

EASTERN MISSION.—By letter from Elder W. H. Miles to Elder Geo. Q. Cannon, dated May 8th, which has been courteously handed to us, we learn that a Conference was held on Sunday, April 7th, at the Adelphi Hall, Grand Street, Williamsburgh, L. I., at which the various churches in the eastern states were represented. Reports were handed in of the condition of the branches in the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Missouri. The prospects were cheering. The instructions given during the meetings were encouraging and strengthening to the Saints assembled. Among the Elders present were Bishop W. R. Smith and Elder E. W. Tullidge from Zion. The authorities were unanimously sustained at two meetings. Elder W. H. Miles was president of the Conference, and Elder David M. Drury secretary.

SPRINGVILLE.—By letter from br. Thomas Child, of Springville, we learn that improvements are on the increase there. Preparations are in active progress for building, and many of the brethren are hauling rock for that purpose. They have commenced making brick, and have a good prospect for having some fine brick houses before a great while. The meeting-house is progressing, and the plasterers are at work on it. Br. J. Houtz is building a good rock stable and barn, 50 by 30 with two feet walls. His cotton factory is flourishing; he has two power-looms at work, each turning out 27 yards daily of good cloth; and they are expected to weave from 35 to 40 yards each daily in a short time. Much obliged, br. Child: write again.

FROM "DIXIE."—We had a call on Friday from br. Sixtus E. Johnson, up from Virgin City, in our "Dixie." He left his home on the 20th ult., and reached this city on Sunday, 9th inst., having experienced no particular difficulty in making his travel, except a little from high water. The waters were high nearly every place as he came north, but not doing any considerable damage. He saw no Indians by the way, except at Corn Creek, where Kan-osh remains as friendly as ever. In Kane County they had rather a stormy and backward spring, the same as in other parts of the Territory; but the crops looked well, and there was an excellent prospect for abundance of every kind of fruit. The river Virgin had been rather high, and had done a little damage. All was peace and prosperity in Virgin City. The country where cultivated looked beautiful on the way north.

AT SULPHUR SPRINGS.—By telegram to Pres. B. Young, received on Friday morning, from his son Elder Heber Young, we learn that the train in which the latter is traveling had reached Sulphur Springs, 37 miles from this city, and all was well. We presume the trains of Messrs. Heber P. Kimball, David P. Kimball, Swartont and Chrisman are together, and that they are now traveling in company with Bishop Sharp's train.

INFORMATION IS WANTED, by William B. and Agnes Child (formerly Agnes Liddell), of the whereabouts of PETER LIDDELL, who left Bramlington Branch, Newcastle-on-Tyne Conference, England, in 1863, with James Watson; Peter was then about 11 years old. Address: William B. Child, Box 248, Cohoes, Albany County, New York.

NITROUS OXYD.—The *Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal* states: That the Society of Dental Surgeons, New York, deprecate, as uncleanly and injurious, the method of administering nitrous oxyd (laughing gas), still largely employed by some dentists, whereby the patient is compelled to re-breathe his own exhalations.

ELDERS ELIJAH AND ELISHA AVERETT, of Washington City, Washington County, report favorably of affairs in "our Dixie," to which peace and health are adding their blessings, and fields and gardens are promising abundant crops.

BOQUET.—We had a fragrant little bouquet of sweet williams, Chinese pinks, red, pink and yellow roses, and other flowers, prettily surrounded with a delicate setting of green, placed upon our desk on Wednesday morning, by T. A. Smith and W. L. Price, two of our NEWS typos. The flowers were of their own raising. How do you like it, compositors abroad?

GONE EAST.—Mr. W. B. Wright started with his train for the railway terminus last Wednesday, freighting out for Wells, Fargo & Co., and designing to bring back freight for W. Jennings, Esq. He calculates to make there and back with his scalp safe on. Not long since we would have said "gone to the river," now it is to the railway-terminus! Speed the rails!

SAFE THROUGH.—By a telegram to President B. Young from Gen. H. B. Clawson, dated Omaha, we learn that the General and his companions were safe through the Indian difficulties. Pleasing intelligence at all times, to hear of the safety and welfare of our friends.

ANOTHER RAID.—On last Friday the Indians made a raid on Beaver, and succeeded in running off some stock, but did no further injury.

THUS FAR EAST.—Elder Z. Jacobs telegraphed, on the 15th, that they had reached the stage crossing of the North Fork of the Platte, all well. Nothing is said about Indians.

LOOK FOR General Burton's Notice.

MRS. COLEBROOK has received a Fine Assortment of Millinery by express.

Correspondence.

Great Salt Lake City,
June 17th, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

Permit me through your columns to say a few words to the phonographers of this Territory.

