

the gun, and is provided with a piston, projecting from its lower end into the gun, the upper end of the ram being recessed to receive a stationary piston, to check its ascent. The operation and effects are thus described—

The engine hoists the ram, gun, and pile into position simultaneously, with no movement; the break is then applied, holding the ram in place, uppermost, and the gun and pile are then lowered together until the pile rests in the mud; the gun is then lowered on the top of the pile, the recess securely holding the pile head in place directly underneath.

A cartridge is then dropped into the gun, the operator releases the brake, and the ram falls with its piston entering the bore of the gun (which is made slightly funnel-shaped at the muzzle), and by compressing the air, exerts a gradually increasing downward pressure upon gun and pile, till the inertia of both is more or less entirely overcome, the cartridge is crushed by the piston, and ignited by the heat evolved by the sudden and severe compression of the confined air. An explosion immediately ensues, the result of which is to violently force the pile downward, and this is measured by the reactionary effort upon the ram—the height to which it is thus thrown, practically, I suppose, from a state of rest. The force due to the fall of the ram, and the explosive force exerted to throw it again into position, are thus at once combined and applied to the pile.

The principal difference of effect, between this method and the ordinary hammer, appears to be just here: in the one case, the pile is already in motion when a tremendous force is suddenly brought to bear upon it in the same direction, and in the other case it receives a violent blow when at rest, and a considerable portion of the force is expended uselessly in the destruction of the pile head itself, before its inertia is overcome and motion produced. Hence the necessity of strongly banding the pile heads in the latter case, and the utter absence of any necessity for their protection in the former.

The ram, on its rebound, is caught and held by the brake, and the operation repeated at pleasure. On January 13th, twelve piles were driven in a single hour. The piles were all driven without the slightest injury, and none of them showed any marks of violence.

A CONTEMPORARY gives the following list of elections to be held during the present year—

North Carolina, August 1.
Kentucky, August 5.
Montana Territory, August 5.
Utah Territory, August 5.
New Mexico Territory, September 1.
California, September 2.
Vermont, September 3.
Maine, September 9.
Colorado Territory, September 10.
Dakota Territory, October 8.
Indiana, October 8.
Iowa, October 8.
Nebraska, October 8.
Ohio, October 8.
Pennsylvania, October 8.
South Carolina, October 16.
West Virginia, October 24.
Alabama, November 5.
Arkansas, November 5.
Delaware, November 5.
Florida, November 5.
Georgia, November 5.
Illinois, November 5.
Kansas, November 5.
Louisiana, November 5.
Maryland, November 5.
Massachusetts, November 5.
Michigan, November 5.
Minnesota, November 5.
Mississippi, November 5.
Missouri, November 5.
Nevada, November 5.
New Jersey, November 5.
New York, November 5.
Tennessee, November 5.
Virginia, November 5.
Wisconsin, November 5.
Arizona Territory, November 8.
District of Columbia, November 8.
The Presidential election will occur in all the States on the 5th day of November.

The *Journal of Commerce*, philosophizing on the demise of the New York Standard, says:

"Not less than \$1,000 a day suffices to conduct a first-class daily, fully staffed with editors and reporters, its tentacles of commercial and news correspondence stretching out everywhere, its sweep of domestic telegrams from every corner of the land, and its latest costly burden of cable dispatches to carry. The versatility of an admirable Crichton, the insensitiveness of an alligator's hide, and the working power of a pack-horse may be mentioned as some of the qualifications for managing a newspaper with success, and in addition to these—we should place before them all—the purse of a millionaire."

Correspondence.

LEVAN, Juab Co., July 18th, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Brother:—We had two days' meetings at this place on Saturday and Sunday, July 26th and 27th, which were well attended by the Saints of this and neighboring settlements. The following Brethren were on the stand: President Joel Grover; Elders A. Love, J. Andrews, J. Borman, and S. Cazier of Nephi; Bishop E. Taylor, and Elder C. Christensen of this place, Home Missionaries; also Bishop Kay, and Bro. Mullineux of Mona. President Joel Grover occupied a goodly portion of the time both days in exhorting the Saints to diligence, faithfulness, and punctuality in all things.

All the Elders spoke with an energetic spirit, showing that they were deeply interested in the work of God, and touched upon the following subjects: education and training of our children, tithing, emigration, and strict adherence to the keeping of God's commandments. A good spirit prevailed throughout.

Crops look well here and the settlement is in a prosperous condition, and in a fair way of becoming a beautiful place.

Yours &c,
H. HARTLEY.

