

the choice of those who were to decide about the disbursements of means raised by taxes; and sagely concluded that as ten are more than four, so we might probably outnumber and outvote them, and they would miss their object.

We will continue in patience and try and develop our Territory, and would prefer seeing Nevada prosperous, to knowing her in her present condition. But one thing is certain,—the public men of that State, and other States and Territories which could be named, might come to Utah and study to advantage, gaining lessons in economy, and in the discharge of their duties as public servants, that would be invaluable to their constituents.

HOME ITEMS.

SABBATH MEETINGS.—Elder Robert Williams spoke for a short time on several subjects, and testified to his knowledge of the truth through all his experience in the Church.

Elder Thomas Taylor alluded to the character of the teachings given by those whom the Lord has appointed to lead His people, which have ever been to promote honesty, truthfulness, virtue and righteousness. The Saints are taught by revelation, while the world wander after vain theories. This work is to them a wonder and a mystery. They cannot understand how President Young can possess such an influence over the Saints as he has; yet the secret of his power is simply that he teaches truth, and the people knowing that it is truth seek to observe it. The future of the wicked is known to us; but they know not our future, which is exaltation, if we continue faithful in keeping the commandments of God.

AFTERNOON.

Elder Samuel W. Richards treated on the necessity of properly understanding any communication made to us, that we may be in a position to judge of its importance. If no individual heart had been opened to pay attention to the gospel when it was revealed, and no one has been found to weigh and consider it, we would have been in darkness to-day as were our fathers. The speaker treated on the nature of the relationship existing between our Father in heaven and His children upon the earth; and the holy confidence and assurance which pervade every breast that knows there is a bond of love existing between itself and God through keeping the commandments of the Lord. He touched upon the authority of the Priesthood; and treated of divorcees, reasoning from the words of Jesus that Moses was permitted to give divorcees because of the hardness of the people's hearts, yet from the beginning it was not so.

Elder Horace S. Eldredge pointed out the beauty of an obedient spirit; and spoke of the responsibilities of a teacher, who should be honored as the minister of God when visiting the Saints in the performance of his duty. He exhorted parents to make their homes, by every means in their power, abodes of happiness and pleasure, that their children may delight to be there in preference to any other place.

THE WEATHER.—Friday forenoon:—

Great Salt Lake City, cloudy, a little snow falling, somewhat mild.

By Deseret State Telegraph Line:—

Logan, clear and cold, five inches of snow.

Brigham City, cold and clear.

Sanpete, cold and a little cloudy.

Nephi, cloudy, but mild and pleasant.

Fillmore, cloudy and quite cold; appearance of a storm.

Cove Creek, pleasant, but cloudy.

Beaver, pleasant, a few clouds.

Parowan, clear, cold, and windy.

St. George, clear and pleasant.

On Monday morning:—

Great Salt Lake City, clear and sunshiny; cold in the shade.

By Deseret State Telegraph Line:—

Logan, clear and pleasant, sun shining brightly; not much snow.

Brigham City, clear, rather cold, streets drying rapidly; a little snow left yet.

Nephi, fine, clear and warm; no frost last night.

Sanpete, fine and pleasant; froze last night.

Fillmore, quite clear and warm; snow storm yesterday.

Cove Creek, cloudy and pleasant; some little snow.

Beaver, beautiful spring morning; somewhat cloudy and warm.

Parowan, pleasant but cloudy; one inch of snow fell last night.

Tokerville, very cloudy; a slight rain this morning, with prospects for more.

St. George, cloudy and raining fast.

BR. EDSON WHIPPLE informs us that wells in Provo, which have been in use during the last 14 years, were frozen over for the first time on the night of the 12th inst.

READ Estray Notice.

THEATRICAL.—There was a very good house on Tuesday evening, to witness the performance of "Richard III," and we understand there was considerable appreciation of the playing. Mr. Lyne was Richard, Mr. McKenzie Richmond, and the other characters were cast from the strength of the company, Mr. Lindsay playing Buckingham, and Mr. Simmons his old part of Catesby for this occasion.

After the tragedy Mrs. Careless sang "Merry May," and answered to an encore by giving a verse from "I love the Merry Sunshine;" both were loudly applauded. Miss Alexander executed a characteristic dance with much grace and agility, which was encored.

