

regular weekly meetings, with the usual exercises of such organizations. It was during the session of one of these meetings that we arrived, and as might have been expected, we had the pleasure, we are forced to say, of addressing this fair audience in relation to the importance and means of self-culture and mutual improvement. We had a pleasant entertainment during the evening, after which we retired to rest and to await the morning, when we expected to enter a new field of labor.

Yours obediently,
JOHN R. PARK.

SALT LAKE CITY,
July 18, 1879.

Hon. John Taylor, Supt. District Schools, Territory of Utah.

Dear Sir.—Dr. Park and myself having completed our labors in Box Elder County, resumed our journey towards Logan, Cache County, at which place we arrived on Friday, June 27th, at 11 a. m., in time to witness the closing exercises of the Brigham Young College. This institution has the brightest prospect, perhaps, of any in the Territory, having been munificently endowed by President Brigham Young, during his lifetime; he has thus immortalized his name as one of the great educational benefactors of the age, and this donation from him stands as a living monument to the world that he fostered education instead of opposing it. The situation of this bequest is a most beautiful one, being almost in the centre of Cache Valley, while Logan, Mendon, Wellsville, Hyrum, Millville and Providence hang upon the mountain side as so many chromos to a drawing room; and as if nature realized that no picture was complete without its brook, she here sends the crystal waters of the Logan over its emerald mead, margined with herds of horses and cattle, while millions of speckled beauties of the finny tribe, lave in its cooling streams. There are as yet no school buildings erected, but the intention is to build them as soon as the fund will be considered sufficient to make a substantial and creditable beginning. Miss Ida I. Cook, County Superintendent, is Principal, and the examinations were conducted by her. The examination was very thorough and evinced great care and indefatigable energy on the part of the teacher in working up her classes to a perfect a standard.

If the work admitted of any criticism, it would be in favor of a little more clemency, realizing that our students are not all preparing themselves for teaching, and where there is so much to be learned, one principle once well understood, the possessor of it need not be required to repeat it until he is so familiar with it as to be held responsible for it at all times in the normal department where students prepare themselves for teaching; there would be, perhaps, no doubt as to the necessity of the course adopted at the college. The institution is well furnished with good patent desks, maps and blackboards, a fact which can be repeated for all the schools at Logan.

This city has adopted a wise policy, and it would be well if all our cities, even our metropolis included, would follow the same example, viz.: organizing itself into one school district instead of being divided into several, and in some instances operating against each other, instead of being united in the general interest. By this united policy the schools of Logan are all graded up to a central school. This principle of centralization has been we believe, brought about by the previous Supt., Samuel R. Kelley, while the excellent method of grading the school is due to the present incumbent, Miss Ida I. Cook. We were much pleased with the plan of instruction pursued by the primary teachers. The schools throughout the county are all striving to work up to the same standard; of course, as might be expected, at this time of the year, many were dismissed, but those we found in session were in a healthy and prosperous condition, with but a few exceptions, where the teachers were still plodding in the old beaten path. We visited all the settlements, and held eleven public meetings in the county, which, although it being a very busy season, were usually well attended, and the people manifested a universal desire to promote the cause of education,

which, in fact, we found wherever we went. Some of the houses were rather shabby, but in two of those cases the masons and carpenters were already at work, putting up new ones. The furniture was generally home-made, while charts and maps and a superabundance of black-boards, everywhere nearly, adorned the walls; we considered the latter a sign of progression—a poor black board, poor school, good black-board, good school, was commonly our experience. The Presidency of the Stake as well as the Bishops and Trustees, take an active part in education, and were ever anxious to aid us in our labors, that the greatest amount of good might result therefrom.

In some instances meetings were called at only about an hour's notice, by the special request of the Bishops and Trustees, and, strange to say, were well attended.

Having heard much about the grandeur of the scenery in Logan Cañon, we were anxious to feast our eyes upon the actual realization of one nature's noblest feats.

We drew reins near the shores of the Bear Lake, in Rich County, our next field of labor. This county has but four school districts, Meadowville, Laketown, Randolph and Woodruff. As three of these settlements are suffering very much this year from drouth, and frost and grasshoppers, and as it was a very unfavorable time of the year to examine schools, we will simply conclude by stating that we believe the people are doing the best they can, considering the very unfavorable circumstances under which they are laboring. Meadowville, Randolph and Woodruff, particularly deserve praise for what they are doing, and we trust that the next school representatives will visit them in a more favorable time of the year, when their schools will be in session and fully represented.

We return our sincere acknowledgements for all favors shown on our journey in all these counties. I subscribe myself
Very respectfully,
L. F. MONCH.

Sad Disaster—Fatal Fire.

MALAD, August 12th, 1879.

