

Sound policy suggests, our interest dictates, and necessity demands that these matters be well weighed and speedily acted upon by those who have the capital to do so. There is wealth in the enterprise to all who will wisely invest; there is increased labor for the mechanic and operative through developing home manufactures; and there is true and permanent independence to the community by following the counsel given to a successful consummation.

## HOME ITEMS.

**SABBATH MEETINGS.**—Elder Jacob Gates reasoned on the imperative necessity of every individual possessing for themselves a knowledge of the truth. While "we are saved by faith, through grace, and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God," an important question is, how shall we obtain that faith and find that favor in the sight of God? Obedience to the will of the Lord, and a practical application of the principles He has revealed, ensure His favor and bring the desired blessings. The speaker asked if our faith had increased in proportion with our knowledge and experience; and exhorted to seek an increase of faith and power from God, to keep His commandments and practically embody in our lives the principles of the everlasting gospel.

## AFTERNOON.

Elder Joseph F. Smith spoke of the blessings resulting from our controlling ourselves in righteousness under the knowledge which God has revealed to us. He referred to the thousands of good, honest men and women throughout the world, who live up to the light they have; yet their being good and honest do not constitute them the people of God, nor give them the holy priesthood with power to build up the Kingdom of God; any more than the few who may profess to be Saints, and yet fail to live according to the principles of the gospel, do not prove that the Saints are not in possession of the truth, and the power and priesthood of God. We have been gathered out of the world to rise superior to their corrupt practices, evil doings and worse than silly fashions; and it is a shame for those who profess to be Saints to imitate those things here, when they are brought among us by people of the world. Instead of following fashions and practices which savor of the weakness, folly and evil of the world, our whole souls should be devoted to God and godliness, to building up His kingdom, and spreading truth and righteousness on the earth.

**THE WEATHER,** on Friday morning was as follows, at the points named:—

Great Salt Lake City, clear and sunny, but cold; froze hard the previous night.

By Deseret State Telegraph Line:—

Logan, cloudy and cold

Ogden, beautiful morning, clear and cold.

Payson, fine, but cold; froze hard during the night.

Nephi, fine, clear and warm.

Fillmore, clear and cold; about a foot of snow; sleighing good.

Parowan, clear and cold.

Beaver, very fine; not a cloud to be seen warm, and no snow.

St. George, very pleasant, no storms lately.

On Monday morning:—

Great Salt Lake City, pleasant, a little cloudy.

By Deseret State Telegraph Line:—

Provo, sun shining brightly, snow melting fast.

Nephi, cloudy, but pleasant and warm.

Manti, warm, sun shining brightly.

Fillmore, some clouds, but warm.

Beaver, cloudy and pleasant.

Tokerville, fine, and warm as a summer day.

St. George, sun shining brightly, very warm.

The line north was down on Monday morning.

**GOT BACK.**—Mr. J. C. Clowes got back to the city on Saturday the 16th, having left St. George on the 30th ult., and visited all the offices of the Deseret State Telegraph Line between that point and this city on his way north. Everything was working splendidly; the operators are pleased with their positions, and the people of the settlements are much delighted with the telegraph, and grateful to President Young for his wisdom and fostering care in planning it and in its construction. Mr. Clowes and company were treated with the utmost kindness at all the settlements through which they passed; and the good feelings thus produced were enhanced at St. George by his meeting many old acquaintances formerly of this city, who did everything in their power to make his stay there exceedingly pleasant. He expressed himself warmly with regard to the kindnesses received. All is peace and prosperity in the settlements. The roads between Nephi and Great Salt Lake City are the worst on the entire distance from St. George, deep snows in places rendering travel anything but pleasant.

Wood wanted at this office: see notice.

READ Estray list.

**THE JUVENILE INSTRUCTOR.**—Elder G. Q. Cannon, Editor of this interesting periodical, sent a drawing for a new heading to New York to be engraved in time to be used with the commencement of the second volume. After various delays, which induced him to wait beyond the appointed time for issuing, he received a telegram on Saturday that the engraving would not be finished until the 18th, after which it has to come from New York by express. He has concluded to issue a few numbers with a temporary heading until the plate arrives, and the first number of the second volume will be distributed in this city on Saturday, 23d inst.

**CONGRATULATORY.**—It is but seldom that we allude to the News or its success; but it is gratifying to learn through a number of sources in the same week, from several of the principle settlements in the Territory, that our labors are so much appreciated; and that there is a growing anxiety for the arrival of the News by its subscribers; while the list of those who take and pay for it keeps increasing. This gratification we have enjoyed during the past week, not in infinitesimal doses, but in quantity and of a quality to please the least susceptible "we" that wields the quill and scizzors. Thanks, gentlemen; we will try and continue to merit your appreciation.

