

CORRESPONDENCE.

Sustaining Home Industry.

SALT LAKE CITY,
May 14, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

There has been much said of late concerning home industry, and its development and encouragement by the community, to such an extent, that it should not be necessary to add thereto; but seeing that all these highly important interests are still in a great measure neglected and set aside, I have thought that you would bear with me should I humbly offer a few remarks bearing on the subject at issue. It was said, at last October conference held in this city, and I believe my memory serves me right, that Bro. George Q. Cannon made the remark, that "an idle man's brain is the devil's workshop." This saying is very similar to the words of the poet Watts, "For Satan finds some mischief still, for idle hands to do." Now there is one indisputable fact before us, that has been most painfully manifest to the casual observer during the past few months, and that is, that there has been a great many men (to use a vulgar phrase) "loafing" around the streets. The question arises, are these men lazy, that we have noticed idly standing around the corners of the streets, and unwilling to work if they could get it? The answer can be truthfully and confidently given that the majority are not so disposed, but entirely to the contrary. Here we have among these "loafers," carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, mechanics of different grades, and good hardy laborers, all willing to work, provided they get the chance to do so. The next query is, Where is the fault and in what manner is the remedy to be effected? In the first instance we have exhibitions of folly and financial weakness, not to say ruin, almost daily before our eyes, of articles being imported from the States (eastern and western) for the use or convenience and and we may even go so far as to say luxury of the people, located in this Territory of Utah, which I may confidently assert can be manufactured here at home as well and as cheap, and will bear comparison in every particular with those imported articles. As a well wisher to the interests of the peaceful inhabitants of Utah and more especially the industrial pursuits pertaining to them, I was highly pleased with your honorable mention concerning the quality of the work executed by the Deseret Wagon Company, as it speaks well for home productions in this branch of useful labor. Now in this one thing alone, the manufacture of wagons, were it kept in the Territory, instead of sending back east for them, there would be a saving of thousands of dollars, which might be profitably invested in the Territory and thereby benefit the entire community.

Then we may mention the manufacture of soap. There is an establishment in the Nineteenth Ward for this purpose, and also for the making of concentrated lye. It is turning out a good article in the shape of soap, which will bear comparison with any of the imported article. There are some people that have a prejudice against the home-made soap, but let them give it a fair trial and they will realize that it is both cheapest and best, and let one and all encourage home-made soap and then the manufacturers will be enabled to make continual improvement in this very essential article, and all will be benefited.

We come again to the articles which are necessary for the comfort of our feet, and the good health of our body. We have imported into this Territory tens of thousands of dollars worth of boots and shoes, and if we go to our large stores, we would find about nine-tenths of the boots and shoes exposed for sale of the imported ones and the other one-tenth (if it does amount to that) of home manufactured ones. While there is every evidence in favor of the home produced article, people go and buy states shoes, and as soon as damp weather comes along their feet get damp and rheumatism sets in, and when once fixed on the system it is not so easily eradicated, and they are ignorant of the prime cause until they take said shoes to be repaired, and then they find to their dismay that they have only had pulp "stiffenings and insoles," where it

should have been leather. Yet they are so blind to the interests of health, and also of the shoemakers of Utah, that, for the sake of a few cents at first cost, or a bit of showy work on the tops, they will endanger their lives by buying these trashy articles, forgetting that quality is the test of cheapness.

In reference to boots and shoes we may say a few words on leather. There is no reason on earth why we should not carry on extensive tanneries here, for there is an abundant exportation of hides from this Territory. Were they manipulated right here, it could hardly be estimated what financial benefits would accrue to this community, as it would in connection with the encouragement due to home manufactured shoes, be a saving of tens, yea hundreds, of thousands of dollars per annum, which would be in circulation right here at home.

