

Correspondence.

Two Days' Meetings.

PEOA, Summit Co., Utah,
May 9th, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

A two days' meeting was held in Kamas City on Saturday and Sunday last, at which Bishop S. F. Atwood, the local Bishop, High Priests, Elders and a large congregation assembled to worship God and transact such business as might be brought before the meeting. The instructions which were given by the Elders were dictated by the Holy Spirit, and a good feeling was manifested by all the Saints.

Bishop S. F. Atwood spoke of the Temple which had been dedicated at St. George, of the blessings the faithful could receive in the same, and of the work that could be done for the living and the dead. He encouraged the Saints to donate liberally towards the Temple fund, so that the Temple in Salt Lake City might be erected, wherein the Saints could receive those blessings which were promised them. He showed how necessary it was that we encouraged home-manufacture, and said we should unite our efforts that we might become a self-sustaining people. The Saints should co-operate, pay their tithing and obey all the laws of God. He wished the Saints to commence the raising of flax, and the manufacturing of the same would be a source of wealth to them.

Bishop A. Marchant said one of the greatest blessings the Saints enjoyed was in having the holy Priesthood here on earth to teach us the mind and will of the Lord, and if we were obedient to the priesthood great would be our reward. He spoke of the testimony which we had of the truthfulness of the work in which we were engaged. He warned the people to be prepared for the day when the Lord would pour out his wrath upon the nations of the earth, and said judgment would commence at the house of the Lord. He encouraged to unite and become one, that we might have power to withstand the power of the evil one, and do the will of our Father in heaven.

The subjects taken up by the Elders who followed the above speakers, were the building of temples, the paying of tithing, home manufacture, union, the Word of Wisdom, obedience to the laws of God. The Saints were encouraged to faithfulness, and he said they should see that their children attended Sunday school, and were brought up in the fear of the Lord.

The meeting was an enjoyable time for all, and each felt repaid for the time spent on this occasion.

Much credit is due the choir, under the leadership of Prof. Burbridge, for the sweet singing furnished during the meeting.

O. F. LYONS,

Clerk of meeting.

Are We Not Extravagant?

Editor Deseret News:

Sir—It is evidently becoming pressingly important that we should as a community turn our attention systematically to the speedy and thorough development of home industries, and in this direction our brethren are constantly urging the Saints to harmonize, that their efforts may accomplish the object so earnestly desired.

To every reflecting mind it must be apparent that the financial practice of our people for the past twenty years has been but little removed from what we now understand to be a suicidal policy; for a people importing much and exporting little must finally learn, by sad experience, what history has never failed to teach, namely, that such must remain poor, for the balance of trade being against them, the result, always a bad one, can be only a question of time.

That we need, in Utah, more factories, machine shops, and tanneries, and the wisdom to constantly supply and operate them, few will deny. But how to furnish promptly the necessary ready money with which to purchase the needed machinery seems to be the important question of the hour.

The policy so persistently pursued by us in the past we well know has failed to result in the accumulation of much wealth, for our system of trade has drained our Territory of money, much as a vast extent of country is drained by the Missouri river and its tributaries, forming

together a mighty stream flowing steadily but surely to the Gulf of Mexico, and thence to the Atlantic. So it has been, and still continues to be, with us, streams flowing from every village and hamlet, draining, with a steady but sure flow, the fruits of our yearly toil and depositing them in the laps of Babylon's merchants. Surely in this wisdom has hid her face behind a false conception of social economy. Our limited exports have been chiefly raw materials, while our greater imports have been altogether manufactured articles. The same system has proved that the South was unequal to the North in the late civil war. The test was made, the result is a matter of history, from which if we do not profit we are unwise, but not more so than in our extravagant purchases of certain classes of machinery.

