

DESERET NEWS: WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - APRIL 9, 1873.

CLIMATES AND HEALTH AND WEALTH.

ALL habitable countries have their advantages and their disadvantages as places for residences and homes, and the country or the region that is very healthful for one person may not be so for another of different constitution, temperament, or habits. Again, the country or region that is exceedingly healthful in some particulars, may not be so in others. This part of the country, for instance, is a healthy region, but much more so for some persons than for others, and again much more so in some regards than in others. Here, notwithstanding the general healthfulness of the climate, there is a much larger mortality among children in the perilous period of teething than in some other portions of the globe popularly considered less healthy. Again, we have known a number of persons who came from other climes and who have never, for any lengthy period, enjoyed here that fullness and brightness of health, vigor and elasticity which they were wont to enjoy in the lands of their nativity. Particularly trying, oppressive and exhausting are the days of July and August, when the hot winds from the South make the air so uncomfortably close and arid that it seems to absorb the juice and the moisture from man and beast and plant and leave them parched, dried up, wilted, and in a fair way to wither and mummify. To those who revel in good health in moister climates, the climate here at those times is particularly distressing, and is not only extremely disagreeable but anything but healthy, affording another argument against the idea of a monopolization of hygienic advantages by any one locality.

The experience of the past winter has tempered some of the high praises lavished upon Minnesota. Colorado also has been the subject of great laudation, in regard to the healthiness of its climate as well as the fertility of its soil and the richness of its mines. But a correspondent of the *Chicago Times*, Annie M. Willard, gives another view of the claims of that Territory as a place for emigrants who seek homes, which will serve to moderate the expectations of persons going there as to an earthly paradise. She says newspaper articles and platform orators have thrown a glamor over that Territory, more poetic than in the interests of practical settlers. The mere pleasure tourist will not be disappointed with the wondrous beauty of Colorado mountain scenery, and buffalo hunting on the plains is one of the most exciting diversions. But to the young man who goes to Colorado to better his fortunes another story needs to be told. Annie says the towns, large and small, Denver especially, are fearfully overdone, largely through "endless and conscienceless advertising." She knows young men in Denver who left good places with fair salaries at home, but who now do dining-room work in hotels and restaurants for their board. It is expensive getting into the Territory, more expensive when there, with expenses duplicated at every change. Workmen, skilled or unskilled, and tradesmen with small capital, should keep away, or go to the mines if they can bear the exposure and the rough life there for four or five dollars a day.

Farmers Annie tells to stay where they are, or if they must "go west," in "colonies" or otherwise, she advises them to sweep wide around Colorado. The "colonies" are money-making schemes for the projectors and managers, but in the great majority of cases those whose little all furnishes the "margin" for the projectors, and who go to dig their living out of the land, experience bitter disappointment, and after expending their means live in a hopeless Micawber sort of style, waiting for something to turn up by which to get out of the Territory, the land throughout the Territory being more miserably barren and unproductive than the same area anywhere else in the country, of course excepting that near running water, and which is highly cultivated with

irrigation. But of such land there is little, and that long ago disposed of, and now running up to prices beyond the reach of ordinary settlers. To carry on a stock rancho, or a farm forty or fifty miles from a stream requires a comfortable capital, nearly equal to that of a manufacturer, so that to farmers of moderate means, principally the class who go there, are left the mountains and a vast waste of sand. Then there are hard winters, cattle stampedes, and the inevitable grasshopper. A truly uninviting picture.

The mines are operated by corporations, mostly non-residents, and requiring large capital. Day laborers' wages and some little speculations are all that mining countries afford to persons in moderate circumstances.

Then as to "Colorado's trump card"—health, Annie is not very sanguine. She has seen entire families prostrated by rheumatism, a prevalent complaint, though the patients invariably told her Colorado was a healthy country. She further says it is questionable whether a little dampness would not be preferable to the frequent storms of sand and dust that drive everybody under cover while the carnival lasts. She thinks Colorado "undoubtedly healthy to a certain extent," that pulmonary diseases, if not too surely seated, are usually benefitted by the dryness of the air, but to the advanced consumptive the change generally proves rapidly fatal, the increased circulation produced by the dry or rarified air making quick work of a slender stock of vitality.

Altogether Annie thinks if one goes into that Territory without taint of consumption, when there don't get the mountain fever, escapes heart disease, and don't mind rheumatism and dyspepsia, there is a fair immunity from any serious health difficulty, except a moderate and pretty constant biliousness. It is generally cool in the summer nights, but in the days, in town or country, terrifically hot and scorching, though you can cool off by ascending the mountains to the region of perpetual snow. Then the country is comparatively treeless, the trees planted die pretty promptly, and successful arboriculture is questionable.

In conclusion Annie says she does not want to project a colony or godfather a mountain peak; she went to Colorado for pleasure, her expenses not being paid by parties who wanted the country written or talked up; therefore she is entitled to be considered unprejudiced, and though the scenery is sublime, and the mountains are full of minerals, yet she believes it is a crime to induce poor men to go there and try to earn a living from the sands when so many thousands of broad, rich acres are open to them in other States and Territories, and it seems to be a self-evident proposition, which would require a great amount of special advertising to overcome in the minds of sensible men, that a country which is made up of mountain and desert offers no special inducements to agriculture.

