

fields trampled over while the land is wet, and they feel that they are not sufficiently protected. The reason they think this is because they are not familiar with the law on this subject, which provides that the owners of domestic animals are liable for all damage done by them with or without an enclosure, and when the people of any county or part of a county, shall consider that that region is more suitable for grazing and stock raising than for agricultural purposes and so decide by a two-thirds vote of the taxpayers, then stock will only be liable for damages when breaking over a lawful fence in that specified region. If the law is enforced by the agriculturists, stock raisers will soon find that it is not profitable to raise stock in an agricultural district unless they fence their stock in, and they will soon abandon the pursuit or remove to a place suitable for that purpose.

I frequently hear sheep raisers complain that they are continually suffering great loss and expense in consequence of their neighbors keeping diseased sheep in close proximity to theirs. There is a law that read as follows—

"The owner of sheep having any contagious disease is hereby required immediately to remove them to some place where they cannot endanger the health of other sheep, or may be compelled to pay all damage that may accrue, by any court having jurisdiction."—*Laws of Utah, chap. 60, sec. 4, page 90.*

This law rigidly enforced would be of great benefit to all sheep raisers, and without it sheep raising cannot be a positive success. People feel a delicacy in enforcing the law when it is broken by their neighbors. The delicacy should be on the part of the transgressors of law.

W. R. S.

Festivities—Meetings—Two Feet of Snow—28 Below Zero—Arizona Missionaries—Seventy Feet of Snow.

HEBER CITY, Feb. 4th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

We are now in the midst of our Winter festivals, leap year parties being numerous.

Our meetings are well attended and a good spirit prevails here. About Christmas time we purchased an organ for our meeting house.

Snow is about two feet deep on the level. Last month proved to be the coldest and stormiest month for many years, the thermometer ranging down as low as 28 below zero sometimes.

We are sending two men to Arizona from Wasatch Co. It is all the talk just now, and everybody is studying geography.

Our mail matter is generally stale, sometimes two weeks behind time.

Provo Cañon is almost impassable. There is a big snow slide seventy feet deep across the road. It is like climbing a mountain. The weather is very pleasant now in the day time, but very cold nights, last night four below zero.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN CROOK.

The Valley—Improvements— Mills and Schools—Rabbit Hunt—In a snow storm.

WALLSBURG, Wasatch Co.,
January 29th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

I have taken the liberty of giving you some information in relation to this little valley, hid from the view of the traveler as he pursues his way from Heber City to the more southern settlements.

The settlement is small, numbering, all told, 300 inhabitants, and about 2,000 acres of good land can be cultivated. The range for stock cannot be surpassed for quantity and quality. Wood is plentiful within three miles of the settlement. The climate is salubrious and invigorating for invalids. We have a saw mill in full operation, and two shingle mills which have carried the reputation of turning out a good article. Our ox yokes are so well known that they need no comment. We have also a co-operative store which, though small, is doing a flourishing business.

We have a school house, and propose building a more commodious meeting house as soon as possible. Our Sunday school is well attended by 100 scholars, and, under the

wise management of the superintendent, George Pickup, and his assistants, the children are receiving good moral and useful instruction. The spirit of improvement is increasing with the people and several good frame houses, and a very convenient tithing house have been built lately. Brother Wm. E. Nuttall presides over us under the direction of Bishop Abram Hatch.

For several years past we have had a great deal of grain destroyed by the rabbits. On the 14th inst. the brethren organized themselves into two companies under Captains Gardiner and Boren, to destroy them; 622 were killed and the skins saved for the Salt Lake Hat Factory. The following week we had a dance in the school-room to celebrate the event. The dance commenced at 2 o'clock p. m. and dismissed in good time in the evening.

