

the curse be removed therefrom, and he whose right it is will come and rule in the midst of his people.

I have occupied sufficient time. I thank God, as I said in the beginning, for the privilege of being a Latter-day Saint; I thank God for the privilege of being here in the valleys of these mountains, helping to bring forth this great work of restitution. And by the help of God we will cleave together as a band of brethren and sisters, to serve the Lord our God no matter what may come. Amen.

MR. STAYNER BEFORE THE LAND COMMISSION.

The gentlemen appointed by Congress to travel, and obtain information as to the needed changes in land and timber laws have held a session every day during the past week, and many suggestions have been presented by gentlemen representing various interests of the Territory. Yesterday morning Mr. Chas. W. Stayner, attorney, of this city, furnished the Commission with the following well digested statement, and was promised at an interview in the afternoon, that due consideration would be given to his suggestions therein contained. The document is well worth the reading, as it contains matters in which the residents of this Territory are generally interested.

If the ideas therein advanced should become embodied in our national laws, much good will result, especially to our farmers and the settlers on public lands throughout the Territory. The representations on the timber question as well as on the land laws are strictly correct, and demand immediate relief for our population. But whether the amendments suggested are adopted or not, Mr. Stayner may rest assured that his efforts in behalf of the people of Utah, will be duly appreciated by them as a disinterested action in their behalf. Following is the statement:

SALT LAKE CITY, U. T.,
September 11, 1879.

To the Hon. Land Commissioners
now in Session at Salt Lake City
U. T.:

Gentlemen—As an attorney practicing in Utah, and having some experience in land cases, as well as some knowledge of the difficulties under which the settlers in this Territory have to labor, both as regards land and timber, I herewith present for your consideration a few suggestions which are the result not only of my own observation but of others who have constituted me their representative in these matters.

First, in regard to the homestead and pre-emption laws, I would respectfully call your attention to a memorial of the Governor and Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah, approved Feb. 22, 1878, and to be found on pages 168 and 169 of the printed laws, memorials and resolutions passed at the last session of the Assembly. This memorial shows that settlers upon public lands in this Territory are frequently distressed "by the lack of water for domestic purposes; or the brackish and unwholesome nature of the water there obtained from wells, until by the construction of canals for irrigation, water is brought through such land suitable for general use."

And the document proceeds to ask for legislation that shall extend to bona fide builders of canals and ditches the benefit of existing laws in such a manner, that so much means or labor expended on such canals may be counted equivalent to a given residence on the land under the Homestead Act, proper and adequate proof to be given before the local Land officers. I would urge your consideration of this subject as set forth in said memorial, and also suggest that the legislation be extended to include settlers under the Pre-emption Act, and to provide that a portion of the money or labor expended on said ditches and canals be allowed to apply on the purchase money for said land. And I would further represent that in numerous instances settlers being compelled to make actual residence on their claims for at least six months are put to the expense of building a dwelling of some kind, and of moving their families on to the tracts, and during said period,

and until the land is paid for, are limited for daily use to the unwholesome water that prevails on land more or less impregnated with alkali; that some do, when practicable, haul water in barrels from the settlements, or from the nearest creeks; that these settlers are subjected to this inconvenience and expense without any good resulting either to the settler or the public, as in most cases, if not in all, he will, as soon as the six months expire, if possible, make his cash entry and immediately remove to a more healthy and comfortable neighborhood. He has in the meantime expended money and risked health and in some cases life itself, to fill the law, and yet made no permanent improvement except the cultivation of part of the land, which could have been done with greater ease and to a wider extent if the building and moving had not been required. I think that the making of irrigating ditches and canals, the building of fences and a general improvement of the tracts by cultivation would result in far greater good to the settler and to the public at large, than the building of a shanty, which is removed as soon as the law will permit that made it a necessity. Furthermore, families are, in many instances, removed miles away from the settlements, where they have congregated to protect themselves from Indians, and are compelled to live out on an open prairie, where they are subjected to continual dread, if not actual danger, and are deprived of medical aid in cases of sickness, which is at times quite prevalent here as elsewhere, especially among children; the younger members of the family are also debarred from the advantages of school education, and thus lose months, and perhaps two or three years' schooling, owing to the poverty of the settler, who frequently cannot raise means to pay up for his land at the end of six months, and must remain a resident upon it till he can and does so. His opportunities for raising the purchase money are also curtailed through his being compelled to remain on the tract, as he is debarred from working for money which he might do were he permitted to retain his residence in the settlement; thus his payment is retarded, sometimes till the expiration of the allotted period of 30 months, and the Government is a loser as well as the settler. The land is filed on by some other claimant, and the original settler is regarded as having abandoned and forfeited his pre-emption claim, notwithstanding his residence and his improvements, which may be very extensive and valuable.

