

Correspondence.

Atlanta - Charlotte - Preaching -
State of the Country - Hard Times -
Well Treated.

BRIDGEPORT, N. C.,
January 17, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

When your valued paper comes to hand we always read with much interest the labors of our brethren in their various fields of labor. They are our friends, our brethren and fellow-laborers in the kingdom of our God and his Christ. Their travels and labors are always interesting to their friends, whose prayers are continually ascending to the throne of grace in their behalf. We feel it our duty to occasionally find time to send you a few lines, that our friends may realize that we are not any more unmindful of them than they are of us by an occasional letter to the News, comprising such items as we think may be interesting.

It having been manifested where we should go, we left Hickman Co., Tenn., for North Carolina. We visited Atlanta, Georgia, one of the towns that suffered so much in the war, but it has remarkably recuperated. There is a fine railway station surrounded by good substantial buildings, the chief of which are the Kimball Block, the Markham House, Dodd's Buildings and Bank Block. The Kimball Hotel and Markham House are two first class hotels, doing a good business. There are also some fine churches and private residences, denoting the wealth of their owners in their fine structures. Here we saw roses in bloom in gardens that surrounded well built and elegant residences. There are several minor hotels; also a well built bridge over the railway that attracts the attention of the visitor. Fruit is cheap, oranges were twenty-five cents a dozen.

We spent a Sabbath at Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. On our arrival on Saturday we introduced ourselves to the city editor of the leading paper in Charlotte, with whom we had quite an interview, showing him some views of Utah by our friend C. R. Savage. By the by, these views are always much admired as works of art. They are so superior to the specimens by the local artists. We expressed a wish to preach in Charlotte, and were informed we could obtain the Town Hall. We applied to the Sheriff, who seemed to be rather apprehensive he might be blamed for letting us preach there, and he referred us to another dignitary, who happened to be out of town. The Sheriff finally consented. The city editor gave us quite a notice. We held two meetings, morning and afternoon, which were pretty well attended by the "genus homo." We faithfully bore our testimony and preached the first principles of the gospel. The reporter, we presume not daring to report what we had said, amused his pious (!) readers with a squib on polygamy. It is singular how few there are that have the manhood or dare to take the liberty to report our testimony as we give it. The more a place is priestridden the less liberty and the greater the darkness.

Charlotte is an old town, that is well known in the history of North Carolina. It claims to be the town where the Declaration of Independence was signed, also at one time Cornwallis' head-quarters. The Declaration was signed in 1775, and the centennial was held here in 1875, in commemoration of the event. They say they had quite a grand time. The mint is the principal building in this town. There are a military school, hotels, churches and a number of very handsome private residences. We went to a church in the evening where the fear of God was taught by the precepts of men, but it was not the Gospel of the Son of God, although the learned divine tried hard to make them believe so. Strange, with the Bible in their hands, they should know so little. Wonder what benefit a false religion can be to any one.

We are now preaching the gospel in the provinces in churches, schoolhouses, and by the fireside, as we may have opportunity. There is one thing we cannot help but observe in our travels from place to place, that is, that the "Sunny South" of the past is not the "Sunny South" of to-day. Those who before the war were rich and prosperous, enjoying the homes of peace

and refinement, have been broken up, and there seems to be a blight over the country. Where, in days past, you would find the planter with his many hands, and hear the songs of merriment from his well kept slaves, all life and bustle, now all is hushed. The pleasant home, the out-houses, the orchards, flower and kitchen gardens, that once were kept in such trim and order, are now neglected and needing repair. The people heavily burdened with taxes, the scarcity of money, no demand in particular for stock or produce, and the difficulty of obtaining means to meet the heavy taxes, make it very serious times both for planter and farmer. The honest laboring man, the producer, is the one who has to suffer for the frauds, the extravagance in high places, and the wickedness that has overwhelmed the states in debt and insecurity. Where is the end to be.

