



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

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THE DESERET STATE TELEGRAPH.

In the Circular which was sent to the various Settlements respecting the erection of the Telegraph Line North and South through the Territory, it was stated that "Wherever there is a Telegraphic Station established along the Line there will be one or two operators needed, and every Settlement, that wishes to have such a Station, should select one or two of its most suitable young men and send them to this city this Winter, with sufficient means, to go to School to learn the art of Telegraphy."

It will be an advantage for these scholars to commence their studies at the same time, and to accomplish this they should all be here in readiness from all parts of the Territory on a stated day. The 15th of December has been appointed as the day when the School should open and the pupils enter upon the acquirement of this art. The Bishops and all interested in this enterprise will please see that the necessary steps are taken to have the scholars here by the time mentioned.

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

FLAX GROWING AND LINEN WEAVING.

The cultivation of flax, cotton and silk has been impressed upon the people of this community, by our leaders, for years. The success of their culture has been proved beyond question. The settlers of our cotton region, after years spent in laboring under great difficulties, look forward to an early day of prosperity. They have just reason to do so, for every evidence of the growing importance of those settlements and the principle production of that region indicates that their prosperity is not far off. Silk has been produced in small quantities, but sufficient to prove that it only requires attention to make its culture successful and paying. So it has been with flax; and of the latter a little may be said advantageously, as it is an article that can be brought into more general use, both for home consumption and for exportation, if grown in sufficient quantities and properly handled. It is a crop, too, that will pay; it does pay where it is cultivated, and why not here as well as elsewhere?

Perhaps there is no other country where, in the same amount of land under cultivation, there is so great a breath of flax sown as in the north of Ireland; and from the raw material linens of the most beautiful texture and the finest quality are produced, both by hand-labor and machinery. The hand-scuted flax brings a higher price in the market than the mill-scuted, proving its superiority in the eyes of practical men in the trade; and that we could more generally reach here, until the necessary machinery could be procured to make the quantity larger and the price less. The various processes pursued there are briefly as follows:—

The land is prepared by plowing as for any other crop; the seed sown and lightly harrowed in; then the roller passes over, pulverizing the clods, the land if naturally wet being thoroughly tile-drained. When the young crop is about three or four inches high the

roller is again passed over it, laying it flat, from which it arises and seems to take a more rapid growth. It is pulled as the seed begins to ripen, tied in moderate-sized bundles, and steeped in sloughs made on purpose, or in running water, the former being preferred, with rocks placed on it to keep it down. From ten to fourteen days will usually rot it. It is lifted when sufficiently rotted, which is known by breaking the stalk, and spread out to dry; when dry it is ready for breaking, or "beetling", "as it is called there. In some places this is done by hand; in others by horse-power, a large stone roller traveling in a circle crushing the stalks and rendering it ready for the scutcher; in other places it is done by machinery. It is then scutched and the lint bound in bunches for sale or home spinning. The common spinning wheel is extensively used; and much of the yarn that makes the most enduring and most sought after Irish linens is thus produced. Now, all this is very simple and easily done. True, labor is very high here, and very low there, but take the difference in price between that linen, or linen equal to it, in this market, and what it costs there, and the discrepancy is still greater. Linen that fetches 30 cents a yard in the retail market there will cost \$1.75 here. At that difference, even with hand-labor and with only the same facilities they have, we could produce flax, manufacture linen to supply ourselves and export, create a new branch of industry and source of wealth, and increase the circulating medium of the Territory, while we enrich ourselves.

When to this is added the requisite machinery for working flax into lint, and for other purposes connected with the manufacture of linen, which can be imported, we would be in a position not only to fully meet our own wants but to largely supply the demand of neighboring markets. We will at any time cheerfully give some hints on the manufacture of linen drawn from a reliable source; and we hope to see the counsel given by President Young on the subject very generally adopted at an early day.

MAILS.

We do not like to complain, but feel constrained, after long and patient waiting, to mention a few of the many and trying complaints continuing to be so often made, in hopes that some good result may follow.

