

Correspondence.

ST. GEORGE, Utah,
June 26th, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

This week a school meeting was held in Washington, our neighboring town, and they agreed to tax themselves and have a free school. The vote was unanimous.

Yesterday our district school, under the direction of Prof. Eugene Schoppman, assisted by Mrs. Annie M. Romney, closed until the first of September. The closing exercises were very good. Some of the scholars are quite proficient in their studies, among the most advanced are Miss M. Snow, Miss I. Romney, Miss Ida Woolley and Miss Worthen. Quite a number of visitors were present, among them Pres. E. Snow, Pres. H. Eyring, County Supt. M. P. Romney, and Trustees R. Bentley, A. R. Whitehead, and Thomas Judd. Pres. E. Snow made a few instructive remarks to all present; and in fact all were well satisfied with what they saw and heard.

What we want in St. George is a first-class academy. It is a real necessity, all classes realize this, and we hope to receive the attention of our Legislature and leading men, on this all-important subject. St. George has a healthy climate, is the head and centre of the south, has a good set of people, and one of the most beautiful climates in the world for nine months in the year, and many people come here to work in the Temple, and like to have their children in a good school, and would like to remain here longer if their children were being educated in a city free from vice. Let us have an academy in St. George, and let all Southern Utah assist by their influence to accomplish this object. Amram will vote for it, and in proportion to his means pay as much as any other man towards it.

The St. George C. M. I. have commenced to build a warehouse south of their store to accommodate their increasing trade, also sheds to protect their wagons and machinery from the burning sun.

Woolley, Lund & Judd have extended their mail contract from here to Eldorado Canyon, and are doing a heavy mercantile business; also employ many teams hauling ore, lumber, salt, etc.

Prest, McAllister has gone south to visit Bunkerville, and will, during the time there is no work in the temple, visit all the settlements in this State, remaining long enough in each place to become somewhat acquainted with the temporalities of the people. It seems to me rather hard labor for one man to labor in charge of the Temple and do justice to a State besides, and preserve his health to a good old age. However, they say it is better to "wear out, than rust out."

AMRAM.

The Rockville Murder.

ROCKVILLE, June 25, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

The reference to the Mary Parker murder in your issue of the 19th inst., as clipped from the Silver Reef Miner, contains some very incorrect statements, as to Dalton's confession. He denies that her person was outraged; nor was any rubbish thrown over her body.

Young Jennings was not captured by Sheriff Spilsbury, but was arrested while quietly pursuing the even tenor of his way, by the precinct officers of this place. The murderer's statement in short is to the effect that not only did Jennings lay the plan for killing her but that he did the killing almost entirely without his (Dalton's) aid, and he gives no reason or object whatever for the commission of the terrible crime. After a diligent and searching investigation on the part of the prosecution, no evidence of any kind whatever which pointed to the guilt of Jennings could be adduced, save that of a self-confessed murderer and perjurer.

He also says that he came straight from the place of murder to the place where he was next seen after sundown by some 15 witnesses; and that he galloped the horse about one-third of the distance. The defense on their part proved that at or about the time of the murder, George Jennings was at work on his brother's premises where he was seen about one hour before Dalton put in an appearance at the base ball ground, where he was first seen.

At the time of the inquest the coroner appointed two experts to follow the tracks of the murderer, and though their main object was to see if there was a possibility of there having been more than one person engaged in the affair, they testify that there was but one sized track, which corresponded exactly with Dalton's.

Young Jennings was discharged, and the general verdict of those who have heard the evidence, especially those acquainted with the character of the two young men is that it is a base attempt by a most fiendish murderer to implicate an innocent person and shield himself. Several of Dalton's statements on unimportant matters have been clearly proven false.

Having no object whatever in view, save the protection of the name of an innocent person, whose word has ever been the only bond necessary with those with whom he is acquainted, from the foul breath of scandal, and believing that the publication of the truth of the matter should not be less public than the street yarn published in the Miner, the writer has taken this opportunity to give you and the public generally the facts of the case asking that it may appear verbatim to the many readers of the News.

Respectfully,
DAVID F. STOUT.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
June 23, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

This city will celebrate the 4th of July in an almost unprecedented manner. Everybody will participate.

We have three men here, who have been convicted of murder, but who are generally believed, by reason of evidence discovered since their trial to be innocent. They will be hung at an early day unless the usual legal course shall be departed from, or the President shall interfere.

An old quarrel will be revived shortly. The Post Office Department will issue advertisements inviting proposals for furnishing the service with new locks for the mail bags etc. I cannot recall any instance in which bids for furnishing locks to any department have not resulted in a prolonged contest between the manufacturers.

A gentleman in this city has just received a letter from a party of friends in New York, who had just completed a trip around the world in 75 days, said to be the quickest time ever made.

Nearly all the State organizations which disappeared from political life here at the incoming of the present administration, will be revived as soon as the campaign fairly opens. It is thought no opposition will be made by those in authority. The clubs are composed mostly of government employees, but the political work is done generally after office hours.

