

put in chains and the Son of God reign upon the earth. Great will be the joy and loud will be the praise in those days of those who have taken upon themselves the name of our Savior and have kept the commandments of God.

I am enjoying excellent health and spirits and am perfectly contented with my lot, having nothing to complain of, only wishing to be able to do more good in the coming year than I did in the past. Owen Woodruff is perfectly well and doing fine.

AS TO BEET RAISING.

MAPLETON, Feb. 5, 1895.

The subject of sugar beet culture seems to arrest the attention of the would-be friend of the farmer just now, as well as the farmer himself. It certainly would be amusing, were it not for the gravity of the subject, to see how Mr. White, Brown or Smith rushes into print and essays to tell the farmer as to the best method of raising beets and also at what price he can produce them when he states in the first paragraph that he has no practical knowledge of beet culture. It seems to me that that little gem found in the element of consistency could profitably adorn some people.

But, Mr. Editor, we do admire the pen production of friend D. B. Jones, of South Cottonwood, and had he carried the subject a little farther our admiration would have been intensified and this article would not have been suggested. He states in his summary that the seed for his two acres cost \$7.30, which means 36½ lbs. at 20 cents per lb (contract price). What I wish to say in this regard is: In the contract the proviso "for beets raised from seed furnished the party of the first part (farmer) by the party of the second part" (sugar company).

This, you see, absolves all obligations of the sugar company to buy beets of the farmer should he get his seed from any other source; which might be very desirable. The reason I say might be desirable is because I recall the fact that about one year ago I read, if I mistake not, in the DESERET NEWS, and if not, in some other respectable paper, of some eastern capitalists negotiating with the farmers of western Colorado, having in view the putting up of a sugar plant and guaranteeing to purchase all of their beets at a stipulated price and to furnish beet seed from Germany at 10 cents per pound, to be paid for after the beets were dug and paid for. Now the Lehi company can get seed as cheap as any company, but give them credit of having to pay 14 cents per pound and allow them 1 cent for interest, making 15 cents, they then sell them to the farmer at 20 cents per pound, clearing 5 cents for every pound sold to the farmer.

It takes 1 pound of seed on an average to every ton of beets raised, and as the company bought 32,390 ton of beets in 1894 the farmer paid them the modest little sum of \$1,619.50 at least in excess of what the seed cost the company after allowing them a fair margin. So you see where the farmer is on the seed question.

Another thing. Should the farmer get a push hoe, which most of those have who raise beets, he gets it from the Sugar company at the figure of

\$2.50, when in fact there is not as much cost in manufacturing them as there is in an ordinary 70 cent shovel; another benefit to the farmer.

Again, if the beets do not attain the 11 per cent saccharine and 80 per cent purity the company need not and do not take them, and they alone (the company) have the say as to when that quality is attained. Now, as to the amount of sugar that is contained to each ton of beets, according to the report of the Chino Sugar company of California, as found in the *American Agriculturist*, to every per cent of saccharine with the necessary per cent of purity, one pound of granulated sugar was produced. Hence for every ton of beets purchased by the Lehi Sugar company under the contracts there was 220 pounds of sugar manufactured, or at \$5 per sack (market price) \$11 for every ton of beets purchased by them.

Now, another thing: the contracts say that beets that weigh over 3½ pounds will not be received. There again the farmer is discriminated against, as he can hardly govern the growth of his beets and there are many tons thrown out on that account. Why not take them at a reduced price if not as good quality as the smaller ones? And Oh! how some of the agents do like to show their authority going from car to car with their hand scales hanging to a buttonhole of their coats, with their thumbs in the arm holes of their vests and their fingers spread out, as much as to say, "Look at me!"

The Sugar company say: "We must cut down the price of the beets, for we have not received one cent of dividend from our great outlay of capital." No. I should think not; nor will they until they finish buying land enough to raise what beets they will need to work up, which will not be long at the rate they have bought land.

As suggested by Mr. Jones, "it looks one-sided;" and the right of the party of the first part is overlooked by the party of the second part. It seems that there is no real ground for cutting down the price of our beets, and the farmers in each beet raising district should unite and remonstrate, and not lie supinely down and let it appear that beet raising is a picnic and all that is needed is to tickle the farm a little, and the golden plum will fall in our basket; otherwise it is only a matter of another two or three years at most before there will be a repetition of this year's cut.

Respectfully,
S. D. FULLMER.

TREE PRUNING.

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 14, 1895.

Dear Sir—It is time to prune all deciduous trees and shrubs, and if you will allow me space in your valuable paper, I will suggest to the public and my friends a few points as a practical gardener of this city for the past twenty years.

I had the pleasure to plant some of the first trees and ornamental shrubs in our beautiful city and am pleased to see most all the varieties adapted to the Mississippi valley do well in our mountain region, if planted in the right soils and locations. As a gardener, I imitate nature as much as

possible and that is the great secret of success.

Now for pruning and keeping said trees and shrubs in proper shape and conditions: Never prune maples or even the boxelder in February, March or April, on account of the flowing of sap. The proper time to prune the said trees is in the months of October, November, May, June, July, or any time when the foliage is on the trees. You can prune all deciduous trees or shrubs when the foliage is on the trees. Shrubs and evergreens of all kinds should be pruned in the months of July and August—in fact, anything with resin in the sap, as it will callous over and heal the cut or joint.

Now is the time to prune all fruit trees, as you can see most readily the fruit timber and have a good opportunity to thin out all dead and crossed twigs, also to balance your trees and put them in good shape. We soon will be on the eve of spring, and all this work can be done very cheaply now, as a good many of our worthy workmen are out of work, and it will be killing two birds with one stone.

Orchardists and those who have trees that want pruning should let them be pruned and put in shape now. Beautify your orchards and lots, and feed the hungry of your city. I am willing, for one, to give my experience and advice to all those who are not able to pay for said work free of cost, and do it willingly. But those of our noble citizens who are able to have said work done, should do it in the name of humanity, and can find men with families who are willing to work to feed their little ones.

The spraying of fruit and fruit bearing shrubs will soon commence in this valley and in fact in all the Territory, hence this work of pruning should be attended to to give a chance for spraying properly. All twigs, branches and the loose bark of all fruit bearing trees should be carefully gathered up and burned, to destroy all fruit tree insects, and fruit pests, that are laying dormant at this time of the year. I implore all interested in the fruit industry of this Territory to co-operate as one and let our beautiful Territory bring forth the healthy products of the orchard and field.

Respectfully,
JOS. H. STAY.

A WINTER PICNIC IN ARIZONA.

On the 3rd of February Bros. Geo. Giddard and Karl G. Maeser visited Mesa in the interest of Church schools, Sunday schools and Improvement associations. After a number of very enjoyable and instructive meetings we decided to have a picnic excursion before they left, that they might have an opportunity to enjoy the scenery and climate of our beloved Arizona, which we consider a choice and a favored land.

Accordingly, by 9 o'clock a.m. on the 5th of February, the streets were astir with vehicles well loaded with people of all ages, prepared to turn their backs upon Mesa for a day's outing. We traveled in a northeasterly direction for about ten miles, when we stopped at the foot of a knoll or small mountain, finding the