

THEATRICAL.—On Tuesday evening the Scotch comic drama, *Cramond Brig*, and the *Charcoal Burner* were performed. In the first Mr. Dunbar was in his element as Jack Howleson, and kept the audience in good humor. Miss Colebrook played Marion very sweetly and her singing drew a hearty round of applause. Mrs. Waugh rendered Tibbie in a spirited manner. In the *Charcoal Burner* Mr. Caine as Poynet Arden, Mr. Margetts as Verdlet, and Mr. Maiben as Abel Cole played in their best style and made the most of their characters. Both pieces were well played throughout.

On Thursday evening the *Spirit Child*, a new sensation drama, was produced. The dialogue is rather meagre, but the situations and effects are highly dramatic and startling. Some scenes went a little slow, a defect which will doubtless not be apparent this evening when the piece will be repeated. Little Delle Clawson sustained the character of Jessie, the *Spirit Child*, in the inimitable manner in which she does everything committed to her. Mr. McKenzie was the erring father, Mrs. Bowring his wife, Miss Adams their daughter Ellen, and Mr. Graham her sweetheart, whose loves are mixed up with the plot. Mr. Lindsay played a long absent but returning brother; Mr. Dunbar a unique specimen of the "soft-headed" family; Mr. Margetts an Irishman; Mr. J. R. Clawson the heavy villain of the piece; and Mrs. Waugh a spinster with an odd mixture of asperity and kindness. The angel tableaux were very fine; and the visionary Jessie impressive.

The *Spirit Child* was repeated on the evening of Saturday last, with a very good house to witness it. The piece was rendered in a more lively manner than on Thursday evening, and was correspondingly well received. Miss Alexander danced the *Cachuca* with much grace and abandon. The extra laughable *Handy Andy* concluded the evening's performance, which was played in good style and kept the audience in a continued state of risibility.

MISSIONARY LABORS.—Through the kindness of Elder George A. Smith we have been favored with an interesting report of recent missionary labors in Southern Utah, written to him by Bishop Robert Gardner of St. George, Washington County, of which we make the following synopsis:—

On January 5th, Bishop Gardner, Elders Wm. Carter, Wm. Lang and John M. Moody, of St. George, Elder Harrison Burgess of Pine Valley, and Bishop Edward Bunker of Santa Clara, started from the first named place on a missionary tour. At Washington they were joined by Bishop Covington, and at Tokerville by Bishop H. Lunt, Elders Samuel Leigh and John M. Higbee of Cedar, having held a brief meeting at Harrisburg on the way. They visited Virgen City, Rockville, Santa Clara, and Washington, some of the places more than once, holding meetings, instructing and encouraging the Saints. On the 17th of January a number of missionaries accompanied Bishop Gardner on a visit to the Beaver Dam and Muddy Settlements. At Beaver Dam they found the people in good spirits, and delighted with the winter up to that date. Elder Newton D. Hall was acting President in the absence of Elder Henry W. Miller. They reached St. Thomas on the 19th, having had to cross the Rio Virgen thirty-eight times and the Muddy once. St. Thomas is 40 miles from Callville, 190 from Hardyville, 197 from Fort Mojave, and 355 from Prescott, the capital of Arizona. It is temporarily presided over by Elder James Leithead from Farmington, Davis Co. Within five miles of it is the "salt mountain;" and the nearest known place for saw timber is 70 miles distant from it. After holding three meetings there, they left for Mill Point, seven miles up the Muddy from St. Thomas. This settlement is located on a fine level of high bench land. Within two weeks of the time the missionaries were there, the people of the settlement were to turn out *en masse* for about ten days' work, which was deemed sufficient to bring the waters of the Muddy on to the bench for domestic and irrigating purposes. The houses of this settlement are so arranged that they can easily be turned into a fort with a little labor; a very wise provision. At these two settlements on the Muddy over 6,500 bushels of wheat were thrashed out last fall; and over 10,000 lbs. of ginned cotton were secured. From the present appearance of the cotton fields there, it is believed that the land on the Muddy will be the cotton country of Utah.

On the 24th of January they returned to St. George; and early in February Pine Valley, Pinto, Harmony, Kanarra, Cedar and Parowan were visited, meetings held, and various matters attended to, after which they returned to St. George, having been much blessed in their travels and in ministering to the spiritual wants of the Saints. Even to them, identified though they have been with the development of Southern Utah, the progress made in the past five years seemed astonishing, as they traveled through the settlements and found the choicest productions of the earth in abundance where so short a time ago there was but a barren wilderness.

