

the taste, and growth of every lover of truth and liberty, and make the new publication most emphatically a 'Standard of light' in the dark region from which it hails.—[Editor Deseret News.]

PROSPECTUS OF THE WESTERN STANDARD.

It is the intention of the Subscriber to commence the publication of a Weekly Newspaper bearing the above title, the first number to be issued about the middle of February next, to be devoted to the interests of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints—to be an exponent of its doctrines, and a medium through which the public can derive correct information in relation to its objects and progress. Its columns will also contain items of general intelligence and the current news of the day, both foreign and domestic, which from our position, situated in the Queen City of the Pacific, we will be able to obtain at the earliest dates and in ample detail.

It will be our aim to make 'The Western Standard' an interesting and instructive sheet; and, as its columns will be enriched by the correspondence of the Elders of the Church, who are laboring in different portions of the Earth, and by choice selections from the leading papers of the United States and Great Britain, we trust it will be satisfactory to our subscribers.

To the Saints, the announcement that another publication is being issued, under the sanction of the First Presidency of the Church, that will be found on the side of truth, defending it, and heralding it forth, will be received with pleasure, and will, no doubt, meet with their hearty co-operation and support.

The regular transmission of the Mail from San Francisco to Great Salt Lake City, by way of San Bernardino and the Southern Settlements of Utah, will be advantageous to the subscribers of 'The W. S.' in those places, as they will obtain news much earlier than heretofore.

As a medium of advertising, the columns of 'The Western Standard' present unusual facilities to business men and general dealers, as it will be extensively circulated among the Emigrating portion of our community.

GEO. Q. CANNON.

San Francisco, Cal., January 4th, 1856.
Terms of Subscription:—\$3.50 per annum, in advance.
Advertisements inserted at reasonable rates.
"The W. S." will be issued every Saturday. Office—No. 118 1-2 Montgomery St.
Agent for G. S. L. City:—S. W. RICHARDS.

THE INDIAN DISTURBANCE, lately raised by a few renegades from different bands, appears to be dying out. The force under Brigadier General P. W. Conover did not come in contact with the hostile party, who scattered in different directions among sand hills and cedars, on finding themselves pursued, but General Conover coming close upon one squad recovered 65 head of cattle, which they had abandoned to effect their own escape. He soon after captured 11 horses, but could not discover any Indians in their neighborhood, and has returned and disbanded his company.

From all that can be learned, the few who are hostile have made for the swamps of the Sevier, having quite a number of cattle and horses still in possession.

A friendly Indian lately brought in nine head of cattle, and reported finding the body of Lewis Hunsaker, the missing herdsman. He had been killed by those who took him prisoner. A party had gone out to bring in his remains.

SEEDING TIME.—Several sunny spots are now free from frost, and dry enough to crumble from the working of the spade and plow. In all such places peas and carrot, parsnip, onion, radish and lettuce seeds may be sown, and a few potatoes planted for early use.

POTATOES.—So far as our experience goes, we are ready to admit that large potatoes planted whole, or good sized cuttings therefrom, may produce the largest and fairest sized crop, but in the present time of scarcity that mode may be justly deemed impolitic. To avoid such waste, and still to secure good seed, it is suggested to cut the seed ends and scoop out the eyes from the large potatoes when preparing them for cooking, and to carefully preserve such ends and eyes until time for planting. They will doubtless keep for that length of time if stored where it is not damp enough to rot them, nor so dry as to make them like horn.

The quantity on hand probably will not admit of full choice in the selection of seed, but repeated trials with various celebrated kinds leaves the MESHANIC at the head of the list, taking into consideration fine flavor, fair size, quantity of yield, freedom from rot, time of maturing, and in short every good requisite constituting a most excellent article for table use.

SIRS LADEW & PEERS, of St. Louis, will please accept our thanks for their present, to the 'News' office, of a very happily designed and tastefully executed vignette plate. Our thanks are as cordially tendered as though the 'News' was printed in the form used previous to vol. 5, which would have admitted the use of the new vignette, and for which size it was doubtless designed, and correctly so. Even with our present form it was the intention to use it, as notified in our last number, but after repeated experiments it was found to be too deep to appear well on a size adapted to convenient reading when bound, and to our regret we must waive its use for the present.

ARRIVAL.—Mr. Gilbert, of the firm of Gilbert & Gerrish, and Capt. Brown arrived from San Francisco on the 10th inst. They found snow in the road nearly all the way from the Santa Clara to Provo, in some places very deep.

