

DESERET NEWS: Local and Other Matters

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - JUNE 6, 1877.

THE WELCOME RAIN.

THERE was a time when the people hereabouts looked for their last heavy spring shower in the first week in May, and thankful they were when the shower at that time was a soaking one, for sometimes it was not much more than a sprinkle. Of late years, however, storms have been frequent in the last week of May, and this year is of that kind. Last May 30 was a snowy day, and indeed showers fell in each of the summer months. The liberal rain of yesterday afternoon and last night and the continuation of the same this morning will prove of immense benefit to the Territory. The farmer and the gardener have smiling faces to-day, as the rain will wonderfully help the crops, and perhaps insure the fall wheat crop in some places. Previous to this rain, the soil on much of the uplands, where it had not been irrigated, had become exceedingly dry, but, if no drying winds follow, the ground is now soaked so as to last two weeks to a month without further irrigation being necessary. To the numerous farms that are now taken up on the benches and in other places where little if any water can be obtained for irrigation, the late spring rains are a perfect godsend.

O Say, Have You Seen?—Have you seen a tall man, with a black goatee, wrapped in a cloak, and of good address, hanging stealthily around anywhere?

EDITORIAL NOTES.

—The *Detroit Post* says, "It will not escape attention that as soon as the President's southern policy was set up in South Carolina and Louisiana, Parson Brownlow, the Union leader of East Tennessee, lay down and died, while Alexander H. Stephens, ex-Vice President of the Confederacy, got up and lived."

—The *Chicago Times* says, "It is arranged that General Crook will go to Utah soon and consult with the Territorial Governor concerning the supposed need for more troops. The Sioux disturbance being about over, Crook and his men will be prepared at short notice to drop in on the saints and shake a little of the lurking devil out of the Danites if occasion offers. The government is a little short of the financial sinews of war just at present, but the boys are understood to be quite willing to stir up the Mormon Zion on credit."

—The *Cleveland Herald* of May 28 says, "We have placed little faith in the sensational reports from Utah concerning the purpose of the Mormons to resist the United States, and the consequent necessity for additional troops in that Territory. The War Department is also of opinion that no emergency exists which calls for additional troops. Information received from military officers there does not sustain the sensational report recently printed with reference to a threatened uprising among the Mormons. It is believed the present force of troops in Utah is amply sufficient to prevent any lawlessness. Governor Emery has expressed himself to that effect in private letters recently received here. At military headquarters the urgent appeals made for additional troops are regarded as being prompted more by the desire of sutlers and post traders to increase their business than from any hostility threatened by the Mormons. It is said most of the requests thus far received come from this class of people."

Have You Got One?—Have you a photograph of your mother? If not, get one immediately, and then always wear it over what you may consider the vital part of you, wherever that may be. It may save your life many a time.

FROM THURSDAY'S DAILY, MAY 31.

More and More Rain.—A most wet night it was last night and a most wet morning it was this morning. The ground must be thoroughly soaked by this.

Arrested.—Yesterday a young man was arrested on a charge of robbing an Irishman, a miner, of \$175. The examination is set for to-morrow afternoon.

Base Ball.—Notwithstanding the inclement weather yesterday afternoon a large number of spectators assembled to witness the match between the Deserets and Metropolitans.

The playing throughout was very good. The game resulted in favor of the Deserets, with a score of 26 to 8.

Rifle Match.—The second medal match of the Amateur Rifle Club came off as announced, notwithstanding the unfavorableness of the weather, it raining and blowing very hard at the time. Mr. Emil Egli, being the victor, carries the medal for the ensuing month. Herewith is the score—

Emil Egli . . .	4334344444-87
J. Woodmansee	4325450253-33
R. Hawkins . .	3340432344-30
T. Johnson . .	4435503330-30
A. Brim . . .	3424433340-30
W. Hill . . .	3430243433-29

The Nebraska Excursionists.—The left wing of the Nebraska excursion party not having seen enough of Salt Lake, accepted the invitation of the Utah Western Railway Company to visit Lake Point, and have enjoyed a most delightful ride and view. We wish to express our thanks to Assistant Superintendent Ritter and all the gentlemen who have aided to enhance our pleasure during this visit.

