

THE DESERET NEWS. SEMI-WEEKLY.

ALBERT CARRINGTON, EDITOR.

Tuesday, Aug. 6, 1867.

TERMS:

One Year.....\$8.00.
Six Months.....5.00.
Three Months.....3.00.

ADVERTISEMENTS, to insure insertion, must be in the Office by 9 a.m. of each Friday and Monday.

THE COMING RAILROAD.

One of the clearest refutations to the often repeated assertion made against our people, that they desire isolation and to be shut out from the rest of mankind, is the strong desire manifested to see the two lines of the Union Pacific Railroad reaching this city. They think of the long weary journey from the Missouri river, which so many of them have traveled, and earnestly wish for that journey to be shortened for their friends who yet will follow in their path; they look at the high price demanded for all imported goods, machinery, and everything which has to be freighted here, and they hope to see prices reduced with a quicker, more regular, and cheaper mode of freighting. While many of them anticipate the pleasure of visiting their friends east and west, without the risk, toil and prolonged time expended in such a journey at present.

The lines now being made toward this point, from the east and west, when completed will undoubtedly be the road on which the travel between Europe and the eastern states, and the west of this continent, China, Japan and the East Indies will move. When the journey from London to Bombay can be made in less than one-half the time, by this great overland route, that is occupied in crossing Europe and traveling the route now used, it is but reasonable to think that for quick transit of light and valuable goods, and for purposes of travel, this road will be used. It will thus become a highway for the world, with Great Salt Lake City as a stopping place for the journeying thousands and millions who will pass from either hemisphere.

We desire that time to come, when the world can be disabused of the many foul and malignant slanders which have been so freely circulated, by seeing us as we are, and thus judging of the character of those who have traduced us so grossly. Besides, the growth of the Territories around us, which must ere many years become States, and the formation and growth of New Territories and States in the vast extent of country yet unbroken and undeveloped, will make us the commercial centre of a series of rich and powerful States, to which lines will radiate from this Territory, bearing on them the products of earth, and the result of man's toil and industry. Our geographical situation is the very best that could be desired; for though we have no place in the Territory where a large and influential seaport might grow up, an immense entrepot for the commerce of nations; we are, by our very position, the natural chosen centre to which the great wealth of the surrounding territory must yet come and through which it will pass.

The speed with which the Pacific railroad progresses gives assurance that it will be but a comparatively short time until communication will be open by it between the two oceans. There are those sufficiently sanguine to believe that by the fall of '68 we will be con-

nected with San Francisco by rail; but if that result should be obtained in '59 the work accomplished from the breaking ground until its completion that far would be immense. And there is little doubt but that, unless something unexpected should arise to retard it, we will be connected with both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts in three years from this fall.

The undertaking is one of the great events of the age. As the laying of the Atlantic cable marked a new era in stretching telegraph wires, so the completion of the line which connects the two mighty oceans, spanning a vast continent, rising over gigantic ranges of mountains, and crossing seemingly impassable deserts, will mark a new era in railroad building; and one that will not be barren of results.

HOME ITEMS.

SABBATH MEETINGS.—Bishop T. Callister contrasted the condition of the Saints when they entered this valley, twenty years ago, with that of to-day, pointing out how the Lord had blessed, protected and preserved them.

Elder John Van Cott followed on the same subject, reasoning that if we have been prospered and blessed so abundantly during the past twenty years how great must be our growth and prosperity twenty years from now, if we continue in faithfulness.

Elder A. F. McDonald spoke of his early acquaintance with the gospel, and of the blessings that accrue to all who embrace it and live it.

Pres. H. C. Kimball urged the Saints to union of purpose and action in all things, instructing them on the principles of oneness and obedience to the truth and the Priesthood.

AFTERNOON.

Elder George Q. Cannon treated upon the growth of the work of God, and the power and knowledge commensurate with that growth, bestowed by the Lord upon His servants, for the accomplishment of His purposes. He showed that the gospel brings union to all who embrace it and obey its principles. The Lord has called His servant to lead His people, and will qualify him for the work that has to be performed; and the people should hearken to his counsels and obey his instructions.

Pres. B. Young, in a discourse replete with valuable and pointed instructions, reasoned on the comprehensiveness of the gospel, and its applicability to all the human family. Towards the close he advised the farmers to save their wheat; and intimated that mechanics would soon be called to floor that part of the New Tabernacle which is roofed in, trusting they would be as prompt and energetic in responding as the plasterers and others had been.

