

CORRESPONDENCE.

SPANISH FORK, July 26th, 1862.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

As the subsiding of the waters insures the more safe transportation, by the "paper wagon," of our mail matter, without going through the drenching process, perhaps a few items communicated through the News might not be uninteresting.

Our "being" was somewhat augmented by the celebration of the 24th in this city. The booming of our new piece of artillery, the lively airs that were discoursed by the Brass and Martial Bands, the display of flags and banners from the procession, the oration of Hon. A. K. Thurber, and the addresses, songs, toasts, etc., all evinced that the Saints realized to some extent, with thankful hearts, our happy position in the valleys of these mountains. The afternoon was passed in innocent games, in which cricket took the lead; the evening in dancing and other amusements.

On the 20th inst. we had an agreeable visit from Elder George A. Smith, who delivered an interesting and appropriate discourse on our practical duties.

The difficulty of obtaining fire-wood has prompted some of our citizens to circulate a subscription list, offering a premium to any person or persons who should produce satisfactory evidence that they had found a coal-bed within twenty miles of this city, and in such a position that a good road could be worked thereto with a reasonable amount of labor. Mr. Draper, who took an active part in the enterprise, reported lately that he had obtained the amount of thirteen hundred dollars, since which a number of persons have been seen with picks and shovels, going to the mountain, and it is reported that good coal has been found in the first canyon south of Hobble creek, which is creating some excitement. The conditions are that the right of control to any coal that may be found, for which the reward is claimed, vests in the subscribers.

In connexion with your report of the loss by high water at this place, I wish to add that of the drowning of a boy, fifteen years of age, on Sunday, June 1st, by the name of Alma Dimick, in (as is supposed) attempting to swim across the river near the mouth of the canyon. His body was found on the Thursday following and restored to his parents and friends for sepulture.

Another notable accident occurred here a few days since. A Mrs. Babcock, who had been afflicted with inflammatory rheumatism during the past year, whilst attempting to pass from her bed to a chair (assisted by a girl) found that her body was settling down, and thought that the floor was giving way, but, in place of the floor, it proved to be her own limbs giving way under the weight of her body, as one of her thigh bones was broken; the other leg badly strained; and (in the girls assisting to prevent her from falling) one arm was broken. Dr. Riggs, of Pervo, is attending upon her, and notwithstanding her long previous sickness, there are hopes of her recovery.

The natives (for which this place has been a favorite resort) have not been so numerous during this as in previous seasons, supposed to be in consequence of their obtaining no comfort from the Indian farm, and some of the more inquisitive of the red men wish to know for what purpose Indian agents are? If to be looked at?

Our crops are not the most flattering, as our farming land has become much deteriorated in quality in consequence of salt, saleratus and a species of mint weed, for which as yet no effectual mode of destroying has been found.

WM. W. ROCKHILL.

SMITHFIELD, CACHE CO., July 28th.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

You will confer a favor upon the citizens of this place by inserting the following report of our celebration of the 24th in the News:

The dawn of day was announced by the firing of guns, arousing the citizens from their slumbers, to listen to the sweet strains of music by Capt. P. Morehead's Band, which serenaded the citizens until the sun's rays illumined the east, when the flag of our country was unfurled to the breeze, under a salute of twenty-four guns, in honor of the Pioneers.

At nine o'clock, the Brass Band struck up a lively air, which was a signal for the people to assemble at the School house, when the procession was formed by the Marshal of the Day, George Barber, as follows:

Brass Band, led by John Sant.

Committee of Arrangements, D. C. Thomas, Thos. Winn and Martin Harris.

Orators of the Day, John G. Smith and Thos. Smith, Esquires; and James Cantwell, Chaplain.

The Silver Greys, under Captain Ezekiel Hopkins.

String Band.

Twenty-four little boys, led by Mr. John Boice, with appropriate banners; and,

Twenty-four little girls, under the direction of Mrs. Hannah Collins, with banner.

A company of young Mountain Braves on horseback brought up the rear of the procession, which marched around and through the settlement. The Bands playing alternately until they returned to the School house, which was decorated with evergreens, flags, etc., for the occasion.

The congregation was seated and called to

order by the Marshal, and the Choir, led by Robt. L. Fishburn, sang an appropriate song, selected expressly for the occasion. Prayer was then offered up by the Chaplain, followed by music by the String band. The Orators of the day addressed the assembly, contrasting the position of this people at the time of the Pioneers entering these peaceful valleys with that of our present favorable circumstances and position, etc., which inspired every heart with a deep feeling of gratitude to our heavenly Father.

The day's entertainment was seasonably interspersed with songs and melodies from the Choir. Toasts and original songs by Messrs. Cantwell and Geo. Barber.

Adjourned at two p.m.

There was dancing in the evening till a late hour, when the people returned to their homes, well pleased and gratified with the day's entertainment, long to be remembered in Smithfield.

G. BARBER.

TOOELE CITY, July 27, 1862.

EDITOR OF THE NEWS:

The Twenty-Fourth of July was celebrated by the citizens of Tooele City, in way and manner as follows:

In the morning, no booming of cannon was heard, as the military of this county have not provided themselves with artillery; but musketry supplied the deficiency; the discharging of which, with martial music, enlivened the morning hours.

