

## THE DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

### FALL SOWING.

In years past, owing to our isolated position, a good crop of grain, especially wheat, was of the utmost importance to our entire population, in fact, absolutely essential to our preservation. In view of the early completion of the great highway between the two oceans, and the consequent ease with which, in case of necessity, supplies of grain could be transported from the great grain growing States of the East and from California, this necessity is seemingly not so glaringly apparent. But upon either East or West we cannot rely with any degree of safety. The locusts have, during the past season, made their appearance and committed great havoc in several localities in the East, and in coming seasons they may be called to pass through an experience similar to that which the people of Utah were called to pass through in 1855-6, and again in 1867-8, when our crops, as we all know, suffered materially from the locusts or grasshoppers.

Indications at present for the next year's crops are much more favorable than they were last fall for the crops of the present season. The myriads of locusts in many localities of our Territory were laying their eggs at this time last year, giving all warning of what might be expected during the present season. Those indications have been filled to the letter, the locusts appearing in greater numbers than ever before seen since the settlement of this Territory by the white man. At the present time we hear but little of them, and with the exception of one or two localities—where it is said they are laying their eggs—the Territory is about free from their presence. Still, although indications are so much more in favor of good crops for next season, it will be well to adopt every measure within our reach that would seem in the least to promise success to the labors of the husbandman.

There is one thing of which all our farmers may avail themselves if they are so disposed, which, under present circumstances—when to say the least, there is not only a possibility but a probability of another visitation of locusts—might result in great good to the whole of the inhabitants of the Territory, that is the fall sowing of wheat. The advantages of such a course are so apparent that it is scarcely necessary to make any comment on the subject, and the season promises to be very favorable for all kinds of out-door labor.

Past experience has proven that the ravages of the grasshoppers on grain sown in the fall are not near so destructive as on grain sown in the spring. The reasons for this are very obvious. Grain sown in the fall gets such a start, that by the time these destructive insects are able to do much mischief, it is so far matured that they can damage it but slightly. With grain sown in the spring it is otherwise. The "hoppers" and it germinate together, and by the time the young grain is in blade it furnishes a plentiful supply of good food to the voracious army of bread destroyers.

This was the case on their first visitation in the Spring of 1855; and the same has been the case more or less with grain sown in the Spring for the past two years. And even in cases where it has not been completely destroyed by them it has been infected and blighted with their poisonous virus. The plentiful showers with which a kind Providence has favored us this Spring have averted this evil to some extent—as in both grain and fruit they have washed away the poison the insects left; but still, when once infected, although washed away, both grain and fruit have been permanently injured.

Some may object to Fall sowing on account of the risk of grain thus sown being Winter-killed. Of this there is not a very great risk. Our supply of snow in the Winter season is generally pretty plentiful, and when such is the case all risk is obviated. There is this risk, however to run, but the advantages are so evident that it may well be taken. If even the grain sown this Fall should be Winter-killed—which is exceedingly improbable—the loss would not be very great, and the losers would still enjoy the same chances of success in Spring sowing as others.

Some may think that the completion of the railroad would remove all risk; but the reasons already assigned clearly show that this is not the case. In fact the teachings of the servants of God for many years past ought to be suffi-

cient to show to the Latter-Day Saints that it is not to the outside world they must ever look for their bread; but under the blessings of God entirely to themselves; and that instead of depending on the world numbers of them will yet turn to Utah, not only for peace and safety, but for bread to preserve their lives.

This is a matter of great importance, and we would urge upon all whose labors on the railroad or other duties will not prevent, to give prompt attention to this subject, and to sow a wide breadth of fall grain.

### WISE INVESTMENT OF MONEY.

THE prospects are that we will have a lively Fall and Winter trade, with a greater abundance of money than there has been in the Territory for some time. The construction of the railroad will bring money into the Territory; and the only thing that will be expended for it will be labor which would not otherwise be so profitably employed. Like all other portions of the country we felt the stagnation in the money market which followed the unusual abundance of currency which permeated all the channels of commerce during the latter portion and subsequent to the conclusion of the rebellion. But while we had as little as, and perhaps less than, any State or other Territory in the Union, in proportion to our population, it is probable that we felt the want of it less than any. If we were not having a steady income of money, and if we did not dig the precious metals from the earth, we had what was of greater value and took from the earth what was of infinitely more worth. We had the means of support within ourselves; and our fields of golden grain were of more worth to us than shining heaps of the auriferous "dust." Yet we recognize the importance of money as a circulating medium, its value in the markets where commodities can be bought which we need. And the experience of the past few years should be to us a lesson that we might profit by, not to squander money or barter it for things of comparatively little worth, but use it carefully and invest it wisely, for future benefit.

