

Correspondence.

LEHI CITY, August 9th, 1873.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir—I have just read a communication in the NEWS from Mr. H. C. Wardleigh upon the educational interests of Utah Territory, and as he justly remarks the suicidal tendency, financially speaking, of sending our youth abroad to be educated is obvious to the most obtuse individual. It is equally true that we have talent, learning and ability in this Territory, which, if justly appreciated and encouraged, would elevate materially our present standard of intellectual refinement.

The money annually sent from this Territory for educational purposes is almost sufficient to sustain a first-class institution of learning in our own midst. It would, if necessary, bring the best talent from the East, build up our home institutions, and present an opportunity to those who are not able to travel upon expensive roads, to avail themselves of eastern luxuries and advantages in education; besides the influence of our society at home, we believe, is vastly superior to that of any other part of the world. Is there one among our people who would prefer sending his children east to be educated if our facilities in Utah were as great? I do not believe there is one, and yet our advantages could be made equal with little means and more encouragement.

Mr. Wardleigh said that it was not his intention to puff the Deseret University. I will say that if he can raise it to that standard of appreciation which it justly merits from the people of this territory, he will do a good work, and one in which he should have the co-operation of all who are interested in the cause of education.

I know that in the settling of new countries, education is not generally made the first consideration, nor can we expect such, to be the case. It is not in the order of a country's development. It is not consistent with life and comfort; but when the wilderness has been subdued, and the barren waste made subservient to the will of man, and caused to yield a hundred fold, as is almost the case with us, then education, intellectual and moral, should be encouraged by wealth, influence, and patronage. I maintain that such a state of things exists in Utah today, that we are comfortable enough, and as well prepared to begin the work which devolves upon us as we ever will be. A great many of our citizens will say that they are not able yet to educate their children; to all such I would say that the very wealth of a country depends in a great measure upon its education. I am not in favor of education, transient or superficial, but practical and useful education. I am not in favor of it because it is appreciated by the world, but because it is absolutely indispensable.

As regards Deseret University, I would say that I believe it is conducted by a man than whom there are few if any in our Territory more capable of school government; and I am sure there is not one more earnest in his endeavors to promote the general interests of education than is Dr. Park. He is the right man in the right place, and I believe I can recommend the Deseret University to the citizens of Utah as an institution worthy of their patronage.

Yours respectfully,

S. R. THURMAN.

PINE KANYON, Tooele Co.,
Aug., 9th, 1873.

Editor Deseret News:

I noticed a very interesting article in the Weekly NEWS of August 6th on "Silk Culture." The business now begins to assume an importance with some of our people who have been and are calculating to follow that profitable industry.

That silk can be raised to good advantage in this Territory is now beyond doubt, and therefore a pertinent question is what methods shall we pursue to make the industry the most profitable and remunerative?

It occurred to me some time ago that a silk raisers' convention would be of much good, in assisting in the development of the enterprise.

That there is great wealth to be derived by the cultivation of the silk-worm is a settled question. This year Mrs. Ann Steel has raised

about 6,000 cocoons, from the French yellow annuals, of a very fine size and good quality. The question now arises, shall we raise the silk or the eggs? Silk will pay better than eggs. Your correspondent in the article referred to states that no returns have come from France for the eggs sent last winter, which makes it unpleasant—justly so. The necessity for a convention of silk culturists is very much needed, to devise the best and wisest methods of obtaining returns. If we cultivate the silk, by what means shall we get it reeled, that we may cash the reeled silk, or manufacture it into such articles as will pay the best?

Mr. Hoag, of Yolo, Cal., states that \$2,000 can be obtained from one acre of two year old trees when cultivated for the silk: if we say \$1,000 per acre, we shall be very well remunerated, and it most positively can be done in Utah. Your correspondent states that "the Syrian silk worm makes too much floss silk, and that is hard and coarse, but can be reeled without waste." A very good kind for beginners. The French Annual produces a very fine silk and would be more difficult to reel. California has made a very satisfactory success of silk raising, and Utah may and can, if she pleases, do likewise. The dry bench lands are the most congenial for the worm; \$500 can be raised from one acre of suitable soil such as peaches of a good quality can be cultivated on; this fact is demonstrated this summer at Pine Canyon.

A quarter section of land appropriated to the cultivation of the mulberry tree in any suitable locality would make any community rich; 160 acres at \$500 to the acre would amount to \$80,000. This is proved by experiment the present year.