**WILL THEY ANNEX?**—The Nevada papers and State Legislature are strongly "exercised" over the question of annexing Utah to Nevada, or Nevada to Utah,—which would it be? The Gold Hill News is out with a strong article in favor of it; the *Reveille* with another opposing it; and the State Legislature have passed a resolution to petition Congress for it, which they believe Congress will grant. Meanwhile, Utah looks on with calmness; satisfied, like the "simple collier" that everything will turn out for the best.

**RETURNED.**—The ladies and gentlemen of the D. D. Association, who were north on a trip partly professional and partly of pleasure, returned to the city on Friday evening, having had a most agreeable visit among our northern brethren. They could scarcely do otherwise, for the good folks of Davis, Weber, Box Elder and Cache counties are warm-hearted, kind, good natured, and know how to enjoy themselves.

## REPORT OF GENERAL BABCOCK.

Brevet Brigadier General O. E. Babcock was appointed, last spring, to make an inspection of the military posts in the West. He furnished a Report of his inspection on Oct. 5, 1890; portions of which were laid before Congress by Secretary Stanton, on the 3d of January last, which were referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

General Babcock states that Major General Sherman showed him the telegraphic correspondence which had passed between President B. Young and General Sherman; and desired him to remain at least four weeks in this valley, to fully acquaint himself "with the threatened, difficult question between the United States Government and the sect of people known as Mormons; suggesting to him "the propriety of talking freely and plainly with these people, and particularly the leader, President Young."

In accordance with his instructions, General Babcock left St. Louis on the 2nd of May last, and visited Fort Lavenworth, Fort Kearny, Cottonwood, Julesburg, Camp Wardwell, Denver, Camp Collins, Big Laramie and North Platte, before reaching Fort Bridger in this Territory. In his report of Denver and the stage route leading to it, he is pointed in the expression of his views that military matters and Indian agencies are conducted in anything but a wise and equitable manner. Many of the rumors and reports of Indian outbreaks have their origin with whites who are anxious for an Indian war, with an eye to business, having contracts and a freer circulation of money in view; just as some people in this Territory are ever busy to try and bring about a "Mormon war" with the same object in view. General Babcock reached Denver on the 20th of May, and by personal investigation he could trace the reports and rumors then in existence there to nothing more than some cases of stealing by bad Indians.

He recommends the establishment of a military post near Green river, on the new road between Denver and Great Salt Lake City, which passes through Uintah, Green, and Bear River Counties. He considers such a post, if established in advance of the travel, would prevent trouble with the Indians by compelling white men to mind their own business.

He reached Fort Bridger on the 17th of June, and found the post in "a shameful condition—grounds not policed, buildings out of order, flooring burned up, bridges burned, shade trees broken down." "This reservation is twenty-five miles square, thus embracing all the good land within twelve miles in either direction." The hay land is leased to Judge Carter; also, the wood land, the General believed. The consequence is, no chance for competition. He thinks "it would be advantageous and economical to the government to sell the larger part of this reservation."

