

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mild Winter—Fine Stock—The Town—Manufactories—Revival Meetings.

GALT, CANADA WEST,
February 12, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

The winter here up to the present has been one of almost unprecedented mildness. On New Year's day some farmers in this vicinity were plowing their land, and planting wheat, as much from novelty, I suppose, as prospective gain. Canada may be justly proud of her stock of horses, pigs, sheep, and short horns. A visit to this market at Christmas would have made old Mr. Bull shake his sides with satisfaction, to see that his Canadian children had inherited the parental appetite for tallow and lard.

This is a well built town, on the Grand River, of some five thousand inhabitants. The buildings are mostly of grey limestone, having a very substantial appearance, but on the streets we lads from the mountains feel to need elbow room, the streets being less than half the width of our own. Here are eight churches, one each of Rome, England, Methodist and Congregationalist, and four Presbyterian of various colors, the difference appearing to be only in color.

Here are also ten establishments for the administration of spiritual consolation and revivers. All appear to be pursuing the even tenor of their way, with a marked lack of the rowdy element, so demonstratively ostentatious in the west. But the backbone of this town and province is manufactures. Here is one of the largest machine manufactories in the dominion, and Galt is presuming to stand up by the side of Uncle Samuel, and all his foreign relations at the coming centennial exhibition, with a beautiful improved steam engine. Here are several other machine manufactories, two each of lumber and flour; a malt factory, axe and spring-and, until a recent fire, oatmeal and paper collar manufactories. Yes, and saws of all descriptions, from the lightning to the mighty thunderer, five feet eight inches in diameter. One gentleman is quite up to the hub and spoke business, and is turning them out with marvellous rapidity.

Don't feel hurt that I did not mention the two newspapers first, weeklies—the Reporter and the Reformer, conducted in a higher moral tone than is usually noticeable among the borderers.

There are also two woolen manufactories. All the above institutions, I believe to be conducted ably and honorably, with a view to the production of a first class article.

I will now attempt to describe briefly another institution, at present running full time, but where I fear the article produced is shoddy. I speak of the process of saving souls, at revival meetings, at present apparently moving the whole community hereabouts. These meetings commence with singing and prayer, then short addresses by ministers and young men who consider themselves saved, interspersed with the singing of lively and emotional songs from the Moody and Sankey collection. After about 90 minutes spent as above, all who wish to retire do so. Then comes the after meeting, the presiding minister inviting all good Christians to take a part. These meetings are conducted in the basement of the Free Church Presbyterians. I should think the room would accommodate from six to eight hundred persons. Quite a number respond to the minister's invitation, from the venerable greybeard to the beardless youth, moving amongst the congregation, now leaning over the back of the seat or more frequently seating themselves by the side of the youths of either sex. The tenor of their remarks may be imagined from the following ardent utterances from the principal speaker on the stand—"Come to Jesus," "Make application to Christ," "Christ can save in a moment," "Just in a moment we pass from death into life," "Just in a moment he said thy sins be forgiven thee," "Christ says the same now, thy sins be forgiven thee," "None of you need go from this house without being saved to-night," "Only believe on the Lord Jesus."

These are the remarks of the learned presiding divine, at these meetings. Here are others by a young and earnest convert, who is quite satisfied that he at least is saved. "Saved or lost, no third place, if you are out of Christ you are all lost," "What became of the carpenters, who helped Noah to build the Ark? They were all lost," "Those people are now in hell," "You who refuse to come to Christ will remember these meetings when you are in hell," "Don't let this chance slip," "All you have to do is to trust in Christ."

Imagine the effect of this kind of talk upon the young and sensitive mind. Here is a fine and pleasant looking young man, seating himself by the side of a fair and cheerful young lady. He inquires if she is saved. She answers in the negative. The young man then commences, with Bible in hand, to paint a picture of death and hell, exhorting her to come to Jesus, looking her straight in the eye, his nose in close proximity to her own. Watch her cheerful face depart, her eye cast down; see the twitching of her mouth, and there comes a tear—aye, the rock is smitten, the fort is stormed, and the fair one has nearly found Jesus. Probably at the next meeting she will be saved. Yes, I saw the fair ones sobbing with grief. Boys will return from these meetings, as one I know did—"Pa, I'm saved," "Are you, my son? That's right." (Pa was in bed) The following morning at breakfast, when questioned, he thought he was not quite saved, but he would be to-night.

