

adopted the wise policy of Wisconsin in regard to fences.

Here, through the days of our struggles with poverty and amid great disadvantages, we have labored over seventeen years, most of us faithfully, to carry the traditionary fence load, and with what annual result? Great destruction of crops by animals, the loss of numbers of those animals in the winter through neglect—completing a total loss to both parties—an increased price for grain and other products, with great scarcity at times, and, worst of all, often discouragement and embittered feelings on the part of those thus preyed and imposed upon. The great majority of the members of the last Legislative Assembly had long observed and many if not all of them had suffered under the evils of traditionary fence laws for fields while stock were free commoners, and they enacted, we certainly think very wisely, that owners shall be responsible for all damage done by their animals, whether the premises trespassed upon are fenced or not. This law does not in the least interfere with any one's making as many, as strong and as high fences as he may be able and wish to, but it rightly protects property from destruction, except at the expense of the one who ought to pay for the loss. It had been hoped that the observance of correct principle would obviate the necessity for such a law, but the sad experience of seventeen years has proven that some stock raisers will neither look after their animals as merciful and just men should, nor hire it done—hence the law.

An observance of this law will place the grain and stock raisers upon a more equal footing as to their relative rights and privileges, and will, we are confident, tend greatly to their individual and mutual benefit, and the increased prosperity of all. This opinion is not based upon a mere study of the subject, for last season the inhabitants of Provo and Cache valley carried out the spirit of this law with the most gratifying results. Others, in like circumstances, will do the same, with like happy results.

Nor can this law, except through accident, prove oppressive to any one, for if an isolated location is more adapted to raising stock than grain, the County Court can so declare; and a two-thirds majority in any county can vote in favor of fencing, in either of which cases the law is thus far inoperative. Is not this fair? And will not stock raisers begin to take that care of their stock that they wish their neighbors to take of their fields, that all may thrive more rapidly, honorably and amicably?

To further promote proper care of animals the Assembly passed "an Act concerning surplus stock," which is published on the last page of this No., and commended to the perusal of all concerned.

HOME ITEMS.

SABBATH MEETINGS.—In the forenoon of Sunday, Bishop F. Kester preached a short discourse, dwelling chiefly upon his own experience and the trials of life, especially those to which the Saints are subjected.

Elder Geo. Q. Cannon preached an excellent sermon upon the nature and sources of the opposition that is always brought against the kingdom of God. Compared the condition of the latter and former day Saints, their temptations, trials and blessings.

The closing anthem, entitled "Daughter of Zion," performed by the rapidly improving choir under the direction of Brother Thomas, seemed to give general satisfaction. The piece is exceedingly rich in harmony, and from the time of its composition by Prof. Clark, of Canterbury, England, it has ever been considered one of the finest pieces of music extant. Its performance on Sunday afternoon deserves the high commendations we have heard passed upon it by competent judges.

PROBATE COURT.—In the case of Groesbeck vs. Gilbert, the jury, on Tuesday evening, rendered a verdict for the defendant. The counsel for the plaintiff subsequently filed a motion for a new trial, which was argued and overruled, where-

upon notice was given that an appeal would be taken to the District Court, and for this purpose the necessary preliminary steps were immediately taken by the plaintiff's counsel.

On the application of the assistant counsel for the defence of Heath and Danzeisen, the prisoners were brought into Court on Wednesday, and when all the mitigating circumstances connected with the cases had been recounted by the attorneys, and reviewed by the Judge, His Honor sentenced each to pay a fine of \$500, including costs of prosecution.

The exciting case of Thurmond vs. Fox, which has occupied the Court for about a month, was again under consideration Friday, Saturday and Monday, on a motion to set aside the verdict of the jury, for reasons set forth in said motion. Lengthy arguments were indulged in by the attorneys on both sides, and numerous decisions read from reports.

The Court, after a lengthy review of the case pro and con, set aside the verdict on account of the irregularity of some of the jurors. The rehearing of the case was set for this morning, and a venire ordered for eighteen jurors returnable on Wednesday, at 10 a. m., to which time the Court adjourned.

THEATRICAL.—The Crock of Gold, The Idiot Witness, and A Husband to Order, have been produced since our last notice. In the first-named piece Mrs. Bowring played extremely well as Mrs. Quarles, and Miss Alexander was very humorous as Sarah Slack. The other characters were fairly rendered; excepting an occasional losing of the text, particularly in Ben Burke. The Idiot Witness was well received. The new names in the cast were Mr. Caine as Gilbert, Mr. Lindsay as Seur Arnaud, and Mrs. A. Clawson as Walter, who were quite successful in their characters. Melo-drama is not the most agreeable kind of theatrical representations, and when it "drags" it is still less so; in one or two scenes of the Idiot Witness we think this might have been avoided to a greater extent than it was.