THEATRICAL.—On Saturday night the Willow Copse and the Laughing Hyena were produced. All the encomiums that we have read or heard of Mr. Couldock's Luke Fielding did him no more than justice in the part. It was exquisitely rendered, true to nature in all its variations and touches, and proved that the artist has studied human nature well and deeply. He was excellently supported. Miss Couldock played Rose, and, though her voice lacks a rounded fullness and mellowness which would increase her histrionic powers considerably, she played with a spirit and pathos that won with the audience, and enlisted the house in her favor. Mr. Margetts played Stagers, Mr. Dunbar Augustus and Miss Alexander Meg, excellently. Mr. Martin, who played Dick Hulks, has a looseness of style and appearance, and a jerkiness of throwing out his words, added to a peculiarly discordant laugh which comes in at inappropriate times, all of which tell against his success. If he will cease to affect an ungainly stooping gait, open his mouth when he speaks, and study the nature of the character he has to represent he may make something in his profession. Mr. Graham's Sir Richard might have had more force and feeling than he manifested. Mr. Hardie as Vanguard was very good; so was Mrs. Bowring as Lady Apsley. Mrs. Fitzwilliams had little to do, and did it. Mr. Maiben played Bubblemere, Mr. Kelly Fungus, and Mr. McIntosh Lynx in their usual manner.

In the afterpiece all the characters were good, and Mr. and Mrs. Langrishe showed their powers of comedy admirably. The lady made her first appearance, and obtained a firm footing with the audience.

The applause during the evening was, as newspaper reporters say, loud and prolonged. The Willow Copse should by all means be repeated before the engagement of Mr. Couldock closes, for it is not often that such a really excellent treat is presented to theatre-goers.

To-night The Post Boy will be performed, in the principal character of which—Joe Spurrill—Mr. Couldock will have another opportunity of displaying his wonderful powers of delineating this type of the bluff and honest but

unlettered Englishman. The play is a good one, and full of interest. It will be followed by a very laughable piece, entirely new here, called Kate Hayes, the Irish Swan, in which Mr. and Mrs. Langrishe will appear.

FROM DAVIS COUNTY.—Pres. Joseph Young and Elder Edward Stevenson visited Bountiful and Centreville on Sunday to hold meetings, starting on Saturday afternoon. Pres. J. Young stopped at Bountiful and held meeting in the morning; Elder Stevenson went on to Centreville and held meeting at the same hour, they having an interesting time in each place; and both held meeting in the afternoon in Bountiful, where there was another good time. They inform us that the people of those places report four-fifths of the grasshoppers as having already gone, after doing considerable damage to corn, apple-trees, some other kinds of vegetation, and in some instances to oats. Wheat and barley had been cut down, or was so ripe as not to be injured to any extent.

BLANK FORMS for petitions in bankruptcy, under the United States Bankrupt Act of March 2, 1867, with blanks of schedules A and B, are on our desk, from H. H. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco, Cal. These forms are all got up in excellent style, and should any of our citizens need such blanks, though we trust they will not, we are not aware of a better firm to order from than Messrs. Bancroft & Co.

THE SAN FRANCISCO MUSICAL TIMES, Vol. I, No. 2, is before us, with "please exchange," which is cheerfully accorded. It is a very neatly got up monthly quarto of eight pages, almost exclusively devoted to the speciality its name implies, and is published by J. T. Bowers, 138 Montgomery street, at the moderate rate of \$1.00 (coin) a year.

GOT HOME.—On Sunday evening Elders Orson Pratt, George D. Watt and Wm. S. Godbe arrived in the city by stage from the east, Elders Pratt and Watt from their missions to Europe, and Elder Godbe from a business trip to the eastern States. They are in good health and spirits, saw no Indians on the journey, and are glad to be home again. We welcome them back.

IN NORTH WEBER VALLEY, Dr. Thomas Colborn informs us, the grasshoppers had entirely destroyed portions of the crops, greatly damaged the remainder, and were still busy in their work of destruction when he started for this city on the 3d inst., though a later report says they left that region on the 4th, which we hope is true.

THE IMMIGRATION.—By Elder George D. Watt we learn that this season's immigration, numbering about 400 souls, were expected to start on their trip across the plains by ox teams on the 25th ult. There would be in the neighborhood of 50 wagons.

SCANDINAVIA.—We extract the following from a letter to Elder William Clayton by Elder Charles Widerborg, dated Copenhagen, July 3d, with which we have been kindly favored:

We emigrated this season 200 souls, who sailed from Liverpool, 21st ult., by the splendid steamship Manhattan. The prospect for next year's immigration is encouraging, and the Lord is prospering His work in these countries. The kingdom is advancing under the wise management of our leaders, and it is interesting to observe the signs of the times, all alluding to the great events coming. I am laboring with great courage and a glorious hope for a good harvest in these parts of the Lord's vineyard.

