

dia-rubber, tough, flexible and capable of being cut, like gutta-percha.

A story, elaborately written, has been going the rounds of the press, that Mr. Hewitt, the well known politician, has been suffering terribly for some time with insomnia. That gentleman now denies the whole story, and declares that he sleeps as well as anybody. There are fabricators of false dispatches at Washington as well as at Salt Lake.

A man employed at the New York Morgue, while sewing up a sack containing a corpse, a few days ago, pricked one of his fingers with the needle. Some of the poison from the body entered the slight wound, his arm swelled, amputation had to be resorted to, and it was expected the man would die. Persons with any abrasion of the skin of their hands should be very careful in touching a dead body.

The Ogden Junction says: "The News claims that 'flat' is not and cannot be applied to coin, but has reference only to unlimited quantities of paper currency." Great mistake. The News does not claim, and has not claimed anything of the sort, and our article on "Flat Money" does not contain a sentence which can be legitimately construed into any such claim or opinion.

The Mistletoe, its history, cultivation, harvesting, and social uses, are to be treated in the forthcoming (December) number of *St. Nicholas* by Margaret Bertha Wright. A picture, by W. J. Hennessy, showing how the mistletoe is gathered in the apple-orchards of Normandy, will illustrate the text. This will prove entertaining and instructive to the young folks.

The Augusta (Me.) *Journal* relates the following which vividly portrays the incessant toil of many modern housewives: "A little Portland girl recently testified innocently to the life of drudgery experienced by the average 'queen of the household' who does her own housework. Somebody asked the child if her mother's hair was gray. 'I don't know,' she said, 'she is too tall for me to see the top of her head, and she never sits down.'"

The relation of cause and effect is thus briefly but pointedly illustrated. A western journal says: A short notice appeared in a morning paper to the effect that 98 deaths occurred in this city last week, this being an increase of 30 over the corresponding week last year. Ah, ha! The same paper mentions the fact that the number of young doctors turned loose upon the community by the College of the Pacific, last week, was just 30. Oh, ho!

An amusing instance of the transposition of words in a sentence, through nervousness, occurred during the recent visit of Dean Stanley to this country: The hotel boy had been instructed, when he knocked at the Dean's door and heard the inquiry, "Who's there?" to reply, "The boy, my lord." The boy answered the first call with considerable trepidation, and surprised the Dean by a loud response to his question, "The lord, my boy!"

One of the rights of editors has recently been sustained by a Rochester court. A newspaper man being called to testify in regard to certain information published by him, bearing upon a case at issue in court, refused to answer on the ground that the item was given him under a pledge of secrecy as to the informant, and that he was privileged as much as a lawyer, who could conceal the disclosures of a client. The court sustained his plea. Editors may thus claim a similar privilege in this respect to clergymen and attorneys.

The San Francisco *Chronicle* rejoices over the fate of Luke Poland, whom it denominates "a political corpse." The *Chronicle* considers his condition a sort of retribution for trying to get a bill through Congress to muzzle the press. It all depends upon how one looks at things. The "Mormons," for instance, while they do not make merry over any man's downfall, note that Poland sought diligently to push hostile legislation against them, and became the author of an infamous measure, which though greatly pruned and clipped, has still evil enough left in it to blast his fame as its father. He now lies with many other "corpses" of politicians who thought to make fame

by persecuting the "Mormons." In that light we view his unenviable fate.

We have received for publication an article signed "A Plural Wife," defending the cause of plural marriage and inviting those who oppose it to compare families. It strikes very pointedly at the practice of maternal suppression and feticide, so common among violent anti-polygamists, contrasting their incentive to the marriage relation with that of "Mormon" women who count it an honor to bear children. "Plural Wife" also challenges comparison of the private lives of "Mormon" husbands with those of men who have so much to say against plural marriage. The points are well taken, but their application is so direct that it might give cause of offence and we therefore print the gist of it instead of the whole, well written letter.

The N. Y. *Journal of Commerce* does not take much stock in the new movement against polygamy, and doubts the danger reported of its introduction into our neighboring Territories. It twits the alarmists on the impression which they tried to convey only a short time ago, that "the Mormons have all they can do to hold their ground against civilization in Utah," and thinks the "appeal" of the non-"Mormon" women a little exaggerated. It is rather funny to see those who quite recently were boasting of "the disintegration and decline of Mormonism before the advance of civilization," now contending that it is running over the lines of Utah and threatening to capture Idaho, Arizona and New Mexico. But then "Mormon" eaters are never consistent.

The wind sometimes plays some singular freaks. A remarkable incident is related by a correspondent of the Chicago *Journal*, writing from Columbus, Nebraska. It was during a terrible cyclone that a girl who was cooking at a hotel, heard a noise at the door, and looking out was caught by the whirling wind and carried over the house. He says she was turned round and round as she went, and after approaching the ground on the other side she again rose and was taken by the howling blast over the stores and dwellings a distance of three fourths of a mile, being lowered so that her feet could touch the ground as many as eight times during the trip. Exhausted, but in an erect position, she was at last lowered to the earth as lightly as a feather would fall, having received no material injury, though almost frantic with fright. The storm proceeded on its way, leaving her in sight of the town, and in half an hour she again put in an appearance at the hotel, where anxious friends were bewailing her sudden and mysterious departure.

