

Correspondence.

Missouri and "Mormons" and Grasshoppers.

SALT LAKE CITY, May 26, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

It is said that the governor of Missouri has proclaimed a fast to pray against the ravages of the grasshoppers, which seem to be threatening portions of that State with complete spoliation.

It is very well to fast and pray under such circumstances. But should not the people of that section repent of their sins committed against the "Mormons?" And if they do repent, will they not propose some adequate compensation or restitution to the people whom they mercilessly persecuted, despoiled and drove away? Can Missouri ever prosper till she does this thing? And would this not be beginning at the right end of the question to secure a providential rebuke of the destroyer? In the day of their prosperity, they made many faithful hearts to ache and drove out a people who would have proved a blessing to them if they had allowed them to remain in peace. But to drive out the Saints after robbing them of their substance was "sweet in their mouths," and like many others that have fought against God and his people, they will find it "bitter in their belly." The day of their visitation is drawing nigh to them, and if they are not made as poor as they made the "Mormons," then I do not understand the Bible, which says, "With the same measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again—good measure, pressed down and running over."

Respectfully, JUSTICE.

The United Order—Slow Mails.

MONROE, May 21, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

All things are working pretty well here. The United Order, I believe, will be a perfect success. All is harmony and peace, and in spite of every obstacle the brethren connected with the Order strive manfully to overcome every difficulty.

Our mails are very badly conducted. Our DESERET NEWS is a week old when we get it. You publish them on Wednesday and we should get them the following Saturday, but if the mails are not too large we get them the following Tuesday. I asked the mail carrier the reason our mails did not arrive at the proper time. He said our papers were left always for the next trip, as the ponies had too much to pack, and were unable to bring all the mail matter. It is no uncommon thing for business letters mailed at Richfield for Monroe, a distance of twelve miles, to be five days before they arrive at Monroe. From Salt Lake City it is very uncertain whether we ever get them or not. Registered matter is most shamefully delayed, and all the reason we can find out is there is too much mail matter to be packed on a pony. We have a daily mail to Richfield, a coach or wagon runs there every other day, and the balance by a pony to Marysville.

The people are indignant and have petitioned Col. Wickizer to have the matter adjusted. The petition was signed by 75 of our most prominent citizens, and we believe the Colonel will promptly see that the people are not much longer imposed upon.

Except our mails everything works like a charm in this county. Yours respectfully, JAMES FARMER.

Rain—United Order—Alimony.

SPRING CITY, May 22, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

Last night we had a glorious rain here, reviving every department of nature. The hearts of the people are made light and joyful by it. The season, up to the present time, has been remarkably cold and very dry, with the exception of one good rain previous to the present storm. Our crops look feeble, but we hope the present rain will bring them forth.

We have, in this town, a company of about twenty families, working in the United Order. None of them are wealthy, but all comfortably off. They appear to work harmoniously together and are not

in debt, neither do they intend to owe anybody the first dollar, if it can possibly be avoided. Several others would have joined them and helped to eat up their bread and seed, but they were advised not to increase their numbers for the present, particularly of that class that could be of no essential benefit to them, but allow such to wait until the trial was made—not to test the correctness of the principle, for that, beyond a doubt, is admitted, but to prove the ability of erring man to live up to so high a standard of truth. I hope and trust that our little company, composed of industrious and, I think, honest men, will succeed, and its success this year will open the way for a wider range in the future.

Health of the people generally good.

I think Judge Lowe has done himself and the parties ample justice, and has honored the law in the disposal of the case of "Young vs. Young," but it seems that Judge McKean would rejoice at the opportunity of committing a barefaced robbery of Brigham Young under color of law, even if the amount so filched from him were thrown into the fire. In such cases, lawyers, of course, will accept all the Court will award them, and may be considered not so much to blame. But Judge McKean is shorn of his power to rob those under pretext of law where his unpardonable prejudices open the door for the perpetration of such thievish offences.

Very truly, ORSON HYDE.

Big Dogs and Little Dogs.

SALT LAKE CITY, May 20th, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

Dogs in excess are a nuisance, there is no doubt, and they generally are in excess in most cities, towns, and settlements. The city fathers here tax the dogs three dollars each per annum for municipal permission to live and move and have mortal being. This is not excessive for a big dog, nor do the dogs, big or little, complain of it, but for a little dog it seems hard on the owner.

Some municipalities do make a distinction between dogs and dogs, for there are dogs and dogs, charging some kinds more and other kinds less for license to live, with liberty to pursue canonical happiness. Why do not our city fathers make distinctions in dogs? If not to the animals, at least to the owners, one dog's life is not as good as another's, but is worth a great deal less, or more. Moreover, to the neighbors and passers by, one dog may be a much greater nuisance than another dog may be.

As between the dogs, when they are nuisances, it may be set down as an axiom that little dogs are not so great nuisances as big dogs are. It may be also set down as an axiom that a useless dog is more of a nuisance than a useful dog is. It may further be set down as an axiom, that a useful little dog is either no nuisance at all, or very little if any.

This is the point we have come to—if a useful little dog is little or no nuisance, why tax him so much for his life as a big dog is taxed, which latter, if a nuisance at all, must be a good deal of a nuisance?

