

CORRESPONDENCE.

Y. M. M. I. A.—Preaching—United Order.

MONROE, Sevier Co.,
April 28th, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

On the 16th of this month the Y. M. M. I. A. had its semi-annual election of officers, which resulted as follows—Dennison E. Harris, President; Edward Nazer and Aug. W. Boaman, his Counselors; James Farmer, Secretary; James Warnoch, Treasurer; C. H. Halvorsen, Corresponding Secretary.

The Association is in a flourishing condition. Thirty-six members have their names enrolled, and the attendance for the last six months has been very good, but there is considerable room for improvement among our youth in this place. The Association is composed of promising young men, but there are still in this place a number who seem to take no interest in the work, nor have any desire to follow the example of those who are members of the Association. They have been encouraged very much by our acting Bishop, J. B. Hesse, and his counselor, W. A. Warnoch, who have done all in their power to talk and reason with the young men of the place, and try to get them to understand what benefit it will be to them to improve their minds in everything good and useful.

Our Sunday School is in a good condition with about 150 scholars, under the superintendency of Elder M. Mortensen, who with the assistance of his fellow teachers is endeavoring to imprint on the young hearts the principles of life and salvation.

Elder Nephi Bates has anxiously been hunting for the musical talent in our little place, and has succeeded in getting a number one choir, under the name of the Philharmonic Association, whose sweet melodies are much appreciated by the Saints in this place.

On the 25th Elders John Taylor, Orson Pratt, Lorenzo Snow, and Erastus Snow, with company, arrived from the south, and on Thursday the 26th, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, the meeting-house was filled with Saints. The first speaker, Elder Orson Pratt, occupied about an hour, speaking mostly on the principles of the United Order, referring to former dispensations, even to the dispensation of Adam. He said that in all the dispensations the Lord never forgot to tell the people something or other in regard to the dispensation of the fulness of times. He understood that some of us in this settlement were working in the United Order, and he supposed it was here, as in other settlements, the people were anxious to hear the authorities speak something about the way of working it, but he could see the wisdom of God in all this. The Lord never revealed everything at once, but gave a little here and a little there, which caused our anxiety to experience and use our own judgment, and caused us to seek the Lord for his spirit. The Lord gave to us revelations as fast as we carried out his purposes, and so with the United Order, if we would try to carry out what we already knew, the Lord would give us revelation in due time. The Lord desired his saints to be diligent in seeking to have the spirit of God and try to work in union. If we were not united the Lord could not pour out his blessings upon us as a people. He was pleased to see the union that existed in Orderville. That people had taken a good course, though they, like the rest, were not perfect, but there was a good feeling and a good spirit among them.

Elder Erastus Snow occupied about three quarters of an hour, also speaking of the United Order. How necessary it was for the Latter-day Saints to be of one heart and of one mind. At one o'clock in the afternoon Elder Lorenzo Snow occupied about an hour in a most excellent discourse on the principles of the United Order. He illustrated how they were working in Brigham City, and the result of their labor was that there was peace and harmony among them. The United Order was revealed to create brotherly love among the Saints, so that we could see eye to eye. If the United Order was carried out right it was bound to unite the people temporally as well as spiritually. This was the object of the United Order. It was true that the men we ought to have to lead us, and to bring the Order to a success,

were out fishing and hunting, some had bought some oxen or horses, and consequently had no time, others were speculating and engaged in merchandise, and all their time was occupied in that line. This was the way some of our good business men and financiers were engaged, instead of coming forth and taking charge of home industry and self-sustaining. If the efforts that the Saints made to unite themselves failed, it showed that the men who led had not got the ability to lead. They were not the right men in the right places. When the right men were put in to lead, then there would be no failure. He knew from experience that a man might be ever so good and faithful, but if he had not the ability necessary to lead, he was not the man to preside over the Order. One of the objects the Saints should have in view was to be a self-sustaining people. He referred again to Brigham City, that the people there were very near independent. Why? Because they had carried out the counsel given by President B. Young many years ago to this people. They commenced on a small scale by co-operating together, and now, almost without knowing it, they were in the United Order.

