

tle, and was of immense benefit, especially to dry farming districts where the soil had become too dry for the germination of seeds.

Spring seeding is practically finished except in a few districts in the eastern portions of the State, and farmers are now planting corn and potatoes.

There were no bad reports received from any portion of the State during the past week. All correspondents speak enthusiastically of the fine appearance of fall and spring wheat, lucern, meadows and other general crops.

Mill Creek—First four days stormy, with light fall of snow on the 4th, but no frost. Everything looking fine.

Paradise—Crops nearly all sown, except potatoes; grain coming up nicely; fall grain looking good.

Lewiston—Past week very changeable. Crops growing nicely; lucern about 8 inches high; currant and gooseberry blooming out.

Garland—Nice rains forepart of week. All kinds of vegetation growing fast. Wheat and lucern fine.

Mendon—Some fall grain about 6 inches high; never saw it look better. Spring grain nearly all in; some up and looking fine. Lucern looking excellent.

Uintah—An entire week of rain. All kinds of vegetation is booming. Killing frost Wednesday night, but little or no damage.

Lawrence—Seeding and planting about half done. Gentle rains for five days thoroughly soaked the ground and greatly benefited all kinds of vegetation.

Spring City—Rain and snow four days past week; ground watered sufficient. Crops look well; lucern fine. Some frost Thursday night.

Mt. Pleasant—Snow on May 2d, 3rd and 4th. No frost. Lucern 6 inches high; most grain up; gardens appearing green; most fruit trees in bloom.

Manti—The first half of the week was very wet for this time of year. No frost to hurt yet; everything promising.

Mt. Carmel—Since the 30th of April to the 1st of May it has rained every day increasing the creeks. Frost on 6th and 7th, may have injured the fruit; everything looks well.

Kingston—Good wet week helps crops wonderfully, but came within an ace of freezing on evening of 5th. But fruit blossoms are safe thus far.

Plateau—Snowed some on the 2d and about five inches on the 3rd, froze a little the night of the 3rd. Grass growing nicely; not all the grain in yet.

Koosharem—First part of week rain and snow. Heavy frost night of the 3rd, 4th and 5th. Sowing of grain not yet finished; ground very wet.

Hyde Park—Heavy rains, high winds and cold weather past week; apple trees in bloom; everything growing nicely.

Deweyville—On the 2nd and 3rd rain and high wind, snow fell on the hills, light frost on the 5th; rain on the 6th, and light frost on the 7th; crops of all kinds are doing well; farmers are busy planting corn and potatoes.

Brigham City—A cloudy week with a number of fine showers; prospects of the field, garden and orchards are good.

Logan—Grain crop growing nicely; rain on the 6th; light frost Wednesday and Thursday; apple trees in full bloom.

Monticello—Heavy rains and snowstorms; wheat crops look well; oats coming up; potato planting in progress.

Levan—The storm, after five days with alternately rain, hail and snow, ended night of May 4th, bringing up spring grain, giving fall grain a new start, reviving the range, and in fact put new life into all kinds of vegetation; no damage so far by frost; fruit, even peaches, doing well; plowing after the storm is easy.

St. George—Climatic conditions favor-

able to vegetation; hail from southwest 3 p. m. May 1st; no damage.

Payson—Cool weather; crops looking fine; good growth; heavy rains frequently; water increased.

Heber—The past week has been a happy one for the farmer; more rain, and snow fell in one continuous storm since the settlement of the valley, to my recollection; a great amount of snow fell in the high mountains; creek rising rapidly.

American Fork—Weather has been splendid for crops the past week; bench lands in particular, very favorable for putting in late crops; the late rains have made all vegetation look well.

Peterson—A general rain the most of the week; grain and the range look fine.

Mapleton—The most part of the past week has been stormy; there has been rain in abundance and snow to the depth of 2 inches; beets are coming up and a good stand is assured; other vegetation growing rapidly.

Lehi—The past week has given us the finest rains for years; all now looks promising; beet thinning ready; a good stand.

Pinto—Grain coming up looks nice; the storm was a fine thing for the country as the ground was getting very dry.

Roy—Our sugar beets are most all up and looking well; crops all in; wheat looking well; the past week has been rainy and good for growth of vegetation.

Ranch—Nice showers during week which were good for sprouting grain and growth of crops; meadows look well.

