

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Illinois Harvester.

GUNNISON, Feb. 27th, 1875.

Bishop A. M. Musser:

Pursuant to agreement I forward to you the following:

After having for years been dreading the toils of harvest, and enduring the excessive struggles, physical and financial, of getting it done, a company of us concluded last May to send for an Illinois Harvester, which we did, and here is the result.

The machine, packed, weighed about two and a quarter thousand pounds. We put it together, we looked at it, and wondered. The loose hands and curious spectators of town gathered around to see the elephant. We hitched the horses to the machine, and the driver drove round with it, exercising his engineering faculties, and away we went with it, out into the field. Where the bridges and gates were not wide enough for its passage, we had to pioneer its way, notwithstanding this harvester, being one of the smallest of its kind, makes only a ten feet cut.

Besides the four horses propelling the harvester, we had fitted out three teams, with boxes on the wagons, fit to receive the grain from the elevator, having a cubic capacity of about 250 feet each. The first hours we could not get the belts to work on account of a stretcher not being put on right. After that we had no trouble with it.

Seven men and five span of horses is the necessary force for the harvester, besides the three wagons, which outfit average the harvesting and stacking of two acres per hour. It accomplished far more than we expected, both in economy and dispatch. The grain must be dry enough for stacking before being cut; if not, by the self-rake attachment it is dropped on the ground for drying, in gables of a size to be loaded by a common barley fork.

We cut the grain at an average of two feet long, but if more straw is wanted it can be cut down to the ground within six inches, which variations in height of stubble, or length of straw are managed in a moment by the operator from his stand at the guide wheel.

The machine is easily propelled by four horses, and steered by the driver without difficulty. If you ask which part of it is most apt to break, we could not tell you, as we had no breakages, the whole frame and machine being so constructed as to spring to the joltings and strains. It harvests clean, and without counting the saving of the common waste in harvesting, we can truly say that by the use of the Illinois Harvester, we save one-half of our common harvest expenses. If we calculate the harvest time to extend six weeks, at the rate of two acres per hour, it will harvest five hundred acres a season easily, and earn its value every season. Every farmer, or set of farmers, who have five hundred acres of grain to harvest, we recommend for them to get an Illinois Harvester, twelve feet cut, and after they have used it properly one season they will say as we say.

The United Order of this district has ordered six more of the Illinois Harvesters.

(Signed) C. A. MADSEN,
JOHN KNIGHTON,
AXEL EINERSON,
N. C. TOLLESTRUP.

SALT LAKE CITY,
March 2nd, 1875.

The above statements are correct, as shown by the accounts of the company examined by me. In fact, the capacity of the machine is under rather than over-estimated. In my opinion the cost of harvesting is fully covered by grain saved.

(Signed) JOSEPH A. YOUNG.

School Examination.

WILLARD, Box Elder Co.,
March 17th, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

On Monday, the 15th inst., in company with the School Trustees, and other visitors, I had the pleasure of attending an examination of the school in the Second District of this place. The school during the winter numbered 107 pupils, who were under the supervision of Bro. Chas. Wright, he being assisted, in the primary department, by Bro.

Jos. W. Dudley. The reading from the classes in the first reader upwards was pronounced by the visitors to be excellent. The pupils, in each class, read separately and in concert, paying particular attention to the punctuation marks, and the "distinct articulation of the syllables and words." All the more advanced classes write their spelling lessons on slates, thus securing the attention of each pupil to every word. Exercises in grammar, geography, mental and practical arithmetic, and penmanship followed in turn, and the fact that many of the scholars were quite proficient in the History of the United States, could draw therefrom a map from memory, locating the capital cities, principal rivers and mountains, could decline nouns and conjugate verbs, perform problems in interest, simple proportion, and cube root, diagramming and explaining the examples as they went along, and write in the higher numbers of the Spencerian copy books, imitating the copies with precision and neatness, shows that the teachers have been diligent and the scholars following their example.

In my opinion, the advantage gained by studying mental arithmetic, in enabling the student to come to logical conclusions by a course of reasoning, is sufficient to recommend that study to any teacher.

After the exercises, Bishop G. W. Ward and others made some remarks in praise of the excellence attained, and encouraging the scholars to continue to persevere in their labors to obtain an education, which, if rightly applied, is of incalculable benefit to the possessor thereof.