If the authorities here, as is now stated, cannot inquire into the efficiency of those Federal officers whose duty it was to provide as far as possible against such "accidents" as that to the Narragansett, it seems that a change in the laws is an immediate necessity. Under the decision just made here, the New England officials who appear to have neglected their duty cannot be reached in any way—indeed, there is no way by which their nominal supervisors in this city can find out whether or not there was any neglect of duty.

KNOX.

GREENVILLE, Muhlenburg
County, Kentucky,
June 22, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

Dear Brethren—Since leaving home on the 17th of last June, I have been greatly blessed, I never enjoyed better health in my life, and I do not know that I ever felt so well in spirits as I have since becoming able to explain the principles of the gospel, to the understanding of the honest in heart and all who are desirous of learning truth, by becoming acquainted with the principles believed in by the Latter-day Saints. My labors commenced in Virginia, Smyth County, in company with Elder Fife. Commenced holding meetings as soon as getting there. Although we had not been accustomed to public speaking we got along the best kind, left good impressions, and on returning, about two or three months later, baptized one young woman into the Church, which amply repaid us for the pre-

vious months labor. The seven months I labored in Virginia with Elders Cowley, Fife and Benson, there were in the neighborhood of 50 souls embraced the gospel.

The 19th of January, 1880, received word from President Morgan to meet himself and Elder McDonald, at Picketon, Kentucky. Left Brother Gillespie's at Sword Creek, Russell County, the 20th, in company with Elder Fife, reached Picketon on the 22d, after traveling over a very rugged mountain road, met there Pres. Morgan and Elder McDonald; spent a pleasant afternoon together and listened with much interest to the instructions of Bro. Morgan; in the evening held meeting in the Court house, which was largely attended by the citizens, who listened with marked attention to a discourse delivered by Brother McDonald, who was followed by President Morgan making a few very appropriate remarks on the restoration of the gospel.

The 23rd: After bidding good bye to Brothers Morgan and Fife, who were going back to Virginia, we started down the Big Sandy River, to Paintsville, Johnson County. Labored there and in Lawrence County about two months, in company with Elder McDonald; baptized two while there.

On the 20th of March we left there, going by water down the Big Sandy, in company with two families of Saints, who were going to Colorado. We assisted them as far as Cincinnati, where we secured their tickets, and they got safe off for St. Louis, where they met another company under the direction of President Morgan.

We then secured passages on a beautiful river steamer and went down the Ohio about 300 miles, to Owensboro; from there we walked a distance of 60 miles, to Greenville, Muhlenburg County. There, through the direction of Elder C. F. Middleton, of Ogden, we met a family who have treated us with the greatest of kindness, and in return for their kindness we preached them the gospel. Silver and gold we had none, but of such as we had we gave freely, and it was accepted by the family, which consisted of 12 members.

We have been laboring here and in adjacent counties nearly three months; have made many friends and opened a good field, where there is a prospect of much good being done. On the 7th of May we were joined by Elders Thurber and Bean, who are from the Sevier Stake, and are enjoying good health at present.

There are many hundreds of people in the south who have never heard the sound of the gospel, who are honest and with the right kind of teaching would make good citizens and Saints.

There seems to be a growing dissatisfaction amongst the people where I have been traveling; they do not seem to be satisfied with what the preachers of the different sects tell them, but they don't know how to fix it up any better themselves, and when a servant of God comes along and preaches the ancient gospel it strikes the honest very forcibly, but it is here, as everywhere else, the very moment we commence to preach the devil begins to howl, and all manner of evil and falsehood is told of us, and the people are warned by the sectarians to beware of the "Mormons," but the more they fight us the wider our fame will spread and the more the honest will search.

I would say to all the Saints who have friends or relations in the world to write to them, send them papers, books, pamphlets, tracts, or anything that will give them information with regard to the gospel. It has a good effect in many ways; it opens the way and gives the Elders a better chance to find friends in going to a new field. I feel well, and can bear testimony to the restoration of the gospel; I know the angel that John the Revelator saw has come with the gospel, and I know that it is being preached to all nations, kindreds, tongues and people.

Ever praying for the welfare of Zion and the spread of truth, I remain your brother in the gospel,
LEVI P. HELM.

DIRT TOWN,
Chattooga Co., Ga.,
June 25, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

I was called to the Southern States Mission at the October Conference, '78. I left my home in Logan, Utah, the 11th of November following, I was then 18 years of age. Since then I have labored in the States of Alabama, Tennessee,

Georgia and North Carolina, most of my time has been spent in the two last named States. In North Carolina I labored nearly all last summer in connection with Elders J. H. Parry and others. We met with some success. While there Brother Parry baptized six adults, and we gained the good will of many others. Still, at the same time, the devil was not idle, as you have heard, three of the Saints and three of our sympathizers had to bear clubbing and hickory whipping from some of the pious (so-called) Christians or their emissaries.

Last October I came into the northeastern part of this State, where I labored with Elder T. W. Weward. We opened several new fields, gained many friends to the cause of truth, and each baptized two adult persons.