We tender our thanks to Mr. Gilbert for the Evening Bulletin of Feb'y 9, and for a package

of late papers which he forwarded from San Francisco by mail, containing the President's message, among other matters, though as usual said package has not come to hand. No news of importance, and no word of the election of Speaker in Congress, notwithstanding the message had been withheld from type for many days, awaiting the organization of that Body. Doubtless the President became wearied with constant alterations to keep up with the times, and threw it in sight, Speaker or no Speaker.

DEPARTURE.—Our worthy fellow citizen, Mr. Gerrish, of the firm of Gilbert and Gerrish, starts for the East on the 12th inst., to purchase and forward goods for this season's market. Mr. John Y. Green will accompany Mr. Gerrish.

It is expected that the Eastern mail will essay a trial trip at the same time.

BOX ELDER SYRUP AND SUGAR.—Br. George Wardle has presented a specimen of beautifully clear and remarkably sweet and pleasant flavored syrup made from the box elder, without having undergone any cleansing process. Br. Wardle says that the run in fine weather is equal to that from the maple in the States, and that the sugar is very white, without the syrup's being cleansed or the sugar clarified.

A CURE FOR JAUNDICE.—Roast a new laid egg until the white is cooked so that it will not run. Put the white, thus rarely roasted, into the thinnest cloth that can be procured, and bind it onto the pit of the stomach, let it remain forty-eight hours, and renew the application every two days until a cure is effected. **ELI B. KELSEY.**

ANOTHER.—Strong hop tea and a little sulphur taken in season and drank freely, it is said will throw off the disease. **A SUBSCRIBER.**

AGRICULTURAL.

REMARKS ON CULTIVATING CITY LOTS.

MR. EDITOR:—

I take the liberty to offer a few remarks on sowing seeds and cultivating city lots, which I hope will answer the end intended, namely:—to assist new comers and those who have not been accustomed to cultivate garden vegetables, &c., in this climate. In order to make my remarks clear on the subject I shall first give some few hints on plowing and preparing the ground; and if thought useful, I will in future continue the subject more fully on sowing seed, culture, irrigation and other matters, as the season advances.

PREPARING GROUND.—Manuring the ground should always be the first consideration; therefore collect all the good rotten manure that can be obtained, and take it on when the ground is dry, or which is better, when it is well frozen.

In manuring lots the greatest portion should always be put on the highest part, as the low ground always receives more than its due share of nutriment by the action of water which carries a portion of manure, &c., from the higher to the lower places.

The time of preparing ground for sowing seed must depend on circumstances; however, one rule may be laid down as universal, namely:—never plow a lot until the ground will crumble freely after the plow. It is far better to crop ground a little late, than too early, or when in a wet state.

SPREADING MANURE.—The large pieces should be well broken, and every spot be regularly covered. When manure is plowed into the ground in large lumps it is of little use to the crop during that season. Instead of decomposing and giving nutriment to the plants, it has a tendency to keep the ground loose and dry.

If there is any part of the lot where the ground is too high for the water to pass freely, it should be leveled before plowing, so that every part can receive its due portion of water.

PLOWING.—"Plow deep while singards sleep," as Poor Richard says is a good old adage which should always be born in mind, both in plowing or digging. The ground should always be plowed 6 or 8 inches deep, at least, and if a foot, the better.

It should be recollected that vegetable roots always go downwards in search of nutriment, and the deeper they can penetrate the better, in this dry climate. Many lots of good ground yield but meagre crops, owing to the bad manner of plowing.

When the earth is not plowed above 3 or 4 inches deep, vegetables cannot penetrate their wonted depth, and when the dry weather comes they cease to grow, and all the water that can be applied is of but little use when the soil below the shallow furrow is hard, because it then does not penetrate deeper than the plow has removed the soil, and often washes away the richness that may be near the surface.

Plowing lots always one way is a bad system, for it has a tendency to carry too great a portion of earth on the outside, in a ridge which does not receive the water freely, whilst the middle loses a portion of good earth and becomes hard.

It is an excellent system to cross plow every year, that is, lengthwise one season and crosswise the next. This method has the effect of cutting up any pieces of hard ground that have not been removed the preceding season.

VALLEY GARDENER.

We are much pleased to find here and there one who advocates manuring the soil. Our tillable land, except the lowland, is not very rich in organic manure, it therefore must be supplied, or the farmer may expect light crops. Carting every thing from the field and nothing to it, and then expecting a rank growth of vegetation, must produce disappointment and loss.—[Ed.]

An Epistle to the members of the High Priests' Quorum.

BRETHREN OF THE HIGH PRIESTS' QUORUM:—We feel constrained to write to you a few words of counsel in the Lord. May peace, grace, and the Holy Ghost be, and abound with you and yours, is the desire of your servants in the Lord. And that these blessings may be with you, we write to you to encourage you to diligence and perseverance in well doing, and to be up and doing, for the time draweth nigh when you with us will be called upon to render an account to him who has called us to this high and holy calling, who will reward every man according to his works.