On Thursday night Shell's fine tragic play, "The Apostate," was presented for the first time here. We commend the taste of the Management in terminating the play with the death of Pescara, and the triumphant entry of the Moors led by Malec into the dungeons of the Inquisition in time to save Hemeysa and Florinda; though the denouement, by the author, is more strictly in accordance with poetical and dramatic justice. Hemeysa has become an Apostate through love for Florinda, while in heart he remains a Mahomedan; he deserts his faith and friends who are being crushed beneath a tyrant's power; and he plays traitor to his new faith for his former friends. These acts dramatically deserve a penalty, instead of happy love and a crown. Florinda, too, has been the cause of Hemeysa's turning away from the faith of his fathers; yet, to save his life she consents to become Pescara's wife, while bound by an oath to sooner become the bride of death. For these causes, the dramatist consigns her to a like fate with Hemeysa, that poetical justice may be maintained. Still, there are but few who would not prefer the termination of Thursday evening to that of the original.

Though the character of Hemeysa is drawn by a master hand, it is not a natural one. The history of the world, and our own experience as a people, tell us that the Apostate ever has been and ever is the most bitter enemy of the faith and people he has left. His enmity is not measured by the sincerity of his change; is more bitter the more dishonest he is. This fact is worth noting by those who might feel disposed to place reliance on the statements of apostates from the faith we hold.

Hemeysa is a strange mixture of ignoble weakness, vacillation, noble purpose and determination, qualities so opposite, that the character in its entirety seems altogether the creation of the poet's fancy. Pescara is an every day villainy, raised only above his fellows' by the power of mind and the subtlety of his wiles. Malec is formed of the materials that heroes and patriots are made of. Florinda loves as a woman, and with a woman's heart and faith she braves everything for the man she loves.

This notice has been extended beyond our usual length; so we will conclude by saying, that if "The Apostate" is again performed, those who wish to witness one of the finest dramatic pieces put on the stage will do well to attend.

"Too Much for Good Nature" kept the house in good humor until the fall of the curtain.

The fine play of "Richelieu" was repeated on Saturday evening with all its previous success, eliciting much applause and an amount of approbation gratifying to those engaged in the performance. Mr. Dunbar sang "Aunt Jemima's Plaster" in a most comical manner, followed by the "Beautiful Boy" in his most unctuous style. Miss Alexander and Mr. Brower concluded the performance with an Irish Jig which was excellently danced.

WASATCH COUNTY.—By letter from Br. John Huber, of Midway, Wasatch Co., we learn that matters and things are prospering in that settlement; good feelings and unity are on the increase among the people; and, except some sickness in the early part of winter, it has been a general time of health. He notes the death of Adam Thompson of that place, son of Samuel Thompson, who was killed in American Fork Canyon on Tuesday, 5th inst., by falling over the rocks while cutting cedars. Deceased was a fine promising young man, aged 20 years, 7 months and 22 days.

Bro. Huber writes a letter that would be no discredit to an educated English scholar, yet four years ago he could scarcely speak a word of English. That is encouragement to those who have to become acquainted with the language we speak by study.

Write again, Br. H.

PLEASANT.—We have had for two or three days past a very agreeable change of weather with a nice spring sun shining, snow disappearing rapidly from the valley and the base of the mountains, and indications of a little green foliage coming before a great while. Though the winter has been an unusually open one, everybody will welcome the return of spring; and it may not be amiss for all to take heedful precautions and avoid colds, usually very consequent upon pleasant days and cool nights. Keep the temperature of the body as equable as possible; children demand a little extra attention.

LECTURE ON PHONOGRAPHY.—A lecture will be delivered on "Phonography, its importance and applicability," this (Wednesday) evening, 20th inst., in the 13th Ward Assembly Rooms, by Elder E. L. Sloan; admission free. School teachers, clerks, and young men generally should attend, although the invitation is extended to all who may choose to be present. To commence at 7 o'clock.

