

THE DESERET NEWS.

ELIAS SMITH, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Exhibition.

On Monday, 3d inst., by invitation of the Fruit Committee, Messrs. Sayers, Hemenway, and Oliphant, we were present at the awarding of premiums in this Department. The varieties and quantity of fruit presented this year far exceed those at any previous exhibition.

The apples, chiefly or exclusively seedlings, were superabundant in quantity and kind.—Many of them, though of large size, are of inferior quality and should be propagated only until a supply of better varieties can be obtained. There were a few apples of the first quality and worthy of propagating; among which was a fine-flavored, medium-sized red apple, raised in the garden of Mr. Jeremiah Woodbury, to which the committee awarded the first prize and gave the name of "Woodbury's Cluster."

There was a plate and cluster of large winter pears that attracted some attention.

The peaches, though very fair, would bear no comparison to those of last year.

Grapes, from the garden of His Excellency ex-Governor Young and others, were very fine; also seedling Sweet-water grapes, which were of good flavor and to which was awarded the second prize.

Among the plums, Staines' Green Gage was par excellence.

There were also the hard-shell almond, the black walnut; the egg plant, the finest we have ever seen in the Territory; home-manufactured wines, cordials and preserves.

The fruit department was handsomely decorated with flowers from the gardens of Mr. Oliphant and others.

It may be here remarked that the committee have wisely concluded to defer awarding premiums on the winter apples, designing to test their excellence in the season of their maturity.

We hope ere long to see a better understanding of what constitutes good fruit diffused among the people, as also a thorough and systematic classification of all varieties worthy of cultivation; nor do we know of any gentlemen better qualified for this work than those composing the Fruit Committee.

On Tuesday, we cursorily glanced over the numerous other articles on exhibition.

In the Produce and Vegetable Department we noticed some fine samples of grain; also Sorghum Sucre; celery, the stalks 2 feet long, single bunches, 11 inches in circumference; fine-looking late pie-plant; mammoth squashes—one weighing 130 lbs.; cabbage, cucumbers, melons, beets, potatoes, carrots, tomatoes, beans, flax, and in short, almost every variety that is produced from the soil in this latitude.

We may here remark that, in all the profuse display of first class vegetables, we saw no accompanying description as to the soil, location or manner of culture by which they were produced; the absence of which, it is obvious, defeats the chief design of the exhibition, giving it more of the character of a fair, where articles are attractively displayed for sale, than that of an agricultural exhibition, instituted for the promotion of practical and scientific cultivation.

Among the machinery, there was a wrought iron stove, made from wagon-tire, hammered to proper thickness and jointed with great accuracy; the workmanship of Mr. Thomas Griffiths, the manufacturer of the miniature model steam-engine exhibited at the first State Exhibition, and which has never since been excelled. This stove, we were informed by Mr. Griffiths, has been in use in his house some nine months and works to a charm. It is so constructed that, aided by ingeniously arranged dampers, the fire is wholly brought into contact with the upper plate, where the cooking and boiling is done. In baking, the heat may be distributed above, below or to entirely escape the oven, at pleasure. It is said, also, to be very economical in the consumption of wood. It is different in some respects from any stove we have seen and the improvements are claimed by the skillful maker.

The specimens of boots, shoes and leather were extensive and excellent.

The number and quality of home-manufactured articles displayed were unmistakable indications of the steady improvement going on among us.

Nails, cutlery and hardware in general were materially better than any previously exhibited.

The cloths—linseys, flannels, jeans, kerseys, linen, carpets, shawls, blankets, coverlets, rugs, thread, hats, caps, muffs, combs, &c., would not suffer in comparison with those manufactured elsewhere.

The cabinet ware that was presented would do credit to any part of the world.

Among the paintings, engravings, printing and penmanship, we noticed a beautiful sign and some superb specimens of graining; a chirographic epitome of the history of the Prophet Joseph, elegantly bordered and ornamented with tasteful flourishes, by Mr. D. Graves; which, together with the splendid historic chart, designed, prepared and printed in this office and mounted by our excellent book-binder, Mr. J. B. Kelly, constitutes a very complete record of the most important events that have transpired in the life of the Prophet, in connection with the rise and progress of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. These were appropriately classed with the books and records from the Historian's Office, which occupied a prominent corner of the hall and were objects of interest to all.

A font of type of the Deseret Alphabet, cast and finished by J. H. Rumell, of this city; also leads and other printer's material, were evidences of what faith and indomitable perseverance can do.

The display of horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, &c., though embracing some very fair specimens, was not so large as expected.

The Ladies' Department presented a display of ornamental needle-work, table-covers, wax flowers, worked shawls, handkerchiefs, cushions, artificials, embroidery, crochet work, knitting, braiding, patch work quilts, hose, slippers, &c., &c., that were altogether lovely and speak in high terms of the skill and industry of the ladies of Utah.

