

January 7, 1870.

Correspondence.

The following letter to Bishop Edward Hunter, from Elder Joseph C. Rich, on a mission in the Eastern States, has been kindly furnished for publication by Bro. Hunter.

CARTHAGE, HANCOCK COUNTY, Illinois, Dec. 25th, 1869.

Bishop Edward Hunter, Dear Brother: Having a few hours leisure while awaiting the arrival of the train for Springfield, I feel that the time cannot be better appropriated than writing to you, as I have visited several places once familiar to you. I have recently visited Galesburg, in this State, where I stayed with Mr. John F. Edgerton, a portrait painter, who spent the winter of '59 and '60 in Salt Lake City, and Mr. John T. Barnett, an old settler of Nauvoo. They were exceedingly kind and sociable, friendly towards our people and particularly inquired concerning your welfare. Galesburg has grown to be a place of considerable importance.

From Galesburg I went to Burlington, in Iowa, where I spent a week, stopping most of the time with J. Wilson Williams, formerly surveyor of Hancock County, and of the city of Nauvoo. He also was very kind and wished to be remembered to you. Near his place I visited Mr. Matthew Peck, a son of Bishop Peck, who I ascertained, had renounced "Mormonism" and grafted himself into the Methodist church. They were very much opposed to polygamy and attacked me rough-shod on that subject before I had been in the house ten minutes. They were so plump that their faces hung down longer than mules and their righteous groans resembled the wailing lamentations of a Piteusquaw at the loss of her last "pappoose." As they expressed great faith in the scriptures I gave them a tract on the polygamic history therein contained, but before I had proceeded far the lady informed her husband it was time to go to bed, (about 8 o'clock), and to prevent any further discussion on religious subjects they had breakfast ready by half past two the next morning, and I footed it five miles before day light to the railroad station. They were evidently determined I should not be too late for the train. From Burlington I came down the river to Montrose, stopping at the hotel kept by old sister Bowen, who could not do too much for the son-in-law of her old friend Bishop Hunter. She had a hundred questions to ask concerning yourself and family. She still continues strong in the "Salt Lake Mormon faith," notwithstanding the prevalence of Josephism in that vicinity.

The next day I crossed over to Nauvoo, experiencing some little trouble, as the river was almost blocked up with ice, which at times completely barred us in our path. I went to the Mansion House for dinner, and there, as all the time I stayed in the city, I experienced feelings that I never felt before. I always have venerated the name of the Prophet, and the impressions made on my mind in reading the Church history have caused me to look upon Nauvoo and the places frequented by Joseph as almost holy ground. Judge then my feelings when I crossed the threshold of the Mansion House, where once the spirit of God seemed to animate each and every building itself. I stepped into the office where, perchance, angels once visited and there sat three men, two were playing checkers and the third, old Bedlam, the present husband of Emma, sat spitting tobacco on the stove. Pictures of the assassination of Lincoln and steamboat and railroad notices adorn the walls, while the furniture and general appearance of the room were old, unclean and decidedly shabby. Dinner was announced and I passed through the hall, once familiar to the Saints, into the kitchen. There I beheld for the first time that I can remember, Emma, the youthful wife of one of God's most honored prophets. I sat down at the table to eat, but my thoughts were on other times. Emma looks very old and broken; she spoke while I was in the room only to give directions to the hired girl who waited on the table. While in conversation with Bidamon at the table, I stated, in answer to his questions, that I was from Salt Lake City, at the same time telling who I was. I looked over to where Emma was sitting, knowing that she was well acquainted with my parents. But she never raised her eyes or said a word while I remained there. I could not help thinking, "what a change has come over that woman!" Now she is the wife of a man, even among his friends, is reproached as a drunkard and an adulterer. Only recently an illegitimate child has been sent him, that calls Emma grandmother. My God! I thought, have not the spirits of martyrs the power in the spirit world to wield an influence over their dear ones on earth? and then I knew, while they were constantly with them on earth, it was all they could do to govern and control them. Truly we are creatures of our own agency and are left to choose for ourselves between the good and the evil!

