

We have been prospered greatly; and, strange as it may seem to some, this unfavorable and unprepossessing soil of ours produces more wheat to the acre than the richest alluvial soils of the great grain-raising States east of the Missouri river. As a people we are grateful for our prosperity. We feel encouraged to persevere in industry and good works. And with the example which our career furnishes to the settlers of this entire western country, they need not hesitate as to the wisest policy for them to adopt, to secure great and permanent prosperity.

#### UTAH'S ADMISSION INTO THE UNION.

In another column will be found copies of the Bills to which we have previously made allusion "for the admission of the State of Deseret into the Union," also "to create the office of Surveyor-General in the Territory of Utah, and establish a Land Office in said Territory, and extend the Homestead and pre-emption laws over the same." These Bills were introduced to the House by our Delegate, Hon. Wm. H. Hooper. The first was referred to the Committee on the Territories, and the other to the Committee on the Public Lands. As yet there has been no report made by the Committees upon them.

Whether they report favorably upon them or not, nothing can be more clearly just than that they should become laws. There is no good reason why there should not be a Land Office established in this Territory, and our citizens have all the rights and privileges of the Homestead and pre-emption laws. We know that our enemies have taken especial pains to circulate the idea that we do not want to have a Surveyor-General or a Land Office here—that we do not want to acknowledge the right of the Government to give us titles to our lands. By such falsehoods they hope to prejudice those in power against us, and prevent us from obtaining our rights. If it has not yet come, the day will certainly come, when we will be better and more advantageously known than we are at present. For this day we can afford to wait, and wait patiently, too.

Our peculiar institution is urged as a sufficient reason for not giving us a State Government. The charge of disloyalty was also made, years ago, against us. This latter has become threadbare, and is now but seldom alluded to. We have proved our loyalty through long years of patient endurance of slights and insults which would have driven other people into acts of violence and rebellion. The consciousness that we were misunderstood, and that we had only to await the arbitration of time, to have our true character and feelings recognized, has sustained us and given us a degree of patience which has carried us through to the present.

Congress has no right, constitutionally, to object to our admission into the Union because our domestic institutions may not accord with those of other places. If we have the requisite population, and our Constitution is Republican, it is an arbitrary exercise of power to refuse us a State government. If we had proved ourselves incapable of self-government; if licentiousness and crime ran riot through our land; if life and property were unsafe, and instead of living by honest industry, men subsisted on pillage and pursued lawless occupations unchecked by law and unpunished by justice, then there might be well-founded reasons for not granting us admission into the Federal Union. But the condition of affairs in this Territory is the very opposite of all this. We have shown the highest capacity for self-government. We have organized society, and prescribed regulations for its government, which can be held up with honest pride for the example of surrounding communities. In no other section of the Union do industry and virtue receive greater encouragement, or idleness and vice meet with such severe reprehension. In no other place are the rights of life and property held more sacred than they are here. Decry us as they may now, yet the day must come when our fellow-citizens will freely accord to us due credit for our works.

Had the people of any other Territory accomplished what we have in accelerating the march of empire westward; had they redeemed a great territory from its desert wildness, and covered it with beautiful cities and towns, and smiling orchards and fields, and been the pioneers in demonstrating the fact that the great American desert could be made habitable for men, in what estimation

would they have been held by their fellow-citizens? The answer to this can be found in the treatment by Congress of California, Oregon, Kansas, Nevada, Nebraska, Colorado and our neighboring Territories. What have any of these States done that we have not accomplished? Have their inhabitants had greater difficulties to contend with in settling their lands than we? Have their labors been of greater national benefit? Are their locations more important? Have they been more true to the Government, more fair in their treatment of one another and of their fellow-citizens of other States? Have they organized better regulated societies, better governments; or do they possess greater capacity for enjoying and preserving the institutions of a State than we do?

They were welcomed into the family of States with open arms. A State government was almost forced upon some of them. They did not ask for the boon. It was a gift which they received thankfully. But Utah, whose settlement dates back earlier than many of the above named States, and nearly as early as the oldest settled among them, has repeatedly asked for a State government; but up to the present has been refused. We look for a change of sentiment on the part of Congress, and for the time to come when Utah will be assigned that place which she merits by her virtues.