On the 21st Brother James F. Allred had a very narrow escape of his life. He left Provo City for Wallsburch in the morning in company with a Swedish brother, name unknown, as they could not understand each other. When about the middle of the cañon, they were overtaken by immense snow slides, which blocked the road on the dugway near the river. Brother Allred was under the necessity of leaving his sled and leading his horses. One of them slipped on the ice and was drowned in the river, while he almost met the same fate in attempting to rescue the animal. Finally he had to leave the other tied to a large rock near the North Fork, without anything to eat. He had then to tramp his way through six feet of snow, returning every half mile to assist his aged companion, till they arrived at the house of Brother William Wright, near the bridge, who kindly supplied their immediate wants. These brethren were nearly three days without food or shelter, exposed to this dreadful storm. The Swedish brother remained at W. Wright's till recruited.

On Brother Allred's arrival at Wallsburch and stating the circumstances already alluded to, and the critical situation of his horse, twelve men volunteered to go to the relief of the animal. They took with them snow shoes, grain and hay, and returned next day in safety with the horse, to the joy of all the settlers.

The people as a whole are trying to do right, and most of them have renewed their covenants.

FRANCIS KERBY, SEN.

Plenty of Snow—Y. M. M. I. A.

CLARKSTON, Cache Co.,
January 27, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

We have had a great fall of snow here this season. It has drifted in many places four or five feet deep, so that we are nearly snow bound.

We have great monotony here. We have a semi-weekly mail, which arrives pretty regularly. The News is a welcome visitor to our little town. It is very gratifying to see, by the many notices in the NEWS, that "Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations" are being established in many of the towns or settlements of the Territory. This is truly an important movement in the right direction, and I trust that the good movement will be continued until such institutes will be established in every town and settlement of the Territory. I am pleased to inform you that we have one of those important institutes established here and in successful operation, and it is engaging the attention of all of the brethren who have any real interest in the cause of education or in the general improvement and advancement of the people.

Respectfully,

HENRY STOKES.

Buried in a Snowslide—Body Found—Inquest and Funeral.

PLEASANT GROVE,
February 8th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Between Christmas and New Years a report came to our quiet little town that Wm. Wilson, one of our townsmen, who was working in American Fork Cañon, had suddenly disappeared. Various reports were abroad until Saturday, Feb. 5, at which time the news reached us that the body had been found in a snowslide. James Armitstead, Esq., immediately issued the necessary papers and dispatched a constable for the body, and for

witnesses who found and exhumed the body, to appear at the City Hall in Pleasant Grove. The body and witnesses arrived here late on Sunday evening. Monday morning, Feb. 7, at 9 o'clock, a jury was impaneled, consisting of the following gentlemen—Lewis Robinson, Wm. J. Hawley, and Henson Walker, sen. The examination of the body and witnesses clearly demonstrated that Wm. Wilson came to his death by being overtaken and buried in a snow-slide, and perished from suffocation. A verdict was given agreeable to the above facts, after which the friends of the deceased obtained the body and prepared it for its final resting place. The funeral services were conducted by Henson Walker, sen., and a large concourse of people were in attendance. Deceased was born Feb. 2, 1848. He was a native of Kentucky, was well respected, and many warm sympathizing friends felt to mourn an untimely loss.

WM. M. FRAMPTON.

Exchanges, please copy.

To Mothers.

Editor Deseret News:

I inclose a clipping, "A word to mothers," from the pen of Mary Kyle Dallas. If this lady's conclusions are correct with regard to the poison in the white rubber nursing bottle tops, I hope that every paper in the Territory will give publicity to the article. We lost a fine boy who was taken sick very soon after resorting to the nursing bottle with rubber top.

Respectfully,

A. M. M.

Feb. 11, 1876.

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

All over the land women are feeding their babies from "nursing bottles" with white rubber tops. Traveling in boats or stages, one sees dozens of little creatures, pale and miserable, tugging away at those horrible things, while their anxious mothers "wonder" what is the matter with them, and would do anything, suffer anything, to have them happy, smiling, healthy babies once more. And all the while the poor souls do not know that there is death in those white rubber bottle-tops.