Huntsville—The rain that commenced the last of April and lasted for four days, did an immense amount of good to the young grain; some snow fell on the mountains and a little in the valley; frost Friday morning.

Chester—For the past nine days it has rained nearly every day which has caused the farmers to rejoice, as their fields were getting very dry; the crops have never looked better at this time of the year than they do at present; all small grain is seeded and fruit trees are in bloom.

Meadowville—First and second rain, third and fourth snow; the snow has all gone, it has done good to grain and lucern; everything looking well.

Parowan—The week has been cold and stormy; frost has damaged the fruit slightly, but the rain and snow has been of great value to the farmer; small grain nearly all in; lucern looking well.

New Harmony—Considerable rain fell during the week; heavy frost but fruit not injured; crops look well.

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SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

White powders are made more or less smokeless, it seems incredible that guns may be made noiseless as well as flashless, but this is what Col. Humbert seeks to accomplish. He expects further a very material reduction in recoil. His plan consists in screwing to the muzzle a block containing a shutter that ordinarily falls inward to a horizontal position, but which, as the projectile is about to make its exit at full velocity, is forced upward against the opening by the passage of some of the gases under it. This prompt closing of the gun behind the projectile confines the gases still at high pressure—and prevents the sudden entrance of air that is one of the chief causes of detonation. Small holes in the rear of the block permit the gases to leak out slowly. Experiments through the aid of a French factory have shown the anticipated great re-

duction of flash and noise, without much effect on recoil.

Several successful cases of amputation by the natural method of allowing the injured or dead part to slough away from the living, sawing through bone being the only cutting done, have been reported by M. Reclus. The wound is first injected with water at 140 degrees F, which arrests bleeding and warms the collapsed patient, then disinfected with a permanganate of potash solution, and finally embalmed in a dressing of several antiseptics. The dead part is stated to become entirely separated from the living in three weeks.

A French physiologist has noted striking similarities between the healing of a wound and the growth of a crystal in a solution. A Russian investigator has found what he considers more than a chance resemblance between the arrangements of cells in sections of wood and those of iron filings under magnetic influence, and he concludes that they are produced by actions that are analogous if not identical.

A new catalogue of the higher plants of North America north of Mexico has 14,534 entries, including 15 palms and 210 orchids.

Recent spectroscopic research indicates that the rarer metals are very widely distributed. Messrs. W. N. Hartley and Hugh Ramage having found the extremely rare metal gallium in 31 out of 91 iron ores obtained from the Royal Dublin College of Science, while these ores nearly all had unexpected constituents. Rubidium was present in most of them, with indium in the siderites, or iron carbonates. The same chemists have now studied meteorites, finding gallium in varying proportions in meteoric irons, but not in all meteorites. A little rubidium also exists in the irons. The chief points of difference between the meteoric and terrestrial irons are found to be that the former contain much nickel and cobalt with only minute traces of manganese, while the ordinary iron ores contain manganese with only traces of nickel and cobalt. Sodium and potassium occur in meteoric irons in small proportions. Meteoric irons, like iron ores and manufactured irons, contain copper, lead and silver, meteoric stones, unlike meteoric irons, contain chromium and manganese.

The West Indies are threatened with a physical, as well as a political convulsion. Prof. Milne has been advised that since the flood of November, 1896, earthquakes have been of daily occurrence in the island of Montserrat, near Porto Rico, as many as thirty shocks often being felt in a single day. Cracks have appeared in the stone buildings. It is feared that the disturbances will culminate in a volcanic eruption, and scientific investigation is urged.

The sights and sounds of maritime life, as experienced by a French company's fleets, are to be represented on a full scale at the Paris exhibition of 1900 by a combination of the cinematograph and the Dussaud phonograph. A similar reproduction of a modern naval engagement would be an even more striking and sensational novelty.

A natural bridge near Moab, in southeastern Utah, is estimated to be about 500 feet in span and 150 feet in height. Dr. Arthur Winslow believes this to be a monstrous product of wind erosion, as it is in an arid region where the wind-blown sands cut holes very rapidly in the friable sandstones. It is a new-found marvel of the Great West.

Three kinds of electric telegraphy across space are recognized by Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson—those depending respectively on conduction, induction and wave methods. The last kind has been employed by Prof. Slaby of Charlottenburg in sending intelligible