

space in the hive greater than one comb, the bees are liable to build cross wise, or in other fanciful shapes, which will puzzle the novice to straighten out again, my experience shows to me that if I want straight comb, I must watch the bees, and make them build it straight. With Comb Foundation I have been able to get a whole hive full of stright comb without one to start, and very little watching. The A. B. C. book under the head of "Comb Foundation" says: Since the introduction of this foundation within the past few years, many difficult points have been solved completely, such as how to insure all straight comb, how to insure all worker combs, or all drone combs, and how to furnish the bees with the wax needed without their being obliged to secrete it by the consumption of honey. If the bee keepers of Utah would use this material it would save them one-half their honey. In other words they would get one-half more or twice as much as they now do; this is my opinion after two years' trial.

Q. 3d. Shall we have an air chamber or shall we have an upper story?

A. It takes some lumber to make an air chamber, and very little more to make an upper story. The former is very inconvenient as compared with the latter, and what it is good for I can't imagine. It has been proven by careful experiment, that bees will store more honey above their brood nest than at the side; and that about 2,000 cubic inches is the best size for the brood nest of one queen. As modern bee-keepers need a hive whose part are interchangeable we would better make our covers and bottom boards alike, also all the bodies of our hives. We can then use the cover for a bottom board, or vice versa, we may also put on two or more stories according to the capacity of the swarm. A full description of this simplicity bee hive may be found in the A. B. C. of Bee Culture, a cyclopedia of everything pertaining to the care of the honey bee. It also tells how to make every thing needful for the apiarist; \$2.00 worth of type is kept constantly standing to keep this book fully up to the times, on everything needful, alphabetically arranged.

Q. 4th. Shall we have cracks or holes in the tops of our hives? In other words, Shall we allow upward ventilation?

A. The old school say, Yes; the modern bee-masters say, No. The bees themselves say, No, by stopping every crevice that admits air, with propolis. The facts are these: if we winter without protection we will save our combs from moulding and other difficulties by upward ventilation; but the bees object to the cold air; it gives them the dysentery. Now, if we put a chaff cushion over the bees, we stop cold currents of air, and at the same time allow the moisture, which is the cause of all the evils, to escape. I have never lost a swarm of bees protected in this way since I have kept bees. I have wintered a double handful this winter in chaff, also 12 other swarms which are booming over with bees now. Thanks to friend Judson and the A. B. C. book. By the way, friend Judson is a bee-keeper of nearly half a century, and always kept up to the times, reading the best bee papers, and by careful experiment has discovered many important things.

Any information that I can give to help my brethren into the A. B. C. book and modern bee-keeping I am willing to give. We are sadly in need of a bee journal in which to discuss these and other important matters. Perhaps we may have one in the near future.

Yours truly,
W. M. EGAN.

HARRISVILLE,
Weber County, Utah,
April 3d, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

The winter has been as severe, and feed as scarce as is desirable in this mundane sphere, and U. & N. railroad travel and mail facilities rather squeamish, for as soon as blockades are raised, washouts are in order, and section hands guarding bridges night and day. The C. P. R. R. trains have generally been on time, and their coal accommodations appreciated by this burg and its neighbors. I am informed they have through the influence of friend Chase established a signal station; this with the U. & N. gives us chances of travel north or south several times a day, thus making this a splendid place for a country

residence for some of our town gents. And I have been credibly informed that another broad gauge is to be placed along the line of the U. & N. R. R. When this comes Harrisville will undoubtedly be on the "boom."

Our winter schools of four months, duration ended last month, and were taught by the two sons of Brother Wm. Geddes, of Plain City. These are educated and accomplished valley tan boys, and are an honor to their father and a credit to Plain City, and certainly have been a great benefit to this community.

On the 25d of March our Sunday School held a social entertainment, and gave small prizes for the amusement and encouragement of its patrons. Surely Utah's best crop preponderates.

On Saturday last the Plain City Musical Association gave us a rich treat by serenading some of our citizens, they having added six new brass instruments to their band at a cost of \$150. To liquidate this amount they have organized into a dramatic company, and performed in our school-house on Saturday evening, the play being "Ernest Maltravers," concluding with the laughable farce "That Rascal Pat," all acting well their parts. Miss M. Geddes showed evidences of being a fine actress, and no one was melancholy while Mr. O. J. Swenson acted the "Rascal Pat."