Such is Annie's opinion of Colorado, which is rather different to the rose-colored ones sometimes seen in the papers. People can look on the light and the shady picture and take their choice.

Z. C. M. I.

A MEETING of the shareholders of Zion's Co-operative Mercantile Institution was held in the Tabernacle on the afternoon of Saturday, the 5th instant. The Secretary of the Institution then read the half yearly report of the President relative to the amount of business done during that time, its present prospects, contemplated improvements, &c. As the Institution is one in which the people of the entire Territory are interested, because all participate in benefits which have been secured by its establishment, we presume that all will be glad to hear of its present status, inasmuch as it is prosperous.

From the report it appears that its business is continually increasing, and, that every department may be conducted in the most efficient manner, more room and a thorough classification of goods are necessary. The latter is now being made, and for the former the large new building just erected at the west end of the Eagle Emporium has been secured, and in a few weeks this will be devoted to the wholesale grocery department.

Steam elevators of the latest and most approved style are being erected in all the departments; pipes will shortly be laid for heating the building by means of the steam generated in using the elevators. This, it is believed, will lessen the danger of fire, besides insurance and other expenses, and so be the means of yielding a good investment on the first cost. Another improvement worthy of note is the erection of a double, fire proof vault, in which the books and papers of the Institution are deposited every night for safety. Past experience has demonstrated the necessity of these and other improvements already made, and it is fair to presume that more will be introduced as fast as they are discovered or considered requisite to add to the efficiency and completeness of every department of the Institution.

The following statistics will show to all the prosperity of the Institution and at the same time how firmly the co-operative principle has taken root among the people of this city and Territory. During the six months last past \$220,692.95 have been added to the capital stock of the Institution by subscription. The stock of merchandise it now carries is upwards of a million and a half of dollars' worth. It has purchased in the last half year merchandise valued at \$1,707,779.90, of which \$145,584.82 was in gold. The amount of freight for the Institution in the same time was \$6,750,000 pounds, the cost for the transportation of the same being \$158,103.12. The actual amount of business done during the half year aggregates more than two and a half millions of dollars.

Our readers are all aware of the efforts made, year after year, for many years past, by President Young and the Twelve and all the authorities of the church to have the people engage in and support home manufactures of every description that could be advantageously carried on in the Territory. The official report of the President of Z. C. M. I. for the half year shows that a more gratifying progress is now being made in this direction than formerly. During the six months ending 31st of March last, the Institution sold \$2,140 worth of home made goods, mostly jeans, woollen cloth and yarn. During the same time the boot and shoe department of the Institution manufactured \$3,096 worth of boots and shoes. This branch of the establishment was started about three years ago with six hands; it now employs thirty-six. The sales of home-made cloth would have been much larger had the supply been equal to the demand; and the report adds that during the period it covers, the Institution purchased every piece of home-made cloth offered it for sale, and in the same period ordered but eight pieces—jeans—from the east.

From the preceding our readers will perceive that Z. C. M. I. is in a sound and prosperous condition. All know that it has been a very great blessing to the people of the whole Territory, for by its means the monopoly formed by a few in the early years of the settlement of the Territory has been completely destroyed, and the wealth arising from the trade which that few controlled has been more evenly distributed among the whole people.

One circumstance will also convince all that the Institution has been profitable to those who have invested their means therein, that is that after four years—the time which has elapsed since the co-operative experiment was commenced—the shares are worth more than double their original amount, a fact which proves beyond controversy that, while the policy which led to the inauguration of the co-operative movement was a wise and timely one, the Institution has been conducted with ability and discretion.

At the meeting on Saturday the President of the Institution announced that, at a meeting of the Board of Directors on the day preceding he had resigned his position, and that H. S. Eldredge, Vice President of the Deseret Bank, had been elected his successor. The people of this Territory know that President Young originated the Co-operative movement here and that as President of the Institution he has labored incessantly to make it successful. His resignation of the position of President will no doubt be a source of great regret to all connected with the Institution. But, under the pressure of his many labors the re-

lief from the anxiety and care inseparable from the position of President of such an immense concern as Z. C. M. I. must be great indeed; and the satisfaction arising from the relief thus experienced, must be increased by the reflection that owing to his unwearied efforts the success of the scheme is no longer problematical, but has already been brought to an assured and triumphant issue among the people of this city and Territory.

A dividend of ten per cent for the half year was announced, the remainder of the profits to go to the reserve fund, when the meeting adjourned until the 5th day of next October.

GENERAL CONFERENCE.

THE Forty-third Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints convened in the New Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Sunday, April 6th, 1873, at 10 a.m.

The number of people present was large, probably between eight and nine thousand.

There were present on the stand:

Of the First Presidency:

Brigham Young, Sr., and Daniel H. Wells.

Of the Twelve Apostles:

Orson Hyde, Orson Pratt, John Taylor, Wilford Woodruff, George Q. Cannon, Brigham Young, Jr., and Joseph F. Smith.