At last Conference the initial steps were taken to organize a Phonetic Society. Phonographers from different parts of the Territory, then in this city, expressed themselves strongly in favor of it. At that time it was talked of to have one society for the Territory, with members in the various cities and settlements, as individuals felt disposed to be enrolled; and with several vice-presidents, one each in different prominent places, to aid by their influence and abilities in furthering the objects in view. Since then it has been deemed wise to organize a Parent Society in this city, and try and have other societies organized in the principal settlements, at least. The Society here has been organized with the following officers: Your correspondent as President; Bishop Alexander McRae, David W. Evans and George A. Burgon Vice Presidents; John C. Graham Secretary; Charles B. McGregor Corresponding Secretary; and Thomas Latimer Treasurer. The members are divided into three classes. The first class is composed of practical phonographers who undertake to gratuitously correct the exercises of students; the second class is composed of students of phonography, and practical phonographers who do not feel disposed to correct exercises; the third class is composed of those who do not write and are not studying the art, but who desire to see a knowledge of it extended. One dollar gives an annual membership, the means thus obtained to be expended in promoting the objects of the Society. Those objects are to extend a knowledge of phonetics, and obtain a uniform system of writing phonography throughout this Territory. To this end, the members have agreed to adopt a uniform system, and only await the arrival of books from the east, sent for some time ago, to decide what that system will be.

Various letters have been addressed to myself and Bishop McRae on the subject, from different parts of the Territory; the writers will please accept this as a general answer where it will apply.

It is desired that the phonographers in the various cities and settlements, who would aid in this good work, should organize societies in their respective places; and that all these societies should co-operate together and work harmoniously.

Any information concerning our movements in this city, or concerning phonography, can be obtained by addressing our Corresponding Secretary, Charles B. McGregor, G. S. L. City.

I remain,

Yours respectfully,

EDWARD L. SLOAN.

The Following is Lieut. M. H. Davis' account of the Twelve-mile Creek massacre:

Ft. Gunnison, June 12.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

Agreeable to previous instruction, Major John W. Vance and Capt. O. P. Miles went to Manti, to drill the militia at that place, accompanied by Sergt. H. Houtz and N. Tanner, jun. On Sunday, June 2, as they were returning to this place, and before they reached Twelve-mile Creek, Major Vance proposed to halt and tighten their saddle girths, as they were then out of the hills, which was done, and they moved forward, Capt. Miles a little in advance, with Major Vance on his right and Sergt. Houtz and Tanner a short distance in the rear; but Sergt. Houtz spurred his horse briskly forward and, just as Capt. Miles' horse stepped into the Creek, the Indians, from the brush, at a distance of about thirty-five yards, fired upon them. The horses instantly wheeled about and, nearly fifteen yards from the creek, Major Vance fell from his horse. As Sergt. Houtz' horse wheeled, he fell. The Sergeant groaned, but neither he nor Vance uttered a word.

Upon the first fire, four Indians raised up and fired. Immediately afterwards three Indians were seen mounted and already in pursuit; their horses must have been in readiness and concealed, on the opposite side from where Major Vance and party were fired upon. It was dusk, and all this transpired in an instant, so suddenly that Capt. Miles, believing that the brethren who had fallen were dead, and, from the num-

ber of shots fired, that themselves were likely to be surrounded, drove Major Vance's horse in front, and was hotly pursued for a distance of about four miles.

The Captain and Tanner reached Manti about 8-14 p.m. At 3 a.m., June 3, I received the following dispatch:

Manti, June 2, 10 p.m.

Lt. M. H. Davis:

You will send a wagon early in the morning and all the men that you can spare from camp, in company with those who will come to night, to bring the bodies to Manti. You will keep the horses up. If you need any assistance about camp, call on the men at the Fort. Put out your picket guard early in the morning on the most prominent point, with my glass, to watch any movement. Our boys who went to Richfield are near Round Valley to night. Render these brethren who go down to night any assistance they may need.

(Signed) Capt. O. P. MILES.

I did as directed, and arrived at the scene of the murder about sunrise. I found Maj. Vance's body where he fell, about fifteen yards from the creek, with two gun shot wounds, one in the right breast and another through the loins. Sergeant Houtz's body was up the road about 500 yards from where he fell, with one gun shot wound through his right breast and another through his body, besides seven arrow wounds. From the signs of arrows along the road, they were shot at him while retreating. Though his gun was out of repair, he had a revolver; and, from the fact that no shots were fired after the second volley, I believe that Sergeant Houtz did not fire.

He had no sabre with him, and my conclusions are that Capt. Miles adopted the only consistent course left for him, as he had no sign or reason to believe that either of his brethren were alive, one having falling dead by his side, and seeing the other fall with his horse and hearing him utter a groan, with neither word or shot exchanged to give the least hope that reasonable defence could be made against such odds, and with, as it afterwards proved, the prospect of his retreat being attempted to be cut off. I am confident that, had there been any sign or chance for defence, no two men would have more cheerfully embraced such an opportunity than Capt. Miles and br. Nathan Tanner, Jun.

In conclusion permit me to state that, in our opinion, journalism should rest upon facts, as is the aim of the DESERET NEWS, and not upon rumor and supposition; and, preferring facts to fiction, we have written to you the foregoing, to correct and forestall erroneous statements and impressions.