So in all the different branches of home industry, for instance, the manufacture of cloth, of brushes, furniture, and so forth throughout the whole category of labor. It has been said, and that most truly, that we have as good mechanics, and as much skilled labor, proportionately speaking, that there is to be found on the habitable globe, and this fact admitted, why should we send our hundreds of thousands of dollars to our sister states for their use and pleasure, while we have men at home idle, although competent to earn it and spend it at home, and whatever is spent on home industries and productions benefits to a greater or less degree the whole community.

Let every man and every woman purchaser determine that they will encourage this laudable work, be sure that they will not encourage imported articles while it is possible that they can be made at home. In conjunction with the purchasers let our large and respectable vendors stretch forth their strong arms in this direction, and the people would see and experience such good times that have not been experienced since the first settlement of this Territory, their hearts would be made to rejoice, and their pockets would be better filled than at present.

Look at the nations of the earth—those that encourage home industry are the most substantial and happy, as a matter of course, than those who in a measure neglect these interests. As Latter-day Saints, we profess to know that the kingdom of God is established on the earth, and inasmuch as this is the case, let us go to from this time, and sustain ourselves, encourage home industries, for this is an essential element in the consolidation of human kingdoms. How much more so in connection with this kingdom, which passeth not away.

Yours respectfully,

JOSEPH IRWIN.

Weber County Teachers' Association.

MARRIOTTSTOWN, Ogden City,
May 15, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

A number of the teachers of Weber county met on Saturday, May 13, to organize an association to be known as the Weber County Teachers' Association. There was a good attendance of teachers and friends of education, much harmony of feeling prevailed, and great interest was manifested in the proceedings. Prof. L. F. Monch, County Superintendent, Mr. Chas. Wright (Huntsville), and Mr. Thomas S. Wadsworth (West Weber), spoke in favor of the organization of the association. A constitution was drawn up and the following officers were elected—

Prof. L. F. Monch President, Mr. Austin C. Brown (Ogden) Vice-President, Mrs. Hattie C. Brown (Ogden) Treasurer, Mr. C. Wright Secretary, Mr. A. Parsons (Marriottsville) Corresponding Secretary. These officers form the committee of the association.

The executive committee then presented the following programme of the next meeting—

Theory and practice of teaching, lecture, Prof. L. F. Monch.
Recitation, Miss Jessie Penrose.
Mathematics, lecture, Mr. C. Wright.
Select reading, Miss Mattie Brown.
Grammar, lecture, Mr. A. Parsons.
Stump oration, Mr. J. R. Messervy.
The subjects of theory and prac-

tice of teaching, mathematics and grammar will be treated of in a series of lectures or model lessons by the gentlemen having these subjects in hand.

The next semi-monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 27, at 10 a.m., in the Third District School-house, Ogden. The association cordially invites teachers and friends of education to attend.

Yours truly,

ARTHUR PARSONS.

Deaf Mutes.

SALT LAKE CITY,
May 12th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Permit me a limited space in your paper to notice the letter published in yesterday's NEWS, describing a visit to the National Deaf Mute College. It was of unusual interest to me, and I have no doubt it will be to many others of your readers. It contained information which will be of some importance to those similarly afflicted, of which a few are in this Territory.

I am pleased to know that the popular prejudice against this class of afflicted beings is slowly but steadily giving way under the intellectual training which they are receiving from the hands of a few large-souled and benevolent people. Deaf mutes possess the same degree of intelligence as other persons in general, but without the power of expressing themselves, except by mute signs and motions of the fingers, which, if understood by the people generally, would be found to convey as intelligent a meaning as though they were not deficient in speech.

A peculiarity of these people is that when a heavy sound is made, instead of striking on the nerve of the ear, it vibrates on all the nerves of the body, and produces a sound many times louder than it in reality is.