President John Taylor arose and urged the Saints to bear with one another as long as they did the best they knew how. In his reflections many a time he cried to God to have mercy upon his people. We had all got our weaknesses and imperfections, but we must bear and forbear as long as our desire was to serve God. He was pleased with the instructions we had had to-day in regard to the United Order, and it was of no use for us to try and get around it. He related concerning the answer President Lincoln gave to some anti-"Mormon" howlers in Washington when they asked him when he wanted the "Mormon" question up. "Well," said Lincoln, "when I was a boy, we had a big log lying on our farm. It was so big that we could not move it, and it was so knotty that we could not split it, and it was so wet that we could not burn it, so we concluded to plow around it," and that was his (Lincoln's) opinion about the "Mormon" question, that they had better plow around it. But the United Order you could not plow around. If you could you were better plowers than he was. He related some circumstances from Orderville, and was pleased to see the Union which existed among the Saints there. He said all that created union was from God, and we wanted to sustain it. He spoke about the great privilege that we had to live in this generation, when temples were reared to the glory of God, and when we through our faithfulness could have the great privilege to be saviors on mount Zion.

The health of the people in this place is good. As a general thing we are so busy with work in this place that we have got no time to think of sickness.

Your brother in the Gospel,
C. H. H.,
Corresponding Secretary of the
Y. M. M. I. A.

Snow Storm—Crop Prospects—Silver Mine—Mills, Etc.

WALLSBURGH,
Wasatch Co., Utah,
April 22, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

There was a severe snow storm last night, which ended by laying a coat of whiteness of about ten inches.

The farmers here in general have mostly all got their crops in. There is every appearance of there being a bountiful crop this season, if that pestiferous enemy, the "hopper," will only let us alone.

There has been considerable excitement for the past two or three weeks, over a silver mine that has lately been discovered near this place. The ore has not yet been tested, but the discoverers are preparing to have it assayed shortly. There is no doubt but what this discovery will prove good. It has caused considerable of a searching spirit among the boys, for they have been searching the hills high and low, expecting to find rich deposits.

There are now two shingle mills running in full blast, of which one is the property of Penrod & Boren, and the other belongs to James Wheeler & Co., also a saw mill, owned by Bishop Wm. E. Nuttall,

is being refitted for a good season's run.

Everything seems to be in a prospering condition here among the Saints. Yours, &c.,

MONO.

May Day—School Picnic.

FOUNTAIN GREEN,
Sanpete County,
May 3rd, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Brother—On the first of May, according to previous arrangement, our day and Sunday Schools met at the Social Hall in this town, at 9 a. m. They left town in fifty-three wagons for a picnic, to meet the Moroni schools, half way between the two settlements, near the banks of Silver Creek, on a nice grassy plat.

On leaving town, the procession looked beautiful and the lively strains of music from our brass bands were charming. Under the direction of James Guymon, Esq., marshal of the day, and his aids, the procession traveled in good order. We met the Moroni schools at the place appointed, and all the teams formed a large circle. The stars and stripes were planted, two flags. May-day song was sung by the Fountain Green choir, and their May queen was crowned. The Moroni choir sang their May song and also crowned their queen. The Greeting Glee was sung by the Fountain Green choir. Speeches were made by Bishops Bradley, of Moroni, and Johnson, of Fountain Green. By this time a heavy wind storm from the north made it very disagreeable. The children were dressed lighter than usual, and the parents thought prudent to return home, in consequence of which many were disappointed. Both choirs of this place, adults and juveniles, were in pretty good trim to fill the programme.

We have a good day school here under the management of A. J. Woodward. This school is second to none in the county. Our Sunday School, under the management of Peter Johnson, is doing first-rate. We also have a Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association in this place, under the direction of Jasper Robertson. This Association assembles every two weeks, and lectures upon the principles of the gospel, such as faith, repentance, baptism, &c., are delivered.