We have no cause to complain of our treatment. We have been most kindly treated. We improve with our Southern friends on acquaintance, although there are some, who do not know anything about us, but think we ought to be driven out of the place. Prejudice against the truth and the "refuge of lies" we meet here as elsewhere, and those who teach for hire and divine for money, who make merchandise of the souls of men, whose craft is in danger, warn their flocks against the so-called "delusion." Much need of it, if we are as badly deluded as they are. Surely they are to be pitied for their ignorance of God's Word, and their learned immaterial nonsense. Surely darkness has covered the earth and gross darkness the minds of the people. But *Truth will prevail* and "the wise shall understand."

We are much blessed of our Heavenly Father in the enjoyment of his Holy Spirit. In him do we trust, or we should shrink from the task assigned us. We know that this is his work, and are increasing in the testimonies to the truth. We earnestly hope we shall be counted worthy of a standing in his kingdom.

Until you hear from us again our address will be Tom's Creek, Surrey County, North Carolina. We expect to extend our labors to Virginia or Georgia. Should any wish us to communicate with their friends, we shall be happy to hear from them. Brother John R. Winder, Jr., joins me in kind remembrance to all.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE TEASDALE.

Meetings—Opposition—"Pious Methodists" and Their Ways—Infidelity.

VIOLA, Richland County,
Wis., January 24th, 1876.

President E. Snow:

Dear Brother—I am pleased to be able to say that my health up to date has been excellent, and I feel to rejoice much in my labors in this great Latter-day work. The greatest inconvenience I suffer is, that at times my voice becomes hoarse, I expect on account of so much speaking. We (Bro. McAlister and I) have held over seventy meetings in this State, mostly in Vernon and Crawford counties and this county. So far the Spirit has suggested to us that it would be best to centralize our labors, as holding meetings once in a place and then leaving to return no more, does not seem to do much good. We have now seventeen houses open to preach in, in different villages. In most places we have received fair treatment, though the prejudice in this country, as well as elsewhere, is very strong against our people. The whole country seems flooded with lies and misrepresentations. When we first came here, all seemed calm and still as a "summer's morning," which afforded us a good opportunity to preach the Gospel, and as our friends increased and we baptized six or seven, it seemed as though, for a time, "all hell was let loose," and the Devil found firm supporters in the "pious Methodists," so much so, that one night, as they were coming from their prayer meetings, they came to where we were holding meeting to give us "orders" to leave the town. Their denunciations were loud and fierce for "Christians." Our friends took sides for us, and the result was, we had more friends than we thought we had. So we simply gave notice that we would preach there again one week from that time, and went home with a Mr. Crook and enjoyed

a good night's rest, for we thought, if we do right God is with us, and he will protect his Saints.

We continued on, filling appointments through the county till the appointed time came, when we were there on hand to fill our appointment. Some of our weak friends did not know but the Methodists might interfere. We told them our trust was in God, and we were going to preach. When we got to the room it was so densely crowded we could scarcely make our way to the stand, not a foot of standing room left, besides a large crowd around the windows outside. I spoke for some time, in the name of Jesus, on the restoration of the Gospel, and was followed in a few words by Bro. Mac in testimony. Much of the Spirit of the Lord was with us, and, though weak in ourselves, we felt strong in the Lord. Our meeting passed off peacefully. The result of the opposition was, an increase of listeners, and so the Lord thus far has overruled things for our good, and we feel to give thanks and glory to him.

At present some "ministers" have become agents for anti-"Mormon" books, and follow us from place to place, trying to sell their choice (?) literature, which is the means of making us more noted and increasing our congregations. All the testimony we need to knock such prices of infamy in the head, is the testimony of those 23,618 honored women of Utah now before Congress. That document is speaking in tones of thunder to the thinking portion of the community, and I am satisfied will result in untold good, though I believe what an intelligent gentleman said to me the other day, in speaking of the "pious Methodists." He said, "If Christ was here, and was not a Methodist, they would not believe a word he had to say." They and the "hard shell Baptists" are our most bitter opponents; for all that we try to do, them all the good we can, and leave the result in the hands of the Lord.

In most instances we decline to remain and answer questions after meeting, but tell the people we will be pleased to call on them, or they can call on us, and we will answer any question they wish. We find this best, as it does not give the evil one the power to destroy the effect of the good Spirit, as generally it is only the ignorant and quarrelsome who wish to ask questions at the close of the public meeting.