EDSON WHIPPLE has an estray cow.

PROBATE COURT.—This Court has been in session, his Honor, Judge Smith, on the bench. Several civil cases have been before it, and adjudicated on. On Thursday last Elmer Hoskinson was indicted for stealing cattle, the property of B. H. Young, George Chatfield and others; and, after the examination of a large number of witnesses, he was found guilty and sentenced to two years hard labor in the Penitentiary, with \$200 fine.

ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday as one of the workmen, named Jens Knop, engaged on the new Tabernacle, was standing on the scaffold inside knocking a plank loose, it swung off and threw him down a distance of 48 feet, bruising him severely and breaking his jaw-bone. He was taken to his home in the 1st. Ward, and Dr. Anderson was called to attend him. He is reported doing well.

DESERET STATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—At a meeting of the stockholders of the Deseret State Telegraph Line, on Thursday, March 21st, the Company was organized according to the provisions of the Act incorporating it, with the following officers:—President, B. Young, sen.; vice-President, D. H. Wells; Secretary, William Clayton; Treasurer, George Q. Cannon; Directors, Edward Hunter, George A. Smith, A. O. Smoot, A. H. Raleigh, John Sharp, Joseph A. Young, A. Milton Musser, Erastus Snow, and Ezra T. Benson. The necessary bonds have been executed by the officers elected, and the Company is now in full working order.

MRS. E. GEORGE, of Sumner Hill, Victoria Street, Derby, England, wishes to hear from her husband, **WILLIAM GEORGE**, coachmaker. The last letter she received from him was written from Wyoming. One of the compositors in this office has a communication for him from his wife.

JAMES HAGUE offers his services to the public, and a capital stock for them to choose from, in the gunsmith and saddlery lines of business. From his long residence in the Territory, and his widely extended acquaintance, nothing is required to be said concerning his ability to give satisfaction to those who may have business with him. Everybody knows that. Read his advertisement.

TRIP TO GRANTSVILLE.—On Saturday, 23d inst., Presidents B. Young and D. H. Wells traveled to Grantsville, whither they had been preceded a day previously by Elders George A. Smith and Geo. Q. Cannon, with some other brethren. Interesting meetings were held, and much valuable instruction given to the citizens of Grantsville. Pres. Young and company returned to the city on Monday, 25th, through the snow storm of that day.

ACCIDENTALLY KILLED.—George Davis of the 16th Ward, was accidentally killed on Friday the 29th, while obtaining sand from a sand pit contiguous to the Arsenal. The bank caved in, and the unfortunate man was crushed underneath it. We are informed that he leaves a wife and three children to lament his untimely death.

CONFERENCE.—The annual Conference will commence on Saturday morning next, 6th inst., at 10 o'clock in the Tabernacle in this city.

CALENDAR.—Our readers will find the monthly Calendar for April on the first page. Elder William Clayton has kindly furnished the News with monthly calendars ahead up to the close of the year.

WANTED TO KNOW the whereabouts of **WILLIAM MYERS**, who came from Bradford, Yorkshire, England, last fall. Address Nathan Faux, Moroni, Sanpete Co., U. T.

JOHN S. BORNE offers arms and cutlery for sale, for cash or produce.

WHO KNOWS where Dr. L. Richards' two estray oxen are?

READ notice of Spring term of Union Academy.

Correspondence.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—On the 17th inst. we took coach at Omaha for Council Bluffs, crossing the Missouri River on the ice. The river was very low. At 2 o'clock p.m., we took our seats in the train for Chicago.

A reminiscence. In 1851 I found myself in Council Bluffs, a returned missionary from England, where I had been traveling and preaching since 1844. In 1850 I was called home in a general epistle of the First Presidency. When I arrived at Council Bluffs I had one wagon and provisions for the journey. These I had bought in St. Louis with borrowed money; but I had no cattle, and needed another wagon, though I had no money to buy them with. I managed to get another wagon, with money a brother kindly lent me, and found a friend who lent me money to purchase two yokes of cattle to each wagon. I drove off, hoping to arrive at the river before the emigration had all left for their journey across the plains. In the morning I found one of my best oxen a confirmed cripple, and sold him for ten dollars. I hitched the three yokes of cattle on to one wagon, drove a short distance, and then went back with the cattle and brought up the other wagon, and so continued doing. The distance from our camping place to the river was not more than two

hours drive with an ox team, yet I had worked faithfully and shouted at the cattle for two days, until I was almost used up. On the evening of the second day, when about half a mile from the river, one wagon got stuck in a mud hole, and the other was standing away back in water. I had been coaxing the cattle for an hour, to get them to pull the wagon out, but they seemed perfectly satisfied to stay where they were. I sat down on the bank a little while, to rest me and take a calm survey of my situation, when an officer of the company over the river came riding up, on the charitable mission of hunting up stragglers.