The precious relics of the past—calling to mind the enviousness of the wicked and the devotion of the good; re-memorizing the scenes in Carthage Jail; the sufferings of the Saints and their exile to the Rocky mountains—were altogether too much for the tender hearted.—They were truly in contrast with the general hilarity of the occasion.

As to essays, we are not aware how many have been presented; nor are we prepared to pass any judgment upon them; but will say that, if any essay "on agriculture applicable to this Territory" has been presented which, in point of critical truthfulness, extensive application and admirable simplicity and perspicuity, can excel the series now being published in the *News*, by Mr. E. Sayers, we respectfully solicit it for publication. If no such essay is presented, we bespeak for Mr. Sayers, if not a premium, at least some token from the Society, expressive of their appreciation of his services in the cause of agriculture in the mountain vales of Utah.

The use of the spacious hall and basement were kindly tendered to the Society, by President Brigham Young.

The Provo and Farmington brass bands generously offered their services and contributed no little to give zest to the whole proceedings.

The arranging and decorating committee have merited praise for their energy, promptitude and exceeding good taste in the appointments and appropriation of the various rooms and departments.

Our streets, during the past two or three days, have presented an unusually thriving appearance, chiefly owing, probably, to the large numbers of people from the settlements, north, south and west, who have come in to attend the State Agricultural Exhibition and be present at the semi-annual conference.

Peradventure some have had other inducements also for visiting the city; to behold with their own eyes and hear with their own ears the evidences that we, that is, the citizens of Great Salt Lake City, are basking in the sunshine of christendom and really luxuriating in the blessings of christian civilization; to participate with us in the opportunities of purchasing cheap goods at "cost and 15 cents freight," i.e., to buy sugar at 40 cents per pound; coffee at 45 cents; tea at \$1.50 to \$2.50; sheeting at 20 to 25 cents per yard; calicos at 20 and 30 cents; stoves at \$75 and \$150; and so on and so forth.

We wish you success, good friends, in all your lawful speculations, investigations and perambulations; but, pray do keep your eyes open, lest at any time you should be surprised by land-sharks and swallowed whole.

THE "BLOODY BATTLES" OF ITALY.

Under the above heading the New York *Herald* gives a statement of the losses sustained in the late contest in Italy, compared with the American losses in the war with Mexico. The following table is compiled from authentic accounts published in the latest French journals:

	Engaged.	Loss.
Montebello, Allies	7,000	850
do Austrians	18,000	1,150
Palestro, Allies	21,000	1,400
do Austrians	24,000	2,100
Magenta, &c. Allies	55,000	4,500
do Austrians	75,000	13,000
Melegnano, Allies	16,000	900
do Austrians	18,000	1,400
Solferino, Allies	145,000	16,800
do Austrians	170,000	21,000
Total	549,000	63,100

Admitting the above figures—the French statement—as correctly exhibiting the respective forces engaged and losses sustained in the various battles, it will be obvious that the loss in killed and wounded is a trifle over ten per cent., or, in other words, ten, or a little over, killed or wounded, for every hundred engaged. The Austrian loss, by the above table, it will also be seen, is estimated at about forty per cent. greater than that of the French. But, says the *Herald*, in a somewhat braggadocio style, accepting the French account as accurate, we find this loss but about two thirds that sustained by the Americans in their battles against the "cowardly and undisciplined Mexicans." The losses of the Mexicans, it is well known, also, were much greater than those of the Americans.

In Mexico the losses of the Americans were:

	Men engaged.	Killed and wounded.	Per cent.
At Monterey	6,000	488	8
At Buena Vista	4,600	723	15 3-4
At Molino del Rey	3,447	787	22 3-4
At Churubusco	7,500	1,000	13 1-3
At Chapultepec	6,800	863	12 3-4
Total	28,347	3,861	15

Judging from these statements, it would appear that the boasted improvements in military tactics, accompanied with all the glittering paraphernalia of the most modern engines of warfare and destruction—"arms of precision" and machines for instantaneously annihilating whole regiments—lamentable to relate—are not so effective in the work of human butchery as we have been led to suppose!

While we heartily deprecate the whole system of warfare and deplore the existence of even an assumed necessity for a resort to arms by enlightened nations, whereby rivers of human gore have sent forth their reeking torrents and countless thousands of dependent women and children have been doomed to destitution and misery; yet, while governments are exposed to collisions with each other and while disputes or grievances can be arbitrated only by resort to arms, it is self-evident that those governments will be disposed to bring to their aid, in lieu of calm and God-like deliberation, the most effective implements of death and destruction.