#### HOME ITEMS.

##### FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY.

**RECOVERING.**—We are pleased to be able to state that Bishop Sheets, our worthy Supervisor of streets, is recovering from an attack of sickness from which he has suffered for over a week past.

**FINE.**—A frost last night hardened the ground and cleared up the atmosphere, and to-day the sun shines out, making everything look bright and cheerful. A sprinkle of snow whitens the mountains nearly to the base, but there is none in the valley.

**RE-COMMENCED.**—Councillor Groo informs us that the graveling and grading of East Temple street, suspended during the late stormy weather, has re-commenced, and will be prosecuted, weather permitting, until finished. It is a good work and everybody wishes success to it.

**THE PUBLIC AND THE DRAMA.**—Critics are not slow to express their disapprobation of theatrical managers, if the plays produced are not such as the public have a right to expect; and they have not only the right to do so, but it is a duty which, when necessary, they should faithfully and honestly perform. Still, the public have much influence in moulding the action of managers; and there is an equal duty on the critic to call the public to account when it is needed. There has been considerable odium cast upon the managers of some theatres east for producing what is called "the naked drama"—such pieces as the "Black Crook." But the public look to see them, and month after month the theatres are crowded to witness the performances. As those managers run their theatres for the purpose of making money, they present to the public that class of pieces which will bring the most money into the treasury. The morality of such a course is very questionable, and, at times, execrable. Its tendencies and results are most injurious. Yet the public pay for being demoralized, and they are to a great extent responsible for it.

In this city we have a Theatre designed for healthful amusement, and for the enjoyment and recreation of the people. The plays which have been produced here have been such that every man could take his family to see them without the risk of virtue or morality being offended. Still, the public appreciation of the plays presented, manifested by their attending or not attending a performance, under ordinary circumstances, must have its weight in the selection of pieces to be produced. In the engagement of Mr. and Miss Coudock, the Management displayed enterprise, and a desire to place before the public the most refined and exquisitely natural class of performances presented on the stage anywhere, which should command general approbation. As an artist, Mr. Coudock has no local or ephemeral reputation, but his fame is world-wide and his position in the profession was established years ago. His vigor is unimpaired; his judgment is matured by experience, his ability is everywhere acknowledged and it is known that whatever he appears in will be well done. His daughter is a very promising actress, exceedingly natural, of clear conception, and manifesting great pathos and power. The company here is admittedly a good one. The class of plays produced since the engagement of the Coudocks, have been of a very elevating tendency, mostly presenting pictures of life which place honesty, virtue, domestic affection and probity in such situations as to elicit sympathy and claim imitators. Much wit and humor have sparkled through the pieces, not vulgar wit, at which the thoughtless laugh while the reflecting are annoyed; but refined wit, caustic humor, and sarcasms which cut folly and deal trenchant blows at ignorant and empty pride, as in the fine comedy of "Self." Yet, although the weather has been unfavorable, it is questionable if these plays have been as well patronized as those of the sensation school would have been, which, though not presenting anything particularly wrong, either in language or incident have a tendency to create a desire for the unnatural and improbable. Like strong condiments in food to the body, or sensational novelettes to the mind, they excite an appetite for that which is injurious. It does not speak well for public taste where unnatural, improbable and overstrained acting, or worse still, in modest presentations, take the precedence of natural, artistic and truthful impersonations. Yet such is the manifestation of public taste in many places, and it marks the decadence of sound morality. Very many people desire to see on the stage something the very opposite of that which, under circumstances similar to those assumed, would be found in actual life. Actors and actresses must strut, and fume and rant, and play the fool in the eyes of sensible people, to gratify such a taste; and it is no uncommon thing for members of the profession, in their

desire to please the many, to outrage common sense by their unnatural mouthings and actions on the stage. A higher taste should be cultivated among us; and the performances of such artists as Mr. and Miss Coudock have a tendency to aid it. Now that we are likely to have settled weather, we hope, for the very brief time that they remain, our people who feel a disposition to attend the Theatre, will evince their appreciation of such playing as is now offered to our public, and cultivate a taste for the natural, rational and truthful, in preference to the inflated and sensational class of plays which now claim an immense but necessarily an ephemeral popularity throughout the world.

**THE WEATHER.**—By Deseret State Telegraph Line we learn the following state of the weather at the points named at noon to-day:—

Brigham City; very pleasant; clear air; froze last night. The high water has carried away all the bridges in the Canyon, and in some places cut out the road. It is falling very fast now.

