

The estimated length of the canal is about 100 miles, and it is also estimated that it would put under irrigation fully 600,000 acres of land.

It is a big undertaking, but the natural advantages are such that the cost of construction will be greatly reduced and by a united effort of all the communities it can be accomplished far easier than any one of these settlements can supply their own water. Many of these settlements have already determined to have irrigating water at any cost and it is probable that the plans of this committee will be ratified.

### IN RICH BOXELDER.

Brigham City, Nov. 24, 1897.

In traveling through the county of Boxelder, one finds much to admire and something that causes regret. Brigham City is very properly named the city of homes. It is also beautiful for situation, but there is, in my opinion, some lack of enterprise. The many large buildings tell of the city's past glory. We had looked to it to become the model city of the State, but from some cause I am unable to explain, many of its industries are silent and ruin is marked. In one large building that could be used for a canning factory, the windows are broken and the work of the small boy is visible in much broken glass.

When one sees what nature has done for Brigham City and the industry of her citizens in her beautiful orchards, etc., it seems strange that a canning house of very large dimensions has not been in operation ere this. When I found people from this beautiful city all over northern Utah and Idaho going over mountain and dell with teams selling fruit, I was then, as I am now, of the opinion a canning factory at home would bring better returns and save the labor of men and teams for other purposes.

Brigham City is divided into four Bishop's wards, each with a neat and substantial church, and also good school buildings. The tabernacle is a beauty and all the work was home made. The painter deserves special mention, as his magic brush has done wonders to make the sacred house beautiful.

In speaking of the calamity the Stake sustained in the old tabernacle being burned, those who have paid their allotment of subscription to the new one, say, No, sir; it was no calamity, but a blessing, as we have a building much more beautiful for public worship.

Brigham City is a nice place to live in, and her people are among the best. It may be that her former business and other failures have for a time disheartened them, but I am sure that in the near future she will be better, bigger and handsomer than ever.

The surrounding country is also very fine. The farms of the north and west are mostly in hay; and stock and sheep are the principal industries. Beautiful homes and school houses are found in every ward.

On Sunday, the 7th inst., I walked five miles through Boxelder canyon, in six inches of snow, to Mantua. I was reminded of my first trip, thirty-two years ago, through this same canyon, in three and a half feet of the beautiful. It took us eleven days from Salt Lake City to Paradise, Cache Co., in December of that year.

Mantua, like everything else, has changed. There is a large settlement of warm-hearted and thrifty people, and Bishop Jensen is very proud of his up-to-date ward. The young folks say unless the boys and girls marry outside their own ward, the whole town will soon have but two families, viz., Jensen and Larsen. Here almost every

inch of land is cultivated and these people are well off, contented and happy.

Along the north string are Call's Fort, Honeyville, Deweyville and Colinston—all are thrifty towns; and the stock farm is visible all along the route. School houses are found every mile or so. The Mormon people always have been famous for building school houses, and here at one small hamlet twenty-eight families taxed themselves and built a substantial rock school house, costing, I should think, not less than \$2,000. Yet the railroad has done much to help the school districts in this county.

Bear River City is found after a pleasant walk of four or five miles southwest of Honeyville. This is a thriving town, but in early days they took out the waters of the Malad for irrigating purposes, and its alkaline properties have nearly ruined their farms, but they hope the Bear River water will in time redeem them.

I had the honor of a carriage ride with Mr. Mortensen, one of the officers of the Bear River Canal company, to Corinne, and saw some of the benefits of the wonderful irrigating scheme that cost millions. The miles of once unavailable land brought under a high state of cultivation, and thousands upon thousands of acres more that will be brought into the same state of improvement from the waters of this canal, afford a most pleasing prospect. Boxelder county will be in time changed into one of the finest wheat belts of the west, and I am of the opinion that some people of the east side see where they have missed it in opposing this wonderful canal scheme. I was reminded of Isaiah's prophecy chap. 60: "They shall build up your waste places."

Three Mile Creek is on the string south of Brigham City, and as a person walks from ranch to ranch he sees the beauties of farm life. On the road a familiar voice says "Hello, is that you? Jump up in the buggy;" and I found a very old friend, Bishop Barnard White, who took me to his lovely farm and palatial home. His creamery and three hundred broad acres are cultivated to the highest possible degree, and as a consequence the results pay.