His report of matters and things here we quote at length:—

## MORMONS.

Major General Sherman showed me, when in

St. Louis, the correspondence between himself and Brigham Young, the president of the Mormon church. He informed me that it was possible the government might be compelled to force these people to obey the laws of the land. He wished me to remain in the valley of Great Salt Lake at least four weeks, to talk freely and often with Mormons and Gentiles—thus, if possible, to collect such information as would suggest a policy toward these people. I reached Great Salt Lake City June 19, and remained until the 20th of July. I met many of the Mormon people, as well as the Gentiles, and was treated with civility by both. Perhaps a detailed account of these people will be of interest. The sect known as Mormons is well known in the United States. The marked peculiarity of their religion is the claim of a religious right to have a plurality of wives. In other respects, their religion does not offend public opinion. The present head of the church is Brigham Young, whom the Mormons believe inspired at times, through whom God reveals His wishes. He is acknowledged the head of the church and styled president, and is the "Trustee in Trust of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." With this man at their head these people reached this valley July 24, 1847 (?). This valley was then an entire wilderness, with but few acres of ground on which crops could be raised. He located his people in the valleys of the streams running from the mountains, making the main settlement and head of the church at what they called Great Salt Lake City. He turned their attention to cultivating the ground, and found by irrigating those valleys covered with sage bushes, fine crops could be raised. This required a great amount of labor, but this they furnished, and in various portions of the Territory large settlements grew up. The Territory of Utah has now, the Mormons claim, a population of near 150,000 (?). They are settled in various parts of the Territory, wherever advantages are offered in soil and for irrigation. The attention of the people is generally confined to agriculture, raising of stock, the necessities of life. The cultivation of this country was necessary to the development of the gold mines in Idaho and Montana, for this new country was supplied with flour by the Mormons. The Territory has much mineral wealth, gold, silver, lead, iron, coal, &c., but Brigham Young has kept their attention to cultivation of the soil. I saw a less number of idle people in Utah Territory than in any locality I ever visited. I saw President Young often. At first he was quite dignified and formal, but afterwards talked freely on the various subjects of difference between his church and the general government. The act of Congress of 1863, prohibiting polygamy, has never been enforced. President Young told me he wanted it brought before the courts, and would place no obstacle in its way, and in fact would help to bring it before the courts. He said he believed it was unconstitutional, as it is against one of the foundations of their religion. He went further and said "the Mormons would never have had more than one wife had not God revealed it to them that it was His wish." His sincerity in such statement might be questionable, though his manner and conversation would not seem so. That the people generally believe this I think there is no question. The attempt to enforce this law of 1863 has been a failure, and I think will be, not because the people oppose the courts, but the fanatical views of the people render such failures almost certain. The law makes it a crime to take more than one wife. Before the offender can be tried he must be indicted before a jury of the land. The jury of necessity is entirely or mostly of Mormons. No Mormon can see a crime in taking two or more wives in accordance with God's revelation to them. The result is, no one is indicted. It being a criminal offense, there is no appeal from this, hence the case never comes before the United States courts.

Judge Titus, I believe a very upright man, of no prejudice in favor of the Mormons, informed me that but about one-tenth of the Mormons are polygamists; that he knows of cases where Mormons have been prevented from taking more wives by the law of 1863; and others on account of that law have separated from all but one of their wives. A great number of the inhabitants of the Territory are not citizens of the United States. Whenever they have become naturalized before Judge Titus, he has required obedience to the law of 1863. The Gentiles (anti-Mormons) in Utah thought they would have a Gentile settlement in the Territory, in the Parhanagat mining country, where a Gentile jury could be found, but the last Congress cut this portion of Utah off and annexed it to Nevada Territory. So the Mormons are even stronger than before. The legislature of Utah has placed many matters in the hands of inferior courts, which should be before the highest courts of the Territories; murder and divorce are thus placed. Their militia, instead of being under the control of the governor, is under the authority of the church, or Brigham Young.

In earlier days, when these people were more isolated, that some of them perhaps, to the knowledge of the church, committed very grave crimes, I have no doubt—among the worst, the Meadow Mountain massacre of 1858. I think our government, in justification of its laws and the opinion of its people, should investigate these, and place the stigma where it belongs. During the rebellion I have no doubt but these people had but little sympathy with the government, which they looked upon as their persecutor. Also many Gentiles found their way to the Territories who did not wish to aid in putting down the rebellion, but sympathized with the secessionists. These people, the Mormons, were never called upon for a quota of troops. Had they been, I believe it would have been filled with as much promptness as any call that was made. Whenever called upon to aid in suppressing the Indians, they have responded promptly, and I believe have rendered very efficient service. Brigham Young has three hundred men this season protecting the settlers of the southern portion of the Territory from a band of bad Indians, under a chief by the name of Black Hawk. These men are furnished without complaint. They received no compensation from the United States. If the other Territories would exhibit similar dispositions, many of the Indian troubles would disappear. That these people were exasperated by the conduct of General Connor, and many officers in his command, there is no doubt. A more quiet or peaceable community I never passed four weeks with. My opinion is that a policy by which the institution they cling to with fanatical faith shall be brought against public opinion, will be one that will soon cure the evil and save our country all the elements of good citizens they possess; while a coercive policy will, in accordance with the history of the world, increase the fanaticism, and destroy all the industry and wealth of 150,000 people and return that now fruitful valley to a desert again. A careful selection of civil and military officers, who with their families will

give these ignorant people an example, with the enlightenment by the completion of railroad and telegraph lines, will do more to correct the error of these people than all the crusades possible. This discussion is given to afford you an idea of the people with whom we are to treat in this Territory.

## UTAH.

Utah has but three military posts, Fort Bridger, Camp Douglas and Fort Union. The first I have mentioned. The second is located about three miles from Salt Lake City on a well selected reservation made, I believe, by Brigadier General Connor. I found the camp in neat condition, with a garrison of some three hundred and fifty men. As they were expecting to be mustered out, they had no drills, and parades but twice a week.