It has been estimated that there are, in Cache County alone, sixty threshing machines, which at an average cost of \$700 each, shows a total of \$42,000. The season's threshing here is generally done in thirty days of the very busiest time of the year. Thus this \$42,000 worth of property is used only one-twelfth of the time. Now if our people would arrange to have their threshing done during the months of December, January, February, and March, they would have four months, generally spent in idleness, in which fifteen instead of sixty machines could perform all the work required and would leave us forty-five threshers, at a total cost of \$31,500, for which we would have no reasonable use. Now add to this the labor of 600 men at \$1 each, and that of 480 horses at 50 cents each per day, and we have at a low estimate the cost of operating the sixty machines. It amounts in thirty days to \$25,200. This gives us a nice little footing of \$57,700, which we may reasonably carry to loss on threshing machine account.

But, says one, why figure to loss the thirty days' labor of the men and horses? Because it, if directed wisely in any of a dozen other channels, easily named, would produce that amount of earnings during the busy month of October of each year, while our past experience plainly indicates that employment has not, during the winter months, been furnished, only to a very limited extent, either for man or beast, the general practice being to consume during winter just about all we accumulate during summer. Hence misapplied labor in the latter, which could be utilized during the former, is, according to my view, a positive loss.

I have but little doubt that there are in this county not less than 200 harvesters and reapers, with an average cut of 100 acres each, which if kept in good condition and well managed, would cut 200 acres each during the harvest season. Thus we have \$20,000 worth of this kind of machinery more than we really need, and we may safely say that we have an equal amount of surplus in mowers and sulky rakes.

Now one item for our sisters, but which also vitally concerns the brethren, I mean sewing machines. An agent, I need not mention firms, not long since informed me that his company had sold in this and Bear Lake County \$50,000 worth of machines. And several years since one of another firm told me that the sales of the company which he represented had been in this county alone \$30,000. I inquired of the former agent how much he could increase his sales by reducing the price one-half and demanding payment on delivery of goods. His reply was, "We could not sell one machine where we now sell twenty." Upon this point comment would be useless, it tells its own story.

I am led by these and other circumstances to believe that there are now in this county alone sewing machines which have cost our people not less than \$100,000, they being in number about eight to every ten families in the valley. From close inquiry I am satisfied that one is quite sufficient on an average to do the sewing for ten families. Under proper organization, we would, therefore, I think, soon learn that we have about 700 of this class of machines, which have probably cost not less than \$60,000, and for which we really have no reasonable or paying use. This, including misapplied labor on threshers, in four items I estimate we have under present arrangements of mismanagement \$156,700 worth of property which it seems to me it is a folly to own, and it ought never to have been purchased by us.

It is not only not dividend paying, but it is property upon which we feel the pressure of yearly heavy assessments. Why, the interest on that amount, if well invested, would build our factories, shops and tanneries as fast as we could prepare ourselves to successfully operate them.

I regret to confess that in many ways we are an unwise people, yet we have been counseled better things than some of our surroundings indicate. But it is useless to bemoan our past errors; we can and should, however, see to it that our present and better hopes be not wrecked upon the same reefs of folly.

Respectfully,

M. T.

LOGAN, May 10th, 1877.

Welcome Home—Improvement—Grasshoppers.

BRIGHAM CITY, May 15, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Although the weather was bad yesterday, a very large number of our citizens, mostly in vehicles, proceeded to the station of the Utah Northern Railroad, at the time of the arrival of the train, to meet President L. Snow, who has been absent in the south about two months. A welcome address, in behalf of the committee of reception and the citizens in general, was delivered by A. Christensen, President Snow responding and expressing himself to the effect that it was much unexpected to him to have the honor to be met by so many of his fellow-citizens on the occasion. The brass band were discoursing sweet music as he, accompanied by a long procession of vehicles, proceeded to his residence.

The walls of the new tabernacle will soon be completed. Other public buildings are in course of erection, and improvements in general are not at a stand still. The grasshoppers are thick in some parts of our fields, and help themselves to what grows nearest to them.

Yours truly,

A. C.

Sunday School—Y. M. M. I. A.—Frost and Crops.