GRATIFYING.—It is a source of gratification to know that the Sunday Schools throughout this City are in a very prosperous condition, as far as we have heard from them recently; and that others are being organized in Wards where they were lacking. Bishop Sharp, organized one last Sunday morning in the 20th Ward, which is rapidly growing very populous, and the prospects are bright for its being numerously attended and accomplishing much good among the juveniles of the bench. Encourage Sunday Schools, by all means; the seed sown there with patience and wisdom, will yield a rich harvest in the future.

SIMONSVILLE, on the Muddy. Br. Elijah Elmer writes, March 3, that the Indians in that region were quiet, and the settlers were busily at work on a ditch five miles long, which they expected to complete the coming week; it is excavated to conduct water to their city site. They have also erected a meeting house 18 feet by 30, sufficiently commodious for present purposes.

[Will Br. Elmer keep us advised of current items of interest occurring at Simonsville and in the region round about, and oblige Ed. News?]

OGDEN CITY, Mar. 5, 1867.

To all whom it may concern.

This is to certify that a man named George Parker came to this city about a year ago, joined the church for base purposes, and has conducted himself like a rascal. He is now abroad among the Saints, and wishes to palm himself off as a good brother.

C. W. WEST, Bishop.
per. Wm. W. BURTON.

[The George Parker here referred to is not, we understand, the one now living in Moroni, Sanpete, but another person of the same name.—Ed. News.]

A LETTER has been received by President B. Young from NOAH WEBB, making inquiries respecting his brothers DAVID and JOB WEBB, formerly of Coalz, Gloucestershire, England. He has also sent a letter to them which can be had by applying at President Young's Office.

COLD.—The coldest spell of the winter has been felt during the last week. On Tuesday afternoon a keen, biting wind blew from the north, which bound up the smaller streams like magic, and forced its unwelcome presence into nearly the warmest rooms. Next morning the thermometer stood at three degrees below zero. Thursday evening, the wind changed to the northwest, and still further round; the sky was partially overcast; and the atmosphere became much milder.

FROM PROVO.—Br. Edson Whipple writes from Provo, that Tuesday last was bitter cold; that it froze harder there on that night than in any night during the winter. Their range is covered with snow, cattle on it are suffering, and many dying for lack of feed and from the effects of the cold.

"COMMUNITY" comments on the sorry condition of portions of the Territorial and County roads near this city, and the bad mud holes opposite E. E. Young's and W. Staker's farms. We presume the persons having the roads in charge will attend to the matter, as fast as weather, means, &c., will permit.

Correspondence.

OMAHA, Feb. 17, 1867.

EDITOR OF DESERET NEWS:—

We put up at the Planter's House in Denver, and the gentlemanly Proprietors, Messrs. Chamberlin, Tart and Brothers, treated us very courteously. Mr. Chamberlin is a very agreeable and polite gentleman, with an eye always to business, and Messrs. Dart and Brothers appear to be gentlemen of character and judgment.

Denver is estimated to number some five thousand inhabitants. Its principal buildings are stores, hotels and other places of business. I noticed but few good dwelling-houses. The streets are narrow and the city lots small when compared with the streets and city lots of Great Salt Lake City. The side-walks are mostly planked, and the city, as yet, presents a scattered appearance.

The Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, Congregationalists and Baptists each have places of worship here. I am not informed as to the numbers of their members, nor of their zeal in the several creeds.

Colorado last year raised enough grain to supply its inhabitants, but, as far as I observed, Denver is entirely destitute of fruit trees and fruit bearing shrubs; it seems to be laid out chiefly for money making.

Mr. Chamberlin courteously introduced us to his amiable wife and their beautiful and accomplished daughter; and we were somewhat surprised and considerably pleased when Mrs. Chamberlin invited us to attend their Church in the evening. They profess the Episcopalian religion, and our kind hostess is a very zealous and devout Christian, after the order of that sect. Their place of worship is very neatly fitted up, and is designed to answer until they are able to erect a more commodious building. Their Chaplain appears to be a young man of great piety, and is much liked by his congregation. We listened with much interest to some of those beautiful prayers that are regularly

read by the pastors of that denomination. The choir was small, and sang chants, &c., to the music of a powerful organ. The subject for the evening was handled in a plain and humble manner, and the reasoning was conclusive. The preacher seemed more anxious to speak to the hearts and understandings of his hearers than to display the flowers of oratory.