The outside of the Mansion House looks even more dilapidated and forsaken than the inside. It does not seem that one improvement has been made since the prophet left it. I next visited the Nauvoo House, which still stands as it did when the work on it ceased. It has the appearance of recent work in its masonry. The bricks are as good as the day they were made and the finishing touch of the trowel indicates that it was done yesterday. Old Bidamon claims to have purchased the property, and expects, in case of the removal of the Capitol here, that he will yet derive from it a handsome fortune. The Masonic Hall still stands, but looks old. President Young's house remains in good repair and Bro. Kimball's as good as the day he left it. I went all through your house, just below the Temple, now owned by a German. It stands as you left it, in splendid condition. The barn, though weather-beaten and old, is still good, and the "old oaken bucket" still hangs in the well. I stood upon the spot where once stood the Temple of the Lord. "Not one stone is left upon another," a few fragments only remaining, while the cellar has been filled, and a

vineyard now luxuriates where the Saints once attended to the ordinances for their dead. The Temple rock can be seen all over the city, converted into wine cellars and basements for stores, drinking saloons and residences. I took dinner with Doctor Wells, who also inquired about you. I visited the old "Mormon" graveyard—a now a complete forest of oak and hickory. There is, probably, fifty tomb-stones standing. Among the number I found one to the memory of my sister. The fence around the graveyard is down and exposed. The ground was bought by the city in "Mormon" days from Wm. Marks, but no deed for it exists on record, and many of the old settlers here in Nauvoo are anxious that a deed should be made either to the present corporation or some responsible party that the "Mormons" might name, in order that the ground may be enclosed and held sacred from agricultural encroachments. At present it belongs to no one, and having a fine forest of timber therein the probability is that ere long some one will enclose it and forever obliterate its existence as a graveyard. Application has been made by Barnett, Chas. H. Robinson and others to Marks for a quit claim deed to the property, in order that it might be taken care of, but he refuses to make one, although he has received his pay for the land from the old city of Nauvoo.

I stayed an hour or two with old Kreamer, who, flatfooted, asserts that you are an honest man. He is very friendly, and would walk forty miles to shake hands with you. Uncle Benny Biter is also your particular friend, and says he is not "troubled a damb bit" with the kind of divine grace they have in this country. I visited your farm on the Carthage road: the house stands good but the barn and outbuildings show old age. The double ditch has been ploughed down and a young Osage orange hedge has taken its place. Cottonwood trees have grown up in the hollows and wet places east of the house, but otherwise it looks as you left it. The settlers in this county are generally of the opinion that land once occupied by the "Mormons," no matter as to the richness of the soil, has never seemed profitable to the owners since the Saints were driven away. They say the curse of God is visibly manifested in the earth's productions. I have told some of them that I wished to God it would refuse to produce even white beans, but I realize it would not do for me to judge these matters.

The old mob spirit has about died out and a general feeling of regret at the manner of treating the "Mormons" is very prevalent. Lawyer Morrill, in Nauvoo, says the mobocrats of this county are nearly all dead and in hell, while the few that are remaining wish themselves there speedily. Old Tom Sharp is here, but persons have told me that he has not ventured out after dark for ten years for fear of being murdered. I wish you would tell Heber John Richards that his mother lies buried in the south east corner of the square, where the old grave yard was, south of the Temple. Last summer, while an old Frenchman was making an excavation for a wine cellar he came upon the vault containing her remains. Everything was in splendid preservation, my informant stating that she had not decayed one particle, even the gloves on her hands being as clean and white as they were the day she was buried. She was removed to the above mentioned place, easily recognized, as the slab, upon which is engraved her name, birth, marriage and death, remains over the spot.

Nauvoo does not progress in improvements; while the whole country is going ahead it stands still. Palmer, one of the two men who fired the Temple, is now in the Fort Madison penitentiary for life. The man that was president of Rigdon's Twelve apostles, Butterfield by name, fell down in the street the night I stayed in Montrose, and broke his neck. I subscribed twenty-five cents towards burying him. Dr. Bennett died in Iowa, a "ragabond on the earth." Carthage jail stands as it did when the prophet was murdered, but efforts are being made for the erection of a new building. In the course of ten days I shall be in Kentucky, thence to Pennsylvania. I have not had a particle of news from Utah since I left, except what I have seen in the papers.

