

Correspondence.

Sunday Schools.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 17, 1875.

To the Bishops, Superintendents,
and Teachers of Sunday Schools

Dear Brethren—The monthly meeting of superintendents and teachers of Sunday Schools in this city continues to be held regularly on the first Monday in each month, at the City Hall, at 7 o'clock p. m.

To one and all of our country friends who happen to be in the city at such times, we extend a most cordial invitation to attend.

It affords us much pleasure to state that our last meeting was attended by representatives from every Sunday school in the city, which was a gratifying index to the increased interest now being taken in the juvenile portion of our community. Such is the importance attached to our Sunday School interests by President Brigham Young that he assigned as one reason for suspending the morning service in the New Tabernacle, to give an opportunity for bishops and their counselors, as well as others, to attend personally to the Sunday Schools in their respective wards.

That there might be no lack, either of teachers, children, or means to have them efficiently conducted; thus introducing a principle so often quoted by our Presiding Bishop, Edward Hunter, "Many hands make light work."

Quite a number of our bishops and other leading men are now engaged in this important part of their general watchcare over the people, and we have no doubt that the awakening spirit of repentance and reformation now resting upon the people will prompt not only an increased interest in Sunday Schools, but every institution in Zion will feel its enlivening influence. Therefore, brethren, we say, be ye encouraged, slacken not your labors, either as superintendents, bishops, or teachers, and while you are sowing the good seed of the word of God in the hearts of the children of Zion, be fervent in your prayers that God will deign to bless and sanctify your efforts by the quickening influences of his Holy Spirit, and that a rich and bountiful harvest of good works may result therefrom, that will gladden every faithful teacher's heart.

We sincerely hope that every Sunday School is supplied with a sufficient number of copies of the *Juvenile Instructor* to form a leading item of study. The questions on the Bible, Book of Mormon, and history of Joseph should be learned by every child in the school capable of committing them to memory. They are specially provided and published for the benefit of Sunday Schools, and we earnestly hope and strongly recommend their universal adoption in every Sunday School throughout the Territory. We know of no easier and more effective way of communicating a knowledge of the word of God, than by question and answer. One school of our acquaintance takes twenty copies; they are distributed among the teachers; the larger scholars learn the questions on the Bible on the first Sunday, and those on the Book of Mormon on the second; the smaller children are taught those on the history of Joseph, the same on both Sundays. At 11 o'clock a bell is rung, being a call to lay aside their lessons, and a teacher or adult scholar then asks these questions and a general interest is felt by all, and the questions answered by a majority of the children. The youthful mind being only capable of receiving a small portion of knowledge at one time, a little well learned and deeply impressed on the memory is preferable to a great deal but partially learned, and but dimly imprinted on the memory.

Let us therefore introduce more copies of the *Instructor* into our schools, and have our children well instructed in the Bible, the Book of Mormon, and Church History, from its pages, and if this be done in every Sunday School throughout Utah, it will so far increase the circulation of that invaluable periodical as to render it a self-sustaining enterprise, so earnestly desired by its publisher, George Q. Cannon.

Praying that God may continue to bless and prosper you in your labors, and inspire you to carry out the above suggestions.

I remain your collaborer in the good cause,

GEORGE GODDARD,
Ass't Gen'l Supt.
Deseret Sunday School Union.

Beecher's Protest Against Letter Writers.

The more cowardly enemies and opponents of Henry Ward Beecher having annoyed him with scurrilous and offensive postal cards to a degree beyond which endurance was no longer a virtue, the famous pastor of Plymouth Church filed a protest with the Postmaster General of the United States against these indignities. The protest was referred to General J. W. Marshall, First Assistant Postmaster General, who gave the matter his immediate attention, laying the facts before Judge Spence, U. S. Assistant Attorney General, for the Post-office, and soon after elicited the following opinion—

"In compliance with your request to be advised as to the propriety of excluding from the mails, under the provisions of the 3,893d section of the Revised Statutes, a postal card addressed to 'Brother Henry Ward Beecher, of Brothers Shearman, Tracy & Co's Plymouth Church, Brooklyn,' and on the back of which was written, 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.'"

The City of Churches once stood here,
But God and moral law it did not fear,
Its idol was Beecher, its ruler a ring,
That virtue and vice together did fling;
It flourished apace and greatly did grow,
Then down in the dust descended full low—
Gone to join Sodom and Gomorrah.

"I will reply that the purpose of the law referred to is obvious, but cannot be reached by a strict construction of its terms; therefore such a construction should be given to its terms as will attain the object intended. The object was to protect the abuse of the mails by giving publicity to offensive expressions and allegations calculated and intended to wound the feelings of the person to whom the mailable matter is addressed, or prejudice him in his business, moral or social standing. Such, I consider is the character of the writing and of the printed scrap attached to the postal card submitted to me, and that its exclusion from the mails for that cause would be proper."

