

# The Deseret Weekly.

PUBLISHED BY  
THE DESERET NEWS COMPANY,  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE  
Per Year, of Fifty-two Numbers, . . . \$2.50.  
Per Volume, of Twenty-six Numbers, . . . 1.50.  
IN ADVANCE.

CHARLES W. PENROSE, . . . EDITOR.

Saturday, . . . May 4, 1889.

## SEASONABLE ADVICE.

THERE is every indication that the approaching season will be one of the driest ever witnessed in this region since its first settlement. It is not confined to any special section, but is almost universal. The most conspicuous exception, so far as we can learn, is Iron County and some points contiguous to it. But even there the snowfall in the mountains was much less than usual in proportion to what was deposited in the valleys.

As one sample of the symptoms of approaching scarcity of water, among many others in this immediate vicinity, it may be stated that at a point some distance up Big Cottonwood Canyon the entire creek by that name can now be conveyed through a thirteen-inch pipe. So we have been informed by a reliable person conversant with the fact. In ordinary seasons at this time of the year that stream is booming. Even in the mountains in and around Morgan County, along the Weber River, there is in places only a depth of six inches of snow where there has often been about six feet.

It is well thus early to consider the effect of an unusually dry season. Will there be sufficient water to insure good crops? It may be argued that the recent rains have done much to heighten the farming prospect. Doubtless observers have noticed how rapidly the showers that have fallen have been absorbed by the thirsty ground, which is dry to an unusual depth for this early stage of the season. Even if we should have a tolerably generous rainfall, this will more than likely continue to be the case, because the moisture that falls can hardly be sufficient to reach down far enough to join with that which is in the ground. Besides, the fact that the showers have already fallen makes it by no means certain that they will be followed to any great extent by others as the season advances.

Water either by rains or from streams is absolutely necessary for the advancement and maturing of the crops. Even if everything should look promising to the eye up to a given point, if the necessary dampness were not then forthcoming there would be a failure to mature.

In the event of a crop failure the price of breadstuffs would take an upward leap. This would entail more or less suffering, which, as usual, would fall principally, if not exclusively, upon the working classes of the people. There is an opportunity now for those of them who are in employment to lay up a little flour or wheat for future possibilities—we place them within the range of the probable.

Such a course is consistent with wisdom whether there should come a scarcity or not. Should such an emergency occur, how thankful every one would be that had been governed by the spirit of prudence and economy, and provided against it. If it does not make its appearance, they would still have reason to congratulate themselves at having on hand something that is always as good as gold, and under certain conditions a thousand-fold more valuable.

On the other hand, those who had preferred to live from hand to mouth and spend every dollar over that which was needed for living purposes in things that gave but fleeting pleasure, would be filled with regret, if not remorse. There are some people—they are very numerous—who do not appear to have the remotest idea of thrift. Instead of taking into consideration how they can best save a little in order to "provide against a rainy day," they appear to exert their minds in the direction of finding ways to expend what means they obtain that result in no lasting benefit. To be thrifty does not mean to be stingy, the latter being one of the most contemptible qualities. It is to be prudent in the use of means, expending and saving it to the best practicable advantage.

We say to those disposed to save that if they will do it in the shape of breadstuffs, we are of opinion that they will have no reason to regret taking that course, even if a time of scarcity should not come. Conditions seem, however, to favor an inference that scarce times may drop in on us before a great while.

"The prophecies must be fulfilled."

## A FOLLY OF THE TIMES.

ONE of the dangerous follies of the times is the common yielding of inexperienced young ladies to the stage fascinations of male actors. It is evidence of a lack of balance, the absence of good, common sense, and an indifference to moral restraints, in the giddy girls who are captivated by the made-up heroes of the footlights. They do not seem to be able to recognize the difference between the individual and the character which he temporarily assumes, nor to perceive that his stage attractions are often but padding, paint, false hair and assumed virtues. They are seized with a passion for a fictitious appearance, and fancy they are in love with an admirable man.

The letters which popular actors receive from misguided misses and maturer but not more sensible matrons, are revelations of feminine folly and too often of moral looseness which are truly deplorable. There are honorable, sensible professionals who treat these frequent effusions with silent indifference, and who scorn to take advantage of the weakness of their worshippers. But there are others who are ready to catch in their nets any foolish girl with money and good looks who is capable of being entangled. And there are more of these than would be supposed by sensible people unacquainted with life behind the scenes.

Numbers of young girls are led to ruin by the glamour of stage surroundings, and are ready to fall into the arms of heartless scoundrels who represent in the drama the impossible perfections of exaggerated romance. Strutting before the public they are rich, refined and noble, but in real life are often impecunious and brutal, as ready to ridicule after betrayal, as they were to cajole when playing the lover. Girls are also frequently ensnared by the advertising dodges of pretended professors making up combinations of amateur talent for travelling companies. They run away from home on the promise of dazzling engagements, and too soon find themselves the victims of characterless libertines.

Exposures of such cases are frequent in the daily papers that reach us from the East, but they have no effect upon the love-lorn damsels and stage-struck women whose brains are as soft as their hearts, and whose egotism is far greater than their talents.

The scribe who seeks to benefit