We are told that, about ten months ago, a postmaster was appointed at Cedar Springs, Millard county, and at latest date he had not received a key. Whose fault is this? And if no one's, will some one that knows be kind enough to inform that postmaster how he should proceed to obtain a key. The same place complains that sometimes they receive their mail matter, and often they do not. What is the trouble? Can this not be remedied?

The following is from Santa Clara, Washington county:—"Numbers 2 and 4, Vol. 15, of the News, came to hand, but numbers 1 and 3 have not been received. It is a source of annoyance and complaint to us, this being deprived of the paper." "They come to St. George and to this place, at times, opened and some numbers lacking."

From Alpine, Utah county, we get word that their papers come so irregularly that many are nearly discouraged in trying to get them.

Again, Editors and many others in San Francisco complain that they get other papers, but cannot get the DESERET NEWS with any regularity.

These complaints, with the numerous kindred ones that might be added, are very annoying to all concerned, and we trust that steps will soon be taken to make our home and San Francisco mails more commendably reliable.

If blame justly rests on any mail carrier, let him comply with his contract, or give place to one who will. If any postmaster or his clerk too frequently blunders in assorting, putting up and correctly dispatching mail matter to its destination, have him learn to be more careful, or vacate his position.

The Government, in its postal affairs, deems it best to continue in the carrying trade, and perhaps it is the best plan; but, as too often conducted, it is very uncertain. In this, however, we are not aware that blame rests with the Postoffice Department, for it is dependent upon the faithfulness of carriers, postmasters, etc., some of whom, we are inclined to think, care but little for the faithful performance of their obligations.

To cut off one cause of blundering and to avoid breaking packages by such frequent opening of mail sacks, we suggest that, if possible, a sack be procured for each principal postoffice on any given route, if not for every one, and thus not only prevent so much blundering and breaking, but also greatly accommodate, at small extra expense, both postmasters and carriers.

Some, in their ignorance, allege that we "are not a reading community," but how can we be, of newspapers, if we cannot get them after subscribing for them? Gentlemen concerned, won't you all take hold and help to satisfactorily straighten the home management of our postal affairs, and inform us why the NEWS cannot be got through to San Francisco? We, in turn, will cheerfully help, as far as we can and know how.

JUST THINK OF IT!

If broad liberality of feelings and an unprecedented toleration are exhibited anywhere on this planet, they are most assuredly to be found in Utah, and manifested by the "Mormons." Those dear, good, kind friends of ours, back in the east and in other places, who are so anxious to take us by the hand and place us on the virtuous (!) pinnacle of notoriety which they occupy, if we will only exchange lawful marriage as commanded by God for prostitution as practised by themselves, and who now pretend to see nothing very particularly objectionable in our religion but that single feature, manifested their toleration (!) liberality (!) and christian charity (!) towards us in the past by driving, mobbing, plundering and murdering our men, ravishing our wives, sisters and daughters, before polygamy was revealed or thought of, and then forcing us into a desert where they confidently expected we would all perish.

When they found we did not perish, but lived and prospered, they came among us, after we had made the desert habitable, lied as persistently, slandered us as virulently, and declared that all they lacked to repeat the mobbings, plunderings and outrages of previous times were the material and opportunity to do so. This they still continue to do; and we in return feed them, give them wealth, and keep ourselves poor that they may be rich. Will it be believed? Yet it is true; and in the face of it they continue to abuse us, plot against our peace and liberties,—some of them being our open and avowed enemies, while some others, still worse, meanly pretend friendship and secretly labor to destroy us; and this here in our midst, unmolested and measurably unnoticed, except so far as we patronize them and help them by the practical aid we lend them in the wealth they are receiving from us, to be more effectively our enemies than they are.

