

APRIL.

A patch of lawn, a muddy lane,  
 And leafless trees a-drip with rain;  
 A gust of wind with flakes of snow  
 Which Winter hurls on the lawn below;  
 A glimpse of sky, a kiss from the sun  
 As Summer tells me she has come,  
 I raise the window—a snow-flecked pane—  
 And in with the kiss comes the rain.  
 Life seems like our April weather,  
 Kiss and tear come close together,  
 How'er you try, there is no doubt,  
 You'll miss both if you shut one out;  
 And I have known, these many years,  
 Kisses are sweetest that come with tears.  
 FRANK QUALTROUGH.

CASTLES IN SPAIN.

The captain wrote his letter home  
 While the sailors on the Maine  
 Were lulled to sleep by the ripple's beat  
 To dream of castles in Spain.  
 The dreamers passed to a dreamless sleep,  
 But the dream itself will keep,  
 And a million men now dream the dreams  
 Of the tars who died in sleep.

The Spaniards hold the title yet,  
 But a cloud is surely on,  
 For a dead tar's dream is a stronger claim  
 Than that of the treacherous Don.

We'll send our ships across the sea  
 And call on our Boys in Blue,  
 For every sailor has that dream  
 And longs to make it true.  
 With captured wine from Spanish halls  
 On which our flag will stream,  
 Our boys will drink a silent toast  
 To the tars who had that dream.

The Spaniards hold the title yet  
 But that they cannot keep  
 For a dead tar's dream outweighs the claim  
 Of those who murder sleep.

When our ships come sailing homeward  
 Their prize, unredeemed,  
 Will be the deeds to the castle halls  
 Of which our sailors dreamed.  
 Two toasts we then shall offer,  
 As we cheer our Boys in Blue;  
 To those who never told their dream,  
 To those who made it true.

Our sailors passed to a dreamless sleep,  
 But the dream goes marching on,  
 And the dead tar's heirs have a better claim  
 Than any living Don.  
 FRANK QUALTROUGH.

WEEKLY CROP BULLETIN.

Salt Lake City, Utah,  
 April 26, 1898.

During the week ending April 25th, the weather throughout the State was unusually favorable for plowing, seeding, and general farm operations. The copious and refreshing rains on the 20th and 21st gave vegetation in general a good start, and made marked improvement in the condition of crops all over the State.

In most sections spring seeding has been finished and throughout the central and southern portions of the State early sown grain is showing above ground and looking remarkably promising. Reports from correspondents indicate that the fall sown wheat is in prime condition and making rapid growth. Beet planting is in full blast, the recent rains having put the soil in good order for expediting the work. Fruit trees are all in bloom and indicate large crops of fruit unless adverse weather conditions later in the season cause a shortage in production. In a few localities the peach crop will be a failure on account of the trees having been winter killed. Lucern made rapid growth during the week and is now from four to eight inches high in the central and southern sections.

It is the general opinion of correspondents that the water supply will be ample for summer needs, though there are a few localities where it will be deficient on account of the small amount of snow in the mountains.

The outlook so far is very encouraging to the farmer, and good and large

crops are predicted if there are no serious drawbacks later in the season.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENTS.

Minersville—Weather dry and warm; water scarce; fruit prospects slim; some trees in bloom.

Deweyville—Nice showers on 20th and 21st. Winter wheat promising; spring grain coming up and lucern growing rapidly; apricots, peaches, cherries and plums in bloom; peas and other early garden seeds up.

Colliston—Past week favorable to crops and growth of vegetation. Good rain middle of week which did lots of good as ground was getting dry.

Garland—Crops looking fine; prospects splendid for a large yield of winter wheat; good rain on 20th and 21st.

West Portage—Winter wheat and lucern four inches high and growing fast since the rain; spring sown grain and lucern beginning to show; grass in the fields and on the mountains luxuriant; garden vegetables coming up and field potatoes are being planted.

Felding—All crops are growing fine; nice rain on the 20th, doing much good to all crops.

Logan—Fine weather for farm operations; grain about all in; nice rain Wednesday and Thursday.

Smithfield—Nice rain 19th and 20th; grain growing fast; spring grain coming up nicely; lucern and grass looking well.

Hyde Park—Crops looking fine since the rain; planting sugar beets and gardens in progress.

Lewiston—Weather very favorable to crops; fine rain night of 20th; wheat crop never looked better; farmers busy putting in grains.

Mendon—Fall grain looking good; spring grain nearly all in and some coming up; garden stuff nearly all in; trees beginning to leaf; nice rain forepart of week.