Ogden; clear and frosty.

American Fork; very pleasant, with the exception of a few scattered clouds. Heavy frost last night. No snow.

Payson; very fine, warm and pleasant; some clouds hovering near the mountains south. It froze some here last night. No snow in the valley.

Nephi; pleasant and a little cloudy. Froze last night.

Ephraim; mild and somewhat cloudy; sun shining at intervals. Slight frost last night.

Manti; cloudy and cold. Roads very bad.

**LOCKED UP.**—Snedaker, whose arrest we chronicled yesterday, for possessing and showing obscene pictures, was brought before Justice Clinton, and fully committed to appear before the Probate Court, \$300 security was demanded from him, which he was unable to procure, and he was conveyed to the County Jail where he remains a guest of the public until his trial.

**WET.**—Our exchanges bear evidence of the extent of the late rain storm, many of them having come to hand as wet as Paddy Ryan's wife said her husband was, when he was hung out to dry in Sidney, with a rope round his neck lest he should fall and hurt himself.

**DIED.**—In this city, Dec. 26th, 1887, James Kewley, formerly of the Isle of Man. His funeral will take place to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

##### FROM SATURDAY'S DAILY.

**THE WEATHER.**—The following, received by Deseret State Telegraph, is the state of the weather at the points named:—

Brigham City; very pleasant.

American Fork; quite warm, sun shining—very pleasant; mud drying up very fast.

Provo; a beautiful day and the sun shining brightly. A little chilly. The river is gone down so that it is now fordable.

Payson; very clear, fine and pleasant; no clouds to be seen. It froze hard last night.

Nephi; clear, with the sun shining brightly; but cold.

Fountain Green; fine, but cold.

Mount Pleasant; fine and clear.

Gunnison; clear; a slight frost.

Round Valley; clear, but a rather cold breeze. The roads are bad.

**GOVERNMENT REWARD.**—General Chetlain, Assessor of Internal Revenue for this district, has received from Commissioner Rollins a hand-bill offering a reward of \$300 to be paid to any person who will give such information as will lead to the forfeiture of any distillery and the conviction of any person engaged in operating such distillery, whose proprietor has not given the notice required by law to the Assessor of his district. We are satisfied that Government has been defrauded in other ways in the past, by persons in this city, who were very loud in praise of their own loyalty, and very bitter enemies to the "Mormons;" and if there is any illicit distillation carried on in the district, it is to be hoped that it will be brought to light.

**LINE DOWN.**—The line is down east, and consequently there is no news from that source to-day. This morning it was found that there was an interruption between this city and Weber; but the line was put up and communication opened with Bridger. The line was then found down east of that place, and so remained up to our going to press.

##### FROM MONDAY'S DAILY.

**SABBATH MEETINGS.**—Elder H. S. Eldredge spoke of the joy he experienced upon first hearing the principles of the gospel. It was like the restoration of a treasure long lost but highly prized. He complied with its requirements with a desire and belief that faithfulness thereto would ensure his salvation. That was the faith he still entertained, and it had been constant and unwavering. He knew Joseph the Prophet, and from associating with him he could testify that he was a high-minded honorable man, and he could bear the same testimony of Pres. B. Young. He rejoiced that we have men over us to lead us right, for we need instruction and counsel continually that we may advance in the scale of intelligence and be prepared for every position to which we may be called here, and eventually for exaltation in the presence of God.

Bishop E. D. Woolley followed. He came to meeting week after week to be taught in regard to the truths of Heaven; and did not think we would ever be too old to learn. His faith in the doctrines of the church, in its leaders, and in the consummation of the work of God had increased from the time he embraced the gospel. He could see the consistency and beauty of many of our doctrines now, that in his infancy in the church he could not understand. This was the case with the majority of the Saints,—they were progressing, but, gratifying as that fact was, they might progress much faster if they would pay more diligent heed to the counsel of their leaders.

In the afternoon Elder George A. Smith, President D. H. Wells and President B. Young spoke. Their remarks were reported.