The tone of business everywhere just now seems to be improving. Money is becoming more plentiful. Trade will improve, money be still more circulated instead of being shut up in safes and banks, business will grow brisk; and speculators, becoming impatient of the calm and wise restraints of legitimate trade, will recklessly throw away their own credit and that of honest men; and then will come collapse, suspensions, stagnation, dullness, scarcity of money, and the usual results attending on commercial crises. This seems to be the history of commerce, repeating itself within very limited periods. But there are circumstances and contingencies, often unforeseen and unthought of, which hasten a depression in business from a condition in which trade and commerce are lively. And the situation of a community, with the peculiar circumstances which surround them, may place them in a very different position to that of even their near neighbors. Thus the circumstances in which the people of this Territory were placed left them much more poorly supplied with a circulating medium than were their neighbors around, when they foolishly threw away the money which other circumstances had brought to them, and thus allowed it to be carried out of the Territory without their deriving any permanent benefit from it. The money which circulated freely here, say three years ago, was mostly paid over to storekeepers for goods which were sold at an enormous price; and that money was shipped off to buy more goods. And when the stagnation in currency came how much richer were the people, as a mass, for the money which had been circulated among them and the high wages they had received? If acquiring improvident habits and learning to place too low an estimate upon the commercial value of the means put in their possession, be admitted as evidences of a poorer condition, then many were poorer instead of being richer. Some sent their money through commission merchants, and whether they received more for it than those who bought from store-keepers here, or not, the principle remains the same; the money passed from them, and that which they obtained for it, in most cases passed away rapidly, and was seen no more. The money which bought every article of clothing imported, and every thing brought here that could have been manufactured, produced or raised here, was virtually so much thrown away,

and it had really passed away when the articles so purchased were used or worn out.

Now if the same course be pursued again when money comes into the Territory, a brief time only will elapse until we will be poorer than we are now. Brethren can co-operate in wards and invest their available means in something that will be productive and re-productive. Associations of mechanics and handicraftsmen can be formed, whose united means will enable them to import machinery of various kinds to meet our requirements. We do not want to have to pay sixteen dollars for a pair of boots when the same article can be made, in every way as good, by the use of labor saving machinery, for ten. We will be willing, as a people to see the man who imports machinery receive a fair percentage for the capital invested. But he can receive it, and undersell the hand-manufactured article; and, comparing quality, he can undersell the imported article. We do not wish to pay five dollars for a chair if we can get one as good for three, and it is better our cabinet-makers should import the wood which we may not have, and employ our own skilled labor at the work than to buy the work and wood elsewhere, and leave ourselves poor again. So with carriages, wagons, sleighs, cloth, hats, and the thousand and one articles that enter into daily use in a large and populous community. With one of the best peach growing countries in the world, thousands of cans of peaches are brought here annually. Canned tomatoes, pickles, dried apples, and other things that we grow in profusion, are brought on here and find a ready sale. This should be remedied. It is like carrying coals to Newcastle, with this difference; the Newcastle people would rather buy at the pit-head than from a vessel's hold.

The money that will now come into our Territory should be used to keep money in the Territory and make that which will bring in more. Machinery for manufacturing woolen and cotton goods need not now be dwelt upon. But every man in his own business or occupation should think how he can reduce the labor on that and turn out a superior article at a lower price, and thus successfully compete with every outside market; and men should unite to do this; form large and wealthy associations and conduct business upon an extensive scale. If we are being drawn nearer to markets where we can buy, we are also being drawn nearer the men who have to sell, and who are not slow at finding out where they can sell to the best advantage, and to the highest buyer. It is for us to handle the money which will be disbursed here for the next twelve months with care, invest it wisely, and take the initiative in everything for our own and our Territorial welfare, or repent, when too late, our lack of prudence and forethought.