A convention of silk culturists is needed to discuss and arrange matters for the best. A convention would give interest to the enterprise. Conventions are common in America. The bee raisers have a convention; the live stock raisers, and hog raisers; also the dairy association; and wisdom dictates that silk interests will be the better for a convention.

The gentlemen of the city who are interested in silk culture might arrange the convention affairs, name the time and the place this fall, and let us have a good talk on the subject.

China and Japan receive for eggs from France and Austria about twenty millions of dollars annually; the two last nations buy the eggs and raise the silk, because they can obtain twice the amount from the silk that they can from the eggs; they spend twenty millions in eggs, but if they had to buy the silk they would have to pay forty millions. J. S. S.

BRISTOL CONFERENCE.—Elder Elijah N. Freeman, in writing to us, on July 9th, says—"I am glad to inform you that my health is very good and that I have enjoyed myself very much in visiting among the Saints with brother Cazier. I believe that the majority of the Saints in this Conference have been in the Church from fifteen to twenty years. They are very much scattered and it takes a long time to visit even a few of them."

NOTTINGHAM CONFERENCE.—Elder John I. Hart, in a letter to us, dated July 15th, says—"I am happy to inform you that all things are moving along agreeably with us in this conference. A good spirit, as a general thing, prevails in all the branches. On Sunday morning last I held a priesthood meeting at Sheephead, at which were assembled the priesthood of the Whitwick, Loughborough and Sheephead branches. All the brethren expressed themselves as being desirous of pressing forward and carrying out the commandments of God through his servants. Our meetings in the afternoon and evening, were well attended, notwithstanding that it rained all day. A good spirit was visibly manifest among our friends who met with us. We shall baptize some more persons this evening in the Nottingham branch. I think we shall, by the help of God, keep our numbers good in this conference, although so many have emigrated this season of gathering. Elder Taylor is united with me to this purpose."

MERTON, July 12.—We have baptized, during the last quarter, 40 persons. We have commenced out-door preaching in various places in the Conference and, so far, the Elders have been encouraged to continue in their worthy efforts, in this direction, by having met with attentive and numerous congregations. There seems to be a spirit of inquiry after the truth. We have not been molested or interfered with in any way. JOHN E. REES.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, July 17.—The Saints feel well. Out-door meetings are orderly and interesting, and baptisms are frequent. M. H. HARDY.
—*Millennial Star*, July 20th, 1873.

FROM ENGLAND.—By courtesy of President D. H. Wells we have been permitted to peruse a letter to him from his son, Elder Junius F. Wells, and another to Sister Wells, mother of Junius, the latter being now on a mission in England. Both communications breathe a most excellent spirit and indicate that the young man is engaged whole-souledly in the labors of his mission. The letters are both dated at London, June 30th, he being traveling elder in the London Conference.

To his father Brother Junius writes: "A year's experience in the ministry has opened my eyes. I have been most signally upheld and sustained by the Spirit of the Lord. According to the promise made to me, I have been able to express my views to the people, and the joy I have felt while thus engaged has been sweeter than any pleasure I have experienced in my life."

"Clouds have occasionally overshadowed my mind, which I shall never forget, and I trust my praise shall never end for the 'clearing away.' I enter upon my second year's missionary labor with the greatest pleasure, and hope that my experience will be as instructive, and that I may have greater power to hold fast to that which is good than in those of the first one."

"I had the privilege of witnessing the grand spectacle afforded at Dover on the arrival of the Shah of Persia. His highness attracted many thousand people, and the reception was called by the papers, 'truly English,' which means successful beyond measure. The sight was grand and was only surpassed by the naval review held off Spithead, on June 23d. Miles of people and furlongs of bunting greeted the Shah and made merry the holiday at Portsmouth. 'The men-of-war, about fifty in number, of peculiar shape and immense strength, and the thundering noise which proceeded from their decks, filled every loyal English heart with admiration and pride.'"

We also extract from the letter to his mother:

"You need not entertain expectations of my return this year. I think you will be satisfied when you learn that I am entirely contented and prefer remaining. The last year has been the happiest of my life."

"I look forward with joyous expectation to the time when we shall meet again, but I cannot think of leaving here until I have gained more experience."

"I wish my testimony concerning 'Mormonism' to become so embedded in my heart that it will be as strong and as readily evinced at home as it is here. Then I will be ready to return. Unless I can live in accordance with the things I now teach I am in jeopardy, but I have no fears, as I trust in God."

THE BRITISH MISSION.—The following from the *Millennial Star* of July 22, may be of interest to our local readers—

NOTICE.—In cases where persons are able and willing to assist others to emigrate with them, they are advised to take notes at the time from those they assist, that misunderstandings may be avoided, and collections and payments be more readily attended to after the arrival of the parties in Utah.