Signed.
J. A. MACMURPHY, Secretary.
W. CONNELL, Treasurer.
DR. HUFF.
SENATOR MCINTYRE.
E. A. HALL.
C. C. BABCOCK,
and others.

Salt Lake City, May 30, 1877.

Utah and Pleasant Valley Railroad.—We were pleased to receive a call from Mr. M. P. Crandall, superintendent, and Mr. S. F. Pritchard, one of the owners of the said company, on Monday last. They inform us that 9½ miles from Springville, to the other side of Warm Springs, are already graded. Mr. McFarlane, of Ogden, has arrived on the ground with a large body of men, and have begun to grade the remainder of the road. This gentleman has entered into a \$10,000 sub-contract with Mr. Childs, the principal contractor, to work on the residue of the road. The work on the coal beds is pushed on vigorously, and contracts are let for running necessary tunnels so as the company are enabled to supply any amount ordered.—*Utah County Enquirer, May 29.*

Unmitigated Swindlers.—About two years ago a gang of swindlers, who perpetrated their robberies upon the community in the form of peddling goods, infested this Territory. The number of victims they made at that time was very large, and they succeeded in taking out of the Territory a large amount of money, perhaps not less than from seventy-five thousand to a hundred thousand dollars, for which they left no adequate consideration.

We wish to inform the people in the cities and settlements throughout Utah that the same gang have arrived again, and have already commenced operations. They purpose visiting every place in the Territory where they did not call on their former expedition.

They claim to be selling for a bankrupt Manchester firm, and generally manipulate their intended victims by showing them the names on their books of a number of leading men of the county in which they are, or of the Territory, stating that they had purchased probably from \$500 to \$1,000 worth of goods from them, these statements being generally untrue. They then exhibit a couple of pieces of broadcloth, the English price of which, they state, was \$150; they will not only dispose of the cloth at that price, but throw in a shawl or two, some pieces of tweed, each of the latter, they assert, sufficient to make a full suit, until the party is willing to purchase. The

victim, if he bite at the bait, subsequently discovers that the original pieces offered were immensely over-valued and that the cloth pieces thrown in are very short measure.

If the purchaser has not the cash on hand, the pedler takes his note, after ascertaining that he has property to cover the amount.

We inform the people of the advent of this gang of pedlers, that they may not be liable to be swindled by them with their eyes shut.

A Missionary Incident.—We learn from a gentleman who recently read a letter from Elder Martin Lenzi, now on a mission in Switzerland, that, according to the communication alluded to, the latter had, not long since, met with rather rough treatment. It appears he was traveling in one of the mountainous districts, in company with a native Elder. As the two were passing a building, in the course of erection, the masons who were employed on the structure left their work in a body, made an attack upon the two Elders, knocking them down and abusing them shamefully, and, had they not made their escape, would have thrown them over a precipice about a hundred feet deep, into a stream below, and doubtless killed them.

On reaching a mill, some distance away from the spot where this scene was enacted, Elder Lenzi inquired of the proprietor whether there was any protection by law from such outrages, receiving the reply that there should be if there was not. Elder Lenzi then requested the same gentleman to communicate to the perpetrators of the act that unless they humbled themselves and repented of what they had done within one year they would come to grief.

Shortly afterwards Elder Lenzi received a letter from a Latter-day Saint living in that vicinity where the occurrence transpired, informing him that the leader of the attacking party, the foreman mason, had called upon him and requested him to send word to Mr. Lenzi that he was exceedingly sorry for what he had done, at the same time announcing his belief in the gospel, and asking that he be baptized into the Church, and particularly desiring that Brother Lenzi should administer that ordinance to him. Elder Lenzi did so accordingly, traveling a considerable distance to comply with the request.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, JUNE 1.

Returned.—Elder H. P. Kimball, who has been on a mission to the east, returned last evening, accompanied by his wife. Whilst absent he visited a large number of his family connections.