## Correspondence.

### Advice to Farmers.

BOX ELDER COUNTY,  
Nov. 18th, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

After many years of experience I have been led to believe that our farmers and stock raisers in Utah, neglect one important and lucrative business, namely the feeding of beef cattle in winter. Take those isolated valleys like Sanpete and others. There is no better way for the farmers there to get their cereals and produce to market than by feeding cattle. Say take your old cows, old oxen, and the already fat cattle, in the first of the winter, put them up, feed them your squash, potatoes, corn, and chopped wheat; by this mode you can increase your fat, though I have fed beef on hay awhile and had them hold their own. Take a steer that will weigh 600 pounds now, at three cents will bring you \$18. Keep him until spring, increase him to 800, say at five cents, and you will have \$40, and I have failed to see the spring yet that you could not get from five to seven cents per pound. Then there is no danger in your produce losing in transit to market; you will realize cash both for your produce and cattle, and save a large percentage of cattle that now die every winter. Thousands of dollars are lost annually as we manage now, that we can save by the feeding process. Thousands of cattle are driven from the Territory east annually, mostly the

young growing stock, which are bought by the drover at ruinously low prices, leaving the old and the scrubby on our hands. The steers are sent to Chicago, the young and choice stock cattle meet a ready sale at Cheyenne and other points. Eastern cattle men are draining this country of the good stock, and we have but little in return for them. By feeding you will reverse the position, you will have the choice cattle, whatever is fat will command the market and attention. There are new markets continually opening. There is a firm killing and shipping a thousand head per month in Corinne, for San Francisco and Chicago, and other firms will soon commence, as shipping dead beef in refrigerating cars has proved a success beyond doubt.

This matter should be agitated, and entered into right now. We should become masters instead of servants. I think I hear the croaker, who sits by the fire in the winter and lets his cattle wade through the snow, saying, "It can't be done." Well, I say it can, and you just go through your settlement, and see the fodder, hay, straw, turnips, pumpkins, etc., rotting and wasting, you will be amazed. I can fatten from 10 to 20 head, at least, every winter on what is wasted in this way, say nothing of what is trodden under foot in each man's corral or stable.

We run over enough every year that if we were to take care of it, would make us rich in a short time; but instead, we go on wasting, wasting, and thereby wanting, wanting, and then call our lot a hard one. Well, then, let each farmer take up one cow or ox, only one, and quit wasting, but instead feed it to the beef, and let him tell me whether I am right or wrong, next spring. H. J.

BEAVER, U. T.,  
November 12, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

The ring have struck it at last. Everybody knows or ought to know that the action of the anti-polygamy woman movement of Salt Lake is clearly a ring movement. The object with the ring is blood. The action although doubtless not so meant by the ladies who are being used as cats paws by the ring, is clearly, if successful, martyrdom, to many of the Saints for the sake of conscience and religion. Don't be startled kind lady movers in this ignoble cause. The writer is not one of those excitable persons who see imaginary evils where in reality they do not exist; nor does he dread the issue should it come. Near a half century of sad experience with not exactly "every minister in the United States," but a great many of them, has settled this point. This movement is a mere change of base. And should worse come to worse, which may God forbid, there would doubtless be a change of base on the part of those whose destruction is sought by this anti-christian movement. There are bounds beyond which forbearance ceases to be a virtue. Those ministers have years ago retired ignobly from the field of Scripture argument, that on their part having proven a complete failure. The Latter-day Saints are also too numerous for a minister to lead a mob of a few hundred and suppress and drive them after killing a few of their leaders, as heretofore, some of the priests from our own Territory, who are probably the prime instigators of this movement, have carried with their falsehoods the contribution box among their flocks in the east in order to fleece them to line their own pockets, crying wolf, wolf, whilst they themselves were ravenous wolves in sheep's clothing. But let us go back a little and take a glance at some of those ministers. The first howl was set up by one who had been a particular friend of the boy Joseph Smith, because at the tender age of about 14 years and four months he informed him he had seen a heavenly vision. From this circumstance the hue and cry of "old Joe Smith" was heralded through the press and pulpit from one end of the nation to the other, and has continued in one form or another until the present. Ministers are responsible for all of the righteous blood in this generation. The Reverend Isaac McCorty a Baptist missionary to the Indians, headed the mob in Jackson County, Missouri, who destroyed the first printing press established west

of the Missouri River; whipped, tarred and feathered some, and murdered other Saints, and drove the rest from the county. Samuel Bogart, a Methodist "minister," headed the mob who murdered the Apostle David W. Patten, Gideon Carter and others, on Crooked River, near the line between Clay and Caldwell counties. Sashiel Woods, a Presbyterian "minister," headed the mob who drove the Saints from DeWitt, in Carroll County, at the cannon's mouth. About 17 "ministers" sat on the court martial at Far West when Joseph Smith and others were sentenced to be shot, in the presence of their families. The same class caused his final martyrdom with many others. Yes, this is the class, enlist them and get them to cry to the government as did the Jewish priests to Pontius Pilate, "Crucify him, crucify him, away with him, (we have a law, or if we have not let us make one) and by it he ought to die." Father forgive those ladies, they know not the murderous hearts of a deceitful, priest-ridden ring.