I remain yours, &c.,
REES R. LEWELLYN.

New Meeting House—Death—Schools—More Settlers Invited.

SNOWVILLE, Box Elder Co.,
Utah, April 29, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Yesterday, 22d, we opened our new Meeting-house for public services, and I must say it was a day of rejoicing with the saints of this place.

The health of the people is generally good, as this is a very healthy location. We were, however, called to mourn the loss of Sister Laura Johnson, wife of Peter B. Johnson, aged twenty-six years, six months and twenty days, who died on the 16th. This loss will be felt very much by her friends, especially her husband and three small children.

We have a good Sunday school under the supervision of Brother J. Osterhout, assisted by Brother Ezra Potter, and shall have a day school started in a few days. We all feel to rejoice in the blessings of the gospel, and unity is our motto.

There is plenty of good land and water, also wood, timber, and a splendid summer and winter range for stock here. To those wishing for good locations to make them permanent homes, we would say like the merchants of your city, give us a call before going anywhere else.

I am, your brother in the gospel.
ARNOLD GOODLIFE.

A Romantic History—Baptisms and Emigration.

NEPHI, May 4th, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

In the summer of 1875 I baptised L. M. Petersen and his wife and their Spanish muleteer, in company with many others at Manti, who at that time were renewing their covenants. The three named were visitors from the southern border of Colorado, and enquirers after truth.

There is a bit of romance connect-

ed with this man, Peterson, not altogether devoid of interest. He was a Scandinavian by birth, but Spanish-American by education. When eleven years old, in the summer of 1854, he strayed from a camp of the Saints near Kansas City, Missouri, while they were waiting for William Empey, our emigration agent for that year, to procure their teams and outfits for Utah.

His father and mother had both died during the voyage to America, and the rest of his family and friends, after many a fruitless search, gave up young Peterson as lost to them forever and wended their way to Utah, while the lost boy fell in with some Spanish traders from New Mexico, who enticed him home with them, where he subsequently became quite proficient as a Spanish and English scholar, married a Spanish woman, was elected a county recorder, and while serving in that capacity he commenced corresponding with the recorders of Utah, which resulted in finding the whereabouts of his elder brother in Manti, and paying him a visit with his family, where they also embraced the gospel and provided themselves with our church works, and he being ordained an Elder returned to his former home and commenced a quiet missionary labor amongst the Spanish Catholics. He translated into Spanish some choice selections from our works, and with the aid of these and the Spanish translation of the Book of Mormon, he succeeded in baptizing about forty persons and awoke the wrath of the Spanish priests and editors.

He writes from Las Tjeras, Col., April 14th, 1877, to his brother in Manti, that he expects to start about the 20th to the 25th of April, with his new converts, in twelve or thirteen wagons, via Albuquerque, for the Little Colorado, Arizona, where they intend locating with our new colonists. He hopes to reach there about the last of this month.

I trust they will find Elders Hatch, Burnham, Lake, Allen and Lot Smith, to whose care and further instruction Brother Petersen and his new colonists are earnestly commended, hoping and praying also that they may prove valuable aids among the Spanish speaking natives and citizens of that region.

Respectfully, &c.,
ERASTUS SNOW.

May Day.

MINERSVILLE, May 2nd, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Yesterday being May Day, the children of the Sabbath school, with some of their parents and friends, assembled to celebrate the time-honored custom of crowning a "Queen of May," and also under the care of their able Sabbath school superintendent to have a day of general enjoyment. They were called to order at the Meeting-house at 9 a. m., when, after prayer by the chaplain and singing by the choir, Brother E. H. Blackburn, the superintendent, delivered a congratulatory address. The ceremony of crowning the "Queen of May" (Miss Sarah Ann Zabriskie) was then performed, with accompanying songs and recitations, by the Queen and her maids. Sister Mary E. Lightner then gave a suitable address, followed by our last year's May Queen, Mrs. Frances Jondrew, who gave a beautiful recitation. We then adjourned to ride to the "Wire Grass Springs," where upwards of 150 persons assembled, and had a picnic, followed by games, dancing and swinging, till the cold north wind springing up warned us that it was time to leave the mountains for home, where we arrived between 5 and 6 p. m. Almost every one felt pleased with our celebration of May Day under the auspices of the Sunday school, for a spirit of union pervaded the breasts of all and made it really enjoyable.