At 8 a.m., a procession was formed under the direction of Eli Lee, Marshal, in the following order.

Bishop, Counselors and Orator of the day, Municipal officers.

Twenty-four aged Fathers.

Twenty-four aged mothers.

Twenty-four young men.

Twenty-four young ladies.

School boys and girls, each division having separate banners with appropriate mottoes.

The procession moved through the city to a spacious bowery, which had been erected for the occasion, when the assembly was called to order; prayer was offered by the Chaplain, Elder W. C. Gallaber; Hon. E. B. Kelsey delivered an oration, which was followed by an address by Elder Wm. Martindale, after which, a number of toasts and sentiments were read, followed by music by the Band.

From two to six o'clock in the afternoon, there was dancing under the Bowery.

At 7 p.m., the doors of the City Hall were opened and the house was soon filled to excess, to witness the opening performance of the Tooele City Dramatic association, which continued till 12 o'clock.

On the afternoon of the 25th, there was a social party for the children, which was participated in and enjoyed by many.

In the evening, the Dramatic association gave another entertainment, which passed off pleasantly.

The members of the association, or at least, those who acted, performed admirably well, and are deserving of much credit. As yet the association is in its infancy, but from it may be expected Stars to arise whose light may possibly be reflected by larger bodies.

L. GEE.

LOGAN, Cache co., July 25, 1862.

MR. EDITOR:

The citizens of Logan, in grateful remembrance of the goodness of their Heavenly Father, in leading the Pioneers to these valleys, celebrated the 15th anniversary of that day, in the following order:

At daylight, the Stars and Stripes were hoisted by the Mountain Braves, under Capt. Burdino, followed with a salute by Capt. Card's company of 24th Battalion Nauvoo Legion.

At 9 a.m., the Richmond Brass band paraded the streets, serenading the principal citizens and halted on the public square, playing the "Star-spangled Banner," and other national and appropriate tunes.

At 9:30 the procession, under Capt. Alvin Crockett, Marshal of the day, was formed in the following order:

Richmond Brass band.

Committee of Arrangements, under Mayor Harmon.

Pioneers of '47, under Col. E. T. Benson.

Members of the Mormon Battalion, under Hon. Wm. Hyde.

State and Territorial officers.

Presiding Bishops.

Twenty-four Fathers in Israel, under Capt. Joel Ricks.

Twenty-four Mothers in Israel, under Mrs. David Crockett.

Twenty-four young men, under Capt. C. O. Card.

Twenty-four young ladies, under Miss Emma Benson.

Twenty-four boys, under Lieut. Thomas Irwin.

Twenty-four girls, under Miss Lettie Benson.

Capt. Eli Bell's Rifle company completed the procession; which, being formed, marched through the city, halting in front of Col. Benson's residence, where the procession was joined by the Colonel and staff, Major Preston and Judges Maughan, Hyde and Blair.

From whence, the procession marched to the spacious Bowery on the public square, and were then seated, and called to order by the Marshal.

Singing by the Logan choir. Prayer by Elder Wm. Earl.

Music by the Richmond band.

Speeches in behalf of the several divisions of the procession, were delivered by their

respective leaders, the intervals being occupied by music and singing.

The congregation was the largest we have ever seen in Logan; and such order as was observed through the entire day, we have seldom, if ever seen equalled; and a good spirit hovered over the vast concourse of the Saints present, and every one seemed to enjoy the heart-felt pride of emulating the good and great.

In speaking of our spokesmen or orators of the day, we only say that our hearts were never filled with more joy or gladness than we were inspired to through the addresses we heard on that day—each full of the gospel truths of heaven—ever cheering to the children of God. A better day, on such an occasion, we never spent: so say all who participated in the anniversary of the day.

The proceedings of the day closed with an entertainment from the Logan Dramatic association, performing the Gamster, and concluding with the Farce, entitled the Widow's Victim.

The Committee of Arrangements were—James Harrison, John Nelson, Thomas Smith, Henry Ballard, Eli Bell, M. Lawes, Thomas Tarbet.

GEO. M. PEACOCK.

CALIFORNIA ITEMS.

We have western dates to the 30th ult. Nothing very important has transpired of late in that part of the world.

The escape from the State prison at San Quentin of about two hundred convicts on the 22d of July, created the most intense excitement among the people wherever the news came in the country round about, and they turned out without waiting for orders, and assisted in recapturing the fugitives, most of whom were secured that evening by the exertions of the citizens of Marin county, and returned to the prison within six hours after the first move was made by the unfortunates to regain their liberty. It was a very serious affair, but resulted in less casualties than might have been expected under the circumstances. The felons killed no one, but injured several severely; among the number, Lieut.-Governor Chellis, whom they used for a shield till they got away from the prison, and then made him travel somewhat faster than he was wont, goading him thereto with knives, with which they prodded his "seat of honor," quite too frequently for his comfort. Being a heavy, fleshy man, as represented, he soon tired under such harsh treatment, and they had to leave him behind, after making him wade a slough chin deep, in a state of extreme perspiration; trying to make him ride a wild, unbroken colt, and putting him through several other severe exercises to which he was unaccustomed, the last of which was the trying to make him climb over a high fence which was too much for his corpulent, exhausted frame; and they had to leave him behind, four or five miles from the prison.

