

the giant Joe Nibur, deputy sheriff and also the editor whom he assaulted, Mr. Wallis, is improving, the greatest trouble is with a broken rib. It is expected that Judge Standroyd and a jury will interview the deputy sheriff and he, the deputy, informed me that if I had any correspondence I had better address it to Boise state prison.

Paris has some elegant private residences which have all the adornments that go to make home delightful. Each of the Bishop's wards has a very neat church, and the district school is also a very pretty structure.

All through this valley the school buildings show that the railroad tax has done much for them.

The Stake academy is up to the first floor, and when finished will be one of the most substantial buildings of the state. From its windows one can see nearly the whole valley of Bear Lake.

The business houses are not in keeping with the growth of Paris.

Ovid is a neat little ward 4 miles north of Paris. Its school house was burned to the ground a year or so ago but with magic activity the people put up a two-story building. Here as elsewhere the farmers are busy cutting their grain.

Bennigton is a small village five miles north of Montpelier, and is somewhat scattered, but shows a thrift that is very commendable.

Georgetown is seven miles further; and there is found a busy community. Comfort and plenty are visible on every hand. Bishop Lewis asked me to state through the "News" that a first-class country blacksmith could soon get rich here. Also a competent school and music teacher would be acceptable, as they change teachers too often through the lack of a resident teacher. While the colleges of Logan, Provo and Salt Lake City are turning out teachers by the car load annually, some of the good ones would do well to communicate with powers that be in this valley. Those who are desirous of a permanent home might go further and do worse.

Montpelier is a peculiarly constructed town. It is in two divisions, and each is peculiar to itself. It is in the form of a cross. The Latter-day Saints are living—or most of them—in the upper part, and the non-Mormons in the lower, or railroad part. Neat homes and churches are found here. Among the merchants are that prince of business men Ed Burgoyne and Riter Brothers. Each has an immense business, and the town is the most lively in the valley. Bishop Willford Clarke has a very nice ward to preside over. Barbed wire is at a discount in this valley, but poles, O my! miles of them, fences five high and very substantial. The crops here throughout are splendid, and as in the southern part of the valley, you compliment the farmer on his prospects and he says: Yes, if Jack Frost will keep off a week or two more. Then the ground-squirrel is a terrible pest here and many of the farmers sow oats or lucern around their wheat in order to save it from these destructive "varmints." There is more strychnine used in this and Gentle Valley than would poison a nation, and while thousands of squirrels are killed every year by poison, and the badgers kill an immense number (as these little pests go into winter quarters at the end of August and the badgers dig them out, making large holes in the fields and highways, which make traveling at night dangerous), yet the squirrels increase so fast that up to date they seem to be on the increase.

After leaving Lake Town water is very abundant all through the valley. Comfort and plenty are seen on every hand. Cattle and sheep are numerous. The people are happy—a more hospit-

able people I have never traveled among.

I ask you to allow me through the columns of the "News" to thank the people of Bear Lake Stake of Zion for their many favors. Hon. J. U. Stucki, Bishop Clarke and Brother Allred, left their work and with their fine carriages conveyed me some ten or twelve miles between towns.

The weather has been perfect the three weeks I have spent here. Many Salt Lakers are rustivating in this valley on their thirty-days excursion.

SALOP.

MORMONISM IN CHICAGO.

We most heartily endorse the plan which is happily becoming popular, of writing short letters to the "News" occasionally, giving particulars of our individual and collective work in localities in which we labor, for by reading of the experiences and success of our companions and co-laborers in Christ Jesus we are mutually benefited and encouraged, and we congratulate the "News" that we are enabled through its valuable columns to receive this desirable information, and that the Elders and Saints throughout the world might also be kept in touch with the progress and development of the great work established in these days, by our heavenly Father through His Prophet, Joseph Smith, and those raised up by revelation to succeed him.

In respect to the work in Chicago, we will say, in a general way, we are pleased with our success thus far, "yet oftentimes a secret something whispers we are strangers here," for "Mormonism" and its advocates are received with cold indifference as a rule.