And the works which are required of us no man knows nor can know, unless he has the light of the Spirit of God dwelling in him; and if he has that, he will not be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of his duties to his brethren and his God. That man will know the voice of the Good Shepherd, whose voice will be full of music and charms to his ear, whom he will follow as sheep follow their shepherd into green pastures beside cooling brooks, to feed and quench their thirsty souls; so will it be with the man of God, whose heart is always open to the whisperings of the Spirit of the Lord. The counsel of the man of God is to him the word of the Lord, the mind and will of God. He goes to with all his might to carry out that counsel, and the Lord works with him, and he is able to accomplish all that the Lord requires at his hands. If it is the building of forts, he is on hand to build them; to plow or sow, to reap or mow, or to go the nations and teach them that the Lord has raised up a Prophet, and through him brought to light the sacred records of the Prophets of old, and in short do all other things which are required of him to do; not for the sake of property which is after the manner of the world, but for the sake of glorifying God, in helping to build up Zion, and establish his kingdom upon the earth; and also for the love of truth which has come forth from God, which is testified of by the Holy Ghost, which dwells in him, and is as a light to his feet, and shines around him so that he can walk in the light and life of God.

Brethren, that you may possess that Spirit, live and walk in the light of it, and know the voice of the Good Shepherd, we give unto you a few words of counsel. Seek earnestly to know the mind and will of God concerning yourselves by prayer and faith, and be humble and contrite before him, even of a broken heart and of a contrite spirit, administering unto thy brethren the words of life, and withhold not thy substance from the poor and needy, the widow and the orphan, that their cries may not ascend to God against you, but administer thy substance unto them, lest God prove you to be unworthy of the blessings which he has bestowed upon you, and takes them from you and gives them to another, and you be found wanting.

Be a peace-maker among thy brethren; for blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God. Assist the bishops in carrying out the counsels of the Lord, and be teachers of righteousness in the midst of the people of God, both by precept and example, and see that your precept and example in your own houses are such that exalt and regenerate those that are given you in the Lord. Remember to teach thy children according to the covenants which you have made in the house of the Lord, which if you do, they will not be found cursing and swearing, nor fishing and skating on the Sabbath day, but they will be at the house of worship with you, or at home reading the word of God which has come through the Prophets; or being taught by their mothers the words of the Lord, and the object of their creation, that they may grow up to honor and glorify God upon the earth.

Do you read the Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, Bible, the sermons, and the counsels of the men of God in the Deseret News, and understand the words of the Lord which are for us who live in this the eleventh hour? We believe there are many High Priests who do not own that sacred record, the Book of Mormon, and many more who do own it that do not read it, nor the Book of Doctrine and Covenants; for as we have traveled among you, in many of your houses we have not found them, neither in your places of worship; and it proves to us that you are not interested in them as you are in your flocks and herds, your houses and lands. It is well for you to look after those blessings which God has given you, but not place them first in your affections, and worship them instead of him who has created them, and given them unto you; those blessings are given you to use, and you are accountable for how you use them.

Brethren, do you search those books that you may know the mind of God concerning this dispensation in which we live; then you will know some things that the Lord is about to do in the midst of the house of Jacob and Israel. We feel, brethren, that we should be up and doing; for it is the last—the eleventh hour, and if we expect to receive our penny, we must labor and earn it, lest we be found naked not having on the wedding garment in the day of our Lord, and we be compelled to hear these unwelcome words, "depart from me, I know you not."

Brethren, look at these things before it is too late, and see that you labor as though you must earn as much in one hour as those who have gone before us did in ten.

Attend your quorum meetings that you may receive instructions, or instruct others in the ways of the Lord; for there are many who come and are ordained and then disappear, and are known no more unless a committee is sent to hunt them up. We want such to attend the meetings; for unless you abide in the vine you will wither and die, and be ready for the burning, for we shall prune the vine as any of the branches become dry or unfruitful, as far as we are made responsible; and to carry out this, we have appointed men in most of the settlements in this Territory to watch over you, and teach you in your duties as God's High Priests, and to report to us from time to time.

It is not expected that those who are called to take the Presidency of the meetings in the different settlements, should set apart counselors, and organize as an independent quorum, or ordain men to the high and holy priesthood, but simply to preside at their meetings, and see that they meet often, and report to the President of the Quorum from time to time. If a bishop of a ward or settlement cuts off a member belonging to this quorum, report it to us; also the cause, or what he was cut off for, that we may blot out his name from the record.

Brethren, receive this counsel and word of admonition in the Spirit in which we give it, and God will pour out

his Spirit upon you that you will not be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of the Lord.