The convicts had provided themselves with axes, hatchets, knives, files, etc., from the work shops, and when the cry of liberty was raised they rushed forth in overwhelming force, broke into the armory, from which, however, it is said they did not obtain many weapons, and took measures to render as many of the prison guns useless as possible before leaving the premises. Some twelve or fourteen of the more reckless ran aboard the prison sloop which was lying at the wharf, and made an effort to put out to sea, but having no pilot they soon ran aground and were captured. Fifty others were captured before they had proceeded far, and the balance, who succeeded in getting outside the walls, variously estimated from one hundred and fifty to two hundred, put off into the country in a body; but, fortunately, most of them were in as safe keeping as they had been, before midnight, and at latest dates there were only about a dozen uncaptured or unaccounted for. Six were reported killed and twenty-six wounded, which would give the surgeons who hastened to the scene, a profitable job, for which the State will of course pay.

Two captains in General Carleton's command, California Volunteers, are reported to have got into a quarrel at Fort Yuma, to settle which, an affair of "honor" was arranged, but prevented by arrest. A fight occurred among the soldiers in Col. Connor's command at Aherns Ferry, on the 15th ult., in which a Cherokee, one of the privates, wounded three or four men who accused him of being a Secessionist. Their patriotism was aroused by the operations of whiskey, as stated. Report says, two of the men subsequently died.

Col. Connor's command had taken up the line of march eastward. While passing a farm on the Mukelumne river, some fifteen

miles from Stockton, a man gave three cheers for Jeff. Davis, when several soldiers set upon him and gave him a thorough thrashing. On encamping in the evening, Col. Connor sent back a squad and had the man brought into camp where he was set to packing sand as a punishment for his intemperate expression of disloyalty. Seceders along the route by which the troops will march had better keep a close mouth or they may find themselves in limbo before they are aware they are not in Dixie.

At a recent meeting of the venders of cigars and tobacco in Sacramento, the prices were fixed as follows:—Choice cigars, two for twenty-five cents; single cigar, fifteen cents; extra choice cigars, three for fifty cents. A scale of prices of the various kinds of chewing tobacco was also adopted. The action of the meeting was indorsed by all the principal dealers in the city.

Colonel Evans, with a force of about three hundred men, is announced to have arrived on Owens river to chastise the Indians for causing him to return to Los Angeles last spring without laurels, but before he reached the valley, Capt. Rowe and Agent Wasson had effected a peace with those natives, which the Col. greedy of glory, did not like; but, as stated, for prudential reasons concluded that it was best to acquiesce in the peace arrangement.

Extensive coal veins are reported to have been discovered near Copperopolis, which has caused great excitement.

The San Joaquin river, the Stockton Independent of the 24th ult., says, had been very high during the preceding month, but the waters had commenced receding a little. The flood had been so great that the navigation of the river had been impeded and steamers could not get to some of the landings to receive and discharge freight.

REPORTED DEPREDACTIONS.

Since the Indians made a wholesale business in stealing horses in the vicinity of Fort Bridger, some two weeks since, report says they have taken several animals from Davis, Weber, and other northern counties, and that they have become quite emboldened in their thieving operations. Report also sets forth that the Shoshones have repudiated their old chief, Wash-i-kee, in consequence of his preferring peace to war with both reds and whites, and are rallying around the standard of Pash-ego, a blood-thirsty warrior, who wants to fight with some of the tribes east of the mountains, and would like to inaugurate a war with the whites in conjunction with the Bannacks, with whom the Shoshones are seeking or have formed an alliance.

How much truth there may be in the rumors afloat we know not, but if the Shoshones and Bannacks are coalescing for the purposes of war with other tribes, and for committing depredations upon the whites, it will be well for all to keep their eyes open, especially the emigrants en route for California, Oregon and Washington, and the citizens of the northern counties of this Territory, who will be greatly in danger in the event those nomads become hostile, which is more than probable, and very possible. The mining operations at Salmon river and other places in Washington Territory will have a great tendency to stir up the natives to war with those they consider intruders, and then death and destruction will be meted out to all who may chance to come in their way unprepared for successful resistance.

COMMITTEES ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

—We are requested to state that, in compliance with the instructions of the Directors of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, the Domestic Gardeners' Club have filled up the committees on fruit, by appointing Messrs. Levi Richards and John V. Long to act in connection with the Chairman, L. S. Hemmingway, Esq., and Messrs. Samuel M. Moore and Wm. Wagstaff to be associated with George B. Wallace, Esq., Chairman of committee on vegetables. Persons wishing to compete for prizes to be awarded at the fair to be held in October, are respectfully informed that these committees will meet at the residence of Dr. S. L. Sprague, 13th Ward, every Monday evening, for the purpose of passing judgment upon such early varieties as may reach maturity, or be in season previous to the annual fair.

Where is that Firewood, Hay, etc., that was promised?