The general tendency of the American people especially the young is towards infidelity. They seem to have no regard for God in the slightest degree, and when trouble again comes upon this land it will be terrible to hear of, on account of the fearful recklessness of the people. People now believe that trouble is at hand, but the blind are leading the blind, and so they are like a skiff caught in a whirlpool, circling round and round in a maelstrom of corruption, onward, to sure destruction.

We leave here to-morrow to preach through Grant and Dane counties, and then will return here and probably remain in this vicinity till Spring. We are traveling among entire strangers to the gospel, and meet with all kinds of treatment. But thank God, so far he has raised up friends to give us food and shelter.

Your brother in the gospel,
MILES P. ROMNEY.

Cold Weather—Malls—Sickness—New Meeting-house—Coal.

RANDOLPH, Rich Co.,
Utah, Jan. 11, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

We have our regular cold winter as usual, with a little more snow than common, it being about fifteen inches deep on the level. In consequence of the snow being so deep, most of our stock has to be kept up and fed, which, without economy, will cause our hay to be rather scarce before spring.

We are blessed with an excellent mail service, running twice a week, and, notwithstanding some very severe winter storms, it has made time every trip this winter, with the exception of once for a few hours in a driving snow storm. With the exception of once in a great while, the News comes regularly to hand every Thursday morning, and the few times it does miss are on account of the U. P. trains not coming to time at Evanston, so I am informed by the mail carrier.

We are troubled now with considerable sickness, mostly among children, and today the first case of death, that has happened for many months transpired in the family of Bro. Cris. Hanny, who lost a babe of six or seven weeks old.

I believe, by the report of the teachers, that the people of this settlement are living their religion about as well as those of any settlement in Utah, with the excep-

tion of those where the United Order is more fully carried out.

Our new meeting-house is so far finished, that there was a dance in it last Friday night, to raise means to help to cancel the amount of money it took to buy windows, doors, nails, &c. There was a good turn out and all seemed to enjoy themselves first rate. It will be the finest house, when finished, in this north-eastern country and a credit to this settlement and to Rich Co., for I believe public improvements are the greatest instigators of industry that can be gotten up in a newly settled country like this. They enhance the value of every man's property, and pride will not let many sit still, if they can help it, and see nice large buildings go up around them while they live in little dirt roofed houses, but they will try to keep pace with the times by improving for themselves.

We have a very good prospect of obtaining coal within six miles of the settlement, and the brethren that are at work are confident they have struck a big vein and also a big strike in a pecuniary way. There is no doubt, in the minds of those who profess to know, that this country is full of coal, and we fully expect a railroad down this valley next summer.

Respectfully yours,
W. H.

Broom Corn and Broom Manufacture.

OGDEN, Jan. 8, 1876.

Bro. Joseph F. Smith—

As you were here during my absence, so that I could not give you, Bro. Woodruff and Bro. Pratt the information I wish, I will inform you by letter of some things, that you may know how to be governed in your references to our business when speaking publicly about broom making in Utah.

I have built a good substantial brick factory, which means business, of a sufficient size and capacity to store 250 acres of broom corn, and employ ten hands constantly making the year round, which would supply about half the demands of our people in Utah. It will require at least 500 acres of broom corn raised annually to supply the Latter-day Saints with brooms in Utah. Ten hands can work at full half that amount a year. I requested 100 acres raised in Weber county this year. We got about forty acres grown, which is a fine start, but only half what is really needed this year to enable us to make brooms till another harvest of corn. There are three of us employed making now. I have corn to last probably till June. To get a run of custom till then and be obliged to stop and let the customers go east for brooms is very detrimental to the business. I wish you and the brethren who read this to encourage growing broom corn, as a market will now be established for it. It can be sent by railroad to us, and let us run the factory to its full capacity another year, and thus save thousands of dollars at home besides having a far better made broom than we get from the East. The profits of the business are small, and will be, at least till well established and run to its full capacity, but it is a branch of business that should have been introduced long ago on a correct and systematic basis. I intend to have a full supply of machinery to employ ten men when sufficient corn is raised and furnished to employ them. I will also promise to furnish the brethren plenty of seed of a number 1 quality to plant in the spring, and full instructions to drill it and grow and cure it, and when ready for market I expect to pay from four to six cents per lb. for it, according to quality. Good corn, that is well raised and properly cared for, is as well worth six cents per lb., or \$120 per ton as poor corn is worth four cents per lb., or 80 dollars per ton. Good land will produce from half a ton to a ton per acre. Illinois farmers do not get less than one ton to 2,500 lbs per acre. From this it should be a more profitable crop than grain. Bro. Layton told me he would try to raise me thirty or forty acres next year. If Farmington and Centerville would do the same and some other localities near by, we shall be able another year to do a material good in that branch of home industry of Utah. I shall take the trouble to visit any of the settlements that grow corn sufficient to justify, near harvest time, to show and instruct them in the most economical and speedy mode of cutting, cleaning and curing broom corn, as adopted in the East, where often a single farmer raises 150 acres for the market.