Kind love to all, as ever,
J. C. RICH.

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

Called.—Brother Claudius V. Spencer called in this afternoon. He reached this city early last Monday morning, after a short mission in the East, chiefly in Massachusetts, where he did considerable preaching. He met, generally, with a kind reception from the people among whom he traveled, but beyond mere curiosity they manifest the greatest indifference in relation to religious matters, and are, practically and practically, indifferent both parties and people, to God and religion.

A gentleman to whom Bro. Spencer feels under special obligation for courtesies and favors extended, is James Harding, Esq., editor of the *Register*, Pittsfield, Mass. Unlike many of the editorial profession, when dealing with "Mormons" or "Mormonism," he manifested no party or sectarian prejudice, and showed himself to be a truly liberal-minded gentleman.

From the Elders.—Elder Preston Thomas writes from Shuqualak, Noshoe Co., Miss., on the 29th ult. He had been on a preaching tour through Alabama, traveling alone, and had been treated invariably with kindness by the people. He intended to stay for some time at Shuqualak, and requests his friends to direct their communications to that point.

Elder Albert Merrill, writing to President Geo. A. Smith, from Bridgeport, Conn., on the 29th ult. says he has preached at Norwalk, also in New York and Brooklyn, but his success, so far as additions to the church is concerned, has been moderate, the people, generally, manifesting little interest in anything except dollars.

A great many are impressed with spiritualism, and upon such the scriptures have little weight. The woman's rights movement is effecting a great change in the character of the sex; as a general thing they are fast, bold and forward instead of modest and gentle as formerly.

Polygamy is very prominent, many of the strong minded of the sex declaring that they would rather be independent courtesans than enter the plural marriage state. Bro. Merrill and his son had been treated with hospitality and kindness, but had sometimes to hear hard things said about the doctrines and leaders of the Church.

Bro. J. D. M. Crookwell writes, on the 30th ult., from Galesburg, Ill. He has not done much preaching, in public, since he left Nebraska, but any amount of it privately, among the doctors, lawyers, merchants, insurance men and occasionally to private families. He has met with a kind reception, generally, and were it not for lies in the papers, he would be inclined to believe that he belonged to a very popular church.

The Doctor longs to see his home in the Rocky Mountains again; he has had quite enough of the East. He has dwelt for sometime in Chicago, and has involuntarily drawn a contrast between the "moral and dissipation of that city, with its 40,000 prostitutes and its annual quota of 20,000 infanticides and embrocides, and the quiet, morality and peace of Utah, where houses of ill-fame and infanticide and feticide are unknown.

The testimony of Bro. Crookwell is the same as that borne by all the brethren who have written to us from their fields of labor in the East. They are kindly treated, the message they bear—life and salvation to the people—is treated with indifference, and, without an exception, they long to participate again in the peace and quietude which prevail among the Saints.

ANY STONE.—This pleasing act, on the evening of the 29th ult., was the recipient of a complimentary benefit, tendered to her by the citizens of Helena, Ma. The *Herald* of the 30th says it was one of the best entertainments ever presented in Montana.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

LOST!

NEAR Constitution Buildings or between this city and Farmington, about 14th December, ONE SMALL BOX, containing Knives, Forks, Spoons and Carpet Tacks. Will the finder please return the same to Constitution Buildings and receive pay for their trouble.

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Shop—in the Alley, on Main Street, rear of E. Martin's Photograph Gallery. W. V. MORRIS. d30-1m

MARSHAL'S SALE.

BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION to me directed from the District Court, 8d Judicial District of the Territory of Utah, against CHAS. DAVIS et al and in favor of HUSSEY, DAHLER & Co for the sum of six hundred and thirteen dollars and fifty-five cents, I have levied upon the following named property, to-wit: North half of lot No. 3 south half lot No. 4 west half lot No. 5 in Block No. 13, plot A, also lot No. 5, Block 14, plot A, City Survey; and will offer the same for sale at public auction on Jan. 31st, 1870, at 11 o'clock a.m., to the highest bidder, for cash, at the door of the Court House, Salt Lake City.