Secondly—In relation to the Desert Act, this law evidently should be modified so as to provide that when parties have expended a certain amount of means or labor in turning streams of water from their natural channels, in order to reclaim a tract, and have not at the expiration of the three years allotted, thoroughly accomplished the reclamation of the land as required, they may on proper showing and proof before the local officers, obtain an extension of time to complete their work; and furthermore, some portion of their expenditure should, in my opinion, be allowed on the price of the land, unless the general price under this act be reduced, which would be preferable, and probably more just to rich and poor alike. In that case the price ought not to exceed 25 cents at time of entry, and 25 cents additional at time of final proof, for in nearly all cases of desert land in this Territory, the land is very inferior, and the expense needed to reclaim it by irrigation is exceedingly heavy.

Thirdly—I would call your honors' attention to the anomalous condition of this Territory regarding timber. Differently situated in many respects from other parts of the country, the agricultural classes, of which the inhabitants of this Territory principally consist, are suffering under the exacting provisions of laws made for other regions, and for different objects from those which prevail here. On observing the visible mountain sides, it is palpably manifest that no timber grows upon them, but in order to reach the timber, or even firewood, the settlers must go far into the recesses of the cañons, and the spots where timber is usually found are frequently, if not always, outside the limits of mining districts and of lands claimed by the government as mineral. Consequently the cutting of timber and wood, as

generally carried on, is not authorized by, but is in direct violation of the law authorizing residents to fell and remove timber for building, agricultural, mining and other domestic purposes, approved June 3, 1878, which limits such privileges to mineral lands only, and the settler so using the timber is liable to criminal prosecution under section 2461 U. S. Revised Statutes, which was evidently passed to protect timber for the use of the navy, and not in any manner to affect people in this inland territory. These two laws should be so amended as to permit timber to be cut in our cañons, on lands other than mineral. I would also represent, that a provision forbidding the cutting of timber measuring less than eight inches in diameter, and contained in the Rules and Regulations issued by the Commissioner of the General Land Office, is too general in its character, in that it may be construed to restrict the cutting of scrub brush which is only fit for firewood, and which never measures more than eight inches in diameter. This brush constitutes the principal fuel in some parts of the Territory; its removal is no injury to the timber required for other purposes, it would never grow into timber of any useful size, and yet the settler is unwittingly liable to harassing suits for an infraction of the United States Law above referred to, or a prospective tax upon every load of such wood hauled by him, and which has cost him in labor on the canyon roads and in time spent in hauling it, all that the wood, when hauled, could possibly be worth.

Your honors will perceive that the above suggestions are offered chiefly in the interest of the farmer and the workingman, in whose behalf I respectfully solicit your consideration and influence.

I am, gentlemen,
Very respectfully yours,
CHAS. W. STAYNER.

A Wonderful Phenomenon Accounted For.

I see by your correspondence that there is some interest taken in spiritualism.

A case occurred in my experience some 15 years ago which, for a while, made a profound impression on my mind. My house is situated about 300 feet from a large church, which has a fine organ that we heard more or less when played upon.

It was in the beginning of summer, the windows being open, myself and family heard more plainly than common, as we thought at first the organ. It went through a chord producing at times what is called the tremolo. We soon ascertained, however, that these sounds did not come from the organ, but from the piano which stood in our double parlors. It went through a chord of quite a number of the lower notes, giving somewhat the sound of the organ. Being myself rather skeptical in matters pertaining to superhuman phenomena, I was touched profoundly by these manifestations.