NOTICE.—As City Ordinances only have force within the corporate limits, we trust that dogs owned outside of those limits, but which chance at times to be in the city with their owners or others, will not be molested, unless found trespassing in some unwarrantable manner.

THE ELECTION.—On Monday the polls were kept busy by a quiet, orderly, intelligent body of electors, recording their votes.

On the 2d a coach arrived and brought 2 letter mail sacks and 17 canvas sacks. On the 3d 11 through letter mail sacks were received. On the 4th 14 through and 8 way mail letter sacks arrived.

These included a number of sacks of back mail matter, which we are pleased to record.

Correspondence.

BOUNTIFUL, Aug. 4.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

We have now been more or less troubled with grasshoppers for these last ten days, and the result of their visit is now apparent, and will be sorely felt. To attempt to convey any idea of their numbers would be folly, I will therefore merely state that they have been here in countless myriads, darkening everything upon which they alighted. The corn crop is very seriously damaged—so much stripped that many are of the opinion the crop is destroyed. The wheat is mostly saved. Oats are more or less injured, and several pieces are being cured for hay; other pieces are cut short from five to fifteen bushels to

the acre, while green oats will sustain a still greater loss. The potato vines are stripped bare, yet it is thought by some that the potatoes will ripen. Beans are suffering, and will be considerably injured if not destroyed. Carrots are stripped, and the grasshoppers are eating them below the surface. Cabbages are also sharing the fate of the carrots. Onions have not as yet suffered so much, yet in places they are eaten to the root. The orchards have suffered severely, and to-day present to the eye a picture of nakedness; the beautiful foliage, which but a few days ago adorned them and sheltered the growing fruit from the hot rays of the summer sun, is now gone—the trees are leafless, and the fruit that remains is naked and unadorned, and will doubtless have to be picked, or it also will furnish food for the grasshopper. Much fruit is already eaten—peaches and apricots to the stone, and apples to the core.

Yours, Respectfully,
WILLIAM THURGOOD.
FOURTEENTH WARD,
G. S. L. City, Aug. 3, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

The Teachers and Committee of the 14th Ward Sunday School purposed having a school party on the 24th ult., but to avoid clashing with other parties on that day postponed it until Tuesday last, July 30th, when we had a very large and interesting gathering. The junior children were assembled at one o'clock in the afternoon to trip the light fantastic toe, which, with singing and other variations, was continued until six when they were dismissed, and at seven o'clock the dance was resumed by the senior scholars of the Sunday School with their teachers and a few friends, Elders John Taylor and Geo. Q. Cannon of the Twelve, being among the invited guests present. All seemed to vie with one another in their enjoyment of the occasion, and notwithstanding the Hall was a little crowded all went off pleasantly under the able management of the Committee, Messrs. G. E. Bourne, F. S. Richards, W. Woodruff, Jun. and Richard S. Horne, assisted by some of the teachers. A few good songs were sung, and Miss Martha Horne very ably executed the hornpipe and a French dance. The Hall was tastefully decorated with evergreens, flowers, banners, &c., and the ball was got up free of expense to the children.

Yesterday afternoon the Teachers and their friends held another party in the Hall, the proceeds to be devoted to the expenses of the Sunday School, and although the weather was very warm, it seemed no barrier to the enjoyment of those present, who kept up the amusement with animation until a little after twelve at midnight.

THOS. C. ARMSTRONG.

[From the Millennial Star.]

AUSTRALIA,
Christchurch, New Zealand,
March 21, 1867.

Dear President,—I arrived safe in New Zealand after a voyage of three months, which was more pleasant than I had dared to expect. Out of fifty persons on board ship, the Lord blessed me with the privilege of baptizing one, a German, as my first-fruits. Shortly after my arrival, two more were added to the Church—W. and J. Burnett.

We have held some public meetings, and the Lord has blessed us in bearing testimony to the truth, and inspired us with the hope that more good will be accomplished.

I feel that I shall have to stay here a little longer than I at first anticipated. The books and tracts I took with me are all distributed, and more are wanted, as the people do not refuse to read them, though, perhaps, many peruse them through curiosity; but that does not matter, if they are the right kind of fish the truth will catch them, if the Lord work with us.

The people here have greatly advanced in civilization of late years. Ladies of a certain class are now to be met with everywhere in town, and a long way out of it. Among the novelties here are crinolines of gigantic sizes, say from six to seven yards in circumference, and trains, or whatever they are called, about half a yard in length. Another fashion is that of wearing (no doubt as a sign of beauty or nobility,) long nails like eagles' claws, sharp enough to scratch out a person's eyes with a single scratch.

About every fourth house is transformed into a public house, where