In consequence of so much neglect in refunding borrowed money to those who loaned it and tarried here, it is also advised not to loan, except the parties are all going to emigrate at the same time, unless they feel able and willing to run the risk of the amount not being repaid, and in such event not complain about it, for it will be of their own voluntary doing contrary to good advice.

For nearly five years we and the Elders from Utah have been laboring to have sums returned by those who borrowed from the poor under the strongest assurance that the amounts would be promptly repaid soon after arrival in Zion, and we regret to add that much still remains unpaid, some of it of long standing, and some where the borrowers have apostatized. The lending by those who tarry to those who go has caused the Elders much trouble, has too often resulted in sad disappointment and injury to the lender, has been a detriment to the borrower in his not doing as he so pointedly agreed, and caused much mischief. It is requested that this office, the Utah Elders in the field and at home, and the parties concerned, will all faithfully and diligently continue their labors in this matter until all borrowed money is refunded as speedily as may be, to the last farthing, if possible.

Should any one who is tarrying, after so unfortunate a past, still wish to loan to those who are going, they also are advised to not fail to take negotiable notes, with one or more good persons as security, if possible, that disputes may be prevented, forgetfulness avoided, negligence spurred up, and an increased assurance of payment.

We are pleased to see all help in the right way, at the right times, and the right persons, as they may be directed by the Holy Spirit, or rightly counseled by these in authority; at the same time we are grieved at the amount of imposition that has been too often practiced upon the benevolent, and desire to prevent it so far as may be, without allowing it, on the other hand, to in the least slacken efforts to help to the utmost where help is deserved.

Those who have debts due from persons in Utah are advised to learn the names of their bishops, and write to them the facts, asking them to be kind enough to lend their aid for collecting and refunding, for it has often happened, and so continues, that those who neglect to pay also neglect to so much as reply to the letters sent to them, and that too after their great promises at times of borrowing, which is entirely scandalous, to say the least.

—Extension of territory, it is said, will be the policy of the last two years of the second term. The doctrine that the United States is to give law and liberty to the civilized world is beginning to be agitated.

—An Ohio man who passed round a plate at a religious meeting for contributions for the heathen, and then pocketed the money, has been acquitted of stealing by a jury of the neighborhood on the ground that he was the greatest heathen they knew, and therefore was justly entitled to the money.

Welsh Music.

A WELSH CHOIR CARRY OFF THE MUSIC PRIZE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

The London correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, writing July 15th, says:

Most Americans who know anything about the Crystal Palace, know that its directors have made great efforts in various ways for the development of musical art. Last year they organized a National Music Meeting with competitions and prizes in large numbers, and the success of the experiment was so great as to lead to the repetition of it this year, with a success even more brilliant. The ceremony has just closed, and with some remarkable results. One of the excitements of last year was the appearance of a Welsh choir, the singing of which was so extraordinarily good that the great Challenge Prize of £1,000 was awarded to it, although no rival choir appeared and no contest took place. The celebrity they thus gained, coupled with the amount of the prize, was supposed to be great enough to insure a spirited contest this year. England abounds in musical organizations and the choral associations of Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, and other large towns have a national reputation; not to speak of London. But the only body which appeared against the Welsh was the Tonic Sol-Fa Association, one of the best known in England. The struggle has just been concluded by the signal triumph of the South Wales choir over their English opponents.

Both choirs had to sing J. S. Bach's motet, "I wrestle and play;" the final chorus "Hallelujah," from Beethoven's Mount of Olives; "See what love," from Mendelssohn's St. Paul; and "Come with torches brightly flashing," from the Walpurgis Night, by the same author. The judges were Sir J. Benedict, Sir J. Goss and Mr. Barnby, whose names are, I presume, almost as well known in America as in England. The scene of the competition is admirably suited for choral effects, and the larger the number the better adapted is the Crystal Palace concert-room for their display. In numbers the Welsh had an advantage, mustering 500 strong to the 300 of the Tonic Sol-Fa's. Perhaps they had a slight advantage also in the national enthusiasm, both of the singers and of the audience, for it is estimated that at least half of the 12,000 who came to hear the contest were Welsh. In the patriotic interest they take in an event of this kind they beat the English all hollow, and so strong is the sympathetic feeling in such cases between the contestants and the audience that the latter may very likely have contributed to their countrymen's victory. Be that as it may, the victory was of the most decisive kind—so decisive that one competent critic describes the whole affair as becoming a Welsh festival, while the Welsh themselves have already christened it the Crystal Palace Eistedfodd. The same critic, writing to the *London Times*, says of the singing:

