

## THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH &amp; LIBERTY.



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY:  
Wednesday---December 26, 1855.

## To our Readers.

We have endeavored to present you this week with as much variety as our limited resources would admit of. Several communications have been received that will appear in the News hereafter, and might have been published in this number if we had not thought best to defer them in consequence of the small amount of matter at command, that we consider worth publishing; and having little experience in matters of this kind, our cautiousness has prompted us to be as economical with what we have as possible, otherwise we might run entirely ashore, which we would not like to do during the short time we have to serve you.

As for news there is none in circulation. Winter has set in with more than common severity; most kinds of business have been suspended in the city and country; but few are stirring about, and nothing worthy of note is transpiring. We have made diligent inquiry far and near and can hear of nothing but peace and quietness. All are minding their own business as usual, and if we were disposed to watch for iniquity, we should despair of finding much till the weather is warmer than it is now.

Yesterday was "Merry Christmas," which passed with unusual quietness. Although many went forth in the dance, and enjoyed themselves in that almost universally admired recreation, there was but little parade and show made, and as far as our observation extended, we have never seen a Christmas day pass off more harmoniously, and with all our ultra notions about holidays, we saw nothing that we particularly objected to.

The press of business on our hands would have precluded our participating in the festivities of the day, if we had been disposed, so we spent the time as usual, with the exception that we locked the door of the office, and wrote a few letters to friends in the after part of the day unmolested.—[E.S.]

## Education.

Gov. Young, in his late annual message has called the attention of the Legislative Assembly, to the all important subject of education, and recommends the adoption of some well organized system, that will confer the blessings of at least a common education upon every child in the Territory, and that will establish and keep in operation a school where the higher branches can be taught. And it is to be hoped that, that body of intelligent legislators, will at once take the subject into consideration; and devise and adopt a system that will effect so desirable an object.

It is not our intention, as it is not our province, to suggest, to those, to whom has been entrusted the interests of the people of this Territory, in the development of every principle, that will promote and increase the intelligence, wealth, and happiness of all, the best measures for them to adopt, in order to successfully carry out the proposed plan, and obtain the desired end; but we earnestly hope and pray, that, in wisdom, they may be guided in all their acts, and particularly in relation to the matter under consideration, and that the system, they may adopt, may be simple in its machinery, and universal in its operation, so far as the condition and circumstances of the people throughout the entire Territory will admit; and that it will have some specified motive power, that can be easily applied and controlled, so that it may not be impeded in its progress by coming in contact with other interests and other powers.

We have no disposition to find fault with former Legislatures, or the measures they may have adopted for the promotion of any object of general interest to community, even if they have failed in the accomplishment of the end for which they were instituted, for we have no natural gift for that business, and have never been commissioned Fault Finder General, nor appointed to any subordinate office in his staff, and consequently look upon men and things as they pass along, as favorably as possible, without complaining, believing that every honest and good man, whether in public or private life, does as well as he knows how, and that he will do nothing to retard the wheels of progress with evil intent, and if we are so unfortunate as to honestly differ in opinion with others, we have no natural nor legal right to find fault with them for that difference.

The subject of education is one of more than passing interest to us as a people, and one that should enlist the united wisdom and energies of our Legislators at this and in time to come. To them we look for the adoption of such wise measures as will secure to every child and youth in these Valleys, the blessings, of at least knowing how to read and write, if nothing more; and for the establishment and permanent support of some school or institution in which teachers can be taught the principles of science, before they undertake to teach others. These are measures we have desired to see adopted, and have believed would be, sooner or later; tho' at the same time we are well aware of the difficulties and disadvantages the people have labored under from the commencement of their settlement in this naturally barren and unfruitful land, and of those that yet exist and will attend every effort that can or will be made to secure and impart the blessing of education to our posterity after us, that they may be qualified to act the part that may be assigned them in the great drama of future events.