H. B. SCOVILLE.

Centennial Bill - Retrenchment - Calumny - A Braggist, etc.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

Jan. 28, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

The bill granting aid to the amount of a million and a half to the Centennial people passed the House after several days devoted to speeches thereon. Many of the speeches were remarkably fine ones, among them those of Messrs. Banks, M. J. Townsend, Robbins, Frye, and Lamar taking first rank. The bill gave both north and south chances to air their patriotism, and so well were the chances improved that it looked more as if we have a united country than it ever was during many years. May the celebration of the national centennial promote the cause of unity.

Many democrats and republicans, above the consideration of the effect of a party nature which the bill might have, voted for it as a measure right in itself. Those who were afraid to so vote, or who were too stingy to promote an enterprise which in the divisions and mutations of time can seldom be promoted, should be collected in a group, and receive the immortality of photography. The intellectual giants from Missouri would come in for representation in a picture such as I allude to, and men could behold the "counterfeit presentment" of these successors of Benton.

It is a noticeable fact that each party which comes into power in Congress, sounds the horn loudly for retrenchment in the beginning. It is also equally noticeable that they commence the work of retrenchment by striking at a reduction of salaries, that being the nearest object. But the great leaks by which millions of dollars are sponged out of the government, pass by unheeded, or with a knowing wink bestowed upon them. Politicians, whether Democratic or Republican, who have the supreme meanness to vote millions of dollars in subsidies, and millions of acres of land, and then make the futile but conspicuous effort to refund the steals to the treasury by making them a tax upon salaries which barely support the recipients in this high-priced capital, are possessed of a breadth of mind which ought to entitle them to high seats in private life, where they might do good by pinching their own wives and children, and thus win a name for stinginess at the expense of their own kindred. I have never seen a Congress begin upon such a plan of economizing, that effected anything of a saving at last. It was Garfield's and Dawes' tactics in the first and second sessions of the Forty-third Congress, and how much has the country made by it? The expenses have not been lessened, and what they undertook amounted only to a *ruse-de-charlatan* in the end. Such kitchen statesmen are able to be plentiful in any Congress, and it is the misfortune of the time that they are lifted by their specific levity to the upper seats. Only think of Webster, and Clay, and Calhoun leaving corporations to fatten, by the connivance of Congress, on from twenty to thirty per cent. investments for which the tax-payers pay, and bending their intellects to the labor of scaling down salaries upon which the drudges of a great nation keep poor. But this is what their successors are up to.

It is fair to say that the House made an economic demonstration upon the State Department, which is generally able to take care of itself, and in other directions, before it finally came down upon clerkships; on the principle that if a boy can't "lick" the brother he can make faces at the sister. It also made a lunge at the throat of the army, but Texas Democrats parried the assault, claiming that not a man could be spared from the army, all being needed for present defence.

Why don't the "political" "economists" turn attention to vast corporate monstrosities? Are the thieves stronger than the party? Is there less honor to be won in fighting them for millions than clerks for thousands? Congress through two committees has assured the country that glaring frauds are practiced against the Government and individuals. Are these corporations foemen worthy of their steel?

To show you that the miserable spirit of calumny, with a view to "black-mail," has not yet exhausted itself, I append the following,