### THE "FAMILY HERALD" AND THE WOMEN OF UTAH.

A writer in a recent number of the *Family Herald*—a London weekly journal, says some pretty good things upon a subject of vast importance, and worthy of far higher consideration than, as a general thing, it is fashionable in these days to accord to it,—the subject of "Motherhood." We should not, in all probability, have noticed the article in the *Herald*—because the principles therein advocated are well understood and honored by us, as a people—had not the writer gone out of his way specially to make an attack on the "Mormons." He is evidently no worshipper of the so called "strong-minded" women with which our age is so much troubled; neither a believer in the "women's rights" movement. He says the feeling and desire to be something they are not and to occupy a different sphere from that in which Providence has placed them is common to nearly all men and women. As for women, there is scarcely one whom you may ask but what would sooner be a man if she could. He refers to numerous instances in which women have attempted, as far as possible, to carry out this morbid disposition and inclination, by assuming the garb of men, and acting for years in the capacity of coachmen, grooms, and other callings essentially manly. He, however, thinks that with all the real or fancied disadvantages under which the sex may labor, they have still some advantages and privileges; and that if they will use the power with which nature has endowed them, and act in the sphere to which by Providence they have been assigned, as mothers, they can exert all the influ-

ence in this world they ought to, and much more than they are apt to imagine.

The writer evidently attaches great importance to the maternal relationship, and writes as though he believes that to be a mother is one of the greatest glories of woman. The truth of such a proposition will be readily accorded by all properly constituted minds; but in our day it unfortunately happens that among thousands of women such a notion is becoming unpopular. That is, beyond all question, the reason why the marriage tie is becoming so irksome, and why the most unjustifiable and unholy measures are resorted to that its responsibilities may be avoided. If women were to view this subject as they ought and as its importance demands, they would not sigh for more power, but would be content to labor in their proper sphere.

What higher, more holy and more important trust and prerogative can any human being exercise or enjoy than that of a parent, and especially that of a mother? As the writer in the journal referred to says, if woman rightly knew what power is she would be proud enough of what she has, and would scarcely demand more; for it is she who moulds the mind of the child, whether for good or ill, and consequently it is woman who, to a very great extent, moulds the destinies of the world.

The *Herald* man then proceeds to show that great as is the honor and glory of womanhood, and wide-spread as is the honor to maternity, still, the sentiment requires cultivation. When women are intellectually vigorous and are held in honor they become good mothers; but when they are degraded—mark the word—as they are in Utah, and other parts of the earth where polygamy is practiced they degenerate in this holy office. His description of the women of Utah, though no doubt thought by him to be extremely racy, and intended to be specially severe, serves only to betray his intense prejudice and consummate ignorance. He very dogmatically tells how shy and sad they are; that they are of the lowest class—there not being a lady amongst them; and, as a climax to his tissue of falsehoods and absurdities, his readers are informed that they are so deficient in affection for their children that they scarcely deserve the name of mother.

This is the treatment the people of Utah are in the habit of receiving from the world in general. Every contemptible penny-a-liner thinks to make capital by maligning and traducing the Latter-day Saints. But in endeavoring to achieve notoriety by a tilt at the "Mormons" these vile panders to the morbid appetites of the vicious and impure, do as traducers and slanderers always have done—go too far, and so defeat the very end they seek to attain. What a tissue of absurdities! The wives of Utah "shy and sad!" The mothers of Utah careless of, and without affection for their children,—in fact neither wives nor mothers, and not a lady in our whole community!

The people of Utah are none too good, we readily admit, not near so good as they are aiming to be; but in any capacity they fearlessly challenge comparison with their so-called Christian friends in any portion of the world, confident that the result will be largely in their favor. It may be that the women of Utah, in every instance, do not possess the most ladylike manners, but in their capacity as wives and mothers we maintain that they are above reproach, in fact unexceptionable.

In conclusion, we advise this contemptible scribbler in the *Family Herald*,—a Christian of the strictest sect we'll warrant,—to be less dogmatic in his future essays, to write upon subjects he comprehends, and that come within the compass of his very narrow and prejudiced mind.

### EDITORIAL SUMMARY.

The Rev. O. B. Frothingham, in a recent number of the *Herald of Health*, makes some well timed remarks upon what he terms the "Bestiality of Amusements," or in other words the abuse and prostitution, to evil purposes, of pastimes and amusements, which if legitimately indulged in would prove of great benefit to all who participate therein. Pedestrianism, base ball, rowing, the art of self defence, the turf and the theatre are all in turn criticised, and the popular method of conducting them is severely commented upon and censured.

Pedestrianism, of which the writer says, nothing can be more harmless, and which, when properly indulged in, is greatly conducive to health, has got a