Please allow the following sad disaster, which occurred about half a mile from town, yesterday, to be published in the columns of your paper.

Between the hours of 3 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, James E. Jones' dwelling house caught fire, and burned to ashes, with everything that was in it. The most precious of all was a little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, aged two years, nine months and four days. Mr. Jones and another person were in the stack yard near the house, unloading a load of grain, when he saw a smoke filling the air like a cloud. So soon as he saw it he made for the spot, but alas! he was too late to do anything towards saving the house or anything that was in it, for the flames were already making their escape through the roof, windows and doors.

Mrs. Jones had left the house for a short time in search of water for the garden, as women often do, leaving the child asleep in the cradle in charge of her little sisters, the eldest of which is about 10 years old. While she was gone, the little girls went outside for recreation leaving their sister still asleep, when the fire started on the inside of the house, it is supposed, and made very rapid progress without being seen until fairly started. The mother not being around the child's whereabouts was unknown for some time, to the people around, therefore she was left in the fire until burned to a crisp, both the upper and lower limbs entirely burned off when dug out from under the ruins of the house. The remains of the body were interred to-day in the Malad cemetery, to await the time when the lost parts of the body shall be restored, and again united with the spirit, in the world above. And may the bereaved family be consoled with thoughts of meeting their child again, is the desire of
Yours, &c., SAXON.

ST. GEORGE, Aug. 13, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

The vote of this County on the 4th of August, was 616, all voting the People's Ticket.

Last Sunday, A. R. Whitehead, A. W. Ivins and myself, held three meetings in Pine Valley, and assisted the Bishop to re-organize the Sunday Schools and Y. M. M. I. A's. Frederick Jones is superintendent of one, and H. J. Burgess, of the other. The meetings were well attended, a good spirit prevailing.

Monday at 4 p. m., we held meeting in Gunlock, making some changes in the officers of the S. S. and Y. M. M. I. A's. Henry Chaffin is superintendent of Sunday Schools and James West, President of Y. M. M. I. Association.

A good spirit prevails among the young in this Stake, as is evidenced by the large congregations at Sunday Schools and in the different societies, where they are taught to love the Constitution of our country, and to be willing to sacrifice life if necessary, for its defense, but to despise corrupt politicians, plotting carpet-baggers, unjust judges, and all who are trying to dethrone liberty, to tear the Constitution into fragments, and scatter it to the four winds of heaven; all who would disgrace our flag, and dip it in the blood of its defenders. Such they should and will despise; but the good and virtuous of all tongues will, ere many years elapse, look to those for counsel and succor who "Honor God's Laws," while the wicked wail and gnash their teeth in agony.

AMRAM.

LOGAN, Cache County,
August 16, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

I have just paid a visit to Temple Hill, and wish to speak briefly of what I saw and learned. Were I an artist and could map out the scene, and place it before your readers, I would be better content; for the pen is but a poor delineator of scenery, especially one so picturesque and excellent as the one just now beheld. I have stood on the top of the Kirtland Temple; the surroundings there are very fine, overlooking a wide scope of country, variegated with woodlands, farms and farm-houses. Have been often on and through the Nauvoo Temple, a grander and more picturesque view can hardly be imagined. It stood on a high whose broad, silvery sheen of water sweeps around its crescent form, girding the western half of the devoted city; while still beyond, in the west, the undulating prairies of Iowa lift their wave like forms one above another almost to the extent of vision, presenting a scene grandly beautiful when the gorgeous sunset tinges all with a golden radiance. But here, most delightful for situation, is our Logan Temple. On an elevation of ground east of the city, between it and the majestic mountains, stands the yet incomplete walls of the sacred edifice. I was escorted through the grounds and along the walls by Bro. John Parry, the head man of the mason work—than whom a truer man is not easy found.

The first double string course is completed on the south wall, which together with the water table, which are of sandstone, gives a striking contrast compared with the dark limestone composing the remainder of the walls. The south wall is now 50 feet above the ground surface. At the east end, over the large window, the keystone of the arch is carved nicely from sandstone, with a scroll reading Holiness to the Lord. One-half the joists for the upper room floor are laid, and the north wall will be ready so as to admit of the remainder of the joists being laid next week. This room, which is to be the entire size of the building, will be 30 feet to the ceiling. The ground dimensions of the temple are about 172 x 86 feet. The walls when complete, will be 80 feet high. The work of hoisting rock by steam was going on interestingly, and all the brethren were working with a will and applying "Mormon capital" (bone and sinew) to the utmost of their capacity.