As I observed these things, I could but imagine a proportionate number of evangelists, moving in a similar manner,

amongst the ten thousand assembled in your Tabernacle, a proportionate amount of whisperings and tears and sighs. What would those who saw it all say? I rather think they would accuse you of taking his mode of popping the question, and I will not say this of them. But I do say that, according to my reading, understanding, and realization of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the article produced at these revivals is shoddy, and further say that the gospel of Jesus Christ is the same today as it was in the day of Pentecost, as it was on the day Paul was struck blind going to Damascus, or when Philip instructed the Eunuch in the same, or when Nicodemus learned the initiatory steps from the lips of Christ himself. The letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life. These have the letter, but not the gift of the Holy Ghost, nor the power to impart it to others. "The natural man discerneth not of the things of God, neither can he know them, for they are spiritually discerned."

These people have neither spiritual gifts nor power, and one need nothing more than their own much cherished Bible to prove it. But to talk to them about the restoration of the gospel brings out a look of contemptuous pity for your simplicity, and without daring to compare evidences, or understanding its contents, they say, "We have the book, the book." I find many people here who suppose your people are not believers in the Bible, instead of being the only people who believe in its literal interpretation.

One thing to me appears very plain—there is an "irrepressible conflict" between the churches rapidly approaching. Rome is burnishing her corroded armor, and Protestantism "sniffs the battle from afar." The signs of the times are potent, the harvest is ripening. Where are the reapers? The sickle must be in the hands of intelligent, earnest men, who are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, bearing with them the power of the Holy Ghost, to convince the world, and lift it into the light that has come. Let those who have received the gospel keep their hearts, minds, and bodies pure before God, for the Spirit of God cannot dwell in unholy temples, and he in his own way will use them to bless the world.

I am, yours in truth,

GEORGE A. BIRD.

Schools—Concert—Farming and Gardening.

TOQUERVILLE, Kane Co.,
March 8th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Although rather poorly supplied with modern improvements for diffusing knowledge, yet the education of our young people is not wholly neglected. We have two day schools and one Sunday school in our little village, the latter of which gave a concert on the 5th inst., which certainly was both instructive and amusing. By the indefatigable efforts of the county superintendent, Bro. Geo. Spillsbury, and a corps of willing teachers, this institution is doing a vast amount of good in cultivating the tender minds of our children.

At the concert there was a large gathering of both old and young, the public hall being filled with participants and spectators. The choir, under the leadership of Bro. Wm. B. Lang, displayed a talent in their singing that would be a credit to any group of singers, and the solos were equally deserving of praise. Encouraging and appropriate speeches were agreeably and harmoniously interspersed by A. M. Harmon, J. T. Willis, Bishop Wm. A. Bringham and M. Slack. All enjoyed the amusements greatly, and at parting all heartily wished for many returns of the happy occasion.

Notwithstanding the very uncommon excitement that we have been thrown into of late, concerning the discovery of precious metals in our vicinity, our industrious farmers have not forgotten their farms and gardens. Plowing and planting are going on lively. Early fruit buds are beginning to show their colors, weather is lovely, and the blessings of God are universally enjoyed here.

Yours very respectfully,

GEO. SPILLSBURY,

County Supt.

S. M. SAVAGE, Secretary.

—The orange crop in the Los Angeles valley this year is hardly more than a third of the average in quantity, but the fruit is superior in size and flavor.

—A Los Angeles paper considers there are over 500 Chinese loafers in that city, who live upon the earnings of the same number of working Chinamen, and keep an equal number of white laborers out of employment.

—In Persia, "talking to her husband in a loud voice," is said to be enough to send a wife to jail for thirty days. How many husbands wish their wives in Persia!

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

BOSTON, 20.—This evening's Herald, referring to the labors of the naval investigating committee at the Kittery navy yard, says it can be stated on authority that the evidence taken before the committee fully sustains the charges against the institution, made by congressman Busby, of Maine, in the House, last year; the report will not be made for six weeks or two months. It is asserted that it implicates certain parties in very questionable transactions, and some astounding irregularities.

The Judicial Court in full bench overruled the exceptions in the case of Thos. Piper, convicted of the murder of Mabel H. Young, in the belfry of Warren Avenue Church, and judgment is to be pronounced on the verdict.

A memorial has been signed by the presiding officers of both branches of the legislature, and by the members nearly unanimously, irrespective of party, asking the United States Senate to confirm the nomination of the Hon. R. H. Dana, jr., United States Minister to England.

WASHINGTON, 20.—Bradley Barlow, of the firm of Barlow & Sanderson, was again under examination by the House postal committee to-day. He testified that the firm had, in several instances last year, bought off lower bidders for mail contracts in order to obtain them at the firm's higher figures, but he denied that any money had ever been paid or loaned by him or his partners to any official in the post office department. He admitted in reply to questions that he had loaned considerable between Redding, Cal., and Roseburg, Oregon, and that he paid to Gov. Thompson, of Idaho, \$15,000 for relinquishing his lower bid on the long route from Dallas, Oregon, to Kelton, Utah.

