

Correspondence.

A Visit to Weber County.

SALT LAKE CITY,
June 22nd, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

Huntsville, in Ogden Valley, is elevated 672 feet above the city of Ogden, and is situated on a broad and fertile bench, between the middle and south forks of the Ogden river. This beautiful valley, containing perhaps about sixty square miles, is encircled by mountains, the only opening being Ogden Canyon, in which there is some of the most beautiful scenery in the Territory. The great altitude, the genial atmosphere, cool nights, rich milk, and splendid butter, with the luscious trout that are so plentiful there, are sufficient recommendations to cause many who live in less altitudes to resort to that place for a Summer residence. They are about to start a cheese factory, which will doubtless turn out a very excellent quality of cheese, because it will be made out of the most excellent material.

Huntsville has a population of about 1,100, and is a young and flourishing settlement, and without doubt will continue so under the presidency of F. A. Hammond. They have assessed a tax of 1 1/2 per cent. on all their taxable property to sustain a first class school. They have secured the services of Mr. Charles Wright, who is one of the best teachers in the Territory, and who will keep the school open at least ten months in the year. The president's daughter, Miss Moisselle Hammond, who has considerable tact for teaching, is assisting Mr. Wright. They have 170 pupils attending.

The Eden school is at present being taught by Miss Mary Ballantyne, who possesses considerable natural ability, and whose services would be very valuable in the school room if she had a thorough normal training. Prest. J. M. Ferrin is very much interested in the school, and expects soon to have their educational matters on a better foundation than at present.

The North Ogden school, taught by Mr. H. C. Wardleigh, is in a very good condition. He has 88 pupils enrolled, with an average attendance of 75. Mr. Wardleigh has not accomplished as much as might have been accomplished in consequence of the lack of wall maps, charts, globe and other school appliances necessary to make a school interesting.

Harrisville has two good school houses, occupied by small schools, one of thirty pupils, the other forty-five. One of these school-houses had about half a bushel of dirt on the floor, which I was constrained to believe, on a close examination, would have made a much better general appearance if it had been out of the house.

Plain City has no school in session at present, but they expect to have one soon. They had a very good school last winter, taught by Mrs. M. E. Alvord. They have a very good school-house, which when seated will be among the best in the Territory.

Slaterville has one good school-house, which is occupied by a small school, taught by an old gentleman, who makes no pretension to the profession of teaching. Miss Elizabeth Restall is teaching a very interesting little school in the same settlement. She has twenty-five pupils enrolled.

The Lynne school, taught by Mr. S. G. Crowley, is in a good condition. He has enrolled ninety-one pupils, and is succeeding very well for a young teacher.

The Mount Fort School, taught by Miss Alice Porter, is also in excellent condition. She has forty-four pupils enrolled.

The city of Ogden is divided into three school districts, each of which has an efficient set of trustees. The First District has a fine two story brick house, about thirty by fifty feet. The school is taught in the lower story by Mrs. Harriet Brown and her daughter. Mrs. Brown appears to thoroughly understand her profession. She gives the little fellows that mental aliment that they can relish, and that kind of knowledge which they naturally crave and which they joyfully receive. They have 135 pupils enrolled. The house is furnished with the Triumph desks.

The Third District school, taught by Mrs. A. M. Frodsham, is small, being the first week of a new term. The schoolhouse is a very commo-

dious building, about 25 by 50 feet, furnished with Peard's Patent school desks, and a full set of Montith's wall maps. There is a small recitation room in the east end of the building and a small vestibule used for a cloak and hat room. The house, the fence in front, the school grounds, &c., indicate a very healthy educational sentiment in that district.

The Second District School-house is now occupied by Mr. L. F. Monch and wife. They have 75 pupils enrolled in the primary department and 78 in the grammar and academic departments. Mr. Monch is very successful in the profession of teaching and to him is due a large amount of credit for the present good condition of the schools of Weber County. I could not visit the whole County at present, but will visit the remaining settlements as soon as possible.