Much has already been done, in the several cities and settlements of the Territory to establish and support schools, but either for want of competent teachers, or proper discrimination in the selection of those to whom has been intrusted the responsible duties of teaching children, there has not been, that progress made that otherwise might have been expected from the amount of money and time that has been expended, and in our humble opinion the Legislature could not confer a greater or more lasting benefit upon those who are looking to that source for pecuniary aid in the establishment of such institutions, as will best promote public interest, than to make a liberal appropriation for the establishment and permanent support of some school, where teachers can be qualified for the business before engaging in it.

As we have stated we do not believe in finding fault, and when we speak of things, wish to simply represent them as they exist, according to our understanding. That more has been done for the establishment of common or primary schools by the people of this Territory, during the short period of eight years, than has been done in twice that length of time by the people of other new countries where it has been our fortune to reside, we have no hesitation in saying, notwithstanding the difficulties that have attended their efforts; and we challenge the world to point out a community with all the advantages of location that could be desired, that have ever made the improvements in the same length of time that have been made in Deseret. Still we are firmly of the opinion that if the subject of education was better understood, and the benefits to be derived therefrom more fully appreciated, the same results might be produced at far less expense. It is not the length of time that children are sent to school, that secures to them that knowledge that is essential to make them useful members of society, but their improvement and success more or less depends upon the value parents and guardians place upon those things and upon the kind of instructors that are employed to teach their children. In too many instances in every community, and in every State or Territory where we have resided, the education of children has been intrusted to literary *Know Nothings*, persons incapable of teaching the first principles of science, from the fact that they knew little or nothing about them, and could not intelligibly communicate what they did know to others, a very essential qualification that teachers should possess, and without which, let their other qualifications be what they may, the great majority of children will make but slow progress under their tuition.

Our knowledge of these matters in this Territory, is some what limited, yet in more than one instance have we known of persons being employed as teachers, who had no other qualification excepting they were out of employ, and would become a public charge, if something was not done to prevent it, and so they have been set to "teaching school" as it is commonly called; the most expensive way of supporting paupers that could possibly be devised. The checks that have been provided by Legislative enactments and municipal regulations to prevent such occurrences, in the establishment of Boards of Examiners have been too impotent in their operation, and have failed to produce the results, in many instances, for which they were instituted.

The Legislature will unquestionably take the subject into serious consideration, and make some liberal provisions for carrying out the measures proposed by His Excellency; but if nothing else is done, we sincerely hope that provision will be made for the establishment and support of some

institution where those who wish to qualify themselves for teaching, can obtain that knowledge that will enable them by the proper use of those gifts that may have been bestowed upon them to become competent teachers and honorable and useful members of community.—[E.S.]

☞ The Home Missionaries in this District had an appointment for a Quarterly Conference in this city on Saturday last the 22d inst., but in consequence of the storm and extreme cold, few if any ventured out to attend on that day. On Sunday the congregation at the Tabernacle was very small, and as the weather was cold and uncomfortable, it was thought best to dismiss at the close of the services in the forenoon. The Missionaries, however, distributed themselves through the city and preached to the people at the Ward school-houses in the evening. We have seldom witnessed a more uncomfortable time in the Valley than those two days.—[E.S.]

THE WEATHER.—Since the commencement of this month the weather has been quite wintry and stormy, tho' not so very cold most of the time. A vast quantity of snow has fallen in the mountains, and the prospect for an abundance of water for irrigation next summer could not be better.

On the night of the 21st inst. there was a tremendous storm of wind and snow, from north or north west, which continued from a little before midnight till after day light next morning. For about two hours after the commencement the wind blew a perfect hurricane, doing some considerable damage to sheds, fences, yards, &c. The demolition of the Stray Pound called forth some expressions of satisfaction from persons, we presume, who have been in the habit of letting their cattle run in the streets. Since the storm the weather has been unusually cold.—[E.S.]