A Husband to Order is one of the most pleasing little comedies we have seen. There was a life and buoyancy throughout its performance that kept everybody on good terms with themselves and the characters on the boards, where every one seemed to exert themselves to please and amuse, which they certainly succeeded in doing. Mr. H. B. Clawson made his first appearance, since his return from the East, as Phillipeau, in the comedy, and was cordially welcomed by the audience, who were evidently much pleased to see his genial face once more on the boards. The characters in the piece were all well sustained and were worthy of commendation. That little comedy will go again when the management feel disposed to present it. The scene in which the last act was played, was one of the prettiest and most effective interior "sets" that we have ever looked at.

A word to the audience. It is not indicative of the best taste to make a rush for the doors a few minutes before the curtain drops on the last piece. Could the door-keepers not prevent it?

We are highly gratified at seeing the name of Mr. B. Snow on the bills for to-night, as a temporary addition to our excellent stock company, in two popular characters.—Seth Swap, in the Yankee in Cuba, and Poyner Arden, in the Charcoal Burner. Mr. Snow's admirers are numerous, and will, no doubt, avail themselves of this opportunity to testify their appreciation of his abilities by welcoming him in force. The strong bill for to-night, with the cast announced, ought to draw a good house.

NOTHING BY TELEGRAPH.—Cause, many poles and much wire gone east and west of Pole Creek; they may repair in time for our next.

Snow, during the night of the 12th inst., fell to the depth of 6 or 7 inches, and in the night of the 13th some two inches more were added. Tuesday noon, cloudy, mild.

WESTERN NEWS.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 24th.

The frost on Sunday was the most severe experienced for years on the eastern side of the bay, and much damage has been done to fruit trees.

GEN. McDOWELL has received dispatches from Washington announcing that the Territory of Arizona had been separated from the Department of New Mexico, and re-attached to the Department of the Pacific. Measures to afford protection from Indians, and open mail and military roads will be adopted at once.—[Sac. Union]

THE Indians at Owens river, Cal., are said to be troublesome, and some 30 to 40 of them have recently been killed.

JANUARY 26, the Chinese residents of the city commenced by appropriate exercises the celebration of their New Year. All that can do so are dressed in clean, new suits of clothing, and spend their time in calling upon friends, visiting and feasting with them, and attending the several houses of their worship to propitiate, by vows and offerings, their various gods.

Great quantities of fire-crackers are being consumed, and general good feeling seems to prevail among the differ-

ent companies. The festival will last many days.—[Am. Flag.]

THE orange crop of Los Angeles is said to be very large.

MONTEREY AS A WHALING PORT.

MONTEREY, Jan. 25, 1865.

As a whaling port, our beautiful, expansive and land-locked bay has no equal. Some of our good and enterprising citizens have fitted out a handsome 60-ton foretop-sail schooner, Caroline E. Foote, Captain Davenport, carrying 17 men, now out on a whaling cruise, from San Francisco to the Gulf of Lower California, closely inspecting all bays and lagoons, reported as doing well, and will soon fill.

In this port we have two companies of Portuguese whalers (who are entitled to be called the most peaceable and best citizens of the country) permanently located here, under the command of Capt. Pray and Silva, numbering in the aggregate 33 men; they man 4 boats, and some days cruise from 5 to 12 miles outside of Point Penos Lighthouse. There are two whaling seasons in the year—1st: humpback, from July to October; California grays, from December to last of March. The first six weeks of each season the monsters of the deep pass from north to south, running from the Russian Possessions to the Gulf of Lower California, closely hugging the coast; from whence they return north during the last six weeks of each season. In going south the cows keep out to sea, and the bulls enter the bays and inlets. On their return north, vice versa.

Since the 1st of last August the two companies have killed 23 hump-backs and 20 California grays; the first are much the largest, and the latter, fattest. They average about 35 barrels of oil each, yielding something near 43,000 gallons of oil, now selling at 50 cents per gallon—giving the handsome income, for about six months, of nearly \$22,000, less expenses, which cannot exceed \$1,500.

There is another company of 16 men at Carmel Bay, about four miles from here, who are also doing a good business. Carmel Bay is only a nice drive from here, where thousands of sea lions can be seen and heard, close to the shore, on the rocks basking in the sun.—[Pajaro Times.]

COAL OIL is attracting much attention and capital in several places in California and Nevada, with flattering prospects of success. In Utah coal oil was found on Sulphur Creek by the Pioneers in 1847, and some digging has since been done there, but its commercial value is not yet determined. We understand the party intends to try boring this season, we hope with success, for coal oil at \$12 00 a gallon, the present price, is much too dear for general use. Coal oil and bitumen were also found, in 1850, plentifully floating on the water and scattered on the beach among the sandstone on the east shore of Great Salt Lake, east of Gunnison Island. Prolific wells at either of these points, or both, would be very remunerative and beneficial. From the last named point the oil can be boated to within a short distance from this City.