The Elders who are placed here to combat the enemy "Unbelief," and who nightly present themselves before a motley congregation (as for as religious opinions are concerned) to lay down the "law and the testimony," answer to the roll as follows: President of Northern Illinois Conference E. M. Boyer, Elders John F. F. Dorin C. L. Morck, Chas. A. Haacke, Jos. A. Hulme, Christopher Burton, President of Northern States Mission Louis A. Kelsch, C. C. Stefferson and Edw. P. Midgley.

Our duties at present consist mainly in visiting from house to house, distributing tracts, holding Gospel conversations with those who feel "talkatively" inclined, and as I have hinted heretofore, holding meetings on the principal streets and thoroughfares adjoining the parks. In both instances one can find almost any kind of belief one wants, and indeed religious opinion can be furnished to suit the minds of the most fastidious.

It is our experience in visiting from house to house seldom to find two neighbors who believe alike. Even those belonging to the same faith, in respect to the ordinance of baptism alone, have various opinions. One believes in being sprinkled, another "poured," and another asserts that immersion is the only correct form to administer this ordinance; and I dare say, in this respect Chicago is no exception to the general rule, for indeed there is much division and discord extant in the world upon religious subjects.

Our open air meetings are, as a rule, well attended, and the best of attention, with few exceptions, is accorded us. The Elders occupying the time are usually blessed with the good Spirit, and as a result of their remarks, after the meetings are dismissed we have some warm and spirited conversations, often productive of much good in allaying prejudice. We do not, however, invite contention, for good seldom if ever comes of contention; but we are always ready and willing to answer

any reasonable question that might be asked.

At a little park known as "Walton Place" we have for the past month and up to the present time, when weather permitted, held meetings almost every night, and distributed after each service considerable Mormon literature. We have received the very best of attention and the Elders have expounded the principles of the Gospel to good effect.

After our meeting the other evening had been dismissed, a gentleman arose and in a good natured way endeavored to his best ability to expose the supposed origin of the Book of Mormon, stating that it originated with the famous "Solomon Spaulding Story," "and in fact," said he, "with but few alterations and additions in narrative, it is the identical 'Manuscript story' written by Solomon Spaulding. 'Joe Smith,' he continued just put in a 'Behold I say unto you' and a few other like expressions and named it the 'Book of Mormon.'" His sarcastic remarks pleased the audience immensely, judging from the clapping of hands and vociferous applause. Elder Boyer, according to the request of the speaker, promised that all these objections and questions would be answered the following evening, and that for the satisfaction of the crowd and for comparison a copy of both books would be presented for their inspection. This was done and it indeed proved a quietus to the whole affair. Immediately after this meeting one of the Elders searched out the "Spaulding speaker" and presented him with a Voice of Warning, said: "Here, my friend, is something that will help you further to expose Mormonism. He accepted the little book with a smile and a 'thank you,' and promised that he would read it."

Mormonism, before and after our meetings is discussed pro and con, by men collected together with little squads, some for and others against us. It is decidedly amusing at times to stand near by and listen to these discussions, watch the peculiar gestures of the contending parties, and note their funny conversation. The following occurred at the above park the other evening: A gentleman who for unknown reasons was defending the Mormons, by quoting scripture to sustain his point in rebuttal to an assertion made by a fellow "squadman," who opposed our claims, was interrogated by the latter as to what religion he the former professed, whereupon the "defender of the faith" exclaimed in perceptible disgust, "No religion sir, I'm Bible!" "Oh!" remarked the other, "then you're a Mormon." A long, loud laugh burst forth from the little gathering, but we Mormons thought it quite a compliment, nevertheless.

Our work from July 1st to the present time tallies up as follows: 874 families visited and revisited, 56 public meetings held, 1,286 tracts and books disposed of and 2 baptisms.

We are happy to say we are all well, both in health and spirits, and send greeting to all our friends throughout the world, the "News" included.

THE CHICAGO ELDERS.

Per Edw. P. Midgley.

Fred Bridgeman, a prospector, mining in Volcano canyon, Cal., was mistaken for a deer Friday and shot by Louis Sellar, also a miner. The bullet entered the thigh of the left leg and amputation was necessary.

At Peach Springs, A. T., Thursday night, H. J. Allen, a railroad hostler, was stabbed by a cowboy, and, it is reported, will die. A dispute arose over a game of cards, when the cowboy stabbed him. Sheriff Potts, from Kingman, arrested the cowboy.