Now is the time when burglars are active in the dark of the night, and a little sharp dog is as good a watch dog in the house as a big dog is, to give note of the presence of prowlers bipedal outside. Therefore would it not be a good thing if the city council were to reduce the license on little dogs, say under a foot high, to one dollar a head? Probably a number of citizens would be glad to pay that to have a little house dog on their premises at night, and it would show the existence of a little discrimination in dogs, or rather in regard to them.

D. I. D.

The Crops—The United Order.

GLENWOOD, Sevier Co., May 24, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

The crops are looking well here, although we have had a very dry Spring.

The United Order has been organized here and is being carried on very successfully, and to the entire satisfaction of its members. Farming, being the main branch of business entered into, has been thus far very wisely conducted under the

direction of Bros. Henry Hendrickson and Jens K. Peterson.

We have a very good school and meeting house built, mostly by the Order, and some other public and private improvements have also been made.

This county is being settled very rapidly, as the county is very fertile and surrounded by many conveniences, which are great inducements to settlers, and as the United Order is being successfully carried on in almost every town and settlement it is a further inducement to Latter-day Saints.

Yours, &c., ISAAC W. RIVERS.

Emigrants From New York.

SIDNEY, May 31, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

We herewith forward a list of names of persons who joined the first company of Saints at New York, for Utah—

Robert L. Scott; Thomas, Ann, Catherine, David, Jacob, Edward and Ann Eliza Thomas; Ann Manley; Daniel, Mary, David, Sarah Jane, Alice, Lizzy, Joseph and Hyrum Lloyd; James, Mary Ann and Benjamin Slater; Thomas and Mary Ann Butler; Harry A. Evans; Louisa Musgrave; Geo W. Quibell, making a total of 186 souls in the company, including five returning missionaries, all well.

Respectfully yours, H. S. GOWANS.

The Fire at Ogden—The Corinne Mall Robberies.

OGDEN CITY, Utah, June 1st, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

Just before noon to-day the people of this place were startled out of their propriety by the loud and long-continued ominous whistle of one of the railroad engines. Shortly afterward the streets were crowded with people running helter skelter to the depot. A fire had broken out in one of the rooms of the hotel kept by Mr. John B. Czachert, in the Y on the east side of the track, opposite the C. P. R. R. ticket office. The wind at the time was blowing from the South and the fire got under good headway in a few minutes. The wind suddenly changed to the North and the nest of buildings were succumbing to the devouring elements. Captain Williams' Fire Brigade were soon on the grounds and hundreds of ready hands were rendering assistance in their endeavors to get the fire under control. The Union Pacific and Central Pacific R. R. companies also had each an engine at work with hose attached, and a great number of their men at work playing most tellingly on the fire, indeed, had it not been for this timely help the flames could not have been subdued, but must have been left almost alone until they had spent themselves for want of something more to devour, and the brave efforts of our excellent little fire brigade would have been of little avail. The building known as the "Delmonico" is not totally destroyed—those consumed were John B. Czachert's, Julius Kieckels, Murphy Bro's, and the Western Union Tel. office. The damage done is estimated now at about \$6,000, mostly insured. I think, however, this estimate is far too low.

I have learned of no accidents occurring at the scene of the conflagration, but considerable petty stealing was going on, some few individuals considered a stray bottle of liquor or box of cigars common property and so helped themselves to any such little notions that came in their way. I saw one young lady who had lost a gold watch, but could hardly tell where; she thinks that she left it on the table at the time the alarm of fire was given, and that was the last she saw of it.

I would just say here, that Messrs. Pratt, Forbes, Earll, Fell, Turner and others, of the U. P. and C. P. Cos, exerted themselves in a creditable manner in directing the labors and helping their men, who contributed much to prevent the destruction of more property than was consumed.

In this connection one thing must suggest itself to our honorable city fathers—which is, that Ogden City is growing very fast, that her borders will be extended, her population become more dense, and that we will need, in fact we now need, more facilities for fighting fires. They are liable to occur

at any hour, in any part of the city, either in a cluster or at a single building, and although we have immense water privileges, and the liquid of easy access, our little fire engine is unequal to meet emergencies which are likely to arise, notwithstanding it is manned by as energetic and valiant a company as can be "scared up in these parts."

This evening the detective returned from Salt Lake City and went to Corinne with the persevering and systematic registered letter thief. He has carried on these mail robberies for a long period of time, and for many months has eluded detection. He was formerly as well as more recently deputy postmaster in the Corinne office. He is a young man and unmarried. He confessed to stealing over one hundred registered letters, and promised to show the detective where he had hidden the empty registered packages. He entirely, as I learn, exonerates Mr. T. J. Black, the present postmaster, and says that gentleman had no hand in the matter. It is hinted that the one-half has not yet been told and that we may look for more developments on this subject shortly. The detection and confession of this thief will remove suspicion from many innocent men, who have been suspected of being connected with these robberies.

SEMPER.

The Cave at the Point of the Mountains West.