Supplement.—We have received number 2 of the "Popular Science Monthly Supplement." Its ample contents, the emanations of an array of cultivated minds, present plenty of mental food to the reader of investigatorial predilections.

For sale at Dwyer's, price 25 cents.

From Wisconsin.—We had a pleasant visit last evening from Mr. Wm. E. Cramer, proprietor of the *Milwaukee Wisconsin*. Mr. Cramer and wife arrived in this city on Monday last and expect to leave next Monday, after visiting American Fork Cañon and other localities of interest. Mr. Cramer appeared to be highly pleased with this city and surroundings. We hope he and Mrs. Cramer will enjoy their visits.

Woman's Exponent for June.1 contains A Birthday Tribute to Brigham Young, Health, R. S. Reports, Summer Hours, Reflections, Thoughts, Women of Utah, Joseph Smith to the Relief Society, Royal Art Needlework, Woman's Record, Simplicity, Beaver to St. George, Surprise Parties at Santaquin, Intemperance, etc.

The present is the first number of the Sixth Volume, and now is consequently a very good time to subscribe to this excellent journal.

Mortality.—Sexton's report for May. Males 17; females 18. Of these adults 14; children 21. Causes of death as reported: Inflammation of lungs 7; diphtheria 5; typhoid pneumonia 3; old age 3; consumption 2; dropsy 2; inflammation of bowels 2; still-born 1; heart disease 1; accidental (shot 1; struck by lightning 1; caught by circular saw 1; intussusception 1; scarlet fever 1; spinal meningitis 1; kidney disease 1; child-bed 1; not reported 1; total interments 35.

JOSEPH E. TAYLOR, City Sexton.

President Young's Birthday.—To-day, June 1st, 1877, is the 76th anniversary of the birthday of President Brigham Young, and we in connection with tens of thousands of warm hearted friends, take great pleasure in congratulating him upon the occasion.

His life, from youth to his present advanced age, has been filled up with unceasing and most arduous labor in behalf of his fellow beings, to enhance whose happiness his efforts have been crowned with the most brilliant success. Under the blessing of Almighty God, he has been the means of bringing thousands upon thousands out from poverty and consequent semi-bondage and placing them in a position of comparative ease and independence, besides their being also elevated in their spiritual natures.

Instead of the lifework of this great man decreasing as he advances in age, his labors and their results appear to magnify, naturally increasing and extending with the progress and development of the great work of the latter-days.

His enemies may seek to depreciate him, but the mighty work he has been enabled, by the blessing of God, to accomplish, stamps him as one of earth's greatest benefactors, and will cause him to be remembered and his name to be revered in time and eternity, while his enemies are sunk in irrecoverable comparative oblivion.

Long may he live to be a blessing to humanity.

A PUT UP JOB!

Sensation Manufacture—An Assassination Dodge—Investigation to be Had.

Considerable excitement was produced in this City yesterday afternoon by a report circulating that an attempt had been made to assassinate Jerome B. Stillson, the New York *Herald* correspondent, at the Walker House. The rumor flashed from mouth to mouth, with great rapidity, yet but few if any believed otherwise than that the affair had been manufactured for sensation purposes. The sensations supplied to the N. Y. *Herald* by the person named having been discovered by the country to be but little else than unsubstantial fabrications, something was wanted to revive some credence in them in the public mind. The cunning of the instigators and perpetrators of this transparent assassination ruse overdid itself, being introduced at a time when the anti-"Mormon" *Herald* sensation slanders were being discredited and rebutted from every quarter, leaving no shadow of an object for the disposal in any way of this unprincipled person, Stillson, by "Mormons," his anti-"Mormon" influence being entirely on the wane. Even were it otherwise, nobody believes there is a "Mormon" who desires to harm a hair of his head.

