IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS.

A Charming Spot in the Lake Country and What is Heard There.

Editor Deseret News:

After a weary but interesting ride of five days I find myself among relatives and friends in one of the loveliest spots in far northern Illinois. Gray's lake is situated about forty-five miles north of Chicago on the line of the Wisconsin Central railroad, and about ten miles from the Wisconsin State line.

Lake county, as its name indicates, has within its borders fully thirty-four lakes, many of them being of fairly large dimensions; several of them are in close proximity to the little village of Gray's Lake. On the banks of some of these are located huge ice houses, the property of Chicago meat packing companies, who thus store thousands of tons of ice each winter in readiness [illegible] as needed for their summer trade.

A Chicago schemer, realizing the inability of the World's Fair city hotels to accommodate the travelling public next year, has projected a plan which has good evidence of proving successful. Land has been purchased here on which he proposes to erect a large hotel with accommodations for the hundreds of visitors who will be anxious to leave the dust and din of the large city for a night or a few days, and enjoy the quiet and the scenery, boating, bathing and fishing which this locality affords.

Owing to incessant rains in May and June, a good portion of the crops have not yet been sown here, but those that are, look in excellent condition. The same may be said of the crops in Kansas and Missouri along the line of the Missouri Pacific railway. In Kansas, especially, the outlook should be bright and promising to the farmers who suffered so much from last year's drought.

The sad effects of the recent rise and overflow of the Mississippi river are startlingly visible after crossing the river from St. Louis. An entire village, very appropriately named Venice, is submerged and as far as the eye can readily distinguish are dwellings, churches and trees submerged in the waters. In some of the higher places, residents were able to stay in their dwellings by removing to the upper story, but with the exception of an occasional row boat and its occupant playing among the houses in search of household goods which may be rescued, the village has the appearance of being deserted.

Almost everyone whom I have met in this State and had conversation with makes inquiries in relation to the people in Utah. With those who have read or heard of the manifesto the general impression is decidedly favorable toward the "Mormons." Only yesterday, one aged farmer here who can remember well the troubles of the Saints in Illinois, declared very emphatically to me, that with "polygamy discontinued" and the "Mormons upholding the laws of the United States" they had as much right to practice their religion as any other sect has.

J. FRANC PUGMIRE [illegible].
Gray's Lake, Lake Co., Illinois,
June 23, 1892.

SCANDINAVIAN RE-UNION.

A Pleasant Time at Elsinore, Sevier County, and Profitable Withal.

[Cor. of the DESERET NEWS.]

A Scandinavian re-union was held at Elsinore, Sevier County, on the 19th and 20th instant, presided over by Apostle A. H. Lund. About one hundred persons were present. The people of the other settlements in the Stake joined with the people of Elsinore, and thus all went off well. The object of the gathering was to meet old time friends, in remembrance of days gone by, and to revive and express gratitude to God and those who by preaching the Gospel to us had brought us into our present happy and prosperous condition.

Beneath the Stars and Stripes waved the flags of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, decorating the entrance to the grove in which the meetings were held. Short speeches were delivered by a number of the oldest representatives, who related incidents and experiences connected with early times in the Scandinavian mission under Erastus Snow and others. All seemed to be filled with gratitude and joy at the wonderful and happy changes that have taken place in our spiritual as well as temporal circumstances.

President Seegmiller, of Sevier, spoke and one of his Counselors were present at all the proceedings and expressed themselves as happy as any of the Scandinavians.

There were present, besides Apostle Lund, President C. Peterson, of Sanpete Stake, and many Bishops and leading men of Scandinavian birth. The brass band and the well-trained choir of Elsinore entertained us with music in good style.

Apostle Lund remarked that parents should teach their children their native language, in order that they might be the means of taking the glad message of the Gospel to the people in those lands where their forefathers lived and died, and where many good people would yet receive the truth.

The hospitable people of Elsinore had provided eatables enough for an army, and the bishop therefore asked all who could spare the time to remain a few days longer to help consume what food was left.

