

and wagons stand with all kinds of articles in them, and everything be found after hours of absence and undisturbed as when left. Thieving was not common. But times have greatly changed since then. New no door should be left unlocked; clothes should be taken in at night; tools, harness, &c., should be locked up or left in a safe place, and no wagon or carriage should be left with articles in it, or team with blankets on it without some person to watch it; and, in fact, it is not prudent to leave a horse or team hitched at night, under any circumstances, without a person to guard it; for they are not safe left alone after dark. It is only a day or two since a gentleman told us that he had the collar stolen from his horse while it stood hitched with the buggy outside the Theatre.

The same caution is applicable to stock on the range; every one who has horses or cattle running at large on the range should take steps to gather them up and put them where they will be secure. It is a great temptation to some men, when they are hard up, to see cattle and horses within their reach without any owner in sight to claim them. We are likely, according to present appearances, and judging by the experience of other sections where mining excitement has been high, to have plenty of impecunious and unscrupulous individuals in this vicinity who would not hesitate to appropriate anything from a horse-collar or a blanket up to a city lot or a rich mining claim, if they thought they could escape punishment. Owners of stock should take the necessary steps, therefore, to keep it safe, and owners of other property should be vigilant in taking precautions to secure it against the depredations of night prowlers.

An Elmira farmer wrote to Mr. Greeley for his advice as to the proper treatment for winter wheat. He said it ought to be got into the cellar as early as Christmas, and then, while the tree was mulched at the roots during the winter, grafting could go right on in the cellar just the same. He said care must be exercised to keep the bag from caking, or in the spring the milk will be sour.

Correspondence.

THE following letter, which is a copy of one written by a young man—a member of the Church in Australia, to his father, now residing in Ogden, will be read with interest. The reasoning of the writer, is worthy the attention of every member of the class to which his father belongs. ED. D. E. N.

No. 17, DIXON ST. WEST,
Sydney, N. S. W., Dec. 27, 1870.

To Mr. R. Kearsley:—Dear Father—I thought that I was pretty strong after all the knocking about I have had, but your letter, which I have just received, has given me such a shock that I hardly know how to write. But I hope that what I do say in this letter may be dictated by the Spirit of God; and I also hope that you will read it in the same spirit. Dear father, do you remember the testimony you used to bear in my childhood, and also the proofs that you used to bring, to support your assertions, of the truth of the work which you were engaged in? Now, I ask you, father, was it by the Holy Ghost or was it by the spirit of lying that you spoke? You have said a hundred times, that you knew Joseph Smith to be a true Prophet of God, and that you also knew Brigham Young to be his legal successor, and you knew this, by the gift of the Holy Ghost and the blessings which you had received.

Now, you know father, that you always hated lying; and yet if Brigham Young is not the legal successor of Joseph Smith, you must have been uttering lies after lie, and that, too, after you had received the Holy Ghost. But if Brigham was the legal successor of Joseph in 1850, who is it that has taken the authority from him in 1870? You accuse him of not living his religion. Have you lived yours? Can you look back on the past eight years that you have been there, and say that you have lived as near to your God as you did when you were in Babylon? Have you been as ready to obey the counsel of the servants of God as you were formerly? You know, dear father, that everything looks green to those who wear green glasses; and I know, and you know, that we can never see much wrong in those who are placed over us, unless we want to rebel against them.

You received all the knowledge that you were formerly so proud of, through the priesthood, under Brigham; and you know that the devil cannot give the Holy Ghost. Now, if God gave you the Holy Ghost through Brigham,

it must have been to give you an assurance that He recognized him, as His representative on earth; and if he was so then, he is so now, unless you can find that God has cut him off. You say you still believe, or know, that God has sent His gospel to the earth. Now do you not think that God could keep his church in order without the aid of apostles? Do you think that He would allow any man, or any number of men to destroy what He had said, should never be destroyed? If He would He is no Father or God to me, for He would not be worthy of my reverence. And if He allows apostates to carry on their villany for a short time, it is only to try the metal of those who profess to be Saints. And I tell you father, in the name of my Master, Jesus Christ, that you, old as you are, will not die till you see those who have weaned you from the path of truth, suffer the judgments of an offended God.

I would like the Josephites to tell me when God ordained their president, and who it was that administered the ordinance. If Latter-day Saints believe in a God of Revelation they should have some proofs that their God hears them, and that He rules them Himself, by His own appointed ministers. If they have not these proofs they are not one jot better than any other sectarian body. Now if Joseph Smith Jun., claims the right of ruling the Church of God, from whom did he obtain that right? Was it from Mr. Strang, or Gladden Bishop, or God? Tell me this father, before you traduce any one that holds the priesthood of eternity. If young Joseph is really ordained to the priesthood I want to know it; but bear in mind, I want proof as good as that I received that Brigham Young is a duly appointed Prophet of the Lord. Joseph Smith Jr., went to the Amboy conference, in April, 1860, as an honest man; and as a stranger he wanted to be admitted into the church, as the law of God directs; but through trusting to the honesty (?) of a lot of vile apostates, he was crowned a Prophet of God, when as yet he was not even a member of the church. Now I ask, was that the way his father received his commission?