Last Tuesday I left Elders Heward and Keeley at Vanzants, Fannin County, Ga., the latter taking my place. The brethren were feeling well.

I am now on my way home, and will probably reach the "Mountains of Ephraim" some time in July, when I will be ready at any time to go on another mission if the priesthood shall see fit to send me.

Ever praying for the welfare of Zion, I remain your co-laborer in the cause of truth,
EDLEF B. EDLEFSEN.

The Insect Pests of Long Island.

The violent phenomena of the present year have already marked it as memorable. The sudden and almost intolerable heat of the last days of May, the miles and miles of burning forests and the tremendous energy of the Western cyclones, have furnished students of natural phenomena with ample material for speculation. It is easy enough to attribute these meteorologic phenomena to a cause and to connect them at least with the circumstance that the present is a period of maximum sun spots. The long drought would account for the inflammability of the woods; the electrical disturbances that caused the drought in one section and the tornado in another could be traced to the disturbance of the solar envelope. But the new plagues of the day, illustrating the vast resources of nature and her power in ravaging the earth through countless minute energies, are reserved for scientists to account for. Following the drought came the fire; following the fire comes an army like that described by Joel, the prophet; "The land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them." The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses, and as horsemen so shall they run." Long Island is, so far, most grievously troubled with the ravages of the "cankerworm," the caterpillar and the palmerworm, and though the garners are not yet laid desolate, nor the barns broken down, the corn is withered and the unhappy farmer is at his wit's ends.

There are four distinct pests on Long Island, of the insect family, not including the mosquito, which along the north shore is small, black and venomous beyond description. They are the potato bug or Colorado beetle, the rose bug, an orchard worm; and, worst of all the army worm. The ravages of the *decemlineata*, this year are becoming frightful. Fortunately Paris green daily slays its millions, and the farmer and kitchen gardener are holding their own pretty well. The rose bug's classical nomenclature is not known on the Island. He is usually about a third of an inch long, with a fat, shining green belly, light gray brown back, divided longitudinally, and has a long snoutlike head. His industry so far has been devoted to the cherries and young grapes, which are particularly rich and plentiful this year. He is to be found in billions. He strays into the most carefully secluded house, creeps down one's neck, flies into the steam cars and makes his presence a veritable pestilence. The apple tree plague is loathsome. As one drives along the lovely lanes of the north shore, perhaps the most beautiful drive-ways on the continent, the eye is confronted on every side by patches of dirty whitish gray upon all the fruit trees, especially apples. These patches are web like nests built in the angles of branches ranging from four to fifteen inches in diameter, and from six to fifty in number, according to the size of the tree. A month ago they were inhabited by black grubs, half an inch

long, to-day the caterpillars are inches in length, and hardly is to be found in some parts the not been devoured, all but the blossoms this spring were plentiful than ever; the promise of good of an abundance of fruit, it is questionable whether an expectable crop will be gathered, some orchards the trees look though a flame had passed them. Thrifty cultivators who are destroying the nests early kerosene torches, have partially caped, but the hedgerows are alive with caterpillars, and the four crops of them have been red. One way of destroying the was to fire loose charges of into them. But even in a ritory this consumed a great powder without affording sport.

The army worm, however, the other insect pests. He less, epicurean and number very roads swarm with footfall of horses strikes a muffled sound; the carriage seem to roll upon velvet with each revolution a mangled corpses of the vehicles. Horses and turned loose to trample the death, and everywhere of corn, oats, rye and trenches are being dug of fire built to intercept thy, hideous march of ing army. The worm novelty. His habits are for it is 20 years since destroyed the Long Island But he climbs up the ripe and devours the ear with tion, and the fields with him. He moves erratic course, avoiding sandy soil and creeping the rich loamy bottoms stays him in his chosen Millions swarm into the make bridges over which more march uninjured brooks and ditches in some ous way, and leave str they found the most protals. It seems that, so far strict consist of a of a horse shoe shape towards the city, and the lowing the shores. How intermediate space will when the two wings me tural. The appearance worm has begun to dist perstitious aborigines, him as the herald of recall the fact that the lowed close upon his and predict that another gle is impending.

There is little doubt the prevalence of insect year is due to a success winters, which have the growth of the pest the ova. This country necessary prey to insect the vast quantity of ground, and the wood to farm land on sufficiently accounts overrun. The most nomenon is the sudden which a new insect swarms. The army nobody knows when doubtedly he has been numbers for years driven from his place by starvation, the country as the Army swarmed through who have desired a nation of the plagues declined to believe it frogs, lice, flies and come up in a day have the history of the the army worm to se demonstrated under very situation of upon a desert, would such inroads, while tions account fairly sect blight on Long lyn Eagle, June 11th.

The Twenty-fourth great "Mormon" and this year prom re-union and rejoicing membered in Israel.

The only spot in where the local march in procession day of American Utah, which was power by the aid zens.

The Philadelphia is an English—"bar'l." What is the ing the but in com bar'l? The bar'l to the Vice-Pres prove several coins campaign.