The U. S. Supreme Court, to-day, decided that the present county of Laramie, in Wyoming Territory, is responsible for the payment of the entire debt contracted by it previous to the segregation from it of two other counties; this case has excited much interest, for the reason that it is understood to involve the same question that is now in controversy between the States of Virginia and West Virginia, as to the liability of the former as now constituted for debts incurred by the old State when it comprised the whole of the territory that was subsequently divided between them.

The House committee on appropriations, to-day, by a vote of six to three, refused to grant an additional appropriation of half a million dollars to the Government Centennial Board.

LITTLE ROCK, 20.—A very heavy snow storm visited this city yesterday, the heaviest for years; snow is on the ground to the depth of nine inches. Business is suspended and trains delayed.

NEW YORK, 20.—By the sinking of the brigantine off Barnegat, on Saturday morning, the captain and his wife and the first mate were drowned.

NEW ORLEANS, 20.—Telegrams report heavy rains or snows through the South yesterday, extending along the coast to Galveston, and reaching Shreveport, Jackson, Vicksburg and other points. Considerable damage has been done here and elsewhere.

Dispatches from Shreveport, Vicksburg and Jackson report severe wind and rain storms on Sunday night, followed by a light snow. The storm was severe at all points on the gulf coast between New Orleans and Mobile. Many wharves and boat houses were destroyed, and shipping damaged. The loss at Bay St. Louis Pass, Christian, Mississippi City, Biloxi, Ocean Springs, and Pass Cogenta, will probably exceed \$50,000. All the boat houses and wharves here except three were swept away last night by the storm and several schooners driven ashore; the damage is estimated at \$10,000.

RALEIGH, N. C., 20.—Snow prevails throughout the state; in Greensboro it is four inches deep, and in Hillsboro three inches, and the mercury at the latter place was twenty at midnight on Saturday. The peach crop is believed to be destroyed.

CHARLESTON, S. C., 20.—The weather has been stormy and unsettled all day. The estimated loss

by the fire this a. m. does not exceed a quarter of a million dollars, the houses burned being chiefly small wooden dwellings. There is much suffering among the poor people deprived of their homes and effects; insurance \$85,000.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., 21.—J. A. Barber, of Barber & Bacon, lumber and grain dealers, at West Northfield, has been missing since the 13th; he leaves \$20,000 liabilities.

NEW YORK, 21.—Judge Barratt, in the suit of Washington A. Roebling, agent of Duncan, Sherman & Co., in the Supreme Court, has refused to vacate the order of arrest against the defendants. He says the members of the firm had made an examination of their condition, which ought to have disclosed that their liabilities exceeded their assets by three millions, and the consequent futility of any negotiations to place their business on a sound basis, and it was their duty to have stopped at once.

The snow storm, which began early last evening, changed during the night, and was succeeded by a driving rain, which washed away every vestige of snow; the rain continued till 9 o'clock this morning, when the sun came out and it became bright and warm.

Frederick A. Dockeray, the American arrested in Cuba and sentenced to death, which sentence was commuted to imprisonment in Spain, from whence he escaped to this country, was arrested here to-day on an indictment found by the U. S. grand jury at Jacksonville, Fla., in '73, charging him with embezzling five thousand dollars in 1870, while collector of the port of St. Johns, Florida. Dockeray, who says the indictment is a purely political move, waived examination, and starts this p. m. for Florida.

A schooner in the storm last night was driven ashore, near Sandy Hook, and all hands lost. The life-saving crew lost all the boats they launched in an attempt to reach the schooner.

NEW ORLEANS, 21.—Six coal barges were wrecked by the storm, at the foot of St. Joseph St.; the loss is estimated at \$79,000.

The Galveston News Brownsville special says that a dispatch received to-day, from Rio Grande City, states that news had been received of the defeat of the government forces, with the loss of 1,500 men, and all their artillery and wagons. The news comes over the Mexican government wires to Camargo, and may be considered reliable. The revolution in this section progresses slowly. Gonzales and Riva are still near Matamoras, and Cabigra, with his small force, remains in the city, but they are short of ammunition, having yesterday requested of Col. Potter the loan of 500 pounds of powder, which was refused. It is said that Labarria has been ordered to proceed with all his men to Monterey, to join Fuero, which will leave the city in charge of the national guards, who will doubtless pronounce in favor of Diaz as soon as the regular troops leave, and Diaz will take quiet possession.