From this resort, we doubt not, the masses, if permitted to have a voice, would demur. They have within them an instinctive love of life which, undimmed by blackening infamy and crime, would at once decide averse to the wholesale shedding of blood, simply to rectify a difference of opinion between two countries or powers.

But rulers, passionate, ambitious and avaricious, are easily aroused. The gratification of some sordid hope is with them paramount to all things else—the peace and well-being of their subjects not excepted. This, verily, is a minor consideration with rulers in general. To plunge a people in disastrous and disgraceful warfare with a neighboring State or province is a matter of small moment, when the dignity of a monarch is at stake. To waste the blood and treasure of a country is pardonable—nay, praiseworthy—when they may be expended for the purchase of momentary glory—a phantom conceived in the fevered imagination of the proud, the haughty, to redouble the oppression of the humble.

When shall kings learn judgment and rulers equity, that strife may cease and the gentle arts of peace be everywhere substituted for the pomp and prowess of war? When shall the swords be beaten into plowshares and the spears into pruning hooks, and the nations learn war no more?

Have we learned nothing from the history of the past, which is so vividly portrayed before us? Is it not written, "They that take the sword shall perish by the sword," and does not history fully corroborate the truth of that saying?

Where now is Greece, that mighty, warlike

nation, against whom Xerxes arrayed the largest army ever marshalled at one time, but who returned in utter discomfiture, saying that a people so brave could not be conquered? With her accumulated glory, her wealth and her learning, like the brilliant meteor, she has passed away forever. The sword, by which she attained her triumphant dominion, was finally unsheathed against herself and she too embraced the eternal sepulchre of dissolution which had sealed the doom of other powers, from whose shattered remnants she had gathered strength and from whose blood-stained soil her heroes were raised.

Rome, too, is a monument in attestation of the same immutable decree. By the sword she extended her conquests and by the sword, in the hands of the ruthless Northmen, the "Eternal City" was subjugated and the Western Empire of Rome, after a continuance of 1229 years, ceased to exist.

Mohammed II reduced Constantinople several hundred years subsequently, thus terminating the existence of the Eastern Empire of Rome, and by the sword established his religion in Turkey. These are strong indications that the sword will ere long obliterate Mohammedan rule, which, even now, is but in name.

What assurance, therefore, have the present existing governments, who by the sword have attained their "vaunted strength and giant bulk," that theirs will not also be like unto the fate of Greece and Rome and all the proud establishments that have flourished on the earth from time immemorial, whose germs were formed in feudal elements and matured in the smoking blood of millions?

A government whose stability depends upon its legions of armed soldiery, rests upon a precarious tenure. Armed legions, however, are deemed indispensable, especially in connection with monarchical governments, to repel invasions by more powerful States. The weak are exposed to attacks from the stronger powers. Wrongs inflicted by the subjects of one power upon those of another power must be redressed, and blood alone, in many instances, is the only atonement that can be offered to reconcile the injured party. In the contest, however, blood is freely spilt by the avenger as well as the aggressor. Both are made to suffer, probably as a meed awarded for their criminality and folly—to the so-called aggressing party because of injuries done, and to the avenger to atone for that rashness and madness that impelled a resort to arms for the purpose of obtaining redress which might have been obtained with greater satisfaction and at a far less sacrifice of treasure and the people's blood.

Nor is it always certain that the invader conquers. Reverses are the daily recurring fortunes of war. He who is victor and exults in triumphal glories to-day, perchance may tomorrow lie among the mangled corpses of tomorrow's battle.

Such are the transitory emoluments of war; while, on the other hand, the pathway by which to gain those emoluments is thickly incumbered with the loud lamentations of bereaved multitudes; indiscriminate slaughter; death in its most horrid forms; distortion of body; maiming for life by hundreds and thousands; terror; anguish and distraction. These are some of the ingredients compounded in the vial of wrath drank by the nations who essay to engage in deadly conflict with each other.

War is the "scourge of the nations." It is also the most direful devastator of individual hopes and happiness.

"The groan, the knell, the pall, the bier,
And all we know, or dream, or fear
Of agony art thine."

The European and Oriental nations have long been schooled in the tactics of war. With some of them, every male citizen is compelled to serve a series of years in a military school. Thus they become a nation of citizen soldiery, disciplined and prepared for action at a moment's warning. Their military schools, their fortresses and immense towers of defense, their navies and standing armies are means of security against foreign invasion. Crowned heads are rendered majestic in the ratio of military prowess. It cannot, then, be expected that these nations will abandon the time-honored establishments and institutions of war, to give place to the more ennobling arts of peace.

The government of the United States is founded on principles of peace. Our fathers, in the hard struggle for independence, after having fully experienced the horrors inflicted upon a people by sanguinary war, and conscious of the intrinsic virtue of the people and their innate love for their country and the