Patriarch—John Smith.

Of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies:

Joseph Young, Albert P. Rockwood, Horace S. Eldredge and John Van Cott.

Of the Presidency of the High Priests' Quorum:

Elias Smith, Edward Snelgrove and Elias Morris.

Of the Presidency of this Stake of Zion:

George B. Wallace and John T. Caine.

Of the Presidency of the Bishopric:

Edward Hunter, Leonard W. Hardy and Jesse C. Little.

There were also Bishops, Elders and leading men from nearly every settlement in the Territory.

The Conference was called to order by President BRIGHAM YOUNG.

The choir sang:

"Great God attend while Zion sings
The joy that from thy presence springs."

The opening prayer was offered by Elder BRIGHAM YOUNG, Jr.

"We're not ashamed to own our Lord,
And worship him on earth,"
was sung by the choir.

Elder GEORGE GODDARD was elected clerk of the Conference.

ELDER JOHN TAYLOR

Addressed the Conference. He spoke of the causes which brought the Latter-day Saints together in their present location, showing that without the principles of the gospel they would not have come here. He also touched upon the restoration of the gospel of Jesus in this last dispensation. The object of the gathering together of the Saints was that God might have a people to whom he might communicate his mind and will. When the Elders preached to the Saints in the countries from which they came, the silent whisperings of the Holy Spirit showed them the beauty and symmetry of the principles taught, and demonstrated to their minds the purposes of the Almighty and the relationship they sustained towards him. This spirit operated upon the whole church and drew its members together. They were not here to do their own will, but to do the will of the Almighty.

The Saints had but started in the race, and the prize they had in view was salvation for themselves and mankind generally. Their business was to co-operate with the Almighty for the accomplishment of his purposes, to build up Zion, place society on a correct basis and to properly organize it.

Elder Taylor discoursed for some time on the designs of God and the futility of all powers to hinder their accomplishment.

ELDER GEORGE Q. CANNON

Was the next speaker. He treated

upon the wonderful work which God had wrought in connection with this people. The promises connected with the work which Joseph Smith was instrumental in inaugurating on the earth were exactly similar to those connected with the gospel taught by the Savior and his Apostles, and not only were the promises similar, but the fulfillment of them had also been equally powerful and demonstrative. The speaker alluded to the remarkable fact of people coming together from the various nations of the earth, all having the same testimony regarding the dispensation of the fullness of times. That which had transpired in the gathering together of the Saints in the last days was clearly predicted by the ancient prophets. An actual kingdom of God had been founded, and a Church had been organized after the Apostolic pattern. Everything connected with the Latter-day work showed that it did not originate in imposture, but that the principles upon which it had been organized and was conducted had been given by revelation from the Lord. It would be as easy to stop the rolling in of the tide as to stop the gathering from the nations of those who embrace the gospel for the love of it. When a person drank into the spirit of Christ he had an unquenchable desire to gather with those who had obeyed the same principles. This feeling and desire emanated from God, and he had a purpose in imbuing his people with a desire of this character. The fact that the Saints had received the desire from God was a strong testimony that he wished them to separate themselves from the corruptions of the world, and that they should throw aside all old traditions and prepare to be taught of the Saviour through his servants. The Saints had been wonderfully preserved from the snares and machinations of the enemies of God's kingdom, and they had been marvelously blessed temporally. He had made the wrath of man to praise him and had restrained those who would not praise him.

The speaker dwelt for some time upon the eternal nature of the work of God and its comprehensive character, being destined not only to benefit the Latter-day Saints, but all the human family. He spoke upon the labors of the Latter-day Saints in behalf of their fellow-men, and predicted that the time would come when they would be fully appreciated. He alluded also to the great labors of President Young, how he had devoted his time and means for the benefit of the people. He concluded by speaking of the great cause which the Latter-day Saints had for being thankful to the Almighty for his great blessings.

PRESIDENT YOUNG

Advised the people who attended the meetings to come well clothed and wrapped up, that they might not take cold.

Adjourned till 2 p. m.

The choir sang:

"I will extol thee."

Prayer by Elder Joseph F. Smith.

2 P.M.

The congregation this afternoon would probably number not less than ten thousand people, the large building being nearly filled to its utmost capacity. Many strangers were present.

"What wondrous things we now behold
By Prophets seen in days of old."

was sung by the choir.

Prayer by ELDER WILFORD WOODRUFF.

The choir sang,

"We'll sing all hail to Jesus' name!
Honor and praise we give."

The sacrament of the Lord's supper was then administered.

PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG

Addressed the Conference. He said he wanted the attention and faith of the congregation. We had come here to be benefitted, and in all of our worshipping exercises the Spirit of the Lord was the best of all things we could possess. He directed attention to the great variety that exists in the mentality and physiology of the human family, as also in all the creations of God. He also discoursed upon the variety of ideas entertained by mankind on different subjects. It was represented by a certain class of persons that the Latter-day Saints were the enemies of mankind, but this was incorrect. Those were the enemies of mankind who wished to substitute error for truth, darkness for light, strife for peace. The peacemaker and those who delighted in