

support and encouragement, and ultimately became so common that it was looked upon as a matter of course.

From Europe this new branch of commerce spread to the United States; and San Francisco, according to the revelations given occasionally through the local press, has become one of its most flourishing marts. A late number of the *Alta* gives an expose of a transaction of this nature, by no means flattering to the morality of San Francisco, as it furnishes unequivocal proof of the existence and encouragement of this abomination in that city, and also that this traffic is carried on like any other branch of commerce—having its principals, paid agents and employees. The scoundrels who act as agents in furnishing the brothels of San Francisco, take regular trips, it is said, by steamer, from California to the East, and under various pretences inveigle young girls from their homes, means being furnished them by the brothel keepers, besides a premium paid on every victim thus secured.

A fellow named Keiser, a brothel pimp, in company with five young women recently embarked for San Francisco on board a steamer of New York. The women were booked as his wife and four sisters. Three of them were *Nymphs du pave*, but the other two are described as ladylike and pretty, and evidently unused to a life of shame. The two latter had been engaged by Keiser—one as a chamber maid at a hotel, the other to take charge of a sick lady. While at the Isthmus, on their way to California, one of the girls heard a stranger say "there goes that Keiser with more stock from New York for old mother Herse in San Francisco." This remark alarmed the girl, and making inquiries she learned the villain's character.

The affair coming to the ears of the captain and purser they took measures to defeat his designs, and upon arriving in San Francisco detective officers already apprised of the matter, were on the alert, and through the steps that had been taken, the poor girls were rescued from the infamous career to which they had been destined, and comfortable and honorable positions provided for them. The old procuress hearing how matters were working went to the wharf and demanded the girls and their baggage, declaring that she had invested \$270 in them, and they were hers soul and body until she had secured her pay. It is needless to add that her efforts to obtain the girls or redress were vain.

Such a state of public morals as is indicated by the above transaction might have been allowable, and even considered creditable in Sodom and Gomorrah; but in a land where millions are annually paid for preaching the gospel, and where churches and places of worship are as numerous as the righteous, it furnishes an overwhelming condemnation of the social system. This phase of the traffic in female virtue is a thousand times more disgusting than that between the followers of Islam and the Circassians. There the custom is sanctioned by long-established usage and is in perfect unison with the semi-barbarous notions of the people by whom it is practiced. There, too, the unfortunate who are thus bartered are at least preserved exclusively for the harem of him by whom they are purchased; but in Christian England and America, where civilization and refinement have reached their highest developments, the unfortunate beings thus purchased for a life of infamy are compelled to prostitute themselves for the gratification of any beast rich enough to pay the price set upon their charms by their purchasers.

If they who assume, as their special province, the guardianship of the people's moral and spiritual welfare, were to do but half their duty, the general indignation would soon burn with such intensity that the accursed race of procuresses and pimps and their vile supporters would as surely meet with extermination in the present state of existence as in the future they will be consigned to eternal disgrace and shame.

THE WORK ABROAD.—The progress of the Elders in their missionary labors abroad is very gratifying. The work has seemed to take a new start of late, and the number of baptisms in some parts of England, has surprised even the Elders themselves. How much of this is due to the efforts which are being made in this country to send for the poor, we are not informed; but there are grounds for believing that some few of those who have once been members of the Church, and been excommunicated, in renewing their connection with the Church, are influenced by the hope that they may receive

help in emigrating. By advices from there, we learn that many who have lately been baptized have sufficient means of their own with which they can emigrate whenever they choose to do so. Of course, in such cases there is no room to suspect the motive which prompts them to become members of the Church. In fact, we cannot see how any can delude themselves with the idea that their joining the Church is likely to place the necessary means to enable them to emigrate within their reach, as we notice the Elders are careful to impress upon the people that those who have been longest in the Church and obtained a character for faithfulness are the ones to be assisted, and that the others may expect to wait. There is doubtless a connection between the faith and efforts of the people in this Territory to raise means to send for their co-religionists, and the increased interest which is being felt by the people in the old countries respecting the gospel. The latter is the legitimate effect of the former. So much faith as has been exercised here upon this point, coupled with such energetic exertions, cannot fail to produce great results. The missionaries abroad are stirred up and awakened to renewed exertions, the honest-in-heart feel the effect of this faith, and the entire work receives an impulse and takes a great stride in advance.

Correspondence.

MANTI, Sanpete County, }
May 12th, 1868. }

Editor News:—Yesterday we held meetings in Springtown and Fort Ephraim, where we met Prest. Hyde, who, though in feeble health, was returning from Manti, where he had preached on the Sabbath. He also preached at Fort Ephraim on Monday morning.