In the evening we had a social chat with the family on religious matters. During our conversation two gentlemen were introduced one of whom had been sent to Utah by the Government to obtain information regarding some part of the Utah country. In the course of the conversation he remarked, that he had found it extremely difficult to obtain from Brigham Young the information the Government needed. I told him that circumstances had required me to be near Brigham Young almost every day during the last ten years; that I had been present when strangers visited him for the purpose of obtaining information both on public and individual affairs; and that never, to my knowledge, had any person had cause to complain that he withheld from him the information he sought, if it was in his power to give it, and that he had ever manifested an anxiety for the welfare and comfort of strangers who visited our country, ever ready to give them any information he possessed that would in any way forward public and private enterprises, and aid in developing the resources of the country. I further informed him that there had been, for years, a band of men in Utah who are President Young's open and avowed enemies; that if, on his (Col. —)'s arrival in Utah, he had joined with them, and been influenced by them, then I did not wonder that he had failed to obtain the information he sought. Then he made a thrust at the "peculiar institution." I referred him to Abraham's bosom, where all Christians expected to find an everlasting home, and Abraham was a polygamist; and further added that, instead of polygamy's being a matter upon which political bodies should legislate for its overthrow and for the destruction of the people who practice it, it should be defended by every right-minded person, and be received and revered by national and municipal authorities all over the world, as the most sure and reliable means of checking the increase of prostitution and the growth of that dreadful disease which threatens the destruction of our race; that it should be received by all men as one of the most sacred religious institutions in existence; and that Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and a host of other righteous men were polygamists.

I informed him that in Utah there are no houses of prostitution; that the chastity of woman is there protected by strong arms and resolute wills; that our institutions save women from the degradation of mistresses and elevate them to the dignity and honor of wives; that the law against polygamy is unconstitutional and lays a foundation for the prostitution of every virtuous woman in the land, because it gives her no protection against the deceptions and vile arts of libertines, and while it aims to make it unlawful to marry more than one wife, men may have as many mistresses as they please, to be used and cast off at their pleasure—to be thrown upon the cold world prostituted and defiled, without home, character or friends, with nothing left them but a life of shame and misery until a premature grave receives their diseased and loathsome bodies; that in Utah we make women our wives, honor them as such, and educate and care for their children. If we do not wish to make them our wives, we do not make them prostitutes, but defend their virtue as well as that of our wives. That in Utah the shame of illicit intercourse is a brand deeply set upon any man who is found guilty of it; he is disgraced in society, and neither wealth nor worldly influence shields him from this justifiable stigma.

On the 11th we took our seats in the coach to resume our journey, much refreshed by our day's rest. The conveyances east of Denver are much more comfortable than the hacks used on the west side, the horses are good and the drivers make excellent time.

On the 13th we arrived at the railway terminus, both well, and feeling grateful for the preserving care and mercy that had been over us. After passing through snow banks which had to be shoveled through, meeting severe storms and patiently enduring tedious delays, we arrived in Omaha about 11 o'clock on the night of the 16th. We have taken our tickets to Chicago, and leave here at noon to-day.

Praying all blessings upon you and upon all the good throughout the world,

I remain, as ever,

Your Brother in the Gospel,

G. D. WATT.

[The foregoing letter did not come to hand until the 12th inst.; a screw loose somewhere. Ed. News.]

CONGRESS.—The *Providence Journal*, Republican, says "the great men of Congress are losing weight with us. It cannot be concealed that they have not the hold on the people they once had. They talk too much and too heatedly. They have too much tactics and too little plan. They are fiddling too much while the fire of Rome is not yet extinguished."

—Lucy Stone, in a lecture in Bangor recently, said, "We hear of hen-pecked husbands, but nothing at all about rooster-pecked wives."

—"We shall know what are the necessities of life," said a country storekeeper during a severe storm; "as no one will venture forth to-day except to procure them." In the evening he found that most of his sales were yellow snuff and New England rum.

—"Bubby, why don't you go home and have your mother sew up the hole in your trousers?"

"Oh! go along, old woman, our folks are at the sewing circle, working for the heathens."

—The man who imagined himself wise because he detected some typographical errors in a newspaper, has gone eastward to get a perpendicular view of the rainbow.