**FROM BEAR LAKE VALLEY.**—We had a call this morning from Elder C. C. Rich, just arrived from Bear Lake Valley. He is in good health, excepting a slight cold; and bears marks of having passed through "some weather" since last Conference. He informs us that the mail service was put on between Cache Co. and Rich-

land Co., on the 15th December. When he left Bear Lake Valley the snow was about two inches deep; and the weather was sufficiently mild for plowing to be done. It has rained a great deal there this fall, as it has here. Good health generally prevails, and the people are feeling well. Sufficient feed is found on the range, in consequence of the heavy fall rains, and the stock is doing well. The crops in Richland Co. thrashed out lighter than was expected, the grasshoppers having done considerable damage to them; but those insects left that valley before depositing their eggs, and everything is favorable for next season's crop.

The difficulty of communication with places outside the valley will be best understood from the fact that it took Elder Rich four days to reach Franklin, from Paris, about 50 miles, he having the assistance of twelve men and twenty animals to get through the canyon. The snow was from three to five feet deep, and crusted about half way down, a heavy fall of snow laying soft on the previous deposit which was frozen over. Sometimes this crust, hidden below the surface, would bear them up; and sometimes it yielded and they sank to the ground. This rendered traveling exceedingly tedious and wearisome. His son, Elder Joseph C. Rich, accompanied him to Logan, Cache Co., when he returned to regulate the mail service lately put on. He is expected in the city in a short time.

**ANOTHER OFFICE.**—The following dispatches were received by President Brigham Young on the opening of the telegraph office at Santaquin to-day:

Santaquin, Dec. 30.

**PRESIDENT B. YOUNG:**

We have opened office at this place, Miss Mary McClellan, of Payson, operator.

A. MILTON MUSSER.

Santaquin, Dec. 30.

**PRESIDENT B. YOUNG:**

We thank you for an office in Santaquin, and may your efforts ever be crowned with success in blessing Israel, as they have been in establishing this line.

DAVID M. HOLLADAY.

**ANOTHER VETERAN GONE.**—By telegram from Bishop J. T. Willis, of Tokerville, to Pres. B. Young, we learn that Father Elisha H. Groves, who lived at Kanarrh, died on the 20th December, at 5 o'clock in the morning.

[Special to the Deseret Evening News.]

#### By Telegraph.

London, 29.

Dispatches from Italy represent much political agitation throughout Italy.—The excitement is dangerous and fears are entertained that it will culminate in a rising against the government.

Paris, 29.

The Papal Government offers to pay the interest on those Italian bonds which represent the old debt of the pontifical state.

Charleston, 30.

Canby has issued orders, calling the Convention to meet in Charleston on January 14.

New Orleans, 30.

The State Convention of the Union League, now in session, has unanimously nominated Justice Chase for the Presidency.

Chicago, 30.

The *Times* special says Ord is relieved at his own request. The *Tribune's* special says he is relieved at the request of General Grant, who was not satisfied with his administration of affairs. Ord proceeds immediately to California, to relieve McDowell.

There are excellent reasons for the belief that the reports of destitution, from the South, especially in Ord's district, have been exaggerated. The destitution is rather prospective than present, and is largely caused by the dismissal of hands by the planters in violation of contracts.

New York, 30.

Thad. Stevens is preparing a speech in favor of the Alaska appropriation.

The *Herald's* special says a number of leading conservatives have proposed that those States which have recently gone democratic, repeal the resolution ratifying the fourteenth article of the Constitution.

The *Tribune's* special says it is understood that the new British Minister comes with full authority to reopen the question of the Alabama claims, with the view of effecting an amicable adjustment.

The public debt statement, to be ready on January 5th, will be more favorable than last month's.

#### ESTRAYS.

I HAVE in my possession one yearling brown STEER, half crop in left ear, and notch in right.

One 4 year old red COW, with some white spots, branded on left hip M P P, underbit in left ear. A red steer CALF with her, with hole in left ear.

If not claimed by the 20th of January, they will be sold at public sale at the Pound in Brigham City.

LEWIS WIGHT,

Poundkeeper.

Brigham City, Box Elder Co., U. T.

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#### ESTRAY.

I HAVE in my possession the following described animal:

One 12 or 15 year old OX, red and white pided, crop and stit in left ear, underslit in right, V S on left horn, S 7 on right horn.

If not claimed and taken away before the 20th of January, 1888, it will be sold to the highest bidder.

M. D. HAMBLETON,

County Poundkeeper,

Manti, Dec. 20, '87.

s93-22w47-1