Weber County possesses a more healthy public educational sentiment than many of the other counties, which shows itself in their good school buildings. Prest. F. D. Richards frequently calls at their schools and indicates in various ways that he is interested in their educational advancement.

I wish to extend my thanks to Presidents F. A. Hammond, J. M. Ferrin, D. B. Rawson, and L. W. Shurtliff, and to Messrs. D. H. Peery, James Hutchins, and H. C. Wardleigh for their hospitality and for kindly assisting me in my travels through the country.

Yours truly,
O. H. Riggs,
Territorial Supt of Common Schools.

Five-Sevenths and Two-Sevenths
make Seven-Sevenths.SALT LAKE CITY, June 26, 1875.
Editor Deseret News—

In the NEWS of Saturday a request is made that the 20th Ward residents refrain from irrigating their lots from the water ditches on Fridays and Saturdays in each week, the 9th Warders having the exclusive right to the water on those two days.

Of course the 20th Warders will comply with so moderate a request. The residents of any Ward would let the water alone two days if they could use it when they pleased the other five days.

But I would like to ask if this division of the water is official. If it is, I would like also to ask when the other Wards, dependent on the same ditches, are permitted to have any water.

EQUALITY.

Sidewalks and Ditches and Their
Nuisances.SALT LAKE CITY,
June 28, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

For some months past I contemplated appealing to the city authorities to induce them to take some measures of a stringent nature to prevent if possible the constant abuse of that public privilege, the use of the water, but I found, to my surprise that the city authorities had forestalled my application, by passing an ordinance to the effect that all persons, who neglect to pay due attention to the same, shall be subject to the penalty prescribed therein. Now permit me to ask a simple question on the matter—Is this ordinance to be treated as a farce or a reality? Why I ask the question is on this wise. Some time ago Marshal J. D. T. McAllister issued a notice for several days in the NEWS, but all the response he met with, with few exceptions, was a continuation of the nuisance, under the plea that Brown and Jones had not removed their nuisance and therefore Robinson was not going to remove his. So much for the respect paid to the law. Now may not the same excuse be made by the inhabitants to-day, in some locality? If example goes by precept, let us show that we are what we profess to be—a law abiding community, let us begin at home and obey our own city made laws, or pay the penalty due to our folly.

I have spoken about the nuisance to several in the spirit of kindness and received insulting answers. Many do not take the paper, and some do not read it. What, then, shall be done with that class of people? I will, with our permission, suggest a plan that will cover the whole of the ground. It is this—print, at the city's expense, a few thousand handbills explaining the law and the penalty attached to

its violation, and that will find out the secret in a very little time; punish the guilty, as a warning to others.

One very good reason why the ditches on the side walks should be flumed is, that, in many instances, men and women have often loads to carry by night and day, and are often liable to danger in slipping down into those ditches, some of which are from 6 to 18 inches deep and correspondingly wide, and men with wheelbarrows are under the necessity of unloading them to enable them to cross the wet or dry ditch as the case may be. I have often seen women with infants in their arms scarcely able to cross the streams without danger of falling; which circumstance might be attended with serious consequences. When lumber was dear, men might have a reasonable excuse, but now there is no room for that excuse, 50 cents and a pound of nails would fill the bill. Let the thing be attended to by our city fathers and in right good earnest, and the public can travel with safety by day and night, summer or winter, and not extend too much sympathy for those who have but little regard for their neighbor's welfare.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

Search the Records.

SALT LAKE CITY,
June 28, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

The reversal, by the Supreme Court of Utah, of Justice McKean's late decisions in the Tooele County cases has nearly completed the sponging from the records of the multitudinous unlawful decisions of that judicial luminary. On searching the records of the District Courts of Utah, and also the Department of Justice in Washington, D. C., the following results are demonstrated by the figures—

1. That since January, 1870, nearly or quite \$100,000 of the money of the United States, belonging to the Department of Justice, has been squandered in Utah by its courts.

2. That no "Mormon" has, during all that time, ever been legally convicted of any offense against the laws of Utah or the United States.