Next comes Willard with its homes, orchards and farms, all showing what a wonderful people these Mormons are. There is but one conclusion for an observant person who travels from month to month through these cities, towns and counties, made beautiful by Mormon labor and industry. It is that God has more than fulfilled His word, viz., That whosoever shall forsake father or mother, houses or land, etc. for my sake and the Gospel, shall receive a hundred fold in this life. Reader, if you doubt my word, walk with me through these fat valleys of Ephraim, and to the inquiry, Has the Almighty kept His word to Israel? you will be able to give answer only in the affirmative. SALOP.

### SYRACUSE FRUIT FARM.

Syracuse, Davis Co., Utah,  
Nov. 22, 1897.

I thought a few notes from this silent locality might be of interest to your many readers, so I send you an account of my visit to the Syracuse fruit farm.

Four years ago a sparsely growing lucern field, skirted by salaratus barrens—today a thrifty orchard covering more than forty acres—Such is the history of the Syracuse fruit farm, behind which stand the pluck and foresight of D. C. Adams. To read this aright requires that one call on Manager Barber at the site of the once popular lake resort and ask to be shown through the warehouse, Down the

aisles which skirt the pyramids of reserved fruits, jellies, etc., part of the crop of this season, the second of a young orchard, can be seen an index of the success and future of a most commendable enterprise. Tiers of shelves and counters are covered with cans and bottles, ranging from five gallons to a quart, of French prunes, pears, peaches, etc. Eleven hundred four-quart cans of grape butter and 190 four-gallon cans of French prunes are packed to be dispatched to the U. P. railroad hotels. One carload left last week. Some of this fruit has been shipped to Omaha and Boston. On the shipping list now are large orders to various parts. While the output may not be regarded as a large one, yet it distinctly marks the beginning of a prosperous horticultural era. This spring we are informed that a large cannery is in prospectus, and the demands on the nurserymen's stock is in the ascendancy.

J. H. COLES.

### TO UTAH FARMERS.

The following article, of special interest to Utah farmers, is from the pen of Prof. F. B. Linfield, of the Agricultural College, Logan, and appears in the latest number of the Orange Judd Farmer published at Chicago:

After having traveled over nearly all the agricultural sections of the State I have come to the conclusion that a change of method is necessary among our farmers. The soil in most of the valleys of Utah has been produced by the disintegration of rocks. For the most part, the mountains are devoid of timber and vegetable growth, and the rainfall is slight. The soil contains a very small amount of decayed vegetation and a large amount of mineral matter. With an abundance of rainfall, the mineral ingredients would be carried down into the soil and would be no detriment, but in this region where rainfall is deficient the salts accumulate in the upper layers, seriously decreasing the productiveness of the land, particularly in the southern counties. This is quite evident in the older settled portions of the State, consequently in order to make the land more productive, a system of farming should be followed which will result in an addition of vegetable matter to the soil. Unfortunately the method of cropping by most farmers is exclusive grain growing. Frequently a farm is found on which the same kind of grain has been produced for a number of years in succession. Even when alfalfa is seeded, it is allowed to remain as long as a fair cutting can be obtained. The effect of this system has been to impair the fertility of the land and decrease its productiveness. Where large yields were produced 15 or 20 years ago, only small ones can be obtained now.

But depleting the fertility of the land is not the only result of continuous grain farming. When settlers first came here the land was almost free from weeds which could easily be kept down while the soil was productive, and farm crops grew vigorously. With the reduction of the fertility has come an increased number of noxious weeds, which are flourishing luxuriantly and threaten to make many fields unprofitable.

Of the native weeds, only a few are troublesome, possibly five or six, but a great many have been imported and seem to grow more readily than those which were found here by the first settlers. The twelve or fifteen weeds which are most troublesome are named oats, dandelion, sunflower, pigweed, milkweed, bindweed, cocklebur, purslane, mustard, barnyard grass and shepherd purse. These are at present most generally troublesome, although there are a number of others, appar-