There are two other school districts in this place, in each of which is a school well attended.

The young people meet together one evening every week in the capacity of a Literary Institute, and I believe we are endeavoring to keep pace with other settlements in religious, moral and intellectual pursuits. Perhaps I ought to mention that our Sabbath Schools are well attended and in a flourishing condition.

J. J. C.

Details of the Fryer Tragedy.

TOQUERVILLE, Kane Co.,
March 16th, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

We would respectfully request the use of a portion of your valuable paper to chronicle the following horrid tragedy, that has been enacted in our midst this day, and that has cast a most melancholy gloom over us all.

Richard Fryer has been at times, for a year or two, laboring under fits of temporary insanity, but of late has acted in so rational a manner as not to be considered dangerous, and but yesterday did a faithful day's work at plastering. He some time ago ordered his wife, Teresa Fryer, to leave his house and take her infant son, which she did, and has since lived most of the time with Thomas Batty and family, whose residence is but a short distance from her former home.

Fryer went this morning, about 7 o'clock, and knocked at the door of Thomas Batty's house, and upon being asked, went in, and asked if his wife was there. Being answered in the affirmative, he asked her if she had not brought disgrace and shame enough upon him? Fryer then drew a loaded revolver and fired a shot at Thomas Batty, the ball entering below the left eye and coming out at the back of the head. Batty then fell into the arms and upon the shoulder of Henry Willis, who was present, when Fryer fired a second shot, the ball entering the back part of the head and coming out through the right eye. Fryer then turned and fired at his wife, who was yet in bed, the ball entering below the left ear and lodging in the head, near the right eye, which shot produced instant death. Fryer then shot his infant son, who was in bed with its deceased mother, the ball entering the child's forehead and coming out of the back of the head.

Dr. Higgins, of St. George, who is now attending Thomas Batty and the child, does not expect the former to survive until morning, as he is sinking fast. There is a possibility of the child recovering, but with a very faint hope.

After completing the tragedy, Fryer went to his house, a portion

of which has been lately built of rock, but unfinished, being without doors and windows. After getting into the house, he reloaded his revolver with cartridges, a number of which were found upon him by the Sheriff. The sheriff of Kane County, as soon as he was notified of the facts, went as near the house of Fryer as was deemed safe and called from the bystanders a posse, instructing them to arm themselves, which they did. The sheriff and posse then approached the house as near as was wisdom, when the sheriff called and asked Fryer if he would surrender. The first time he answered, "I will not, if you want me, come and take me." The second time his answer was, "I will not; I have had enough of you and Bishop Bringham."

The position occupied by Fryer preclude the possibility of taking him without a farther sacrifice of life. After viewing the position and believing that unless immediate action was taken more innocent blood would be shed, the sheriff ordered his posse to fire, which they did, killing Fryer instantly. Besides a revolver, Fryer was armed with a sharp butcher knife and a heavy loaded whip.

The coroner of Kane Co., being notified of the aforementioned facts, repaired at once to the places occupied by the dead bodies, and held inquests upon the same, copies of which are herewith enclosed.

Respectfully,
WILLIAM W. HAMMOND.

Inquest on the Body of Teresa Fryer.

Territory of Utah, County of Kane, Precinct of Toquerville.

An inquisition held in Toquerville Precinct, Kane County, Utah Territory, on the 16th day of March, A.D. 1875, before James Jepson, coroner of said county, upon the body of Teresa Fryer, there lying dead, by the jurors whose names are hereto subscribed. The said jurors upon their oaths do say that the deceased came to her death by a pistol shot wound in her head, the same pistol shot being fired by the hand of her husband, Richard Fryer (since deceased), the same being done in the residence of Thomas Batty (of Toquerville), at or about 7 o'clock this a.m.

In testimony whereof the said jurors have hereunto set their hands the day and year aforesaid.

JOHN PARKER,
LEROY W. BEBEE, } Jurors.
JOHN C. NAILE,

Attest—JAMES JEPSON,
Coroner Kane Co.

Inquest on the Body of Richard Fryer.

Territory of Utah, County of Kane, Precinct of Toquerville.