From the Temple walls, looking south, were the settlements of Providence, Millville, Hyrum, Wellsville and Mendon. In the west, but indistinctly seen, were Newton and Clarkston. Northwesterly, lay Hyde Park and the delightfully located city of Smithfield, now my peaceful and quiet home, where for six years, since retiring from your composing room and withdrawing from the association of friends there—all of whom still retain my highest re-

spects—I have listened to the bleating herds and plowman's song. Richmond, further on, was hid from view. All these towns were beautifully embowered in ornamental trees, giving them a cool and fragrant appearance. The harvest fields were strewn with bundles of new reaped grain, and, as I looked, thankfulness to my Father in Heaven filled my soul for his bounties and blessings which has made the homes of the saints so delightful. "Beautiful for situation is Zion on the sides of the north."

L. O. LITTLEFIELD.

BURK'S GARDEN,
Tazewell County Va.,
July 31, 1879.

Editors Deseret News:

Since writing you last, Elder Benson and myself have been busily engaged preaching the gospel, holding public meetings in different localities, wherever opportunities present themselves. Our meetings generally are well attended. Wherever we find the people free from prejudice a favorable impression is made upon their minds. Some efforts have been made by hirelings to prevent the people from coming to hear us preach, but these sanctimonious warnings serve as a good advertisement for us. Many who had hitherto known but little of the doctrines we teach, begin to think there must be something in them, or why should it agitate the minds of their priests to such an extent? Others, feeling justly aggravated by such groundless cautions, from men who profess Christian piety, are touched with the remembrance that they live under a government whose constitution guarantees religious liberty to all, and therefore have a right to think for themselves, speak for themselves, and listen to whomsoever they desire, or, in the words of Paul, "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good."

A short time since, we made a trip into Blande County, where we found three Saints, old members, one of whom was baptized by President Jedediah M. Grant. They were feeling well and made arrangements for us to preach in that ed three ladies; two of these ladies made applications to us for baptism a day or two previous to our meeting, on Wednesday, July 23rd. They requested that we give it out publicly, and invite all who felt desirous, to witness the ordinance. A large concourse of people assembled on the water's edge, and feeling the promptings of the Holy Spirit, I enjoyed great liberty of speech in addressing the people on the subjects of baptism and confirmation.

After immersing the two young women, the third stepped into the water and requested baptism. This was the first time I had ever seen this lady to speak to her. She had rode four or five miles to hear us preach, without any idea of being baptized, and therefore had to ride home in her wet clothes.

The manifestation of genuine faith as in the case of these three honest-hearted women, causes our hearts to rejoice, and ought to silence the clamor and lies of the prejudiced, in this district, who say that the believers in the gospel as revealed to Joseph Smith, are ashamed to be baptized in broad daylight. Those who have embraced the truth in this land, as well as in other parts of the world, are not ashamed of the gospel, though they are ashamed of men professing Christianity, who lie, persecute, and circulate false reports against a people better than themselves.

While in Blande Co., we were greatly rejoiced to meet with Elders Helm and Fife, from Utah. They had traveled from the railroad through the adjoining counties on foot, holding meetings, and conversing with the people on subjects pertaining to the gospel. Elders Benson and Helm remained in Blande County for a few days, while Brother Fife and myself came to Burk's Garden. Here we met with President David H. Peery and family, from Ogden City. We were glad to see Pres. Peery and avail ourselves of his kind counsel, we being young men. Brother Peery, who is a native of Tazewell Co., has a large circle of acquaintances, and his influence among all classes will prove beneficial to the Elders who travel in this locality.

On Sunday, the 27th, we held

meeting in the "Garden." The people knowing that Brother Peery would be present, turned out in large numbers, desiring to hear the testimony of one who had been raised among them. After a short address each, from Elder Fife and myself, President Peery spoke to the people at some length, bearing a strong testimony to the truth of the gospel, and related some points to them in the doctrine of Christ, that first touched his understanding and impressed upon his mind the truth of the gospel as revealed to Joseph Smith the Prophet. All of which was listened to with marked attention, and I trust a lasting impression was made upon the minds of those who love truth.

Besides our public meetings we visit among the people and teach them the principles of the gospel in their family circles. Our labors thus far have been crowned with success, with fair prospects ahead. The people of Tazewell as is the case in many parts of the "Old Dominion," are truly hospitable. I could ask no better treatment than we have received from many people in the State of Virginia. Of course there are many who are prejudiced against our religious views.

This class have but little to say or do with the Elders, and all we desire to do with them is to do them good. "Peace on earth, good will to man." If we cannot, by the help of the Lord, induce them to embrace the gospel, we will bear a faithful testimony and leave the result with our heavenly father.

The climate is pleasant, nights cool, and health of the elders excellent. All joining in kind regards.

I remain your brother in the gospel,
M. F. COWLEY.

PERSONS wishing any information about land matters should address T. C. Bailey, Land Agent, Salt Lake City, who can generally save settlers the expense of a trip to the Land Office. Information free, inclose stamp. w 20

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