They buy and sell here, have what amusements they please, worship as they please any god they choose or no god at all if they so desire it, and enjoy the fullest extent of freedom; yet they

determinedly seek to injure us, because we do not take them into our families and allow them the privilege of seducing our daughters and sisters and prostituting our wives. If it is wise policy on our parts to sustain them, while they manifest the open or secret hostility against us which they now do, we cannot see it; we would let them alone, severely alone, until they learn to appreciate "Mormon" liberality better than they now seem to do.

HOME ITEMS.

SABBATH MEETINGS.—Elder J. Van Gelt spoke of the blessing enjoyed by those who receive the gospel and live according to its principles; and of the duties devolving upon the Saints and the labors they are required to perform. In every difficulty we have to encounter and every opposition we may have to meet, God will give us the victory, if we are humble before Him and faithfully keep His commandments.

Elder E. L. Sloan briefly contrasted the lifeless forms of the dominant religions in Christendom, and the lack of incentive manifest in them for men to do good, with the life and power of the gospel.

Afternoon.

Elder John Taylor reasoned on the peculiar circumstances under which Abraham was called to leave his kindred and country and go into a land to which the Lord directed him, and compared them with the nearly parallel manner in which the Saints were called to leave their homes, friends and country in obedience to the commands of God; the blessings promised in both cases being of a similar nature. He referred to our Territorial government, and the relationship in which it placed us with the general Government; alluded to our uniform and constant adherence to the Constitution and obedience to the laws of our country, and stated the reasons why we objected to forego our faith in and obedience to the revelations of God, when asked to do so, in direct opposition to the letter and spirit of the Constitution.

KNITTING.—We see lots of hose, long and short, offered for sale these days, that have been imported from the East. That is another of the items we might as well dispense with. Children can learn to knit at an early age, and do the work deftly and neatly,—both little boys and girls. It won't hurt any of them, and will be a pleasant change from "coasting" or whatever the name is for that creeping up a snow-covered acclivity and then flying down at a tremendous rate on a little iron-shod sled. Very healthy exercise, no doubt, and very exhilarating; but a little knitting mixed in wouldn't hurt any of them, and would accustom their fingers to quick motions, preparatory to the straw-plaiting which we hope to see in operation next season. Stockings and socks for everybody in the Territory might as well be knitted in it as not. They will wear, as a general thing, longer, and are more comfortable than store-bought ones. It is quite common in Wales, we have heard, for boys to ply the knitting needles while they herd cows. Herding is an institution here, and if the herd-boys could employ their fingers thus while looking after the cattle, they would make it pay in two ways. But it is worth starting on this winter. Suppose everybody—that is everybody who wants to—gets the wool spun, or procures the yarn, and commence it. That will give it a start. Warm feet are comfortable, and conducive to good health, and money thus saved is an evidence of economy.

OUR TELEGRAPH LINE.—Pres. Young's short circular, reminds us how pleasant it will be when heavy snows in winter render traveling a serious undertaking, even with the lightest sleighs, between many of our settlements, instead of a source of gratification and health-giving pleasure, to have a few words of intelligence from the most remote places of the Territory, when our telegraph line becomes a working institution. "How do you do, in Logan?" "Nicely; had a splendid party last night, and a heavy storm this morning." "How are you in Paris?" "First-rate; three feet of snow here, and more expected." "What's the news in Washington county?" "All well; nice, mild weather, and a freight train just arrived from Callville." Well, these may not be the questions and answers, but business and other communications will flash along the wire, the north will know about the south, and the south about the north, while we in the city here will get the news of interest from both quarters, and know every day what our friends north and south are doing, and how prospects look. The work is going on cheerfully. Poles are being cut and got out, the line surveyed, the means collected, and everything betokens its soon being another addition to "Mormon" enterprise, energy and industry. Say, "hub," don't tell anybody we're building a telegraph line; if you do, they'll get to think we do something after all, except the folks with the colored spectacles, and they'll declare it's treason.

WINTER.—The 1st December gave practical evidence of winter having come by storming all day, commencing early in the morning with rain, which changed to snow in the forenoon.