

growing where the sacred spot was marked. The man who explained to us was a hired man with a family, working for \$200 a year. He said he had cut down the locust grove, made posts of the trees, cleared off the ground and plowed up the field. I took a photo of the house and the standing corn, covering the spot where the tomb was. We have the measurement from the old dam, a portion of which still remains, so that a piece of ground may at some time be purchased and a monument be placed to mark the fatal spot. Offering a silent prayer, we returned to Breckenridge.

We then took train to Quincy, Ill., and on the following day, Sept. 18th, were in Quincy. At 6:30 a. m. we took train 60 miles to Nauvoo, where we arrived at 10:45 p. m. Our train pulled up at Montrose. We crossed the Mississippi river on the steam ferry City of Nauvoo. There was no trouble to find transportation from the landing, which was near the Law Brothers place, a large brick building still standing and inhabited by a tenant. I went into the building, and it looked as natural as it did when I heard the Laws preach there 51 years ago. It was not the voice of the good Shepherd, but of a stranger. I did not look at the house without peculiar feelings and thankfulness that I had been led in the narrow way. The Lord had some better work for me to do. Mr. T. W. Reinbold took two of us up to the Temple, showed us over the city and back to the boat again for \$1. There is opposition in back driving and other vocations even in old Nauvoo, which has dwindled down to a small town on the hill near and around the Temple. Main street and the flats are mostly in grape vines, which it is said flourish very well. Nauvoo, the Beautiful of the past, may now be termed a land of vineyards and wine manufactories. The Germans here are very industrious.

The minister gave us the keys to his church to ascend to the high steeple, after which we had a very pleasant visit with the minister who was pleased to meet one who knew the person who built the house he lived in. We found the priest a very genial gentleman, and spent a very pleasant time in Nauvoo. We took a snapshot at the Expositor building which will not be soon forgotten by old Nauvoo Latter-day Saints. In this view is where the Prophet Brigham Young was distinguished by the mantle of Joseph falling upon him. It was at the meeting place just east of the Temple. I am one of the few remaining who were present when Sidney Rigdon set up his claim as a guardian to the Church, but when the voice and mantle of Joseph fell upon Brother Brigham, all present well knew who to follow. Poor Sidney stepped back and down. I was pleased to take in this sacred spot by myself.

After a good night's rest we took steamer from the upper landing, Nauvoo to Keokuk, Iowa, crossing to Montrose and down through the canal through the two locks which have a fall of twenty feet. I took a picture of the Atama Bell street going through the locks.

EDWARD STEVENSON.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

SOUTH COTTONWOOD,

September 18, 1895.

After carefully reading and considering your last reply and consulting various sources of information on the subject under discussion, I deem it necessary to again ask for space in your paper, that I may place myself and the position I maintain squarely before the public.

From the first, and still, there is but one question to be settled, though through inadvertence or may be defective composition there have crept in minor differences. It is true various questions arise from the main question; but can we succeed in settling the main one, that will settle all the minor issues so far as the discussion is concerned. Let us discard, for the present, all questions except that of the county school fund.

Perhaps the best way to make myself understood will be to enumerate all the taxes levied and by what authority; then, as I said before, confine myself to the one issue.

As I understand the proposition there is a levy of two mills on all taxable property in the Territory, which levy is for current expenses of the Territory (State) and is made by the Legislature. There is a levy of three mills, conditioned as above, for a State school fund, which, "together with such other means as the Legislature may provide, shall be distributed among the several school districts according to the school population residing therein." Aside from this there is a levy of three mills, made by the county court for current county expenses. There is also made by the county court a levy of two mills, for a county school fund, to be divided in the county precisely as the State fund. Besides all this there is vested in boards of education and boards of school trustees certain other powers of levying a special school tax. Now, the whole question lies in the levying, collecting and apportioning of the county school fund. This is the crux of the whole controversy.

The NEWS admits that cities of the first and second class "are removed wholly from county control or responsibility in school matters." Taking this to be true, the county court could under the constitution still levy a tax on city as well as county property for current county expenses; but they cannot levy on city property for a county school fund, or if the court should there would be at once raised the cry of "double taxation" which would very soon be declared unconstitutional.

To Salt Lake county alone this means a diminution of \$15,000 a year in her school fund. Other counties may or may not be so seriously affected; but when we consider that four-fifths of the taxable property of Salt Lake county is within the limits of Salt Lake City, it is a serious proposition to the people of the county. It is not only a serious blow to the schools of Salt Lake county but is an entering wedge which means destruction to the whole free school system.

One may say why apprehend such disaster? The greatest evils often come from small beginnings. But Salt Lake City or any other first or second class city is only a school district which cannot be divided. Now,

if Salt Lake City has the right to apply and be taxed separately why cannot any other school district enjoy the same privilege? If such a method be carried into effect it simply means a return to practically the old tuition system, with the exception of the territorial apportionment, which does not contribute one half of the school fund. If this be allowed, wealthy school districts will soon bear such force upon county selectmen, that they will refuse to levy a county school tax. It is plain that where any school district contributes more to the school fund than it receives—under prospective conditions—those districts will much prefer to exercise the special school tax privilege and thereby keep their funds within their own limits.

Of the consequences that may accrue from this error graphic pictures may be drawn, but this is unnecessary, as cold conditions furnish a more convincing argument. The fact is that the very foundation and framework of our free school system is in danger, and to all who love education, progress and a prosperous state, we would call for an unbiased investigation ere the lurking danger throttle us and place us where we must helplessly watch the crumbling of our most magnificent institution—our free school system. D. W. MOFFAT.

IDAHO CROP REPORT.

Weather crop bulletin No. 25 of the Idaho state weather service for the week ending Monday, September 23, 1895:

The weather during the past week was unusually cold; the temperature on several dates fell below the freezing point and over the eastern-southern section the thermometer registered as low as 19 degrees on the morning of the 22nd. Frosts were of frequent occurrence but as the season is far advanced no material injury is reported except in the case of potatoes and garden truck. The high winds which have caused so much annoyance during the past several weeks are still prevalent.

Showers were reported on several days during the week, increasing the supply of water and putting the soil in good condition for fall plowing. A snowstorm prevailed over the south-eastern section on the 21st; snow covered the ground in depths ranging from one-half to more than two inches. This has delayed thrashing and other farm work to some extent. Hail storms have occurred in several localities; one on the 19th did considerable damage to naked grain in Blaine county, beating it flat.)

Owing to wet weather during the week thrashing has made little progress, but operations are still going on as rapidly as the weather will permit. With good weather the work will probably be completed this week over the extreme southern section; in other parts of the state several weeks are required.

Potatoes are a good crop, though shortened somewhat by frequent frosts; shipments have been made from several places during the week. Corn has been slightly affected by frost, and a week or more of favorable weather is required to ripen it properly. In many places much damage has been done to gardens by recent frosts.