DAVID PETEGREW, President,
REYNOLDS CAHOON, } Counselors.
GEORGE B. WALLACE, }

DANIEL PAGE JR., Clerk.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[For the Deseret News.]

WHEAT GROWING.

MR. EDITOR:—Most farmers have found by experience that if they put too much seed corn on an acre, the yield will be lighter than if only the proper quantity were allowed to grow; I deem four quarts of corn enough seed for an acre.

When the corn is too thick the ears will be small, and many stalks will not have any. Those who are acquainted with gardening know that cabbages, turnips, onions, &c., do not grow large, nor produce well, when they are too thick.

When the ground is in good order, plowed deep and well harrowed, I think one half bushel of wheat is enough to seed an acre, and will produce more on one acre than a bushel will.

When wheat stands thin it does not grow as tall as when sowed thick, but will have larger straws, and bigger heads, with more and larger kernels in them. When wheat is thin and on good, well prepared soil, the heads will have from eighty to a hundred kernels and upwards, but when thick only from forty to fifty. Then let wheat have room in proportion to its nature, as you do corn and other vegetation.

If the soil is not in a good condition, I admit that it requires more seed. Let the motto be, what crops we do put in, do it as it ought to be done, then we can receive a greater profit from our labors. The criterion ought to be, who has done their work the best, plowed the deepest, and harrowed the mellowest.

Care must be used not to plow when the ground is too wet, for that makes the land lumpy and hard. This is too often done, to the great injury of the soil.

There must be sufficient space allotted to each seed to spread and thrive, or a great number will become stunted, sick and die. Too much seed upon a piece of ground is as injurious to the farmer as it is to put too many cattle into a pasture; it is all upon the same principle.

A. G. FELLOWS.

The principle above advocated, that each kind of seed should have the room and tilth best adapted to its highest development, is doubtless correct, but the quantity must vary with the quality and condition of the soil. For this reason it is somewhat difficult to always determine the precise amount, but in the present scarcity of food and abundance of plowed land it will probably be safer and more economical to err upon the side of sowing wheat too thin, rather than too thick, as in that way there will be a greater yield to a given amount of seed, whether sowed broadcast or in drills.—Ed. News.

The Sacramento Valley Railroad.

The first shovel of earth in the construction of this road was raised in February, '55, but comparatively nothing was done towards the grading until April. The first tie was delivered here early in May. The first vessel laden with iron and material for the furniture of the road left Boston as late as March, and arrived the last of June. On the 4th of July last, the first work was done on a railroad car in this State, in putting together the floor frame of one of the cars.

The first rail was laid on the 9th August, and on the 11th the first car ever propelled on a railroad was a hand car, over a length of 400 feet, Messrs. Judah, Robinson, Morie and Carroll being obliged to carry it some distance for the purpose. The first platform car was placed on the track Aug. 14, and on the same day the locomotive Sacramento made her debut on the Levee. On the 13th Nov. the first passenger car was placed on the track, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the stockholders. The time to Patterson's, on this, the first trip, was made in 15 minutes. The Company have now three first-class engines running, 21 box freight cars, 25 platform cars, 7 passenger cars and 2 baggage cars, in running order. To-day they commence the construction of turning tables and engine house, and a passenger depot at this point and a passenger house at the Alder Creek station, to which place the road is completed.—The road would have been opened much sooner, had it not been for the monetary crisis of the past year; but as it is, more work has been done in the same space of time than is customary even in the older States. Every pound of material above the sleepers was brought a distance of 18,000 miles and placed upon the road bed in nine months.

Our connection with other localities in California has been facilitated greatly during the year, and the extent of distant communication enlarged by the operations of the telegraph companies, whose lines radiate in every direction from the city. Our application for the information having been denied, we are unable to give the extent of line controlled by the State line. The Alta California Telegraph Company have now completed and in operation lines connecting us with the following places: Benecia, Mormon Island, Diamond Springs, Placerville, Coloma, Auburn, Grass Valley, Nevada, Camptownville, Forest City, Downieville, Georgetown, Yankee Jim's, Wisconsin Hill, Iowa Hill, Volcano, Jackson, Mokelumne Hill, San Andreas, Columbia, Sonora and Stockton. Offices are now open in all the above named places, except Volcano, Jackson and Mokelumne Hill. The whole length of line of the completed and in operation is 390 miles. The only section of the proposed extension of the line remaining incomplete, is from Benecia, through Martinez and Oakland to San Francisco, which will be completed as soon as sub-marine wire can be obtained to sink across Carquinez Straits, at Benecia, and across the bay, from Oakland to San Francisco. The whole length of the Alta line, when completed as now proposed, will be about 415 miles, connecting with twenty-eight different places.—[Sac. Union Jan. 5.]