Most of the settlements have suffered severely by the hostilities of the Indians in the last three years, much labor having been expended in herding, guarding, building forts and hunting Indians; and yet all the settlements bear unmistakable evidence of thrift and prosperity.

Mount Pleasant is the largest town in the county; was first settled by Madison D. Haurbleton, Esq., who built a saw mill on Pleasant creek, in 1851. It was burned by the Utah Indians in 1853, and the settlers had to leave, losing their cattle, hogs, horses and even their chickens, their houses and a portion of their furniture sharing the fate of the mill. The following named enterprising musicians, with their limited means, have procured instruments for a Brass Band, costing over \$500, which will give additional life to the musical talent of the place:

Capt. James Hanson, Lieut. John Valdermarson, Charles Hampshire, Soren Jacobson, Peder Snydergaard, Svend Olson, Hans P. Hanson, Claudius Wheeler, Daniel Bekstrom, August Oman, Andrew Bekstrom, Bent Hanson, Morten Rasmussen, Poul Dehlin, Lars Nielson, Oscar Barton, Harvey Tidwell, Christian Jensen.

Bro. D. Candland informs us that there is an abundance of iron ore near the city. He showed us some fine specimens.

Springtown was settled as early as 1852, by Elder James Allred, with his numerous family and a few relatives, each one building in the vicinity of a spring, in a somewhat scattered condition. They were advised to gather together in a fort, upon which they moved some of their cabins closer together. Under orders of Gov. Young, they were instructed to move their cattle out of the valley into a place of safety, but refused to do so, believing that they were able to take care of themselves. A few days after, Walker, with 200 Indians, made a descent upon their herd, driving off 200 head of cattle and 70 horses, the brethren, 15 in number, making the best attempt they could, on foot, to defend their stock. After this the settlement was abandoned until after peace was made with Walker and his Indians in 1854.

Fort Ephraim was settled in 1852 by Isaac Behunnin alone. It now contains 300 families, 110 of whom were driven from Sevier and Piute counties last year. An addition of 150 town lots has been surveyed for their accommodation, and large additions of farming land are placed under cultivation. Bishop Canute Peterson, formerly of Lehi, informs us that two years ago there were 63 apple trees in that town; last year there were 800 planted, purchased of Mr. Oliphant of S. L. City; this year, 2,000 trees, obtained at Fill-

more, were planted at a cost of \$1,00 each delivered, and all reported to be doing well. Bro. D. Candland assures me that Mount Pleasant is far ahead of Ephraim in regard to trees, and that he has planted a nursery of mulberry, from seed imported from California.

Among the improvements in this county is the new canal for watering Moroni City plot. It is five and a half miles in length, nearly completed, and cost about \$6,000, but it will evidently have to be enlarged to supply the required amount of water.

To-day we held two meetings in this place. We called on Elder Freeborn De Mill, who is, I believe, the oldest member of the Church in this county, having been baptized in Sept., 1830. He bore testimony in our meeting that he helped to lay the foundation of the first log house built by the Saints in Jackson Co., Mo., and it was dedicated as the foundation of Zion. We accompanied him to his house, where he treated us to apples of his own raising, although it was for years believed that the altitude would prevent the culture of fruit. Peaches are in full bloom, also plums, and apple blossoms are coming out. Thousands of trees are being set out, and the spirit of cultivating fruit has become general. This city was settled in 1849, by Isaac Morley and about 40 families. They suffered severely during the winter in losing their stock, and were compelled to give a great portion of their provisions to the Indians. The snow was so deep that they had to go out of the valley on snowshoes to Salt Lake City for provisions, which was furnished to them by Bishop N. K. Whitney. Some became discouraged and left, but many of the first settlers are here yet.

San Pitch Valley contains facilities for making great improvements. The soil is rich, capable of producing large crops of wheat, oats, barley, corn, sugar cane, broom corn, peas, hemp, potatoes, and all kinds of root crops. Hardy fruits are proving a success. Clenton, Concord, Delaware and other hardy grapes can be raised here without difficulty, and the spirit of grape raising will soon arise. Isabellas are already being cultivated. Gooseberries, currants and strawberries are produced in abundance.

There are here, building rock, abundance of cedar, stone coal in the foot hills, and good timber in the mountains. "So mote it be."

GEO. A. SMITH.

ST. THOMAS, Piute Co., Arizona, }
April 26, 1868. }

Editor Deseret News:—Your numerous readers will perhaps be interested enough in this distant outpost of Zion to read a few lines with patience. The few brethren who came hither last Fall, in obedience to the call made, are materially assisting in the affairs of the place in a progressive direction, although but few of the reinforcement stayed here, the most of them having preferred to live higher up on the Muddy stream. Those who remained here are now diligently at work building themselves houses, mostly doing all the work themselves with some Indian help. If any of them feel discouraged, failing to see beauties and advantages in this country, they are good enough "Mormons" not to let their works show it. All those who have lived in other portions of the "Dixie" country can see advantages here superior to most other of our southern settlements, can see our prospects brightening, and perceive the presence of the elements of prosperity.