There are two classes of deaf mutes—one is of those which are born deaf and dumb, the other of those which have lost their hearing through some kind of disease. The latter may not have lost their speech. Still they cannot talk very plainly, and are thus considered mutes. As a general thing intelligent persons who are able to converse with an intelligent mute will find him as well able to talk understandingly as those not so afflicted, and far from being an idiot. My observations, though limited, show me that nature, probably to supply the deficiency in hearing and speaking, has endowed them with a keen insight into character, a quick perceptive faculty, by which the minutest glance of the eye or motion of the hand or fingers conveys a language which once learned is easily understood.

I am personally acquainted with several mutes in this Territory. Many are intelligent, while others need cultivation. The need in Utah is a school for mutes, which would be a blessing to many. California and Oregon, I hear, possess large institutions, and why not Utah? I think this class of people are entitled to as much consideration in the way of instruction and advancement as any on the earth, for they can, in their way, be as useful members of society as the masses of the people.

Considering that there are twenty-five thousand deaf mutes in this country alone, to say nothing of the many thousands in the various other nations, the question naturally suggests itself, when thinking of the latter-day work to be performed among the children of men, and that the gospel has to be preached to every living creature on the face of the earth, who is going to preach this gospel to these afflicted people? I think it is time some steps were taken to instruct those of our faith, that they may be qualified to proclaim, in a silent but expressive language, the glad tidings of great joy, that these peculiar people may obtain a hope of salvation.

It is a matter of regret that we see so little said about deaf mutes in the daily papers, seeing that they number a pretty large portion of the readers of those papers all over the country.

May Celebration—Stock at Large.

DRAPER, May 12th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Circumstances, over which we had no control, obliged us to post-

pone our May celebration until the 5th and 6th inst. On Friday, the 5th, we had a very pleasant time. Notwithstanding the unpleasant weather without, all was bright and cheerful within our Ward House. The house was decorated with evergreens, flowers, and pictures, which, with the bright and happy faces of the children, and the radiant smile of our May Queen, gave a cheerful appearance to even the gloomy weather without. Our exercises commenced at half-past ten, with the crowning of our May Queen, after which we were entertained with dialogues, recitations, and the reading of our school paper, which occupied the time until noon.

After dinner the children were allowed to dance, which amusement lasted until five p.m., when the house was cleared to prepare for our theatrical performance in the evening. The "Charcoal Burner," "Lord Dundreary's Visit," "Handy Andy," and "Not Afraid of Ghosts," were performed to a large and appreciative audience. The performers were nearly all scholars of the day school, and the manner the respective parts were sustained would have done credit to professionals.

The entire programme for the two days was under the management of our school teacher, who was ably assisted by a number of the older scholars.

On Saturday the sixth we concluded our festivities with a dance for the older portion of the ward, and to say that all were well pleased, and that all went merry as a marriage bell, would be a feeble way of expressing the feelings of both old and young. I would like to say a few words about stock before I close. Heretofore stock has been allowed to run at large, and unless one had a lawful fence to protect his crops he could not recover damage. Last Wednesday an election was ordered to decide whether we should have a fence, or the stock be held responsible for the damage. It was decided that the stock must be responsible, and as there are quite a herd here belonging to non-residents of the ward, it would be well for the owners to look after them, to keep them out of the stray pound, and save expense.

GNAT.

Good Health—Long Winter—Improvement Needed—Schools—Meetings—Arizona Teams—A Veteran Gone.

GLENDALE, Long Valley,
— March 30th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

The people here have enjoyed good health this winter, although it has been long and dreary. We have had nothing to amuse ourselves with, but occasionally a dance—no Young Mens M. I. A., no library, no lectures, nothing but a common day school, that tends to cultivate and refine the minds of the young, and raise us to that high standard of moral excellence which is necessary to become useful members in society. I must candidly confess we are much behind the spirit of the times. Being affected temporally, we of course are in a measure spiritually. Our Sabbath school is rather a drag and appears to lack that general interest with the people here that it deserves. It is a matter of great importance to us as Latter-day Saints, could we realize it, for this is sure, if we cease to inculcate in the minds of our children good and wholesome principles, principles will take hold of them that are not pleasant to see realized.