The sub-committees in Monroe, Richfield, Vermillion, Aurora, Salina and Redwood did a good part in providing teams for the excursionists, who arrived from the north by the D. & R. G. W. railroad, which at present terminates in Salina. The trip from thence to Elsinore, a distance of thirty miles, was made in a few hours and gave us an opportunity of beholding the vast fields of grain, which extend from one end of the valley to the other.

HOLTTUS.
EPHRAIM, June 22nd, 1892.

Strawberry Culture.

[Correspondence of the DESERET NEWS.]

American Fork, even at a late hour, is making a success of strawberry culture. One gentleman from Iowa has already picked 1,500 quarts of berries of excellent quality, and estimates the remainder of his crop at 1,000 quarts this season. All these are from a fraction of over half an acre. The same gentleman has two acres which will be in bearing next year, and the ground will pay well. Two thousand five hundred quarts at 10 cents per quart amounts to $250, or say four to five hundred dollars per acre. Compared with other farm crops per acre, this looks like big money, although considerable labor attaches to the culture of small fruits. I learn by late advices from Nauvoo, Hancock Co., Ills., that there about 300 acres at this time laid out with small fruit right in the old city of Nauvoo, and that it takes 1,000 pickers to gather the fruit.

While Bros. Andrew Jensen, J. H. Rock and myself were in Nauvoo, (in former correspondence to the NEWS at that time) we informed your readers that a gentleman was attempting to plant 100 acres solely in strawberries and that he designed to run a steamer from Keokuk, Iowa, to Nauvoo, in order to bring from that place the pickers of berries and return them, and also for shipping the berries each day. Each picker was to pick from eighty to one hundred quarts each day, so that considerable energy would have to be resorted to, to get rid of the berries as well as to raise them on so large a scale. I am glad now to learn that the project has been carried out, making a now flourishing Mormon city a fruitful field, for, as a general rule, our waste cities become lonely and dreary fields. At Pleasant Grove fifty cases of strawberries were sold by one man within a few days.

The crops on Provo bench are good this year, rye has headed out and nearly ripe, some corn looks well on the bench, and the little and small groves of trees look beautiful. All through the settlements crops (especially lucern and lily grass) are very plentiful.

A sad feeling of gloom hangs over Pleasant Grove on account of the accidental shooting of Miss Rogers.

EDWARD STEVENSON.
PROVO CITY, Utah, June 24th, 1892.

BEING DECAPITATED.

AN INTERESTING QUESTION THAT MAY NEVER BE ANSWERED.

Are the Movements of the Head and Face After Decapitation Involuntary or Are They Attended with Some Slight Action of the Will—Some Experiments.

The question of the duration of consciousness in the brain of criminals after execution by hanging or by the guillotine is being discussed with greater interest than ever since Anastay, the murderer of Baroness Dellard, paid his debt to society. It is said that this remarkable criminal sent to his brother a letter on the subject as follows:

The separation of my body and that which constitutes my thinking being cannot, so [illegible] be accomplished. I believe there is a [illegible] of about an hour. I [illegible] Louis, be present at my execution and insist that my head be given to you. Call me with your voice and my eyes will reply to you.

This is but the repetition of a popular belief that has prevailed for centuries. There is a legend of a state execution in England at an epoch when the ax and block were in use, which sets forth that after the instrument had fallen the person whose head was on the block exclaimed, "You have missed me!" to which the executioner replied with a slight kick that sent the head rolling to a distance. The story never gained much credence, but is still worthy of discussion. Its truth or falsity would depend on the possibility of the instrument being so thin and sharp that the walls of the veins would not be displaced, in which case the circulation of the blood might continue for a few seconds, and whether consciousness might continue for a moment after the vertebrae of the neck was severed. This last difficulty would be the greatest, since utter unconsciousness is supposed to be simultaneous with the severing of the spinal cord or the breaking of the neck. In any event, scientists who have taken the trouble to study the faces of the guillotined for a few seconds after the fatal stroke, or who have made experiments with decapitated animals, do not favor the theory.