3. That in, I believe, every instance in McKean's court where a "Gentile" was a party to the record or the people of the Territory or the U. S. and a "Mormon" on the other side, the judgment, order or decree of the court was against the "Mormon."

4. That whenever such judgments, orders and decrees were appealed to a higher court or revised and reheard by McKean's successor, they were annulled, reversed and set aside as contrary to law.

5. That over 120 indictments, found under the special charges of McKean and those who have followed his ideas of law, have been quashed and declared null and void by decisions on appeal to the Supreme Court of the U. S., and that of the Territory of Utah.

6. That the leading people of Utah have expended over \$500,000 in money, time wasted in prison, and injury to their business, since 1870, in defending themselves against indictments which were utterly null and void on their face or on the records of the court.

And yet daily inquiries are made by a morning paper why Judge McKean was removed from his office, and a leading member of the bar, at a dinner given in his honor, declared "that if he had ever erred it was the fault of his head and not of his heart."

An examination of these records by the next Congress will show a continuous daily system of judicial blunders and maladministration of justice, such as has no parallel in history.

SEARCH THE RECORDS.

The Governor in Cache Valley.

WELLSVILLE, Cache Co.,
June 25th, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

On Thursday last, Governor Axteel, who has been making a friendly sight-seeing tour of our beautiful valley, or, as he poetically termed it, "the Switzerland of America," paid us a pleasant visit. Being the first Governor who had ever deigned to mingle with the governed in these rural districts, the good folks of Wellsville turned out en masse to render a hearty "Mormon

welcome." Between ten and eleven a.m. he arrived in town accompanied by Bishop Preston, of Logan, Probate Judge Milton Hammond, County Surveyor Martineau, and Bishop Jardine, of our own little principality. Our brass band, which is an honor to the citizens, being composed of "minute men," was at its post, and under the able leadership of Capt. Wm. Haslem, made the air reverberate again with martial strains, while amid the respectful greetings and enthusiastic cheers from the populace the illustrious visitor and party proceeded to a place of entertainment and reception at Sister Howell's, accompanied by a gay and smiling throng. At the solicitation of Sunday School Supt. Leatham the Governor kindly consented to speak for a short time to "Zion's hope," her children, who had congregated to see a "real live Governor." In a few pithy and appropriate words he told them a little of his early life, in a genial manner impressing upon them that juveniles were the great men of the future, urging them to continue in the way they considered right. He had come amongst them for the purpose of bidding them "Hail and Farewell," almost in the one breath. After thanking them for their kind and cordial reception, he withdrew, followed by waving "cambrics" and hats.

At one o'clock the people gathered in the meeting-house, and enjoyed an intellectual treat in listening for about an hour and a half to an able lecture from the Governor. His remarks were mild and unassuming, free from bombast, partisan feeling or bias. He spoke as a man of culture, one whose views were not confined to the area of a contracted circle. He did not see, in our females, the "sad down-trodden women" that sensationalists write about, but he recognized among them some of the future "Women of America."

After meeting, our visitors took their departure for Logan, from which place a special train conveyed them, the next morning, to Franklin, our "band" bearing them company as a tribute of respect.

W. K. R.

Fancy Fair.

BOUNTIFUL, Davis Co.,
June 24, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