J. D. T. McALLISTER, Territorial Marshal. d35-3e

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In answer to advertisement offering to attend to any not giving satisfaction, free of charge, three Machines have been sent, needing no repairs, FIRST ONE IN ONE HUNDRED, after four years of service.

MRS. JOSEPH BULL, in the 7th Ward, has just purchased a Florence Sewing Machine. We are permitted to refer to her, and esteem her recommendation a mark of superiority, as Mrs. Bull has had much experience in the use of various Sewing Machines.

MRS. SPIRING, Dressmaker, 14th Ward, says: "I have used a Florence Family Sewing Machine for several years past, having it almost constantly in use, and during that time, it has never dropped a stitch, or been out of order a minute."

CAPT. HOPKINS says: "I have a Florence in my family. For general family use the Florence is the best."

MRS. PAXTON, living nine miles south on the State Road, says: "I have a Wheeler & Wilson. My neighbor, Mrs. WEBSTER has a Florence. When I go over, and see how much she can do, and how easily it is done, I feel like saying my Wheeler & Wilson away in the garret, so that you may know I have a Sewing Machine."

ALFRED BEST, after actual purchase, and fair trial of other first-class Sewing Machines, adopts the Florence as every way the best for family use.

MRS. WARREN HUSSEY, after many years experience with various Sewing Machines, pronounces the Florence ahead of all others in all the requisites of a first-class Sewing Machine. Simplicity, reliability, quiet and rapid action.

MR. SMITH, of W. F. & Co., purchased a Florence about two weeks ago. A few days after, Mrs. MOY, purchased one, and another of Wells, Fargo & Co.'s employees is about purchasing. Thus proving the practical test of the Florence Sewing Machine is its own best recommendation.

MRS. SHUTTLIFF, of Mill Creek, says: "I am delighted with my Florence. I don't believe anybody would purchase any other Machine if they would once give the Florence a fair trial."

COL. JACKSON, brought a Sewing Machine up from St. George, for repair, but could find no one in Salt Lake able to fix it; took a new FLORENCE home with him last week, as he was determined to have a RELIABLE SEWING MACHINE, being handling it two hundred miles home.

MRS. STEVENSON and MRS. CRANDELL, of Springfield, purchased Florence Sewing Machines, last week, after carefully examining in to the merits and demerits of the various Sewing Machines in stock in this City.

DAVID MILLER, WILLIAM MILLER, MRS. SHUTTLIFF, and several others, at and near Farmington, purchased Florence Sewing Machines, after satisfying themselves of their great superiority.

JEREMY WILLIAM SLOAN, MRS. STRAUBIDGE, and W. D. BROWN, of Salt Lake City, have recently purchased Florence Machines.

The Florence is the latest improvement in Sewing Machines, embodying the good qualities of the older machines with other new and eminently useful features, the result of years of careful labor, making it a most COMPLETE and PERFECT Machine, easily managed, and requiring but little skill and experience to operate it successfully.

The Florence will sew everything needed in a family, from the best kind of the lightest fabric, and it is seldom if ever necessary to make any change in the machine for different kinds of work. It is the only machine that can sew in more than one direction, having a reversible feed. It is the only machine having a self-feeding shuttle tension—a great improvement. It is the only machine making more than one kind of stitch. It is the only machine that ties the ends of seams, doing it better and quicker than any other.

The lock stitch of the Florence (both sides of seam alike) differs from the lock stitch made by other machines in that the center of the stitch is as much as the cloth, never giving way in washing, which is of the greatest importance in the sewing for a family. The lock stitch of the Florence is more like good hand sewing. Both sides being alike, either side may be the right side, and the cloth can be sewed either side up or down, as most convenient.

A careful examination will fully substantiate all that we have claimed for it, and justify the assertion we now make, that it is the best Sewing Machine in the world.

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