An inquisition holden in Toquerville Precinct, Kane County, Utah Territory, on the 16th day of March, A. D. 1875, before James Jepson, Coroner of said county, upon the body of Richard Fryer, there lying dead, by the jurors whose names are hereto subscribed. The said jurors upon their oaths do say, from the evidence given, that the deceased came to his death by a shot fired under the direction of the sheriff of Kane County aforesaid. In his endeavors to arrest deceased, he, deceased, being armed, and in a rock house without doors or windows; and farther we believe, upon viewing the premises, that any other course would have resulted in the death of the persons endeavoring to make such arrest, which said arrest was attempted for that deceased had this a. m. shot and killed his wife, Teresa Fryer, and mortally wounded Thomas Batty and his (deceased's) infant child.

In testimony whereof the said jurors have hereunto set their hands the day and year aforesaid.

JOHN PARKER,
LEROY W. BEBEE, } Jurors.
JOHN C. NAILE,

Attest: JAMES JEPSON,
Coroner Kane Co.

Artesian Wells.

SPRING LAKE VILLA,
March 18th, 1875.

Editor Deseret News—

Is artesian well-boring in this country practicable? Or has the thing never been vigorously tested? Hasn't it been made to pay in other countries? If so, why do not some of Utah's enterprising men form an organization, procure the necessary apparatus, and bore for water?

There is no need of telling the necessity for wells all over our Territory, nor is there a doubt that if an association of properly experienced individuals were to take hold of such an enterprise and succeed, it would prove one of the greatest blessings this Territory has received.

Perhaps some one or more, experienced in the business, might enlighten many of your readers upon this subject.

Respectfully, D. T. L.

Judge Lowe.

The reasons for the transfer of Judge Lowe, of Kansas, from the office of Commissioner of Pensions, to which he was recently appointed, to the Federal Judgeship of Utah, as announced in the dispatches of yesterday, are probably personal with him. He has been a member of Congress for two terms, and was left out last fall because of the unfavorable districting of the State, and because of his vote in favor of the back salary grab. He went from the bench of one of the judicial districts of Kansas to Congress, and by experience and choice is better adapted for a judicial position than for the bureau of pensions in Washington. He is a man of fair ability; has the reputation of being a good lawyer, and was a good judge. He will undoubtedly be influenced in whatever decisions he may be called upon to make in his new position by his views of the law in the case, rather than by personal prejudices or personal spite. In fact the laws of the territory of Utah will have a fair interpreter in the person of Judge Lowe, Grant's last appointment, to succeed the idiotic McKean. If these predictions prove incorrect, *The Herald* will not hesitate to lay the facts before its readers.—*Omaha Herald*, March 20.

Great Improvement in Telegraphy.

WASHINGTON, March 9th.—A number of telegraphic instruments have been for some time in operation upon the Government lines between the Capitol and the War Department, constructed and arranged on a plan invented by Mr. Merrit Galley, of Rochester, N. Y. The best of instruments are being made, to allow Government officials an opportunity to examine the system, which is also attracting considerable attention from parties interested in telegraphic matters. An important feature of this system arises from the fact that it is comparatively inexpensive and requiring but little change of instruments. A common telegraph line with instruments arranged for single transmission, as by the old Morse system, may be converted into a line for transmitting a message in both directions at the same time, with ability to drop a copy of either or both of the messages at any or all way stations of the line. Double batteries, resistance coils, etc., are dispensed with, and no accuracy is required in balancing batteries. Preparations are being made to place Mr. Galley's invention not only in ether of the department lines, but also on signal service. The Atlantic and Pacific and the Western Union telegraph companies, as well as others, are also looking into the merits of the invention, with a view to its adoption should it prove in every way satisfactory. The most ingenious and perhaps the most important instruments exhibited by the inventor are those for the automatic transmission, in which the objections argued against the automatic system in common use seem to be obviated. The invention is emphatically automatic, a single operator not only preparing accumulating matter for transmission, but transmitting any portion of the same to its proper destination, having perfect control of the entire work, even over a number of lines, while sitting at a single instrument. He exhibits an instrument which requires no perforated message stub, but by means of a peculiar but simple mechanism, transmits message after message with the instrument until such time as the line can be secured, when by a stroke of a single key they are sent into the line complete.—*S. F. Chronicle*.

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