Why, brother Watt, what are you doing here? I am trying to go to Zion, but I cannot get these stupid creatures to take the wagon out of that mud.

He took my whip, and out came my wagon, apparently with very little effort. I quietly asked him why I could not do that, when he as quietly told me, because I did not know how.

When we arrived at the river the emigration had all crossed over.

How many wagons have you brother Watt?

Two.

How many oxen?

Three yokes and an odd ox.

Your team is insufficient.

What then shall I do? for I must go on.

Here are three yokes of young cattle which belong to the Perpetual Emigrating Fund, and also a cow giving milk, all of which we will turn over to you, then your team will be ample; they are a little wild, but you can divide them among your well broken cattle and I think they will do very well.

The three yokes of cattle and the cow had been furnished to br. L. O. Littlefield; they were wild and had led him such a tramp in the muddy bottoms from the Bluffs to the river, that he became discouraged and desired not to proceed on his journey to Utah that year.

I was rewarded for my perseverance and determination not to be backed out, and in the providence of God I was supplied with an ample outfit. "I have been young, and I am now old, but I have never seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread."

We arrived in Chicago at 7 p.m. of the 18th, and bade adieu to four or five of our traveling friends, whose acquaintance we had made on our journey from Denver. They manifested much interest in our people, and sought information from us regarding our Territory, our customs, our religion, &c. They seemed to part from us with regret, and gave us their cards, inviting us to visit them at their homes in New York and Philadelphia, if either of us should ever come within their vicinity.

On the 19th we took the cars, with through tickets for New York, and made Detroit about 9 a.m. of the 20th. At 11 we crossed the river St. Clair and took our seats in the train for Niagara, where we arrived at 10 p.m. and stopped in Clifton, on the American side of Niagara River.

The morning of the 21st was cloudy, cold and wintry, a fit day to give the Falls a more weird, gloomy and awe inspiring aspect. The Suspension Bridge is situated about two miles below the Falls, and almost directly over that portion of the river where the lower rapids commence. Between the bridge and the Falls the stream moves along sluggishly and seems almost at rest, with the exception of a lazy up-heaving of the waters from the depths beneath. This bridge was commenced in 1852 and finished in 1855, at a cost of half a million of dollars. It has two tracks, the upper one a railway track, and the under one a carriage and passenger track. It is over 800 feet long, and spans a chasm 200 feet above the water. Just under the bridge and for some distance below, this great body of water runs in a channel not over 50 feet wide.

So many celebrated poets and writers have exerted their natural and acquired powers to their utmost in describing this wonder of nature, that anything I can say will appear but tame and common place. I can only give, in a simple manner, the impressions the sight of those great Falls made upon me. I was struck with awe and wonder when I viewed, as it were, a world of waters leaping with a clear bound into a fathomless abyss, and breaking into spray in their rumbling, gurgling, roaring, dashing, downward course, as if they dreaded to meet the mysterious depths of the boiling caldron into which their foaming, raging floods have emptied themselves from the days of gray antiquity. The majesty of these wonderful Falls is imposing and fearful. They kiss you at a distance with their misty spray, but let no mortal venture within the inevitable grasp of their rushing, angry, merciless cascades, for no power but that of Omnipotence could rescue.

We arrived in New York at 10 a.m. of the 22d. We have been greatly preserved and blessed of the Lord in our journeyings. When danger has been in our path, we have felt a calm and unshaken trust in the promises made to us by the servants of God, previous to our leaving our loved City and friends. Everywhere on the way, when it was known that we were from Utah, there has been manifested a disposition to inquire, and to obtain information relating to our people and religion.

Between Chicago and Detroit two clergymen entered the same car that we occupied, and happened to take a seat immediately behind me. One was a man of age and experience, and said but little; the other was newly fledged, and thought he knew it all. The newly fledged one noticed my fur boots.

Those are very fine boots.

Yes Sir, I have never had a cold toe in them.

Where did you get them?

They were made in Copenhagen.

O, then you got them in the City of Copenhagen?

No Sir, I bought them in the City of Great Salt Lake, Territory of Utah.

Hem.