CHEYENNE, 21.—James Allen arrived here from the Black Hills yesterday, for supplies; he returns in a few days. He brings with him several hundred dollars' worth of gold dust, and reports that business in the hills is very lively. Over a hundred teams have left here during the last three days loaded with passengers and freight, and the city is full of men outfitting now, and a large amount of transportation is awaiting passengers who arrive on every train.

COLUMBIA, S. C., 21.—In the State senate, to-day, Montgomery Moses, judge of the seventh circuit, was found guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors, and was formally dismissed.

The committee to investigate the conduct of C. A. Buttz, of the Charleston circuit, made a majority report of guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors, and recommended impeachment.

MEMPHIS, 21.—Parties from Grenada, Miss., represent the storm of Sunday night as grand and terrific. During the day it sleeted, and the trees and shrubbery were covered with ice; when night came a furious snow storm set in, accompanied by lightning and terrific thunder, making a scene never witnessed in that section. In portions of North Mississippi snow fell to the depth of a foot.

SCRANTON, Pa., 21.—This afternoon detectives arrested George J. Winans and W. H. Barr, on a charge of being engaged in the

manufacture of plates for printing U. S. 5-20 bonds and bank and treasury notes. Simultaneously with these arrests, the brother of the man Winans, at Philadelphia, and also a confederate named Wintermute, at Portland, were also arrested.

NEW YORK, 21.—Last night's storm was very severe in this vicinity, and numerous disasters to shipping, much damage to property, and considerable loss of life are reported. The storm in New England was very violent; fifteen inches of snow fell in some portions of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. Trains were delayed in all directions. All along the New England coast the storm was most violent, and still continues. The damage to shipping is very great; the sound steamers are unable to leave their dock at Fall River and Newport. Reports from various points show that many vessels have been wrecked, and it is feared that lives were lost.

TORONTO, 21.—Reports from various points of Ontario and Quebec state that the heaviest snow fall of the season took place last night and to-day; in some places the roads are impassable.

SAN FRANCISCO, 21.—In view of the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, that the State legislation regulating Chinese immigration is unconstitutional, the board of supervisors, last night, unanimously adopted a recommendation to the mayor to appoint a committee of citizens who shall call a mass meeting for the expression of public sentiment, and choose a deputation to represent the matter to Congress in the most forcible manner. The last steamer from China brought over one thousand Chinese, and the entire steamer capacity of both lines is engaged for the next six months by importers of coolies; the action of the board of supervisors excites general and favorable comment.

The match between Foster and Springbok, at Sacramento, is off; Springbok's friends would not come to terms; it is also reported that Foster will not start in the two-mile and repeat at the Bay district track, on Saturday next.

BOSTON, 21.—Heavy south-east to east storm of snow and rain and wind prevailed here all night, and continues; it is the worst storm of the season.

WASHINGTON, 21.—The Senate committee on foreign relations had a long session to-day, on the subject of Dana's nomination.

Before the war expenditures committee, this afternoon, J. S. Evans detailed the circumstances surrounding his obtaining permission from Marsh to remain at Fort Sill. It was a matter of necessity with him, he said, to come to terms with Marsh. Belknap told Evans that he had promised Marsh a place, and Marsh had selected Fort Sill. Evans saw Marsh, who appeared to understand all about the matter. He went to New York with Marsh, where a written contract was signed. Evans presented a detailed statement, in writing, of his payments to Marsh. He said he told his friends of his agreement with Marsh, and showed General Grier, the commanding officer at the post, the contract. On his return to Fort Sill, the facts, he said, were well known there, and it was regarded there as a great outrage, and as the cause of extortionate prices. Evans said he was introduced to the Secretary of War by General Rice, of Iowa, and paid him a thousand dollars for the introduction. He thought this was enough, though Rice wanted \$1,500. Witness wished to delay the published statement of Captain Robinson, that he paid \$15,000 to the Secretary of War, and that Dent & Co. connived at the matter. There was no foundation for the report. J. C. Dent was brother-in-law of the President.

Hawkins Taylor, formerly of Iowa, a lobbyist, gave an account of lobby operations. He obtained a post tradership for Dr. F. G. H. Bradford. The influence of the Maine delegation, with the exception of Morrill, was secured for Bradford. The witness received \$100 for his services. Secretary Belknap said he would appoint Bradford, for he wanted to do a good act for Senator Hamlin. Bradford sold the tradership for \$1,500, and was afterwards dismissed. Witness procured a tradership at Fort Stanton for R. M. Stevens, for which service he received \$125. The witness gave a further account of his doings, and the committee adjourned.