Again, after the apostates had made him a prophet, they next proceeded to make him President of the High Priesthood, still without adoption by baptism, so that his being a prophet and a president, in name, was of no more use to him than the diploma of a clergyman of the Church of England, so far as obtaining revelations from God was concerned. And as it is revelation with which we have to do, and upon which our church is built, we cannot expect to gain any instruction from that source, through a man who had his honors thrust upon him by a parcel of God-forsaken men. We know that our Joseph received the priesthood from Peter, James and John; and that Brigham received the priesthood from Joseph. Now, if Brigham received the authority to confer the priesthood on others, he certainly must have had the authority to take it away; and if he took it away from those men who appointed Joseph Smith, in 1860, from what source did they get the power to make him (Joseph) a Prophet.

I find that in June, 1860, Joseph wanted to re-organize the Church by re-baptism; but again his kind friends (?) interfered, and had the same plea that they had for making him a Prophet, without giving him the priesthood, viz., that it was not necessary. And this plea, when put to the Conference was CARRIED, thus leaving him in a hopeless minority at the starting point. And then he, knowing that he had no power, contented himself by pledging himself to preach no doctrine that was not approved of by them. That was a strange pledge for a prophet to give certainly.

You say that you are considered an apostate; well, I do not see how you can expect anything else. You have repudiated all belief in a God of Revelation by the act of leaguering yourself with men that have allowed ambition to cast them from the presence of their God. Surely you do not forget that it was the same crime that cast Lucifer out of heaven; and if God spared not him, what reason have you to suppose that He will spare you. You say that you hope I will preach the gospel as taught in the Bible, Book of Mormon, and Doctrine and Covenants. Well, father, I do so; in fact I was never taught anything else. I'll tell you another thing that I preach, that is a belief in a God of present revelation, as well as past. And now that God may open your eyes, that you may see the pit that you are in, will be the constant prayer of your loving son,

EDWIN S. KEARSELEY.

ST. GEORGE, Feb 10th, 1871.

Editor Deseret News:—I again find myself in the most beautiful city in Southern Utah—a very garden in the desert. Situated in the midst of a region naturally the most barren and uninviting imaginable, St. George stands a monument of the industry and perseverance of its inhabitants. For upwards of nine years the people of this place have labored unremittingly to redeem this country from its natural sterility; and the success which has attended their labors, when the disadvantages against which they have contended are considered, is a source of surprise to every traveler who visits this region. After partially subduing the mineral, which in many places covered the natural surface of the land, like a coat of snow,—actually covering it with new soil in many cases, the people are now beginning to reap the fruits of their labors. Fine vineyards flourish and orchards abound now where a few years ago not even sage brush would grow. As a whole, the buildings in St. George are superior to those of any other settlement south of Salt Lake City, and barely surpassed in the latter place. Among other buildings erected since I was here last, I notice a fine new rock court house, which is now receiving its roof.

I was particularly pleased with the improvements made in the cotton and woollen factory, of the Rio Virgen Manufacturing Company, at Washington. The building, since last summer, has been "lifted" two stories, and now presents a fine appearance. I was shown through the factory by Bro. Jos. Birch, superintendent of the works. They have spinning machinery of sufficient capacity to work up about 250 lbs. of wool (in the dirt) and 260 lbs. of cotton per day; enough to keep thirty looms constantly in operation. Considerable new machinery has been imported the past year, among which are eight looms, four of them of the "clipper" kind. They now have enough to weave 560 yards of plain factory, and sixty yards of linseys and flannels per day.

Bro. Birch visited the East last summer, and while there secured the services of two experienced men at the business, Messrs. Lowry and Ashworth, and, since their arrival, the additions of the machinery, much better work has been done. Under the management of Mr. Lowry the machinery is worked more economically than formerly. In the spinning department only half the hand labor is required, one small girl, twelve years of age, doing the work of two young women. They lack experienced hands to work at the looms; but even now one hand attends two looms and the intention is, when they gain more experience, to have one person to attend from three to four looms. Their sizing was formerly done with hot water, but they now use steam and can size 1,200 yards per day. They have a new beaming machine, a warping mill and other machinery of improved patterns in operation, and expect to have a number more fitted up soon, that will enable them to turn out cloth superior to that manufactured anywhere else in the Territory. G. C. L.