My newly fledged friend placed himself more firmly on his seat, adjusted his hat, and contemplated an attack.

Then you are from the "Mormon" country?

I am from the Territory of Utah.

How long have you lived there?

Fifteen years.

Then you are acquainted with the "Mormon" religion?

I have been a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints nearly thirty years.

I understand that you do not use our common Bible.

There, Sir, your understanding is at fault; we use the same Bible that all Christians use.

But you do not accept it in its present translation.

We use King James' translation.

Have you not another bible?

We have a book which is called the Book of Mormon, translated from plates that had the appearance of gold, which were revealed by holy angels to Joseph Smith.

But it is said "Thou shalt not add to the words of this book," &c.

It is so written in the revelations of John the

Apostle; and when John wrote those words they related to that particular revelation, which was not then compiled and bound into a book with the other books and revelations that now compose the Old and New Testaments. If you design to cut off all new revelation after the writing of those words, then you are not called to be a minister of Christ, neither can you possess the testimony of Jesus, which is the spirit of prophecy.

Men can have the spirit and not be inspired as the ancient Apostles and Saints were.

It is written that Christ is the light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world; all men possess that light, to a greater or less degree, without obeying the gospel. Obedience to the principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ, as preached by Him and His Apostles, entitles the believer to a still greater light, called in the scriptures the gift of the Holy Ghost, which no man can possess without being inspired as the Apostles and ancient Saints were. If you possess the Holy Ghost you receive new revelation, for its office is to lead into all truth and to reveal things which are yet to come. If you do not believe in and receive new revelation, then you do not possess the Holy Ghost which was given to the ancient followers of Jesus Christ, and which is given to his true followers in all ages. And the way to get this Holy Spirit is to repent and be baptized by immersion for the remission of sins, by a minister appointed by new revelation to perform this ordinance, and then receive the laying on of hands; and he that receiveth any other gospel shall be accursed.

Here the new fledged one looked at the older and more experienced person, being at a loss what next to say. Finally he bethought himself.

But you have more wives than one.

You revere Abraham as the father of the faithful, and the Jews anciently were proud of him, saying, "Is not Abraham our father?" Those who are truly the children of Abraham will do the works of Abraham, and he had more than one wife.

The train stopped just then, and the reverend gentlemen left, being pleased, as I judged, to place distance between us.

We have engaged our passage on the steamship *Java*, of the Cunard Line, to sail on the 6th of March.

Yours, as ever,
G. D. WATT.

The foregoing did not come to hand until the 24th inst.—Ed. News.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Why is it that we can purchase in the streets of Great Salt Lake City, in the fall and early winter, most articles of groceries and several other kinds of merchandize cheaper than we get them by sending our money east by Agents to purchase them for us at a moderate commission? We can hardly think false invoices would be presented, or that our Agents cannot freight through as cheap as anybody else. By advancing our money, we lie out of the use of it, at least, six months which, at 2 per cent. a month, would be twelve dollars on the hundred; and when our goods arrive, we are made to pay some 10 per cent. more than what we can purchase them for right at home. Thus, by sending for our goods, we pay about 22 per cent. higher than their cost in our own markets.

I do not like to discourage these commission enterprizes, but I am sometimes led to think that our money is paid out on last year's credits, and our goods purchased on time at a higher rate than if paid for in ready cash. "There are tricks in all trades except ours." We who send our money would like to know how these things are, and why we have to pay higher for them than if we procured them at home.

A PATRON OF COMMISSION AGENTS.

PROVO, March 23.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—

At a recent meeting of the County Court and poundkeepers in the county, the accounts of the latter were carefully examined, accepted, and endorsed by the Court. A more uniform mode of procedure and of making out accounts was one of the objects of the meeting, also to give poundkeepers a better understanding of what is required or expected of them.

I am often asked what an estray is. My reply is, any animal away from the care of its owner or his employé. And when any animal is found trespassing or doing damage, then it becomes subject to the estraypound; also when the inhabitants of a precinct drive the animals into a yard prepared for the purpose, after all claimants have taken theirs away, those that remain unclaimed should be driven to the precinct pound for advertisement and search for owners, and otherwise dealt with as the law requires; but the animal is not known or recognized as an estray until that time, and cannot have incurred expense as an estray previous to that date.

EDSON WHIPPLE,
Utah County Poundkeeper.

A MULATTO slave has carried off the medal for sculpture in the Provincial Exposition at Rio Janeiro, Brazil. His statue was cupid. He also received letters of manumission.