The preparation used in bleaching rubber is a horrible and deadly poison, and the constant mumbling and chewing of rubber so prepared places a child's life in danger. Paralysis has been caused by it, and many a babe dies from no other reason. Probably the nursing-bottle, as it now exists, will be a thing unknown in the next generation, for already a French mother or nurse convicted of putting one to a babe's lips is fined twenty francs, or imprisoned ten days, and to sell one in France is a grave misdemeanor.

But it is the babe of to-day that we must think of, any mother who cannot procure a nursing bottle with no rubber about it, would certainly rather feed her child slowly with a spoon than watch its agonies when it has been thoroughly poisoned with white oxide of mercury and kindred drugs.

I love the babies so—every one of them—I cannot bear to see this thing done to them through ignorance of those who would fain die to save them pain. And if only one or two mothers who read this article will throw away that deadly thing, the rubber bottle, and feed their babies from clean, pure cups with well cared-for silver spoons for a while, helping nature along by giving the weakly child a few spoonfuls of real beef tea every day, I know they will be glad that I have written against what often seems to be baby's only comfort and mother's only rest.

MARY KYLE DALLAS.

Trial by Congress.

We were reared in the sublime faith that we owed our liberties, sacred honor and the pursuit of happiness to the writ of *habeas corpus*, common schools, free speech, manhood suffrage and sundry other precious boons that escape our memory at the present moment—but above all to the trial by jury. Trial by jury, gentlemen, is—well, never mind, it is anything your memory or imagination may suggest. No man can attack the trial by jury in this country and expect to live. Therefore is it that Senator Christianity is in "a parlous" condition. Senator Christianity may as well prepare to meet his

Maker at an early day, for in his anxiety to punish the polygamous followers of the many-wived Brigham he has struck at the very foundation of this corner-stone to our social and political structures. He has introduced a bill for the extermination of polygamy in Utah, that in fact exterminates the sacred trial by jury. It having been discovered years since that it was somewhat difficult to get a jury of polygamists to convict a man charged with polygamy, from time to time efforts have been made to dispense with jury trials in Utah, by allowing certain officers of the court to pack the jury. Senator Christianity's bill reaches this by providing that no polygamist or believer in polygamy shall sit upon a jury where the defendant to be tried is charged with that crime. Now, polygamy is claimed to be a crime, and as such, a man legally convicted and not pardoned would very properly be excluded from all juries. Here, in advance of such conviction, before which the proposed juror could have had a fair trial, but upon common rumor or knowledge in the breast of the judge, the man is branded with an offense against law, and publicly disgraced by being refused a seat in the jury-box. Not content with this, the suspected polygamist is to be put to the inquisition, and if in this he cannot be shown to have practiced [polygamy] he is to be questioned as to his belief; and if he admits that he is a believer in such practice he must step down and out.

Now, these people, looking to the Old Testament and the Mormon revelation, regard polygamy as not only moral but divinely ordained. This may be very stupid—most religious beliefs of ignorant people are—but it is a religious belief all the same, and a law authorizing a judge to so question and rule accordingly upon a man's religious opinion, has about the same foundation as a qualification based on a non-belief in the forty thousand virgins of Cologne. We forget whether there were four thousand or forty thousand—we know very well that the existence of one in that sweet-scented town at the period indicated was sufficiently miraculous. But this proposed enactment is not only a blow at the trial by jury, but a deadly stab at that freedom of religious belief, which is another foundation-stone to our proud political structure. One has to admit that a man may honestly believe, as a religious faith, in polygamy, or be driven to a denunciation of the patriarchs and prophets of the Bible, as Brother Newman was in his famous controversy with Elder Pratt. Cornered by that high old prophet of Utah, our dearly-beloved Newman was forced to assail the private moral characters of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Solomon, King David and all of them in a most violent, abusive and unseemly manner. The descendants of these rather respectable families have never since regarded our dearly-beloved creator of the chimes and well-born custodian of the king's conscience, with any favor. Nothing but the statute of limitations has saved our dearly-beloved from a suit for defamation of character.