It is often said that there is no new thing under the sun, yet at this writing we think we are justified in the belief that in Bountiful at least there is now something new and which may be seen every day until Friday next, Sunday of course excepted. The curious may be ready to ask, "What is it?" We answer, a "Fancy Fair!" Who ever before heard of there being a fancy fair in Bountiful, or a fair of any kind unless it were fair women, which of course are found everywhere, yet so it is, for under the auspices of the Bountiful Relief Society a fair has been gotten up and is now open to the inspection of an apparently appreciating public. True it is that it has been gotten up quietly, without show or parade, yet it is a highly creditable affair, well worthy a visit, and bespeaks much for the skill, taste, energy and refinement of our ladies. Their object is a laudable one—the raising of means with which to build a Society Hall. The committee consists of Mrs. Elizabeth Barlow, Mrs. Lucina Sessions, Mrs. Mary Jane Crosby, and Mrs. Mary Carter, who must have been indefatigable in their labors the past few days to arrange with such taste the many beautiful things now on exhibition. The Fair is being held in the rock hall, directly east of the Tabernacle, Bountiful. Among the various articles on exhibition, omitting to mention the names of the exhibitors, which may in some instances be deemed unfair, are home-made rugs, mats, carpets, quilts, curtains, hats, bonnets, shoes, boots, socks and stockings, both woollen and cotton, sole and upper leather from the Farmington co-operative tannery, artificial flowers, many very fine specimens of needle and crochet work, some beautiful specimens of wax work, a wreath of hair elaborately worked and beautifully designed, some very handsome bead baskets, a fine collection of paintings by our "fellow townsman, Reuben Kirkham, and a thousand and one other things, which time nor space will allow me to mention. To all this there

is but one fault—the ladies have been too quiet and remiss in not availing themselves of the use of "printer's ink." They should have availed themselves of the use of your advertising columns, and then their fair would have been widely known and visitors afar and near would have honored them with their presence. The town withal has been alive to-day, full of excitement and bustle, and apparently success has attended the efforts of the promoters of the first Fancy Fair held in Bountiful.

A. V.

NORMAL INSTITUTE.

Arrangements are being made and are now nearly completed, for holding a normal or Teachers' Institute in this City, to commence the second day of August next.

The design of the institute is to give to the teachers of the territory a series of lessons, imparting a knowledge of the best methods of instruction. The course will include the entire curriculum of common school studies, with such collateral branches as may properly come under the head of oral instruction.

Nothing, perhaps, connected with our common schools so much defeats the purpose for which they have been established, as the inability of teachers, in general, to impart knowledge pleasantly and impressively. This inability, in some degree no doubt, arises from natural incapacity; but not altogether, nor indeed, for the most part, for in the teacher, as in members of other professions and trades, skill and efficiency depend, in the greatest degree, upon preparatory training, and subsequent study and practice. What the institute proposes to do is not to supersede such preliminary training in any way that it may seem to be necessary, nor to impart essential knowledge of objects; but rather to supplement previous training and knowledge by illustrating favorite and, it may be, new methods of instruction. Superintendent Riggs, under whose auspices the Institute will be held, has given the entire work of organizing and conducting the school, as principal, into the hands of Dr. John R. Park, of the Deseret University.

The experience of Dr. Park as a teacher, and the success of a similar institute held in this city two years ago under his supervision, warrant us in the belief that the occasion will be one of great benefit to all who may attend.

Every teacher in the Territory should be present, and, to give such teachers every facility possible, no charge for tuition will be made. Arrangements have also been made by the management that will secure to teachers in attendance from abroad rooms and board at reduced prices, and also special railroad fare at half the usual rates.

The following programme presents a synopsis of the work to be done, and an array of instructive talent for the occasion made up from the best in the territory.

PROGRAMME OF A NORMAL INSTITUTE.

to be held in Salt Lake City, from August 2nd to August 14th, 1875.

John R. Park, Principal.
Theory and Practice of Teaching.—Prof. Karl G. Maeser.

TEXT-BOOK INSTRUCTION, WITH METHODS:

Arithmetic.—Prof. J. M. Coyner.
Reading.—Prof. W. H. Rager.
Geography.—Miss Josephine Cole.

Grammar.—Dr. John R. Park.
Spelling.—Miss Delia Snow.
Writing.—Prof. F. M. Bishop.

ORAL INSTRUCTION.

Oral Grammar.—Miss Delia Snow.

Object Lessons.—Miss Mary A. Stulfaugh.

Civil Government and Physiology.—Prof. J. M. Coyner.

Elocution.—Prof. J. L. Rawlins.

Natural History and Science.—Prof. Karl G. Maeser.

Industrial Drawing.—Miss Jennie Dennison.

A twenty-pound prize is offered by an enterprising Englishman for the best essay on the following subject—"Is the Present English Tongue a Teutonic or a Romanic One?"