## AFFAIRS AT THE CAPITOL.

NATIONAL HALL, Fillmore, }  
Dec. 16, 1855. }

Judge Smith:—

Dear Sir:—Owing to various circumstances, but chiefly attributable to the Council Hall's not being, as yet, furnished with suitable conveniences for the transaction of business, the legislative machinery is not under full and rapid headway. The workmen are basily employed, early and late, and it is expected that they will soon have all things in readiness, of a temporary kind, so far as furniture is concerned, so that the duties devolved upon us can be more efficiently attended to. For these reasons, the Assembly adjourned from Thursday last until Monday the 17th; in the meantime, the standing and special committees have occupied the time in preparing matter to present in session, and doubtless on the morrow progress can be reported.

The special committee, to whom was intrusted the framing and presenting such acts as might be deemed necessary for setting in motion our admission into the Union, have prepared "An act providing for holding a convention, with a view to the admission of Utah as a State," both of which will probably be presented in joint session at an early day.

This forenoon, Elder P. P. Pratt, chaplain of the Council, addressed a crowded audience in the large school-house in this city, and in the afternoon, His Excellency Governor Young and H. C. Kimball, president of the Council, gave interesting and useful instructions to the large congregation.

The weather is clear and very pleasant, as is the civil and religious atmosphere.—Truly, yours,

ALBERT CARRINGTON.

☞ It is said that Mons. Paris, a French chemist, has discovered a vitreous enamel which will stand the test of any chemical or physical action to which it may be subjected. Experiments, it is added, fully prove that the adherence is perfect, and that the enamel resists the most violent shocks without cracking although the iron it covers may be completely bent; and it does not peel off or take fire by the action of heat; while concentrated acids can be kept at the boiling point for a considerable period in vessels protected by it.

Iron may thus be used where glass, silver, gold or platinum only has heretofore been employed.—It is also intended to apply the invention to the lining of water and gas-pipes, covering roofs, and sheathing ships, anchors, &c.

☞ Different nations have different kinds of loafers. The Italian spends his time in sleeping, the Turkish loafer in dreaming, the Spanish in praying, the French in laughing, the English in sw-aring, the Russian in gambling, the Hungarian in smoking, the German in drinking, and the American in talking politics.

☞ William C. Bryant, the poet, in writing from the east, said that the Mohammedans are fast becoming Europeanized. They are becoming careless of the marriage vow, get drunk, beat their wives, bruise their children, associate with infidels, and, in fact, are getting to be almost like the Christians.

☞ Henry Ward Beecher says: "I never knew an early riser, hard working, prudent man, careful of his earnings and strictly honest, who complained of bad luck. A good character, good habits and good industry are impregnable to the assaults of all the ill luck fools ever dreamed of."

A country chap, who was caught in the water wheel of a grist mill, and had the good fortune to escape with no other damage than a slight ducking, says he intends to apply for a pension, on the ground that he is a survivor of the revolution.

Be abstemious. "Who dainties love shall beggars prove."  
Rise early. "The sleeping fox catches no poultry."  
Treat every one with respect and civility.

"Everything is gained and nothing lost by courtesy." Good manners insure success.  
Never anticipate wealth from any other source than labor. He who waits for dead men's shoes may have to go a long time barefoot.  
"Heaven helps those who help themselves."  
If you implicitly follow these precepts, nothing will hinder you from accumulating.

OLD ENGLISH OAKS.—An English publication gives the following accounts of the most celebrated oaks in England:—

The oldest oak in England is supposed to be the parliament oak (from the tradition of Edward I. holding a parliament under its branches) in Climpstone Park, belonging to the Duke of Portland, the park being also the most ancient on the island; it was a park before the Conquest, and was seized as such by the conqueror. The tree is supposed to be 1500 years old. The tallest oak in England was believed to be the property of the same nobleman; it was called the "Duke's walking stick," was higher than Westminster Abbey, and stood till of late years.