Our Sunday meetings are affected much the same, only perchance when we are visited by missionaries. We have had some good instruction imparted unto us a number of times by Brother George Lake, who has been visiting some of his relatives here, being of a nature to strengthen the young and cheer and comfort the aged.

The latter part of the winter has not appeared to pass so drearily, the place having been frequented with teams passing en route for Arizona. The teams, especially the latter ones, have endured much hardship in crossing the divide, the snow being from three to four feet deep and the teams doing without being roughened five and six days. Some of the brethren rendered them assistance by taking their teams and hauling what feed they could and helping to break track. Great credit is due to the people of Orderville in this respect. The condition of the roads up the cañon will be almost impracticable this season,

for such a cutting and mixing up they never had before. It is to be hoped that the next emigration will hit upon a more favorable time to pass through our valley.

I am sorry to say we have had to mourn the loss of an old veteran in Israel, Robert Boyd Stewart, aged 53, who passed away on the 14th, after an illness of a few months, of lung fever. The deceased was truly a good man, and his name and deeds will be held in honorable remembrance, associated as they are with the persecutions of the Saints that can never be forgotten. He endured afflictions and overcame difficulties with a degree of patience and perseverance worthy of imitation. His last illness of a few days he bore with fortitude and patience, but only wished to live that he might have the privilege to enter the sacred courts of the Temple near completed, and do the work desirable therein.

A number of his friends and acquaintances from Mt. Carmel and Orderville, especially those intimate with him while on the Muddy Mission, came to pay the last tribute of respect. A very interesting and comforting discourse was delivered by Bro. Heaton, from Orderville, reading for his text the 15th chapter of Paul's epistle to the Corinthians. The remains were followed to their resting place by a large company of friends and acquaintances.

Respectfully,
JAS. W. WATSON.

Farm Work—Starved Stock—School—The Tabernacle—Cold Storm—U. O. Organizations—Grass Good, etc.

LOGAN, May 15, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

The snow of winter has at last disappeared from the valley of Cache. Spring labor has been taken hold of by the populace in their usual style by putting crops in the soil in a short space of time. The interim between winter and summer is called spring in some countries, but Cache Valley will certainly be an exception to the rule, for no sooner than the beautiful disappears we are launched into summer weather, the thermometer rising up among the numbers indicative of a warmer temperature. The past winter has been one of unusual length and severity. Quite a percentage of stock have fallen victims to gaunt starvation, and the short-sightedness of their owners in not providing plenty of provender and comfortable places for them. It has been calculated by mathematical experts that enough stock and sheep have perished within the last few years in Cache, to nearly build our Tabernacle, an edifice of no small dimensions.

The various day and Sunday schools have been and are now receiving quite an attendance, and great good results from the same. The various teachers of both day and Sunday schools are exerting themselves creditably for the benefit of those placed in their charge. Noticeable among our schools what is termed the high school, taught by Miss Ida L. Cook, an institution inaugurated by the school trustees of Logan, but assigned more particularly for a county school, at which the more advanced pupils of the various settlements may attend and become, if they wish it, prepared for the business of teaching, a desideratum long felt in this county, the results of which bid fair for a realization, the much to be desired end. During the winter quarter of this school 110 pupils were enrolled, 31 of the number being from the adjacent settlements. Their progress has been very creditable indeed.

Work is again resumed upon the tabernacle, with hopes and expectations that it will be enclosed the present season, and the basement story finished sufficiently to hold meetings the coming winter.

The recent cold storm has lessened the waters in our streams, which previously were swollen to a great extent from the melting of the snows in the mountains, on account of the warm spell of weather before referred to.

Nothing of late has occurred to break in upon the monotony of our quiet city. Semi-occasionally our equanimity is disturbed at the huge disclosures of fraudulent transactions of some high toned U. S. Senator or other dignitary who has been placed in position, not for his fitness in particular to discharge the grave responsibilities of his