Benson—Spring grain coming up; lucern, grass and fall grain growing fast; crops in general looking well.

Levan—Light rain Wednesday night and Thursday morning but not enough to do much good. The prospects for the season are not very encouraging, as there is but very little snow in the mountains. Grain looks well so far.

Mount Carmel—Past week has been favorable to growth of crops. Water very low for the season.

Hinckley—Grain mostly planted and watering well under way; soil very dry; nice showers middle of the week.

Scipio—Very dry; rain needed to bring up grain; gardens and orchards showing nicely.

Deseret—Sharp rain 21st, 22d and 23d. Trees are getting green; plums are in bloom; apple blossoms showing; irrigation lively; grain coming up.

Kingston—Past week is remarkable compared with last year as there is no frost to hurt blossoms or crops; everything growing finely; irrigation begun; apples and plums beginning to bloom.

Meadowville—Farmers busy plowing and sowing grain. Heavy rain night of 20th; winter wheat and rye looking No 1; gardening is also in order and ground in prime condition.

Miller—The forpart of week was fair and windy resulting in a copious rain, which completely saturated the ground which had become very dry, and materially brightening the prospects of farmers and all concerned.

Halliday—First four days of week dry and windy. Heavy rain on 20th lasting 8 hours; crops doing fine.

Mill Creek—Peas, plums, peaches and strawberries in bloom. Weather excellent for growth of vegetation. Nice rain on 21st.

Manti—Weather very dry with cold nights.

Spring City—Some wind on two

days; looks like storm; grain coming up; weather fine.

Chester—Past week cloudy with some showers; farmers nearly through sowing grain; wheat coming up nicely; lucern growing fast.

Joseph—Wheat looking good; lucern growing fast; starting to put in oats and potatoes; orchards putting forth bloom; rained a little 21st; water plentiful.

Peoa—The past two weeks, up to evening of 19th, have been very favorable for farm work, and a large amount of land has been plowed and sown; on the evening of the 19th there was a light shower; on the night of the 20th a heavy thunder storm passed over Peoa, the thunder was deafening and the lightning fearful, rain and hail came down in torrents; shower on the 22d.

Hoytsville—Past week has been favorable to farm work. Fine rain on 20th and 21st which was very beneficial as it gave the ground a good soaking.

Mapleton—The heavy rain on the 21st did much good, particularly to the beet crop. Plums in bloom on 17th, apricots and cherries in bloom on 20th; water supply short of demands.

Lake Shore—The past week has been good for the grain crops; rain on Tuesday and Wednesday. Sugar beets and early potatoes being planted; currants and gooseberry in blossom.

Salem—Plums in blossom, lucern 5 to 6 inches high, rye getting in the boot; farmers busy sowing the last of their grain and lucern seed; watering lucern, etc.

Vineyard—The heavy rain during week was very beneficial to all kinds of vegetation. Peas, radishes, onions and other crops looking well; no prospects for peaches this year—have been winter-killed.

Payson—Crops look fine. Heavy thunderstorm on 20th—no damage. Water lowered past week. Cool nights and very pleasant days.

American Fork—Weather favorable; lucern looks well; very few peach trees in bloom, most killed; watering begun; early peas looking well.

Lehi—Generally fine week for growth, enough rain to bring up the beets.

Pleasant Grove—Fruit trees in bloom and prospects good for a large crop of all kinds of fruit except peaches. Lucern 4 to 6 inches high; meadows nice and green; garden stuff growing nicely; grain growing fast.

Loa—Weather changeable. About half of the wheat in and watering in progress; lucern beginning to look green.

Charleston—Grain most all in and some coming up. Dry land grain looking fine; much more wheat planted than usual.

Heber—Wheat seeding about completed; sowing of oats in progress. Rainfall .42 of an inch.

Huntsville—A fine rain on 21st. Farmers busy putting in spring grain; trees commenced to bud.

Uintah—Rain on 20th and 21st advanced vegetation considerably. So far prospects for good crops are generally favorable.

New Harmony—A pleasant week. Crops looking well; fruit trees in bloom.

Note—Owing to lack of space extracts from all reports received cannot be published each week, but they are all used in the preparation of the bulletin and will be published in rotation.

J. H. SMITH,  
 Section Director.

A SIGN FOLLOWING THE BELIEVERS

I thought I would write a short account of my conversion to the everlasting Gospel. I was born in Overton county, Tennessee, March 5th, 1859. My parents were members of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, but