Some of the more timid neighbors declared they would not live in the house. Myself and family did not share these views. I stated to my friends that I expected to find some rational cause for this most extraordinary phenomenon. People wanted to come in droves to witness this new wonder, which I did not allow. Some spiritualists came from Boston, 10 miles, to hear for themselves, and declared it must be produced by spirits from the other world. To this I could not assent, never having believed in spiritualism.

The Rev. Eli Fay, Unitarian, and now settled at Sheffield, England, and the Rev. Dr. J. C. Bodwell, Orthodox, now dead, both able, discreet men, spent with me considerable time in investigating the cause of these wonderful sounds. They examined the house throughout, including the cellar, without success. On one occasion one of my neighbors present made the inquiry, "Who have played most on your piano, who are now dead?" My answer was, his own wife, now dead, and the daughter of one of my near neighbors. He then replied, "Is it possible that Caroline's spirit (meaning his wife's) is there?"—when the piano seemed to go through a chord louder than ever before, and almost made the hair stand erect on our heads.

And so it continued for some days, until one evening I sat on the

front stairs reading the evening paper, there being no gas burning in the house except in the hall, and my family were out. My attention was attracted to a very different sound, not musical, coming apparently from the piano. I stepped into the parlors—still the noise continued. I now lighted the gas in the parlors, when immediately the original harmony was renewed. It now occurred to me that the gas must produce some vibratory effect upon the strings of the piano, and therefore was the cause of these extraordinary sounds. In support of this the sounds were heard only in the evening, which gave the whole affair additional strangeness.

This proved to be the key that unlocked the whole mystery. I soon found the piano had nothing to do with it, notwithstanding myself and friends had repeatedly listened at the piano when the cover was both open and shut, and it seemed to proceed direct from the instrument. On further investigation, the sounds were traced to the gas meter, which was in the cellar, nearly under the piano. The sound, though diffused somewhat, had seemed to be in the piano.

After a short time my family became tired of these sounds, and I had the gas meter changed for another, and have never heard them since.

I could have made a great sensation of this matter, but did not. I have no doubt that many mysterious things have taken place which have been ascribed to some supernatural cause, when persistent intelligent investigation would have solved the whole affair in a rational way.

Truly,
JOHN CLOUGH.

Woburn, Mass., July 15th, 1879
—Popular Science Monthly.

The Centaur Liniments are of two kinds. The **White** is for the human family; the **Yellow** is for horses, sheep, and other animals. Testimonials of the effects produced by these remarkable Preparations are wrapped around every bottle, and may be procured of any druggist, or by mail from the Office of THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 46 Dey Street, New York City. w8 6t

Z. C. M. I.

DAILY ARRIVALS of NEW GOODS

New and Handsome Styles of

DRESS GOODS,
Prints, Repts. Shawls, etc. and a full Stock of Notions.

We make a Specialty of our

HOME - MADE OVERALLS,

They are

OUR OWN MAKE

And are decidedly the BEST article in the line that has ever been placed on this Market; Surpassing Everything heretofore Imported, both in Price and Quality.

They are Manufactured of the

BEST MATERIAL IN THE MARKET;

The Best Brands are fully Stitched with

Barbour's Linen Thread!

All the Pockets are of the Same Goods, and the Cut, Finish, Material and Work is guaranteed in all respects to be

FIRST CLASS,

And we intend to keep these Goods Fully up to this Standard. We invite a close inspection and comparison with any and all other brands.

Our Stock of

HOME MANUFACTURED GOODS,

Is also Complete; Comprising

Blankets, Shawls, Flannels, Linseys, Cassimeres,
Jeans, Undershirts, Drawers, Etc., Etc.

We have Purchased from the

PROVO MILLS,

This Season's

ENTIRE STOCK of GREY BLANKETS,

Which for Solid Merit Surpass any of their Previous Productions at Prices which Compare favorably with Imported Goods.

H. S. ELEREDCE, Supt.