The question in turn arises, How is the Brooklyn postmaster to know if the cards are scurrilous, unless he reads them, and how can he read them without disobeying a previous ruling of the Post-office Department, that post-office officials must not acquaint themselves with the contents of a postal card any more than with the contents of a sealed letter?—*Washington Letter in N. Y. Herald, Nov. 10.*

SUCH A HANDSOME MAN AS YOU, MR. GREELEY. — Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton has lectured in Chicago on Greeley, Seward and Weed. She estimated Weed as the greatest of American politicians, Seward as the greatest diplomat, and Greeley as the greatest editor. She incidentally told this story:

"I once attended a very fashionable party at John C. Fremont's, where Greeley invited me to take his arm to dinner. I said, 'Wait, Mr. Greeley, till after the guests are out. I want to say something to you.' And when the guests were out of the room, I set to work to tie his cravat, arrange his collar, comb his hair, and even tie his shoe, saying, Mr. Greeley, why is it that you, such a handsome man, are so careless in your dress?' His reply was, 'Handsome is that handsome does.'"—*Ex.*

Mrs. Livermore says that marriage and a home are not all that woman wants. She's just right. They'd want a new bonnet. And a pull back.

IMPORTANT TO THE TRAVELING PUBLIC.

It is the duty of all persons before starting on a journey to ascertain by what route they can reach their destination with the least trouble, and if there are two or more roads leading to the same point, to decide which is the safest and pleasantest to travel.

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Particular information, with maps, time tables, etc., may be had at any of the Through Ticket Offices in the West, or upon personal or written application to J. W. Irons, Ticket Agent, Salt Lake City, A. H. Earl, Ticket Agent at Ogden, or to J. H. Mountain, Western Traveling Agent, Omaha, Neb., or to W. H. Stennett, General Passenger Agent, Chicago. w1

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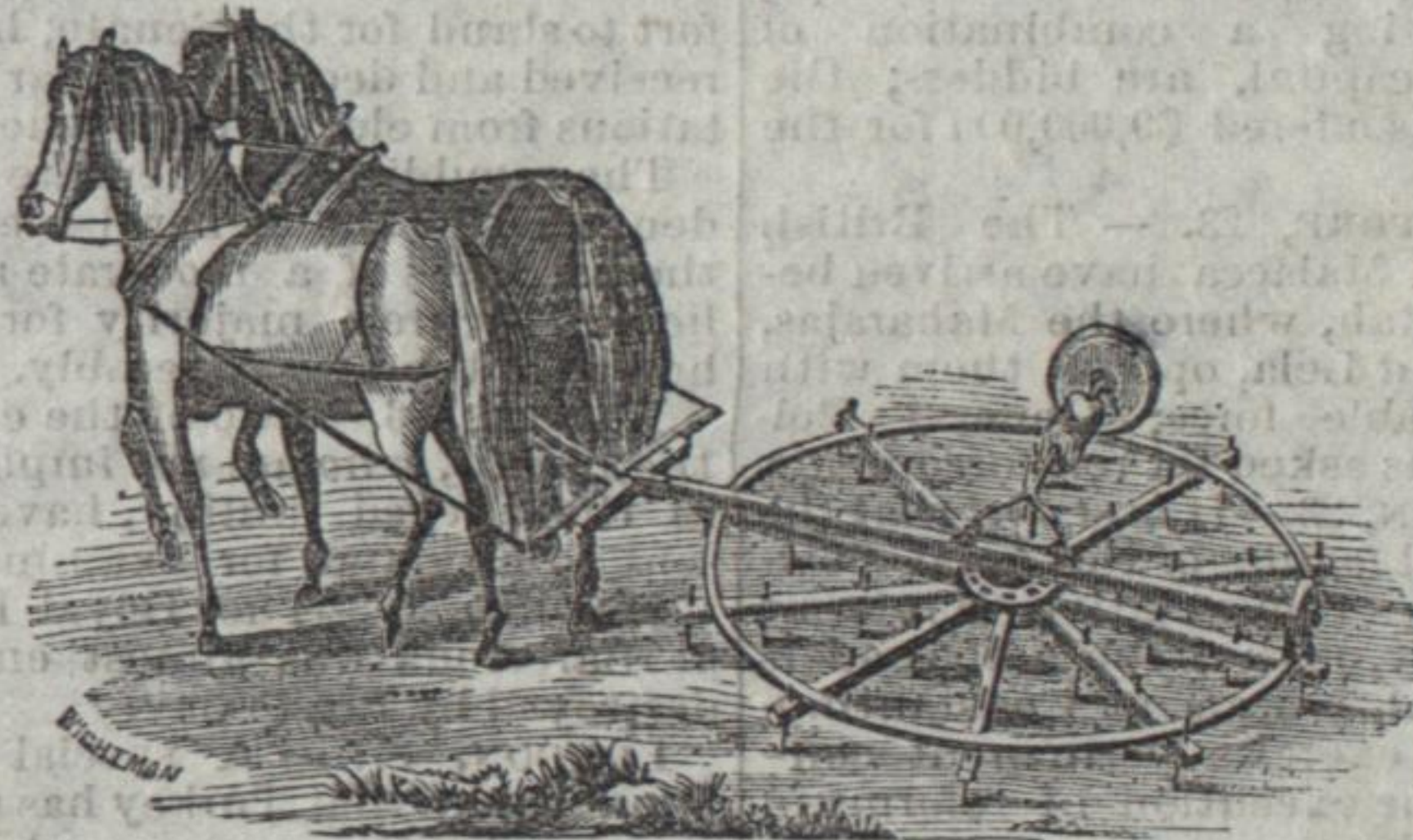
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