of smoking, or for amusement, accidentally set fire to some hay stacks, belonging to Mr. Charles Cowley of the 7th Ward, and five or six tons of good hay was burned up. Fortunately by timely interposition, no further damage was done.

On Sunday the 9th, Mr. A. P. Free's stack yard or corral in the 12th Ward, was fired in the same way, and from twelve to fifteen tons of hay, one hundred bushels of wheat, a quantity of corn and other products, with the entire fence around the inclosure was soon consumed, and a number of fruit trees were more or less injured.

Expensive smoking that.

ARRIVED.—On Thursday last, Daniel Davis with a small train of merchandise; on Friday, M. J. Snedeker and Gen. J. Hunt with four or five wagons each, and on yesterday, A. R. Wright with a train of eight wagons arrived from the States, all well and in good condition. Col. Thomas S. Smith of Farmington, with a drove of sheep, about one thousand in number, and a train of merchandise will arrive in a few days, and R. K. Homer, E. R. Young and J. C. Naile are expected ere long, each with trains.—Mr. Naile having in his company eight or ten families of emigrants.

MOST PROLIFIC.—The cucumber vine referred to in the report of the exhibition at Provo was the most prolific specimen of the genus *cucumis* that we have seen in a long time.—In addition to the eighty cucumbers that were on the vine at the time it was removed from the garden for exhibition there had been ninety of equal size gathered from it previously, as reported.

If each cucumber produces the usual number of seeds and the future increase continues in the same ratio, there will soon be plenty of that kind of seed in the Territory. Those wishing to obtain some of the seeds had better apply in season.

Molasses Making.

The quantity of Sorghum Sucre produced in this part of the Territory is much greater than was anticipated in the early part of summer, as large quantities of the seed that was planted did not come up. In nearly every settlement, so far as we have seen and heard there are mills in operation, manufacturing molasses on an extensive scale; which is all right and as it should be. Every stalk of cane should be carefully saved and worked up and, in places where there are as yet no mills for that purpose, or not enough to work up all the cane, no time should be lost in obtaining and putting in operation as many as are needed.

How many there are in full operation in this city and county we do not know, but probably enough to do all the manufacturing that is needed this season; that is, to grind all the cane that has been produced. Prest. Joseph Young, W. Woodruff, J. W. Crosby, S. A. Knowlton, H. Moon and others have mills that are doing a first-rate business; some of them running night and day, and the molasses made, or most of it, is of a superior quality, far superior to that heretofore manufactured from the beet.

In Davis and Utah counties, mills have been provided, and molasses is being made by the barrel and some specimens that we have seen were excellent. Mr. Reeves, of Centerville, sent some to our office a few days since, that was truly a superior article. None could well be better.

The result of the experiments this year in the raising of this species of sugar cane is gratifying to all who have given it their attention, and next year, no doubt, it will be grown in sufficient quantities to supply the demand for that kind of sweetening and the demand for sugar thereby be materially lessened.

PISTOL SHOOTING.—The practice of firing pistols in the night time has been so common for a long time in this city, that very little notice has been or is taken of such occurrences. Not unfrequently, from ten to twenty discharges are heard in quick succession, as if some deadly conflict was taking place, much to the annoyance of peaceful citizens.

A few nights since, some ten or a dozen pistol shots were heard in the lower part of the city and, on inquiring into the cause, we were informed that a party of rowdies went to a boarding house and, on being ordered off, they refused to do so. Pistols were drawn and fired freely by both parties, but our informant, who speaks bad English, and perhaps does not know the meaning of every word that he uses, said, at the close of his narration, "unfortunately nobody was killed."

LARGE POTATOES.—James Cragan, of Mill Creek Ward, six miles south of this city, left in our office yesterday a specimen of neshanic potatoes equal to any we have seen in this Territory, if not a little superior. He has some seven hundred bushels of the same kind, and to-day we expect to be the happy recipient of a small portion of them.

GONE TO THE MOUNTAINS.—Our friends of the *Mountaineer* went to the mountains, yesterday; what for and how long to stay, we do not know. It is cool there now.

ERRATUM.—In our hastily prepared review of the Exhibition, last week Mr. Jeremiah Woodbury is represented as having received the prize for the best apple. We were misinformed in the given name. It should have been, Thomas H. Woodbury, son of Jeremiah.

JUST SENTIMENTS.—The following concluding sentences of the decision given by Judge Swan, of the Supreme Court of Ohio, in the case of the Oberlin rescuers, do credit to the heart and the head, the humane instinct of the high toned patriotism, of him who uttered them:

As a citizen, I would not deliberately violate the Constitution or the law by interference with fugitives from justice. But if a weary, frightened slave would appeal to me to protect him from his pursuers, it is possible I might momentarily forget my allegiance to the law and Constitution and give him a covert from those who were on his track—there are, no doubt, many slaveholders who would thus follow the instincts of human sympathy. And if I did it, and was prosecuted, condemned and imprisoned, and brought by my counsel before this tribunal on a 'habeas corpus,' and was then permitted to pronounce judgment in my own case, I trust I should have the moral courage to say before God and the country, as I am now compelled to say, under the solemn duties of a Judge, bound by my official oath to sustain the supremacy of the Constitution and the law:—'The prisoners must be remanded.'