SALT LAKE CITY, May 28, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

A few days since I visited the cave at the Point of the West Mountains. This natural curiosity is situated midway between Black Rock and Clinton's, or Steamboat Point, and about three hundred yards south of the wagon road, from which an ancient looking trail or foot path leads directly to the cavern. At first sight the curiosity hunting visitor is not very much impressed with the grandeur of this

HOLE IN THE GROUND,

the cliff or ledge of limestone, at the foot of which the cave is situated, being small and much broken up and the entrance to the cavern is at the bottom of a slight depression in the mountain side and is also very low and uninviting looking. After becoming somewhat familiarized with the appearance of things in the immediate vicinity, and assuring myself that there were not any rattle-snakes concealed in that neighborhood, I ventured into this reputed sepulchre of a

PRE-HISTORIC RACE.

Immediately on entering the main chamber of the cavern the former feeling passed away and my mind was filled with the sublimity of the awe-inspiring scene, the perpendicular walls rising upon either hand for many feet until they became lost to the sight among the sombre shadows and gloom through which the eye cannot pierce or the feeble rays of light which are admitted through the low entrance dispel. Upon the smooth walls at and about the entrance I noticed some characters or hieroglyphics, done with a substance which has a resemblance to red ochre or iron rust, and which appears to be impervious to the action of the elements. They are of the same style as those found in many other places in this mountain region. The natives say that they cannot read or understand them, and that they were made by

BIG MEDICINE MEN,

many ages ago, when the red man knew more than he does now. They (the hieroglyphics) bear a close resemblance to the first efforts of new beginners in the study of phonography. I also noticed some characters of another sort and of a later date, done with lead pencil, and which were hardly distinguishable, so far as the chirography was concerned, from that of the ancients.

SKELETON SHELF,

immediately inside and over the entrance, is a shelf or ledge of rock, whereon the first discoverers of the cave found a number of skeletons and parts of skeletons, but, as I am informed, without any evidences of flesh or hair, either in a decomposed or preserved state. My cicerone informed me that farther back in the cave there was some decom-

posed flesh, or a white substance which was commonly believed to be such. I proceeded to the spot in question, and sure enough there was the white marly stuff, but on a close examination I came to the conclusion that it was nothing more than a soft species of limestone, which had decomposed and been washed down from the roof.

From this point we continued our

EXPLORATIONS

by walking up an easy ascent for a distance of about one hundred and fifty feet, the floor of the cavern being very smooth and regular, our footsteps thereon making a hollow sound, which gave me the impression that there existed another cavity of considerable extent beneath our feet. Arriving at the top of this inclined plane, the floor falls away to a level, and the walls, which heretofore have been about twenty-five or thirty feet apart, begin to close up together, and the darkness became intense. We lighted the torch which we had improvised out of dry sage brush and pushed along the passage as speedily as possible. We soon came to what the guide called the

PARTITION ROCK,

a huge mass of rock, which has fallen from the roof and lodged a few feet above the floor, between the walls, which at this point are not more than eight feet apart. Up the side of this ragged mass we clambered, and then with a slide and a leap we landed upon the floor minus our torch, which was extinguished during our acrobatic performance. After much coaxing in the way of adding old letters to its construction, and the free use of telegraph matches, we obtained light enough from it to proceed forward. Stumbling over the fragments of rock which are thickly strewn over the floor, and occasionally splattering through small pools of slimy water, onward we pushed, our torch flaring and flickering, and causing everything upon which its uncertain light rested to wear an uncanny and ghostlike appearance.

With much difficulty we at length reached the extremity of the cavern, and after striving in vain to gain a view of our surroundings by the aid of our poorly constructed torch we faced about to retrace our footsteps and were

ELECTRIFIED AND SURPRISED

to behold the entire extent of the cavern illuminated by a column of light, which, like a small display of Aurora Borealis, shot up from the heretofore despised entrance, revealing the immense arch of the roof in all its grandeur of light and shade.

After sufficiently admiring the magnificent scene, we slowly wended our way to the outer world, where the guide related to us the

INDIAN LEGEND

which is attached to this cavern, as it was told to him by an old Indian. It is as follows: Many years ago, before the palefaces came to this country, two of the native tribes unearthed the historical hatchet and went out on the war path. After many deadly trials of courage, strength and sagacity upon either side, a party of warriors surprised a large body of their enemies, consisting of men, women and children, who were camped in this vicinity and killed many of them. The residue took refuge in this cave, and with large rocks closed up the mouth of their hiding place, hoping thereby to elude their bloodthirsty pursuers. But alas! their hopes were in vain, their victorious enemies traced them to their place of refuge and, with unparalleled ferocity, built a counter wall and then so closely besieged the place that every one of the miserable wretches inside perished of hunger and thirst. In my estimation this is the probable history of and only way to account for the presence of such large quantities of human bones in the cave.

RUDIO.

The Cleveland Herald asks, "Have laymen any rights priests are bound to respect?"

Hairdresser.—"Air's very dry, sir."

Customer (who knows what's coming)—"I like it dry."

Hairdresser (after a while, again advancing to the attack)—"Ead's very scurvy, sir."

Customer (still cautiously retiring)—"Ya-as, I prefer it scurvy."

Assailant gives in, defeated.