On Monday and Tuesday evenings last we had an exhibition of ventriloquism and necromancy. So that with the Mormon and other panoramas our dreary winter has been quite entertaining and amusing, and now the patient farmers are waiting for King Sol to assume control of the weather so they may assist nature to blossom as a rose and the fields to wave with the golden grain.

Yours truly, P. L.

MONTPELIER, Idaho,
March 30th, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

A painful accident occurred on Tuesday, the 23d, in which Ezra Campbell, son of Grant Campbell, had his leg broken just above the knee. He is a boy of about 16 years, and at the time, was in the cañon, with others, getting wood. A man was cutting a tree, and when it

commenced to fall he called out to young Campbell to look out; the boy started to run, but unfortunately went right under the falling tree, which struck him on the leg.

Brother Venorman, of Bennington, set the injured limb, and the patient is doing as well as could be expected.

The following deaths occurred here: Reuben Astle, infant son of Joseph and S. J. Astle, born March 20, died March 29, 1880, and Franklin David, infant son of F. T. and M. J. Astle, born March 22, died March 28, 1880. Both were blessed before death took them; and both died of spasms.

The first term of the day school in this year, closed last Friday afternoon with a very interesting entertainment of recitations, readings, songs and dialogues by the pupils.

Monday afternoon, March 29th, a dance was given for the children and in the evening for larger ones. Chromos of different sizes to the number of 96 were tacked up on all sides of the schoolhouse, making it appear like a picture gallery. These were prizes for the pupils; and as their names were read, at the close of the dance, they would go and select the prize of their choice. It was a pleasant ending to the dance. S. P. Richards and wife have been the teachers. There were over 90 names enrolled.

On Saturday evening, the 27th inst., the dramatic troupe performed the plays, "Mary Price" and "Irish Assurance and Yankee Modesty," in a creditable manner to a large audience.

We have had thawing weather since the 20th inst., and snow is disappearing rapidly, yet it freezes every night.

Stock is being driven on the hills as there are but few who have any feed.

R. P. S.

BEAVER, April 14, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

Spring has at last made its appearance once again gladdening the heart of the farmer. Never since this country was settled have we had so severe a winter. The snow in the mountains is piled up to from four to ten feet deep, while the valleys have been covered the entire winter. It is estimated that one

third of the horned stock running on the range have perished, while the horses are so poor and weak as to be entirely unfit for spring work, making it difficult for the farmers to get in their grain. There is every indication that we will have an abundance of fruit this year, the season being so backward that it has kept the trees back so we are in hopes that the fruits will escape the late frosts that generally prove fatal to the most of our apples. The health of the people generally is good.

Those of us who were unable to attend the Conference feel to rejoice at the good spirit which was manifested there, toward the poor especially. There seems to be a waking up of the Saints generally, which let us hope will lead to a universal reformation. There is certainly both room and need for it in this locality.

Our esteemed fellow-townsmen, Daniel Tyler is laboring industriously to complete his book, which is to be entitled "The History of the Mormon Battalion;" and as I have been engaged copying for him, I can say it will be a valuable work, as it elucidates and explains a great many things pertaining to the battalion not generally understood.

The mining prospects of this county are looking up; a good many new and valuable discoveries have been made especially in Lincoln district. Brother Willis Copeland is working several hands on his location in Shauntie and considers he has a very fair prospect. I have been informed by Judge Cox that six mining companies have been incorporated in this county this year with a capital of \$10,000,000.

Although a great many are complaining of dull times there seems to be a pretty good run of business for the different stores. The firm of D. L. McDonough & Co., especially are receiving freight daily.

Since the changing of the mail route our mail matter is very irregular. There is considerable blame to be attached somewhere. The boys in blue have been making things lively for sometime, as they have been paid off for six months, service. Balls and sociables are of nightly occurrence.

That God will bless his people and unite them in the bonds of brotherly love is the sincere wish of your brother,

J. M. COOMES.

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