Correspondence.

UNION ACADEMY.

MR. EDITOR:

Sir:—Being somewhat peripatetic in my habits, last Thursday while passing the 16th ward public square I learned that there was an opportunity of witnessing a school review; and as I profess to be friendly to such performances I stepped into the Union Academy and had the pleasure of a kindly welcome from the principal, Dr. Henry I. Doremus.

The juveniles under the charge of Mrs. Doremus were reviewed first, their apartment is on the first floor and is eighteen feet by twenty-seven, ten feet high. She has sixty pupils enrolled. The average daily attendance amounting to forty-eight or fifty.

Where a single tutor has the care of so many pupils it cannot be expected that the same proficiency can be attained as where thirty or at least thirty-five scholars command the entire attention of a teacher; but as cheap schooling is in much demand, of course the present system obtains, and will, until parents' eyes are opened to the fact that three years at school under proper regulations, is worth six years under the present state of things.

Mrs. Doremus, as though hardly satisfied with some of the juveniles, remarked that her department was examined under disadvantageous circumstances. Of late, her most advanced pupils had been removed up stairs, to make room for a considerable acquisition of new element—or, what in military parlance would be called, "raw recruits."

A commendable feature was manifested in her junior classes, viz., their early attention is enlisted with exercises in mental arithmetic; the most youthful being able to repeat in concert with the school, the first part of the multiplication table; a copy of which in large figures has been neatly written on the wall with charcoal.

The children were generally supplied with Wilson's Readers, which, by the by are included in the series of text books adopted by the school authorities for the Territory.

After her four classes were reviewed in reading, spelling, arithmetic and geography, we proceeded up stairs to the higher department over which the principal takes the supervision.

This room is twenty-seven feet by thirty-seven, ten and a half feet high. In this department there are seventy-four scholars enrolled with an average daily attendance of fifty-five. Here again I found the effects of the cheap system of education improvised in Utah under circumstances which no longer exist; for the people now are generally able to educate their children well, and employ the best talent the community affords for this purpose. In this department the exercises were more varied and entertaining. The classes were reviewed in reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, philosophy and algebra, and generally evinced a familiarity with their studies, that denoted progress and improvement.

Having heard of the general dearth throughout the Territory of black-boards I was agreeably surprised to find the Union Academy supplied with about half a dozen. The classes that were examined in arithmetic, geography, philosophy and algebra, using them freely in working out their sums, demonstrating their propositions and solving their problems.

Nor was I less surprised when we found that nearly all the school forms and benches, as well as the black-boards, were made by the principal himself, and that even the coloring or painting was also his, and that from material made in his own house, viz.: glue and soot.

Such industry, ingenuity and economy combined, together with the fact, which the Doctor had not kept hid, that Pres. Brigham Young allowed him the use of the Union Academy building gratuitously, naturally suggested to our mind the idea, that the Doctor must be the patron of a savings bank, or some kindred institution, but in hinting this I was readily met with the astonishing fact per contra as Mr. Owen hath it, that profit and loss in the Doctor's ledger was debited with \$1000 delinquencies or arrearages for tuition fees; this explained all, we had no more to say on that subject.

But to return to the examination, I found that the principal and his assistant ignore the present method of teaching spelling; and that the juveniles, instead of being perplexed with the study of, to them an unmeaning alphabet, learn to read first, and in this way master the alphabet more readily than by the old method. Spelling is learned altogether in connection with writing, and this method I am aware, of late is becoming very popular. On this subject, however, I propose soon to send you an extract which I have been much delighted in reading.

During interval, while partaking of the Doctor's hospitality, I gleaned the following items:

Henry I. Doremus was born in 1801, Bergen Co., New Jersey. Received the rudiments of an education in a district school; subsequently spent a few years in farming. When twenty years of age, he commenced teaching school and continued in this laudable occupation for 14 years in his native state. During this time he took private lessons in Latin and pursued other studies.

In 1830, he was admitted a member of the junior class in Nassau Hall, Princeton, N. J., and graduated in 1832. Attended a course of lectures in the Jefferson Medical School, Philadelphia, in the winter of 1833-4. Embraced the gospel in New York in 1843. Gathered to Navoo in 1844, thence to Winter Quarters in 1846, and to Great Salt Lake Valley in 1847. Has taught school in this city since the spring of 1860.

GNOME.

—Words are oftener the substitute of thought than its vehicle.