

able time, and any one having in a number of acres requires considerable help, as a man can only turn out eight to ten rows a day forty rods long, and it takes forty rows to the acre. After the turn lug is the cultivating, which has to be done by hand chiefly, and some horse power. I may say here that the farmer needs special implements to cultivate sugar beets which are not necessary in the cultivation of other roots (planters, cultivators, hoes, topplers and beet plows for digging the beets).

I may say sugar beets need more care and cultivation than any other root, vegetable or cereal grown. I have raised nearly every kind of vegetable, root or cereal grown either in this country or in England, so can speak from experience. It is also necessary to be most particular about irrigating, or the beets will not mature. The early beets ripen late in September. When the beets are sufficiently ripe for the factory then comes the testing and digging, pulling and topping, and the beets have to be handled five or six times before being finally delivered at the factory—plowed, pulled, topped, loaded, unloaded.

The factory people are very strict and unless the beets go a certain percentage according to the contract, even to the smallest fraction, the farmer is liable to have all his beets left on his hands, and no market whatever for them; and all his time, labor, machinery, etc., is a loss. You will see, Mr. Editor, the farmer runs a greater risk in growing sugar beets than any other farm produce, and there is always a reduction for dirt of from two to seven percent.

Now, last year I raised six acres of beets for the Sugar company, and many of the farmers around said I had one of the prettiest stands of beets in Lehi field. But last year was a dry spring and wet fall, and I was out of pocket on my beets nearly \$30 when labor, planting and seed were paid for, not including my own time and plowing, etc. I got \$5 per ton for beets delivered, but owing to the season my beets did not mature. Yet all my other vegetables, roots, etc., did. Many of the farmers besides myself were at a loss from the same cause.

Now, your correspondent says it looks reasonable that if an acre of land could be made to produce 20 tons of beets. Yes, it certainly looks reasonable enough, but where will you find land to produce twenty tons of beets to the acre, that is for the factory; as you will see by the contract the factory will not receive beets weighing over three and a half pounds each?

The Sugar company plants hundreds of acres, and on the best of land, too, and their beets receive the very best of cultivation and they only raise from eight to twelve tons to the acre and sometimes less; and it is considered a very good crop indeed to go fifteen tons to the acre. So you will now see, Mr. Editor, that beet raising, so far as the farmer is concerned, is not so very profitable an industry after all in Utah.

Of course I know well enough that at present prices for sugar the Utah company cannot run their factory successfully or to even clear the cost of production. Still they can hardly expect the farmer to grow beets for \$4 per ton under the same contracts as hitherto.

The company have hitherto taken particular care to run no risk, and the farmer has had to stand all the loss. Such should not be the case, and I am not surprised at the farmers not wishing to grow beets at a reduction under past conditions.

P. FISHER.

FROM WEST VIRGINIA.

COPEN, West Virginia,
January 11, 1895.

Perhaps a few lines of our travels in this mission would interest your readers. It is three months today since Brother J. C. Allen, of Cache county, left his home for a mission to the Northern States. The weather here is very changeable; we have had about twenty inches of snow, but last Saturday night a rain took it all off. We can say that we enjoy ourselves in our labors in spreading the truth of the everlasting Gospel that has been restored in these last days. We have held a great many meetings in West Virginia and receive very good treatment from the people. We can praise them for their hospitality towards us.

Perhaps a little circumstance which occurred last Sunday would be interesting. We obtained the school house in Copen Run, and we gave out the appointment to hold meeting at 10 o'clock a. m. When the time arrived for meeting the water was up very high in the creeks, and it was raining also, but still the people came out to hear what we the servants of God were teaching. The congregation was called to order and after the opening exercises a discourse was delivered on the first principles of the Gospel and the organization of the Church with the gifts and blessings. The congregation gave very good attention to what had been said and when meeting was brought to a close friends were waiting to invite us home with them. A gentleman by the name of Stout gave us the first invitation to go home with him, which we accepted. After we got to Mr. Stout's house and had found a very comfortable place, a crowd of men came in the room where we were and all took a seat. They were waiting for one of them to open up some question to oppose us in what we had been speaking on in meeting, and after a few minutes one man by the name of Shock spoke up and said he would like to see us take a cup of poison to see if it would hurt us. He said he wanted a sign. We explained to him that the signs were not given to convince the unbeliever, but they should follow the true believer. He kept on saying he wanted a sign. We told him what the Savior said about those that sought for a sign, and then he started on other things and said he did not believe the things we had spoken on in our meeting. We showed him by the Scriptures that if he ever got in the kingdom of God he would have to comply with the ordinances laid down by our Savior and His Apostles. He was angry with that and said he wanted to get five dollars with us that he would not have to comply with the ordinances laid down by the Apostle, and he would prove it to us after the resurrection. He said he did not believe any of the Apostles' writings, that the epistle which Paul wrote to the different Saints was no more than he could do, and our opponent Shock

said all he believed was what God wrote with his own hands on the tables of stone. We asked him where the tables of stone were and he said in the Bible. We asked him how they got in the Bible and he could not tell us. We then showed him that all the evidence he had that Moses received the tables of stone was some of the Prophets' writings, and we also showed him that we had to take the word of the Apostles that Christ ever was upon the earth, and Mr. Shock gave it up. Our little talk was interesting for those that were listening, and they returned home. We could feel to ask God to forgive Mr. Shock for the opposition he manifested. Mr. Stout treated us with kindness and we can ask God to bless the friends for their kindness towards us. Last night we held another meeting on the same creek and at meeting time it was raining very hard, but we had a large congregation and very good attention, and the good spirit of God was manifest in our behalf. After meeting closed Mr. Johnson invited us home with him, and he took us to a comfortable home. After we arrived there we had a nice talk with him on the Gospel. May the blessings of God be with all the Latter-day Saints.

Yours respectfully,
R. A. PERKES,
J. C. ALLEN.

A peculiar accident occurred to a freight train on the Colorado Midland at Colorado Springs, on Friday morning. The train was only a few miles east of Cascade and while crossing a trestle bridge the trucks under a refrigerator car slipped back, letting the car down upon the bridge. The trucks threw the next car across the track and broke the coupling pin. Two head of cattle were killed and aside from a few bruises, no person was hurt.

The tramps and hobos have evidently come to the conclusion that Los Angeles is not a healthy place for them as in former days. Since the announcement of Chief Glass that quarters had been secured for them, says the *Express*, and that they would be set at work upon the streets and in the parks, they have made themselves scarce. Then again they took notice of how Police Judge Owens started in by giving them sentences of sixty days. This was too much for them, and as a result, during the past seventy-two hours the different round-ups have resulted in bringing in only half a dozen members of this undesirable element.

A very peculiar case of blood-poisoning is that of Richard Sealy, who has been sick at his home in Alameda, Cal., since the first of the year. The day before New Year's he was very busy in the liquor store of which he is manager, wrapping and tying up packages, and happened to cut his finger while trying to suddenly snap a piece of colored twine. He had wound it about his finger in the usual way, but, instead of breaking, the cord cut through the skin and drew blood. The next day the hand was greatly swollen, and on consulting a physician all the symptoms of blood-poisoning were found. The hand was frequently incised and other measures resorted to, but Mr. Sealy is said to be a very sick man.