KANOSH, Millard Co.,

May 14, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Brother—I would say, encourage home talent, give the boys and girls a chance, and to this end our best citizens have been giving, in Sunday School and Y. M. M. I. A., their time, counsel, and encouragement. The result is a Sunday school that we all feel proud of, in point of order, attendance, and development of talent in the scholars.

One of the greatest levers to reform, in lifting our boys from the old ruts of bronco riding, whittling, and letting off stale yarns, has been the organization of the Y. M. M. I. A., which already consists of over thirty members. Our exercises have consisted in select readings, lectures, questions and answers (generally historical in connection with the principles of the gospel), recitations, songs, and the reading of our weekly paper, called the *Kanosh Lantern*, written by the members of the Association, the subjects being, of course, various in both taste and talent, according to the mind and disposition of the writer, the whole being subject to criticism in a kind and corrective manner. The result of these weekly meetings, to which the general public have been several times invited, has been manifestly of a refining nature, and a general desire for knowledge, which is power indeed with the Latter-day Saints. As passing straws indicate the course of currents, so do these Y. M. M. I. A. Associations indicate the coming power, in connection with the great Latter-day work, and the young man who stands aloof will surely regret his course.

Our short session of about three months has been entirely satisfactory in showing that amongst the youth of Kanosh there are as bright intellects as can be found in any town of like facilities for acquiring knowledge, and the hope of the future is in the young. We are pleased to say that Bishop Culbert King has backed our every effort and helped us to tide over every opposing influence, meeting with us on every possible occasion, thus preaching by example to all. The association closed its labors for the season on Saturday, the 12th, the

general public being present, and enjoyed home made pleasure.

That old enemy, Jack Frost, made a successful raid upon us a few weeks since, and entirely demolished our fruit prospects, leaving us only a few gooseberries and currants, but we will try and make it up with potatoes, etc. Our fall grain never looked better at this season, and unless our northern friends hatch out their 'hoppers earlier than usual our wheat crops will be too hard to be toothsome to these unwelcome visitors, should they travel south.

Yours in Truth,

GEO. CRANE.

Moving—Arrowroot—Volcanic Eruption.

ISLAND OF HAWAII,

Sandwich Islands,

March —, 1877.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Lambert.

Dear Brother and Sister—I have nearly closed my labors on this Island for the present, as I intend to hold conference with the saints here next Sunday, and then at the earliest opportunity sail for Honolulu, and from there go to Laie to hold conference at that place on the 6th of April. The saints here are getting up a feast for me before I leave. A fat steer was brought down to-night. To-morrow I am going to get some coconuts, to take home to Laie with me. I have had a nice lot of arrowroot starch given me at this place to take home with me. It is as white as snow and clean. I wish I could give you a pound or two of it, as it is splendid food for a sick child. Lots of starch is sold for arrowroot at home, but it comes out of corn or potatoes. Shirts done up with it look nice. It is really the best starch I ever saw. The natives make a kind of pudding of it and coconut. It is too rich for my stomach, but would be nice if made with a little improvement in the style of making.

I wrote home about the great volcanic eruption on the night of February 14th, and said I thought it had taken this direction. I was right, but it took a strange freak and went under ground, but there was no earthquake as is usual on such occasions, and the rock and earth cracked from the sea to the mountain, yet there was no report or sound. It took from the 14th to the 23d for it to show itself, and it broke out in the sea about five rods from the shore, throwing up the sea and cinders and lava to quite a height and to quite a distance. The sea was made so hot that it killed the fish, and it threw the lava in such force that a piece of lava was caught on the *Kilauea* with a piece of fish fast in it. They say that the hot rock floated on the water. A great deal of it was caught and they caught pieces red hot on the steamer *Kilauea*. I visited the place yesterday, but could not get a specimen of the lava that was picked up in the sea. Experienced persons say that this is not the end of this, but if it is going to take such freaks as this and come on in the quiet way this came, it may destroy life, at least I don't want any of it in my way. I would rather bask in the sunshine of Utah's vales. I am in hopes of soon having the pleasure to talk to you instead of writing.

Your loving brother,

R. G. LAMBERT.

Driving the 'Hoppers.