The largest oak in England is called Calthorp oak, Yorkshire; it measures 78 feet in circumference where the trunk meets the ground. The three shire oak, at Worksop, is so called from its covering part of the counties of York, Nottingham, and Derby. It had the greatest expanse of any recorded in the island, drooping over 767 square yards.

The most productive oak was that of Gelonos, in Monmouthshire, felled in 1810. Its bark brought \$1,000 and its timber \$3,350. In the mansion of Tredegar Park, Monmouthshire, there is said to be a room 42 feet broad and 227 feet long, the floor and wainscots of which were the production of a single oak tree grown on the estate.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

G. S. L. CITY, December 15, 1855.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWS:

Sir:—Thinking, perhaps, that a short sketch of a tour I have just had, in company with Major Garland Hurt, Indian agent, to Utah, Juab, Millard and Sanpete counties, would not be altogether uninteresting to you, the following is at your disposal:—

The agent went for the purpose of visiting the different bands of Utahs in that section of the Territory, and to select suitable places to establish and locate Indian reservations, with a view to persuade the poor unfortunate Indians to forsake their nomadic for a civilized life.

We left this city, Tuesday, Nov. 27, numbering seven in company. We found no Indians, however, until we got to Springville; we had some conversation with them, gave them some clothes, and then they said they felt very well. Here our party was joined by Levi G. Metail, Indian interpreter.

We arrived at Nephi Saturday, December 1st. Here we found some more of nature's children; they all felt first-rate at our telling them that we wanted them to go to work and raise grain like the white man, that they and their families might not suffer when it became cold and their country destitute of wild game.

We tarried at Nephi over the Sabbath, owing to the agent's health, he having taken a cold after he had left the city, which caused an abscess to come upon his upper lip, which was very annoying and made him quite sick. The next day, being able to proceed on our journey, we went and examined the facilities for farming on Chicken creek; we found some very good land, but water rather scarce. Here we camped for the night.

The next morning we were en route for Fillmore city by the dawn of day, distance near 60 miles; having a mule team, we were under the necessity of improving our time to make the desired point, which, however, was obtained through the united energies of our drivers, and no small quantity of buckskin, about 9 o'clock in the evening.

Here we found all well, and preparing to receive the legislative members. We had a visit early next morning from Konosh, chief of the Pai-vantes. He was much pleased at seeing his father, (as he called the agent) and said he knew that he had good advice for himself and his people. We told him that we wanted him and his men to accompany us on the morrow to Corn creek, where the Indians have been trying to farm this season.

Accordingly, next day, we examined the prospects of making an Indian reservation. We found, as we thought, good land and plenty of water for a large farm for the Indians. We then returned to Fillmore city; tarried next day, made many presents to the Indians, and were well pleased at the arrival of His Excellency the Governor and suit all well and in good spirits.

We then set out next day to visit a location in San Pete county. Here we found a very good place for a farm, and saw Arrapine and his band at Manti; had a conversation with him and found him feeling well disposed towards the whites, and ready to punish the offender of justice, on his part. We also made his band, and a band of the Sanpitches many presents, such as blankets, coats, pants, caps, shirts, &c.

On our return home, we were informed at Springville, that some of the Indians had been stealing horses some time since, and the whites were trying to take the offenders, which made Squashhead and some others of the band quite angry. We saw Squashhead, and he said that he did not want anything but that which was right. He being very doubtful, there was no use to place any dependence on what he said. I have not since learned what disposition they made of the prisoners.

We arrived in this city on the 14th inst., and found all well at home. You will please excuse haste, and believe me, yours, &c., with respect,

LYMAN S. WOOD, U. S. Indian Interpreter.

G. S. L. CITY, Dec. 18, 1855.

MR. EDITOR:—As several of the persons who escaped from the massacre at Elk mountains have asked me to present their claims for property lost in that unfortunate affair, I take occasion to suggest that they all make out their claims in due form, and forward them to me at my office, in G. S. L. City, as soon as practicable.

G. HURT, Indian Agent.