MENDON, July 27th, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Brother:—We have had two days' meetings in Mendon. Present on the stand—Bishops Wm. B. Preston, Wm. Hyde, W. W. Merrill, Lorenzo Hatch, Wm. Maughan, Samuel Rockely, Wm. F. Littlewood and Henry Hughes; and Elders E. M. Greene and Jeremiah Hatch. Bishop Merrill made some excellent remarks on every day duties, and counselled us to lay up our grain this year and not sell it. Elder Greene spoke on the principles of self-government, and the gathering of Israel. Bishop Wm. B. Preston advised us to take good care of our grain this season and not sell till it would bring a good price in the market, and to turn our attention to other industries, such as the raising of oats, barley and corn for exportation and to supply the market at home, advised great caution this summer in using fire in the mountains and on the bottom land, as everything was so dry, that fire once started would do an immense amount of damage. Bishop Wm. Hyde spoke of the power of the Holy Priesthood, the gathering of the poor, and officiating for our dead. Bishop Liljenquist spoke on the responsibility of parents for the conduct of their children, counselled us to stay at home and help gather the abundant harvest, instead of hunting after the gold and silver. Bishop Wm. Maughan spoke on obedience to the commands of God, being kind to our families, and attending strictly to our prayers. Bishop Hatch spoke on partaking of the Sacrament strictly according to the pattern laid down in the Doctrine and Covenants, and also very pointedly on Celestial Marriage. Bishop Wm. B. Preston closed the meeting with some excellent remarks on the law of Tithing, counselled us to pay in good butter, and that the bishops see that it be forwarded in good condition to Logan.

The brethren visited the Sunday School and expressed themselves well satisfied, and gave good instructions to the children.

The meetings were well attended, and the Spirit of God rested on the speakers and the hearers.

All is peace in our midst, and a bountiful harvest in our fields.

Very respectfully,
Your Brother in the Gospel,
JOHN DONALDSON,
Clerk.

FRANKLIN, Idaho, 30 July, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Cache County is beyond all doubt the great grain county of Utah, and, with its boundless resources, promises to become one of the prominent counties in wealth; probably no valley in the Territory can be found where so much tillable land lies within reach of the agriculturist.

Sixty miles in length, and averaging one fourth that number of miles in breadth, watered by the Logan, Bear River, Blacksmith Fork, and various other streams of minor importance, its surrounding mountain sides covered with splendid herd grass, while the valley below teems with broad acres of heavy grain.

LOGAN CITY

Is situate near the centre of the valley north and south, and on the western slope of the mountain, is the county town, and bids fair to make a place of considerable importance, the last census showing a population of 2,033, which is rapidly increasing; hundreds of acres of good arable land can be obtained in the surrounding country, that will eventually furnish homes for thousands of people. A retail co-operative store, one of the largest outside of Salt Lake

City, under the management of Moses Thatcher, Esq., supplies the citizens with the necessary importations, and provides a market for butter, eggs and such other produce as a farming community usually carry to market.

The necessary steps have been taken to establish a wholesale department, to supply the numerous settlements with goods at wholesale rates. This house will doubtless supply Cache county, Rich county and Idaho settlements with their entire stock of goods. With the completion of the Utah Northern through the valley, Logan must be the central trading point for Northern Utah, and as such will grow in wealth and numbers very rapidly. Saw mills, steam and water power, situated adjacent to the city, furnish lumber at fair rates. A shingle, lath and picket factory are in successful operation. A large stone grist mill appears to be doing a fair share of business. Several private residences have been erected within the past year; among the rest a large and commodious one by Aaron Thatcher and another by Moses Thatcher.

Mayor Preston is slowly recovering from the effects of cold, settling in a severe wound accidentally received almost twelve months ago. He is able to attend to the duties of his office.

While in his office, I noticed that about every third visitor was an Indian, and on asking the cause of these numerous visits, ascertained that they were collecting their "rents." The Indians hold that they have never been paid for their lands, and that the settlers are merely tenants, who are liable to them, in flour, cattle and sheep, a certain rental each year. The settlers have paid the U. S. for their title to the land, and rightfully consider that the Parent Government should protect them from these claimants, by an actual purchase from the original owners, or should provide food for them. At present they are a heavy tax to the people of the county, who invariably yield to the dictates of common humanity, and furnish flour and meat in such quantities as will satisfy their visitors or landlords.

UTAH NORTHERN.

The terminus of the road is at Hampton's on Bear River, some twenty miles from the Junction. The work is progressing as rapidly as circumstances will permit, necessarily slow, owing to the immense harvest the people are blessed with, which requires a great amount of labor to save. As soon as harvest work is through with, all the available force of the county will be engaged in pushing the railroad forward to completion. Judging from present indications the road will reach Franklin sometime during the coming winter. Another summer will doubtless see the terminus at Soda Springs. The road is an important one for various reasons; it runs through the centre of one of the finest valleys in the mountains, with a grain crop this year that would almost or quite supply the entire Territory with bread, while their herds of stock would, in point of numbers, compare favorably with the herds of "Job of Uz," from which they are realizing a heavy profit, and must eventually supply the market of the city. The citizens of Montana and Idaho are deeply interested in the road as it furnishes an outlet to them for exports and imports.