Elder Pratt rather got in on the defamer, however, when he suggested that the God of Israel having pronounced the polygamous King David his chosen anointed and taken old Abraham to his bosom, was a better judge of moral character than Brother Newman, whose long residence in Washington had made his rather doubtful. It is said that at this mild insinuation all the vast multitude lifted up their voices and said loudly, "Yea, verily!" and Brother Newman's nose was observed to get very red, which indicated that he was blushing.

This little theological digression has taken us somewhat from a consideration of the bill. One of the most grotesque features in it is the fact that the man believing in or practicing polygamy, who is therefore found disqualified to sit in a case of polygamy, may yet be a juror in any other case, from a violation of the Sabbath to the crime of murder.

We think Senator Christianity had better turn his chaste thoughts to some topic on which he has information, and let alone the foundation-stones of our political and social structure, together with the much-persecuted and abused Mormons.—*Washington Capital*, Feb. 6.

\$12 a day at home. Agents wanted. Utah and terms free. TRUE & CO. Augusta, Maine.

By Telegraph.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Frelinghuysen called up the Senate bill to amend certain provisions of the revised statutes of the U. S. relating to transportation of animals. The amendments reported by the judiciary to the effect that animals shall not be confined in any railroad car or vessels without food or water longer than 24 consecutive hours, and that they shall have time for rest and water at least seven consecutive hours, and providing that this amendment shall take effect July 4th, were agreed to.

The bill was then read the third time and passed, yeas 80, nays 23.

WASHINGTON, 15.—The chaplain, in the opening prayer, said—"We humbly beseech Thee to pardon us, we humbly pray Thee to help us out of the stagnation of business and out of the distress and misery of the poor. May the moral character of this people shine forth as the sun."

Hitchcock, from the committee on Territories, reported favorably on the Senate bill to enable the people of New Mexico to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of the State into the Union, with a written report; ordered printed, and the bill was placed on the calendar.

Morrill, from the committee on appropriations, called up the House bill making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions for the year ending June 30, 1877. The bill as passed by the House of Representatives, made appropriations in part as follows—Pensions for army invalids \$1,280,000; widows, minors, and dependent relations \$14,100,000; survivors and widows of the war of 1812 \$1,500,000. The committee on appropriations reported amendments striking out the amendments inserted after each class as above, and inserting the sum.

HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, 14.—Representative Wigginton introduced a bill to abolish coinage of quarter eagles and of one and three dollar gold pieces, and to provide for coinage of a fifty dollar piece. The object is to widen the field for silver coin.

Scales offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Interior for information as to the disposition made of \$3,000 appropriated for the benefit of captive Indians, also whether the law which requires the presence of a military officer at the delivery of Indian moneys or goods has been complied with; adopted.

Robbins offered a resolution instructing the committee on ways and means to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to defer, for a limited period, making any further reductions in the bonded indebtedness of the U. S. by purchasing government bonds before they become due, also of directing him to discontinue further reduction in the amount of legal tender notes now in use, also directing him to discontinue selling gold coin or bullion, but to accumulate it in the treasury until it reaches—millions; adopted.

Platt offered a resolution instructing the committee on printing to inquire whether there have been such material alteration of the official debates of Congress as requires action by the House, and where remarks have been altered or suppressed by others than the members making them. Adopted.

Morrison offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of the treasury for information as to fraudulent importations of wool. Adopted.

DIED.

At Gunnison, Sanpete county, Feb. 5th, 1876, SAMUEL BARDSELEY.

Deceased was born at Oldham, Lancashire, England, July 26, 1790; was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1840; emigrated to this country in the year 1862; was ordained a High Priest here, and died in the hope of a glorious resurrection.—[COM. *Millennial Star*, please copy.]

At Uintah, Weber county, Utah, Feb. 11, 1876, of heart disease, WILLIAM STEBBES, aged 56 years, 3 months and 8 days.

He was a native of England, emigrated to the United States in 1848, came to Utah in 1852, where he lived and died, leaving two brothers and a sister, with many friends, to mourn his loss. He was respected as an industrious, sober and good citizen and a Latter-day Saint. May he rest in peace, to come forth in the resurrection of the just.—*Ogden Junction*.