Several French physicians, and among them Dr. Paul Loye, now deceased, but once a professor at the Sorbonne, have experimented with dogs, using for their hanging or decapitation machinery like that employed in public executions. The dog was chosen for the experiments as having the most mobile face and being able to reproduce the movements which in rare cases have been observed in human subjects. Persons whom this treatment of dumb animals might revolt are begged to remember that the suffering is much less than in vivisection, since those methods of execution are generally recognized as producing the least pain. The guillotine employed by Dr. Loye was similar to that used for the execution of ordinary criminals in France. It consisted of a triangular knife or ax, surmounted by a mass of lead weighing over twenty pounds and falling over six feet upon the neck of the animal, which was severed at the third vertebra. The phenomena observed were similar to those remarked by other French and by foreign savants whose experiments have been less elaborate.

At the moment the head was detached from the body the mouth opened wide, as if the animal was making an extraordinary effort at inhalation. The tongue was applied to the lower part of the mouth and underwent a brief period of agitation. The eyelids were closed with light contractions. Then the eyes were opened and rolled from side to side and top to bottom, the pupils in the meantime gradually contracting. At the same time the jaws were opened and violently closed, and the face was rapidly convulsed. This was followed by changes at the corners of the mouth, vibration of the nostrils, trembling of the lips and erection of the ears. The ensemble of these movements constituted a series of horrible grimaces like those seen on the face of the guillotined, and seemed to express the most intense agony. If the cornea of the eye was touched the eyelids closed, but if an object, no matter of what kind, was placed before the eye there was no movement. Neither did crying nor whistling into the ears of the dog appear to cause the slightest sensation. The pinching of the tongue caused a slight shrinking of that organ. Although the pupil of the eye was contracted, the approach of a light rendered the orifice still smaller.

These phenomena occupy about ten seconds, and are followed by a period of repose continuing to the fifteenth or twentieth second, during which the mouth rests closed and the eyes open and without movement. At the end of this time the mouth opens and closes quickly, the nostrils dilate and contract. During this time, although the irritation of the cornea has caused a slight winking, neither whistling in the ear nor touching this organ or nostrils with [illegible] or tongue has been able to produce any effect. The opening and closing of the mouth resemble yawning and are repeated a dozen times, after which the animal gradually ceases. Then the cornea loses its sensibility to the touch. Though half a minute having elapsed, the yawning is still active. The pupil of the eye dilates at the approach of light, but does not contract, and the cornea loses its glistening appearance. At the end of two minutes the yawning and other phenomena have ceased, owing to the contraction of the fibres, and the head takes a corpselike look.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Antidotes for Snake Poison.

The effect of snake bite depends partly on the condition of the snake and partly on that of the person bitten and the part attacked. No effectual antidote has yet been discovered. Ammonia and permanganate of potassium will not suffice, although a solution of the latter will take away the poisonous property of the snake's venom if it be mixed therewith. Immediate amputation of a bitten toe or finger is the best course, as the delay of a few seconds may suffice to convey the poison into the patient's circulation.

If from the nature of the part bitten amputation cannot be performed, a very tight ligature applied after cauterization and sucking the part is the best course, and the administration of stimulants is generally recommended.—Quarterly Review.

Rice and Wheat at Weddings.

Throwing rice and wheat at a wedding is a relic of an old Roman custom, and has probably been common in England since Roman times. Brand gives several authorities for it. Friend refers to the case of the bride of Henry VII at Bristol in 1486, when wheat was thrown upon her with the greeting, "Welcome and good luck."

Rice is used similarly at weddings in India, and the substitution of this grain for wheat in our own country of late years may be partly due to that fact; but where wheat cannot readily be obtained, of rice would naturally suggest itself as a substitute.—Notes and Queries.

A Physician's Fees.

South Africa responds to modern innovations. A recent traveler in Kaffirland tells this incident:

As we were spoon-feeding, there passed us a man driving a small flock of goats and several head of cattle. This was the husband of a lady physician who is rivaling the practice of the local witch doctors, and he was taking home his wife's fee for attending a patient.—Youth's Companion.

THE TESTIMONY OF LIVING WITNESSES.

Fourteen mothers handed over their names, saying that their children had been cured by J. S. Richardson's canker and diphtheria remedy at Mr. Evans' West End store, near the Rio Grande Railway. These are only a few of the names of those who live in Salt Lake City. I will give you a few more testimonials as in the same result:
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