FRANKLIN CITY, Idaho,

May 11th, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

As it may be some information or advantage to the readers of the *News* and the people generally, I will give my first experience with the omnipresent grasshopper. I live out by myself. Two days ago the 'hoppers made a raid on one side of my wheat. I with my force commenced to ditch outside, but some had got in the field. We set in to beat them back with big rags tied on the ends of sticks. We soon drove them to some straw that we had scattered along for the purpose of burning them, as I had often heard of. Then I set fire to the straw, the wind being in my favor, and soon after the whole army turned and went in another direction as fast as they could. They came to another part of my field, and I repeated the operation once or twice more and they changed their course. Now I believe they can be successfully driven in this

way into streams or ditches or out of the reach of fields and thousands of bushels of grain be saved, which the people will soon find is more precious than gold dust. Straw could be hauled and scattered in light rows, say about five or six rods apart. Get the 'hoppers started and fire the straw in their rear. The wind should be moving so as to drive the smoke and heat toward the 'hoppers, and once they are started who knows that they would not travel several days with very little driving? They are very numerous here in places, but not so much as farther south in this (Cache) valley.

Respectfully yours in the gospel covenant,

E. R. LAWRENCE.

BY TELEGRAPH.

AMERICAN.

LAKE CHARLES, La., 21.—The Calcasieu lumber case is as follows: The District Attorney filed in the United States Court in New Orleans, a suit against about a dozen citizens of Calcasieu parish, alleging that they and others had cut quantities of pine logs in Calcasieu on the public land, and praying for the sequestration and sale of the logs for the benefit of Government. A writ was issued, and the Deputy Marshal seized 40,000 logs in the creeks and blockaded the west fork of the Calcasieu River by a chain. The logmen claim that nine-tenths of the logs were cut on private land, which the officers deny. The logmen and families are suffering great destitution by reason of the failure to get the logs to market, and indignation has increased because it is known that thousands of these logs were cut on private land. Only two or three persons have threatened violence, and nobody dreams of any but legal resistance. A conference has been held, and an amicable adjustment is expected soon.

CHICAGO, 21.—Storms are reported in isolated parts of the north-west, but no general visitation. Much damage has been inflicted on crops, fences, roofs of houses, and barns.

Near Marion, Indiana, yesterday, a brick church was demolished during service, and the crowd within was buried by the walls. A terrible scene ensued, one man was killed and ten or fifteen have been taken out seriously injured.

The *Tribune's* Washington special says it is stated that Pierrepont, in England, has actually petitioned Earl Manvers, the head of the so-called Pierreponts in England, for permission to use the family crest on his carriage, and availed himself of the earl's gracious reply.

CUSTER, D. T., 21.—John Featherston, division superintendent of the Black Hills Stage Company, was thrown from a wagon near Mountain City, this morning, and instantly killed. His neck was broken by the fall.

In a quarrel at Haywood City, between a man named Hurley, and George Johnson, over a lawsuit about a horse, Johnson was killed instantly.

LAWRENCE, Ks., 21.—Heavy rains the past week have raised the streams an unusual height. Some damage has been done to the roads, and the trains on all considerably delayed.

BALTIMORE, 21.—At a meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic, Gen. Tyler presiding, the decoration of the graves of Confederates, on Memorial Day, was brought up, and the following resolution, proposed by Gen. Felix Agnus, was adopted:

Resolved, That while the Grand Army of the Republic accords to all its members the sacred right of their opinions, yet, as an organization, it cannot be a party to anything political or tending thereto, and under its rules and regulations, as members, we cannot as a body decorate the grave of any others but the union dead on Memorial Day; nevertheless, we will respect the action of any of the members individually decorating the graves of the Confederate dead.

SAN FRANCISCO, 21.—A Portland dispatch says General Howard has just returned from Walloua Valley, where he has been to adjust the troubles with the non-treaty Nez Percés Indians. He reports that the refractory Indians have been compelled to return to the reservation, where they agree to remain with their families. It is believed there will be no further trouble