MAILS.

Much has been said during the past winter in relation to the irregularity of the mail system in this part of the country. Judging from appearances, these complaints are to a certain degree well founded. The stock and mail wagons are of an inferior character, and there appears to be a looseness and an indifference about the manner in which the mail is carried that are not at all commendable. The mail carrier informed me that the contractor was getting "small pay," and that it was "impossible" to properly do the service on the pay received. Whether a man is justified in trying to carry the mail, knowing that he cannot do so without financial loss, is a question that appeared not to have reached his comprehension yet. On the other hand, the difficulties to be encountered by mail carriers, especially between this point and Rich Co., were very tersely described by the driver, who told of the fortunes of two or three individuals who undertook the job of crossing the mountains during the winter, and after wandering around three days lost in the snow came into the settlement more dead than alive. Another, with frozen feet, hands and face, is to-day suffering from the effects of his endeavor to carry letters over to

our Bear Lake friends. A few cases of this kind had a rather dampening effect on the mail carriers, and as the driver said, were "very discouraging, very." I would judge in the first place that the government fails to pay enough, and in the second place that the contractor is not sufficiently reliable to be entrusted with the contract.

WEATHER.

The weather is cool and bracing, the nights tending slightly toward coldness. Last night the frost cut the potatoes, beans, etc., pretty severely. A pleasant breeze during the day renders open air exercise not at all disagreeable, and certainly is of great benefit to office folks. No sickness that I have met with as yet. If our Salt Lake mothers could only have the benefit of this fresh breeze for their children, instead of soothing syrup, it would be a great saving of life. Very respectfully,

J. M.

Criminal Jurisprudence.

There is a growing impression in the public mind that the criminal laws of the United States provide too many facilities for the escape of malefactors. It will not do to attribute the frequent acquittals of cold-blooded murderers in our courts to the lax administration of the laws and the ignorance and weakness of citizens called to serve as jurors. The criminal codes of nearly all the States, as made and interpreted by legislatures and judges, seem to be framed in the interest of law-breaking classes, and it is difficult to read the provisions of our national and State constitutions, our humane legislative enactments, and the maudlin sentimentalism of the judges who try criminals, without getting the impression that the prisoners, assassins and robbers of the land, are a worthy class of people, in great danger of persecution, and that it has become necessary to frame strong laws to protect them from outrage at the hands of law-abiding citizens. This impression is greatly strengthened when we witness the practical operation of these laws in their daily administration in the criminal courts. When the trial of a first class murderer comes on, the spectacle presented is a curious one. The prisoner is the hero of the hour. If he has money or social position, he secures the services of a gang of calaboose lawyers, celebrated for their success in extricating malefactors from the meshes of the law, and for the dare-devil effrontery with which they brow-beat judges and bamboozle juries. Under the rulings of the court, and in accordance with the merciful provisions of the law, the panel is carefully sifted of its elements of firmness and respectability, until twelve jurors are selected who come down to that standard of ignorance, so happily designated by Victor Hugo as "the very ermine of stupidity without a stain of intelligence." These preliminaries settled, and the family and friends disposed around the prisoner with a view to producing the highest melodramatic effects, the play begins. What happens during the performance—the insults to witnesses for the prosecution, the denunciations of the prosecuting lawyers as bloodhounds seeking a victim, the sheep-faced submissiveness of the judge, the rant and fustian of the defendant's counsel, the weeping of the nincompoop jurors, the wishy-washy charge of the judge, the verdict of acquittal, the hand-shakings and carousals of the murderer with his counsel and friends—these are all familiar to those who have watched the progress and results of our celebrated criminal trials.

We do not believe that these things will be tolerated long in any civilized country. To increase or continue the present facilities provided by our laws for the escape and protection of malefactors will be to cheapen the value of human life and lessen the security of property. It will give boldness to outlaws, encourage the growth of shyters in the legal profession, debauch the Legislature, corrupt the judiciary, diminish the value of property, and seriously detract from almost every pleasure of civilized life. The evil is a great and growing one, and has already attained alarming proportions.

As we have already stated, the existence of the evil is not accounted for altogether by laxness in the administration of the laws, for it has its roots deeply imbedded in constitutional provisions, in foolish legislation, and in the perpetuation, by judicial interpretation, of the most absurd requirements of the ancient common law.—*Missouri Democrat.*