At this date there is considerable wheat blossoming, and the prospect is good for an abundant harvest. It is supposed by many that fruit will be a doubtful crop in this valley, their opinion being based upon the fact that trees have not prospered heretofore; but when it is considered that hitherto many of the population have been accustomed to go up into the northern settlements immediately after wheat harvest, leaving their trees pretty much to their own care during the rest of the burning summer, this matter may be readily understood. The climate is rather warm and the atmosphere arid for many of those fruits that grow readily around the more northern settlements, yet with care they can all be produced; though this region is on the whole naturally best adapted to the culture of the grape, which will no doubt prove the most remunerative of our crops, and the one we will mainly produce, after the cereals for home consumption and the cotton for the Utah market. Here the Isabella and Catawba of frosty climes grow side by side with the Syrian of the Holy Land and

the perfumed Muscat of Egypt, with the raisin of Hungary, each taking kindly to the soil and thriving better than in their own land of home. St. Thomas can now boast of the best collection of varieties to be found on the Pacific slope, excepting, perhaps, one in Sonoma Co., California, and but one more season need to elapse ere the best grapes of Europe can all be seen in full bearing here. Your correspondent, after being washed out from the Beaver Dams, or defunct Millersburgh, last winter, and having orchard, vineyard and nursery partly freighted gratis to the gulf of California by the flood, and partly conveyed on wheels to this place, stands again erect with a better vineyard than he had before and in a better place, working with more zeal.

Col. Alden A. M. Jackson, who has resided for many years in San Bernardino, has at last gathered with the Church. He left here on the 22d inst. on his way to St. George, where his family reside, who have preceded him in their immigration to this country one year. The Colonel feels like making up for lost time, though his absence from the land of Zion has not been without its fruits, as Southern Utah is largely indebted to him and his lady for the introduction of the choicest seeds and scions that could be procured in California for many years. Very material aid has been obtained from them, which shows its traces through the most of our settlements, and they have the satisfaction of knowing that they have helped to clothe the desert land with scenes of living beauty.

There is a prospect now of individual enterprise opening the river trade, as the progress of the southern branch of the Union Pacific Railroad, which crosses the Colorado on the 35th parallel, inspires outsiders with the belief that the navigation of the Colorado up to the mouth of the Virgin and the connection with the Utah settlements can actually be made "to pay."

If some one who has been called to this mission, to develop the resources of the land, could widen out his heart and his purse strings sufficiently to allow him to procure a portable steam saw mill, and to place it in the pines nearest to this valley, he would greatly assist in building up this country and earn the blessings of the brethren by relieving them of the trouble of carting every inch of lumber from Pine Valley, 130 miles, over the worst road in creation, besides making it "pay" him largely in dollars.

The best of feelings prevail here, and as the scope of our labors widen we expect to see compensating comforts accumulate, and look for the time when people will not only stay here and labor, because they have been required to do so, but because their feelings are centred on the homes which their hands have made, and which have been consecrated by their prayers and exalted by their presence from a desolation to a permanent abode of Saints; where the principles of truth are revered and the God of Israel is adored.

Yours truly, in the Gospel,
D. BONELLI.

SCIPIO, Millard Co., May 14, 1868.

Editor Deseret News:—We left Manti yesterday morning for Gunnison, accompanied by Bishop Wm. Seeley, and D. Candland, who have travelled with us from Mt. Pleasant, Bishop Larsen of Springtown, Cols. N. S. Beach, Judge Peacock, Lieut. Col. F. R. Kenner, M. D. Hambleton, Esq., Maj. A. Lowery, Capt. D. Henrie and Alma Brown; these brethren accompanied us as an escort. It certainly seemed lonesome enough, to have friends near by, while passing over the ground where J. W. Vance and Heber Houtz were killed about a year ago by Indians in ambush.

We preached at Gunnison, and the arms of the militia were inspected by Gens. Pace and Thurber, who have inspected the arms of the militia at all the posts in San Pete Co., the result proving a very satisfactory improvement in their number and quality; although many are without arms, and others show a neglect in keeping theirs in order.

Ft. Ephraim seems to take the lead in numbers and efficiency. Warm Creek is the best armed settlement according to its numbers, but its situation is decidedly dangerous, being more exposed. We earnestly besought the brethren to remove their families into a larger settlement.

The people at Ephraim keep their cattle guarded, and some other settlements attempt it; but much of the country is dotted with loose stock, affording abundant opportunity for the Indians, renegades and unfortunate gold seekers