Fraternally yours,
F. R. CLAYTON.

May Day.

WELLSVILLE, Cache Co.,
May 2nd, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

Owing to a rain storm on the evening of the 30th of April, the "first of May" was ushered in very cloudy, and many thought that we would have no "May Day" in Wellsville, but we were not easily daunted, and our brass band had scarcely struck up, on the public

square, ere "old Sol" broke out in all his splendor, proving that they only win who dare.

Our music was splendid, and on this occasion was augmented by an extra instrument, borne and blown by a musician of your city, Paul Harrison, who has been sojourning with us for a season. The procession being formed by the Marshal of the day, Wm. P. Deakin, the band struck up "Billy O'Rourke," and the cortege marched in order to the residence of the "Queen of May," Miss Jerusha Baxter, and accompanied by her "maids of honor" she was escorted to the place of coronation, where the ceremony of crowning was performed by Alex. Spence, the Queen making a neat and appropriate speech. Next was a dance round the "May pole" by ten young ladies, after which Elder Thomas Bradshaw, in his genial way made a speech, explanatory of the origin of crowning a queen on the first day of May. Prior to an hour's recess, there was a dance on the green-sward. The children of the Sunday school met in the meeting house at one o'clock and enjoyed themselves in the dance till four, the dancing being tastefully interspersed with caudies kindly supplied. After an hour's dancing by the adults, the people were dismissed to meet again in the evening at a concert, gotten up for the benefit of the Sunday School. It was a success financially, which is one great point gained. The day's proceedings were under the control of our worthy bishop and the Sunday School, which was enough to ensure a pleasant day's recreation.

Respectfully,

W. K. R.

Preaching and Baptizing—Well Received—Opposition—Good Prospects.

SHADY GROVE, Hickman Co.,
Tennessee, May 1, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

I am laboring here with Brother John W. Sharp. We have quite an extensive field of labor. The people open their meeting and school houses for us, and turn out well to hear us, and treat us very kindly wherever we go. The prospects seem very good before us, although we have opposing powers to contend with in the shape of ministers preaching against us and trying to persuade the people not to come to hear us, but we get full meetings, and the people follow us to the houses where we are invited to stay, and keep us up till midnight, asking questions about the gospel which we preach. Various anti-"Mormon" books are sent around amongst the people that come to hear us, but I guess we can preach louder than these things, and I expect we will continue to stem the current and come out right. We have been baptizing some, and expect to continue by the help of the Lord. The Lord pours out his spirit upon us. We feel well in our labors, and intend by the help of God to discharge our duties faithfully in spite of all the opposing powers which are so busy at the present time fighting against the kingdom of God.

Your fellow-laborer in the gospel of Christ,

JOSEPH ARGYLE,
J. W. SHARP.

Y. M. M. I. A.

TOOELE CITY,
May 7th, 1877.

Editor Deseret News:

The principal towns of our county have been highly edified and pleased with the instructions we have received from Brothers J. M. Young and A. Casto, who have made us a visit in the interest of the Y. M. M. I. Association. Their appointments were as follows—At E. T. on Wednesday, St. John's Thursday, Grantsville Friday, Bates' Ranch Saturday, Tooele Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, and Lake View Sunday 2 p. m. and 6 p. m. Judging from the remarks that were made at the two last named places the young brethren have given entire satisfaction to their hearers. We wish to tender our thanks to the Central Committee for favoring us with such able promulgators of the principles of the Gospel, and feel no hesitancy in saying that their words of encouragement will result in stimulating many of the young of this county in renewing their covenant