Respectfully,

M. H. DAVIS, 1st Lt. Cavalry,
on expedition to Sanpete.

P.S.—We are thankful for the DESERET NEWS, which we receive through your liberality and kindness.

M. H. D.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY,

June 10th, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

Having visited West Jordan Ward on Sunday, the 9th, I thought a few items from that direction would be welcomed by some of your numerous readers. West Jordan Ward is situated 13 miles southwest of G. S. L. City, and is divided into four districts, each of which has a meeting and school house, where they assemble every Sabbath, except on the second Sabbath of each month, when they meet at Jordan Mills under the direction of Bishop Archibald Gardner, in a splendid stone edifice, 30x66, including vestry, which cost ten thousand dollars.

The total number of inhabitants is about 600, principally settled seven miles up and five miles down Jordan River, from Jordan Mills, cultivating mostly the river bottoms which have been seriously affected both the present and past years by high water. Much of the land and grain is at this time under water. Bishop Gardner says the water is one inch higher than he ever saw it previous to this time, and I must say that it is by his perseverance that the bridge and crossing have been preserved.

He has spent 300 dollars besides considerable poll tax, during the present week, forming an embankment which extends one quarter of a mile. The material for it has been carted in, and has been mostly obtained by cutting 10 or 21 feet from the top of a steep hill, making a much better road.

Many places along this levee leading to the bridges would swim a horse. The

levee is two feet above water, so that this crossing is secure, which is quite essential, both for home travel and the western emigrant.

The former and latter rains and high waters, as well as increasing demand, have called the attention of the Ward to the importance of laying off a new town on the bench.

Twenty-two lots of two and a half acres each are laid off, fenced, and mostly planted; and in passing over the plot I saw apple, peach, pear and plum trees, some of the peach trees bearing although set out this spring. To this town is attached a new survey of 1,000 acres, 120 of which is fenced and in grain, and the water already brought on to the plot. People in the ward tell me they have been cramped in the agricultural line; but now that Utah Lake is likely to be brought over the barren land, they prefer the apple, peach, pear and grain, in lieu of so much herd ground. The Bishop tells me the Ward has 10,000 head of sheep on the range, and considerable stock, by which, and cañon work, they have sustained themselves.

I saw twelve acres of land that have borne twelve successive wheat crops, and each succeeding crop has been the most productive. This is accounted for by the land being watered from the muddy water from Utah Lake, which deposits considerable richness on the soil.

We held meeting at 11 o'clock, which was attended by about 300 souls from the different districts, feeling thankful to God for the privilege of being instructed by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as in ancient times, showing that God is no respecter of persons to those who serve Him in an acceptable manner. On returning to the city, I attended meeting in the 4th Ward, which was well attended, a good spirit prevailing.

In conclusion I can say from 22 years acquaintance with Bishop Gardner that I find him, as at first, just from Canada, energetic, full of faith, determined to see the end; and his name is likely to continue, as he tells me he is the father of 35 children and he is laying a foundation to feed them, as he has just completed a splendid grist mill on Mill Creek, the carpenter's work of which cost \$4,000; total cost \$17,000, and he has some other mills in different places.

Your brother,

EDWARD STEVENSON.

SPANISH FORK, June 10, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

DEAR BROTHER:—Yesterday afternoon we had a very happy meeting, being visited by Bishop Johnson of Springville, accompanied by bros. Mendenhall, Crandle, C. D. Evans, Richard Bird, F. Kelsey and quite a number of others, brethren and sisters, and the Springville choir and a singing class, about sixty in number, led by br. W. Shepherd.

Bishop Thurber called the meeting to order. The Springville choir sang. Br. Kelsey offered prayer. Singing by the Springville choir.

The large congregation was addressed by br. Kelsey, in his usual interesting manner. Bishop Johnson followed, with a very kind and fatherly address, and bore a strong testimony in favor of the doctrine of plural marriage. Bishop Thurber made a few remarks, expressing his gratification with the happy meeting and the good doctrines taught.

Br. Shepherd made a few remarks on the tonic-sol-fa method of teaching music, and with his class sung several pieces in a very creditable manner, his pupils having received but three months tuition.

The Spanish Fork choir sang a glee. Br. Shepherd with his class sung several more pieces.

Bishop Johnson made a few more remarks in approbation of and encouragement to the singers, and invited bishop Thurber, the choir and the brethren and sisters to visit Springville.

Benediction by Bishop Johnson.

The health of the people here is generally good. No Indians are to be seen, but a good guard is kept up. The creek is going down, and the bridge is being repaired. Crickets are very numerous on the other side of the creek, and have destroyed considerable grain there, but are now traveling towards the mountains.

We have been blest with plenty of rain, and last Friday, June 7, with a coat of snow over the valley, so that irrigation has been but little needed.

Your brother in the Gospel,

C. MONK.