The fire and sustained energy with which the Welsh choristers, under the vigorous guidance of "Caradoc," their chief (the women dispensing with the printed music), sang "Come with Torches," from Mendelssohn's "Walpurgis Night," was astonishing. That in this difficult piece their intonation should be here and there at fault was inevitable; but their "attack" was as sure as the stroke from a hammer delivered by a well skilled hand, and their precision was never once at fault. This chorus (in which, by the way, the orchestra took part) being persistently encoored, the familiar "March of the Men of Harlech" (sung in the Welsh language—unaccompanied) was substituted in its place; and here not only were the freshness and pungent quality of the voices shown off to eminent advantage, but the intonation was quite as unimpeachable as the precision already referred to.

There were other competitions during the meeting, including four for solo vocalists, one for solo trumpets, three for brass bands and bands of all instruments, together with choral contests on a smaller scale than that in which the Welsh carried off the flag. But the strength—or at least comparative strength of English musical training is supposed to be so much in choir singing that by far the great-

est public interest was directed to this particular prize. The very amount of it made it important. And since its award, the glory of winning it has been almost eclipsed by the glory of an invitation to the victors to sing at Marlborough House, the town residence of the Prince of Wales. The loyalty of the Welsh to the Prince, who takes his title from the principality they are so proud of, is of the soundest kind. They call him "our Prince," albeit they see but little of him. Nor is the Prince slow to seize a good chance of doing a popular thing, and when he understood the circumstances, he issued a gracious command that the whole choir of five hundred should sing before himself and the Princess. As no private house is big enough for a concert of that kind, it had to be held on the lawn. There the Welshmen gathered yesterday afternoon, while in front of them sat the royal party, composed of the Prince of Wales, the Princess and their children, the Czarevna, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Prime Minister's son, Mr. W. H. Gladstone, M. P., and a number of other distinguished persons. Most of the Welsh members of Parliament were present with their countrymen, having marshaled them over from Willis's rooms, the Marquis of Bute leading, Mr. Fethergill, Mr. Richards, Mr. Holland, Sir I. Lloyd, Mr. Davies, and others accompanying him. For the moment distinction of rank was forgotten. The members of the Welsh choir are mostly, or wholly, members of what are called the lower classes—miners, iron-workers, tradesmen on a small scale, and the like, with their wives, sons and daughters. Their conductor, "Caradoc," or "Caradoc," is an innkeeper named Griffith Jones, formerly a blacksmith, in the employ of Messrs. Fothergill, one of the great iron firms of South Wales. He is described as the best violin player in Wales, and an accomplished musician generally. That he is an admirable conductor we need no further proof.

Forming in a semi-circle, the choir sang the national anthem; then the Welsh melody of "Llwyn Owen," or the Ash Grove, "the conductor," says another critic, "wielding his baton of gold and ebony, which has been sent him from the Welsh settlers in Australia, and with it guiding his huge choir, without any music, with a precision that Costa might have envied." Then came the chorus of "Let the hills resound," by Brinley Richards, which was given with such precision and effect that the Prince and Princess, good musicians both, asked—or I suppose I should say commanded—that it should be repeated. The Princess afterward caused the composer to be notified that she would accept a dedication of it to herself. It was followed by "Rhyfelygach gwyr Harlech," (I am not answerable for the Welsh, but I hope it is all right), or the "March of the Men of Harlech," and the whole wound up with "God Bless the Prince of Wales." At the close, the conductor was presented to the Prince, who shook hands with him and that mark of royal condescension was profoundly appreciated. The choir would have liked to cheer, had it not been whispered that demonstrations of that kind were not expected. How the enthusiasm was kept in I cannot say; but it must have been a struggle for the outspoken Cambrians. But cheer they did at last, in response to a few words from the Prince, expressing his thanks for their coming, and his hope that their visit had been as agreeable to them as their singing had been excellent, with a wish for their safe journey home. Possibly even American Welshmen have not all grown too democratic to be gratified by this gracious speech. At any rate, the stamp of royal approval goes a great way in this country, and the reception at the Marlborough House will be reckoned in Wales as scarcely less honor for the choir than the great Challenge Prize itself.

—The labor question is a problem yet to be solved. There is a natural hatred between capital and labor, between the rich and poor man, between the employer and employed. The statesman who can devise a policy that will reconcile capital and labor and make the poor man content to work all his life for the rich man, will best serve his day and generation.—*Ex.*