## GREAT SALT LAKE CITY.

Great Salt Lake City, from its central locality in the heart of the great mountain district, with a line of telegraph east to the Atlantic and west to the Pacific; also one running north and south through the Territory; its lines of stages to the Missouri river and the Pacific; to Idaho and Columbia river; to Montana and Parhanagat mines, makes it the great half-way place across the continent; and so long as the government holds internal military positions, this will be one of the greatest importance. I most earnestly recommend a department be created making this the headquarters. Send a judicious commanding officer, with zealous quartermaster and commissary. This disposition will be such as will be economical; will place the Mormon question under his eye; will place him in a position to purchase most supplies very economically, and will place him where he can best watch the Indians.

## CAMP DOUGLAS.

I think the post at Camp Douglas should be built of stone, (the quarters and storehouses.) A very easily worked sandstone can be found on the reservation, or within a few miles of the post. As wood is very expensive and growing more so, stone buildings will save much fuel. This post should be built to accommodate a regiment, though, summers, a garrison sufficient to take care of the post is all that is necessary. The troops can be used against the hostile Indians in any direction during the summer. A concentration of troops, winters, will have many advantages; it will be much more economical; it will bring men enough together to enable the command to be disciplined and drilled—a thing impossible where but one, and at the most two, company officers are present. The Indians have to go to certain localities for fish and for game, and are equally compelled to go to certain valleys to winter their ponies and to shelter their women and children. If the troops are used patrolling the lines of travel, moving from place to place, from the time grass is high enough to feed the ponies until the Indians go to their winter homes, I believe the road can be kept perfectly safe. Four (4) companies at Great Salt Lake, four (4) companies at Bridger, and six (6) companies at a post on the North Platte, will protect the road from Denver to Great Salt Lake, if properly employed. A similar but more changeable disposition should be made between the terminus of the railroad and Denver. This will change as the railroad advances. A post of at least five companies should be established in the vicinity of Green river to protect the settlements in southern Utah, and people going to Parhanagat mines from the Utes. Of this command, all except the permanent garrisons to protect stores and buildings (the latter to be kept a minimum) should be mounted cavalry or mounted infantry. To send infantry after Indians is useless. The mounted command should be in readiness to move on an hour's notice. This movable force can, judiciously handled. Protect the stage and emigrant travel—a vital matter along the route of travel and scattered settlements. The commanding officer should be in the country to judge between an Indian outbreak and a thieving party of whites and Indians. Many expensive Indian expeditions can thus be prevented, and the right of the Indian as well as the white man be respected. The Indian pony, or horse raised on the plains, should be used.

Along through Utah and into Idaho the settlements were quite numerous and very thrifty. The practice of irrigation seemed to reclaim all of the lands it can be applied to. The settlers are mostly Mormons, and exhibit the same thrift, industry, and enterprise exhibited in other parts of Utah. The adobe houses, handsome stock of horses, sheep, and cattle, with beautiful fields of wheat, oats, rye, and gardens filled with vegetables, with the almost universal planting of fruit-trees, apples, pears, peaches, plums, and apricots, commend these people to the kind consideration of the general government. This country can be and may, some future day, be the great pastures for the sheep and cattle to supply cheaply the vast markets of our country. The grass grows thrifty but ripens early, though when rained upon the ripe grass affords sufficient nourishment to fatten horses, cattle and sheep. Vast fields of wild rye afford sufficient hay to cure for the feeding of stock. The completion of the railroad and the settling up of these valleys will reduce the price of food and labor so that many of the fine mines now unworked on account of high prices will produce larger quantities of gold and silver than the famous gulches that are dug over and cleaned in one or two seasons.

The rest of the published portions of the Report refer to the posts visited in Idaho and Washington Territories, with such suggestions as General Babcock deemed requisite. In conclusion, he states that he found all through the Territories a great many horses and mules with the "U. S." brand, many of them having been honestly bought by their possessors; yet in numbers of cases they have been seized by officers, because of their being so branded. The great number of animals sold at the breaking up of Camp Floyd come under this class. The quartermaster at Camp Douglas has thus taken up many animals; and has often returned them to the possessors, satisfied they were honestly come by. He recommends an entirely new brand be adopted for public animals, to save government and honest citizens much trouble.

Though there are some parts of the extracts published from which we differ, particularly with regard to the application of the word "fanatical," still, the spirit of fairness which runs through them, commends them to every honest mind.