While the object of the ring is clear to every reflecting mind, it is conversant with the history of the past, no uneasiness need be felt as to the result. The little stone spoken of by the prophet Daniel is striking or smiting the great image of modern priestcraft upon the toes, and it is but natural that they should ache, and in their pain make an effort to kick the little pebble out of their road; but it will keep on in the even tenor of its way, until the clay, the iron, the brass, the silver and the gold together, shall become as the chaff of the summer threshing floor, and the wind of Jehovah will blow them away and their place will not be found. The ancient of days will sit, and judgment will be given to the Saints of the Most High, and they will take the kingdom and possess it forever even forever and ever, and Jesus will make one in their midst, and reign King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and these same, humble, persecuted Latter-day Saints will reign as kings and lords, under him. Hear it all ye persecutors. D. T.

## THE TREATMENT OF DIPHTHERIA.

To the Editor of the Scientific American:

I wish to make known to the public a method of treatment for diphtheria, which has been uniformly successful, in the practice of the writer, during a number of years, which included two epidemics and in a large number of cases, not a case has been lost since this treatment was adopted. I feel confident that, by its general use, the mortality may be reduced to one per cent., or even less. I have heretofore delayed publishing the results in order to make sure that the treatment was really what it promised to be, and I now wish to use the columns of your journal in order that the public generally may have the knowledge in their own possession.

An attack of diphtheria is usually ushered in with high fever and headache, and, in children, with nausea and vomiting. There is great prostration. Upon the tonsils and surrounding parts are seen white, snow-flaky patches. In malignant cases the patches are often yellow or brownish, and a terrible odor is perceived.

The remedy found successful by the writer is permanganate of potash, in conjunction (not combination) with the tincture of belladonna. The method of administration is as follows: Fro 2 to 3 grains (not more) of the permanganate are dissolved in from 2 to 4 ozs. of water, in a goblet. Five drops of the official tincture of belladonna, or better, from 10 to 20 drops of the first decimal homoeopathic tincture of the same drug, are put into another goblet with an equal quantity (2 to 4 ozs.) of water. A teaspoonful is to be taken from each goblet alternately, at intervals of a half or one hour. It is, perhaps, needless to say that separate spoons should be used, and the goblets kept covered.

In twenty-four hours, frequently, a favorable change will be seen, but quite as often the disease seems to go on unchecked, save that the fever may seem a little more moderate; but I can assure my readers that, during the second day of the treatment, a most marked change will take place. The fever will en-

tirely subside, the mind will brighten, the tongue will begin to grow clean, and the deposits upon the fauces will peel off at their edges or gradually break away. The patient will be upon the highway to recovery, and a day or two more of the treatment will bring back the normal hue of health, and an appetite to correspond. In rare cases, however, when the constitution is bad (cachectic) a longer time—five, six, seven days—may be required; but even here the treatment has not failed.

I think that, under this treatment, diphtheria is not a disease to be dreaded by the profession. The belladonna may, in special cases, find a substitute, but not the permanganate of potash. The only case in which the above treatment will promise unsatisfactory results is when the disease rapidly invades the larynx and bronchial air passages (diphtheritic croup), when suffocation threatens to supervene before the remedy can act, or when the mere presence of large detached deposits in the air tubes imperils the success of the case. Such an instance recently occurred, which was successfully treated with inhalation of the vapor (not the spray) of a dilute aqueous solution of bromine.

I know that the permanganate has been used as a disinfectant, locally applied, in putrid diphtheria heretofore, in dilute form (as a gargle), and upon general principles as an antiseptic; but I am not aware that the persistent use throughout the disease has heretofore been made known to the public or profession. That it does not act as an antiseptic is shown by the fact that the other antiseptics have no analogous effect; that it does not act locally may be inferred, because its marked curative effects appear in the system before they are seen in the fauces. The theory of the writer is that diphtheria finds its nutriment in partly devitalized organic matter in the blood, which the permanganate, rapidly absorbed, attacks and destroys by oxidation (being the most powerful non-poisonous oxidizer we have); thus cutting away the pabulum of the disease, when the deposits die a natural death and disappear. The process certainly sometimes appears magical in its action. I trust that, if others employ this treatment, they will not attempt to modify it until they have first given it a fair trial in the manner above proposed.

I have also found the permanganate of potash very successful in the treatment of certain slow forms of putrid and typhoid fevers, with loaded tongue, foul breath, etc., and in recurring boils. This lends additional force to the theory of its action above indicated. I am sure that this drug, so rich in oxygen, the life-giver, so harmless in its action upon the human system, will well repay study by the profession generally, which it has heretofore only received, and that in a very inadequate degree, from the homoeopathic branch.

I. W. HEYSINGER.  
Philadelphia, Pa.

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