ST. GEORGE, Feb. 14, 1871.

Editor Deseret News:—Dear Sir—News reached St. George yesterday afternoon that Alma, second son of Henry W. Miller, had been killed by Atha Meeks, of Spring Valley, on the evening of Friday the 10th inst., and, following the report, Wm. R. Maxwell and Stanley Davis came with the corpse at about seven o'clock in the evening. The particulars of the sanguinary affair, so far as I can learn, are as follows: The men were both residents of Spring Valley, and an old difficulty had existed between them for some time past, arising from a trade they had made. It is said that Meeks threatened the life of Miller; and the friends of the latter, knowing the desperate character of Meeks, advised him to keep out of his way. On Friday afternoon Miller left Spring Valley and went towards Eagleville, for the purpose, it is supposed, of collecting money there due him. He was accompanied by two Mexicans, one of whom, Frank, was employed by him as a herder. On the way they met Meeks en route to Spring Valley, and an altercation ensued between the two men, which resulted in Meeks firing at Miller, one shot entering his left side and one his right hip. One of the Mexicans, Frank, then fired two shots at Meeks, wounding him; but not seriously, and then rode off with Miller, leaving Meeks and the other Mexican,

George, behind. Meeks returned to Eagleville, had his wounds attended to, and sent to Pioche for officers to arrest Miller, if not dead, and the Mexican. Miller rode about one mile after he was shot, and then told his companion to leave him to die, and make sure of his own safety. Frank had the news conveyed to Spring Valley, and search was immediately made for the body of Miller, but it was not found until the afternoon of Saturday. The horse which Frank rode was wounded in the affray, and when he left Miller he changed horses with him. It appears that after Miller was left alone, he gathered strength, mounted the wounded horse and tried to make to the settlement, but after going a short distance the horse fell with him, and he there died. Suspicion rests upon the Mexican, George, as an accomplice of Meeks, he having allowed the latter to make a breast work of his horse while he shot Miller and afterwards accompanied him to Eagleville.

Meeks is considered by nearly all who know him as a desperate man. He fought in the late war of the rebellion, and was then known as a northern man with southern proclivities, and probably took part at different times in favor of both North and South. Reports are current of bloody deeds of which he has previously been guilty, and of which he has boasted; but for fear they are not reliable I shall not give them. How far he is justified in the late murder remains yet to be proved.

The funeral of Miller took place today, at one o'clock p.m. Consolatory remarks were offered by President E. Snow and others, which were listened to attentively by a large assemblage of friends and relatives. He was a young man possessing many good qualities. He leaves a wife and two small children.

The mail to this place has failed to connect at Cedar the last three trips, and this evening's mail brought nothing of a later date from Salt Lake than Feb. 7th. In addition to this the way sack to St. George this time was by mistake, I suppose, tagged Salt Lake, and contained matter for Fillmore and intervening settlements between that settlement and this, and had evidently not been opened between S. L. City and this place. G. C. L.

ST. GEORGE, WASHINGTON CO.,
February 14th, 1871.

Editor Deseret News:—Dear Brother, Taking up the sixth number of volume two *Phrenological Journal*, yesterday, I was attracted by an article on tobacco. Please indulge me sufficient and examine its fitness for the News.

I think such an impartial and "disinterested testimony" to the Word of Wisdom may have a salutary effect upon some who may yet be "halting between two opinions" as to the "dirty weed." "Live or die," says this apostle on tobacco, "I resolved to quit it." Quite as decisive as our President on this subject.

I, with Bro. Erastus McIntyre, was at your brother David's house a few evenings since, as visiting teachers. He told us that he and "his house" had commenced, with the new year, to keep the Word of Wisdom, and I felt that they were in strong earnest. Your sister Anne, husband and family have been strict in this matter for some time past. I flatter myself you will excuse me, brother George, if I do tell some tales, especially when they are good ones. Both families have been sorely afflicted with the measles—which are general here, though very few have died from them.

Sorrowful news came here, last evening, especially to Bro. Henry Miller and family, that Bro. Miller's son Alma had been killed by a man by the name of Meeks, in a quarrel, after which Meeks himself was shot and badly wounded by a Spaniard.

President Snow's health is quite poor this winter.

The News is highly appreciated here; I have taken it since its first issue.

Some of us think advertisers ought not to be so greedy and monopolize so much precious space. We think that if their wares are worthy of patronage, their customers would find them if they only occupied the same space as the advertisements in the *London Times*.

Bro. Lambert is here facilitating our means of subscription for the NEWS. I hope the time is near when we can give you something better than sorghum for currency; a currency that can run, but still has to be carried.

The weather here is very pleasant, but rather dry for the wheat and grass crops. God bless you.

JOHN OAKLEY.