Between half-past two and three o'clock yesterday afternoon Stillson called for Mr. Erb, lessee of the Walker House, and informed that gentleman that an attempt had been made to assassinate him in his room. His statement was to the effect that he was sitting at his table, writing, at half-past two, when some person knocked at the door. He invited the party to step in, when the door was partially opened and a man thrust his hand in, holding in it a paper, saying, "Mr. Stillson, here is an affidavit that may be of some use to you." Stillson, minus his coat, then arose, approached the door and, as he extended his hand for the proffered document, the man, drawing his right hand from his breast, struck at Stillson with a knife saying, "Take that, you handsome son of a b—h." The blade of the knife passed through his vest, two photographs of his mother, struck the buckle of his suspender and pricked the skin. He also said the force of the blow knocked him down, rendering him insensible for a few seconds.

He further averred that the attempting assassin was quite tall, well dressed, in black clothing, with white shirt and black cravat, and that the only hair about his face was a long black goatee. He had black hair and was of dark complexion, of good address and manners.

Upon the statement being made to Mr. Erb he did the wisest thing under the circumstances. He, in

company with Mr. McCormick, banker, examined minutely the means of escape of any person of the description referred to by Stillson. They examined the fire escape, finding that no person had either entered or departed by that means, the steps being covered with dust and not a single footprint visible thereon. Any person going out that way would have to climb a fence about seven or eight feet high, and not the slightest evidence existed of anybody having been upon the ground thereabout.

They next examined the chances of egress or ingress by the only other way. Three female servants had been in the hall for several hours before, and also sometime subsequent to the hour at which Stillson stated he was attacked, but on being questioned they stated that no such person as described by him had passed to or from his room. And finally no person in the house had seen any such party as was so minutely described, in detail, by the *Herald* sensationalist.

We will also here say that Stillson sent for Marshal Nelson, to whom he made a similar statement to that he made to Mr. Erb, and also repeated in presence of several other persons.

The employees of the Walker House, on being questioned, stated that Stillson took lunch in the dining hall at half-past one o'clock, and had "drinks off and on," until half past two, being under the influence of liquor. At the time last named, the hour of the alleged attack, they say that a quart of whiskey was taken to his room.

It is generally believed that this sensation plot was gotten up to revive the fading and expiring influence of the slanderous sensations which Stillson has been perpetrating upon the public. The very idea that, even admitting that the "Mormons," for the plot, was to saddle the affair on them, were any of them capable of committing such a deed, could have any interest or object in doing so is supremely absurd.

The plea of insanity might be advanced in favor of Stillson, and cause him to attempt such a plot, incited probably by men as bad or considerably worse than himself. It is a well known fact that he has been drinking inordinately. When at Cedar City, where he went to interview President B. Young, he was intoxicated, and after he came back to this City he is credited with having been on the verge of having "snakes in his boots," and had to receive medical attention, in consequence, from Dr. Thompson. Refusing to pay the latter for professional services, he entered suit against Stillson, before Justice Pyper, obtaining judgment against him for \$60, which the latter subsequently paid.

During the progress of this suit a ridiculous incident occurred. The plea set up by Mr. Lewis, Stillson's attorney, was that of malpractice on the part of Dr. Thompson, on the ground that the latter had administered morphine, against the patient's instructions. The evidence produced by the Doctor knocked that theory to pieces. Stillson, near the close of the case, arose and made a speech to the Court, stating that the plea advanced by his attorney, Mr. Lewis, was entirely unauthorized by him.

The popular demand was, as a matter of course, for a thorough and searching examination into this attempted assassination affair, and accordingly Mayor Little, and Chief of Police Burt, accompanied by Mr. Rawlins, city attorney, a notary public and a stenographer, proceeded to the Walker house, for that purpose about half past ten this morning.

Several gentlemen, such as Mr. T. R. Jones, Mr. Holman, superintendent of the Old Telegraph Mine, Dr. Hamilton and Mr. McCormick, on invitation of the Mayor and Mr. Erb, were present. While the party were waiting for the "victim" the time was passed in making remarks upon the "solemnity of the occasion." Where was the "corpse?" When was the post mortem to begin.

Finally Mr. Erb entered the room and announced that Mr. Stillson had stated that he was not "feeling well," he "was not dressed," and would prefer the investigation to be postponed until two p.m., at which hour Mr. Erb invited the gentlemen he addressed to be present.

Stillson has also stated that some person fired a shot at him as he was driving along South Temple St.