

## THE DESERET NEWS.



ALBERT CARRINGTON:.....EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY:

Wednesday-----May 23, 1855.

## Bounty Lands.

For the benefit of many in Utah, we publish in this number of the "News," Mr. Waldo's letter, explicitly stating who are entitled to said lands, and also the full forms to be filled out by the applicants therefor. We do this that all may understand the very simple mode of procedure for securing a land warrant, and not be so unwise as to give away from one to three-fourths of the value of their claim, for a few minutes writing.—Any person who can write, is abundantly able to attend to filling up the plain forms now printed, and if they cannot write they can easily find a friend who can, and who will only charge, at most, a fair price for the short time he may be occupied. When the papers are made out, they are to be addressed to the "Pension Office, Washington City, D. C.," and deposited in some Post Office, from which they will be forwarded to destination, take their turn on the office file, be attended to, and the warrant returned. This method will insure the bounty's reaching the hands of those for whom the Government so liberally designed it, and that too with the least possible deduction, or loss, as the mails and the Pension Office are sustained by the Public at large. But how is it with the course usually pursued?—For a few minutes' work some shark charges a large share of the value of the claim, and forwards it to a fellow shark in Washington who presents it at the Office, where it follows precisely the same course, notice, and treatment as though it had gone by mail, and when in its turn the warrant is made out the Washington shark sends it by mail to his fellow who hands it to the owner, upon his paying an exorbitant discount. What is the necessity for, or benefit of this expensively shaving system of go-betweens? No necessity, and of course not a particle of benefit, except to those who step in to hinder and divert the legitimate channel of governmental munificence, and turn a large share into their own pockets, at the expense to them of a mere nominal amount of labor. With the aid of the forms and information now printed, there are many in each county in Utah who can properly prepare every needed document, and the mails will convey the matter to the Office at Washington as safely and speedily for one as for another, and when there it takes its course, and no sharking influence or handling is of the least possible benefit.

If it is, business in the Pension Office has taken a downward step that it had not taken during our sojourn in Washington, and of which we are not yet informed. Therefore make out your own papers, or, if you cannot write, get some honorable friend to do so.

## The Crops and the Grasshoppers.

North of this City, by latest information, the grasshoppers have not done much damage, but the long continued dry weather is operating against crops, the streams not affording enough water for irrigation. From this City to Manti, 133 miles, the grasshoppers have been very destructive, in places destroying whole fields of grain. At present they seem to be less destructive in our gardens, but whether they have really concluded to stop eating, die off, or clear out, is not yet known. One thing we do know, viz: that it is the best policy, so far as possible, for every one to continue replanting and resowing until the 10th of June, and perhaps a little later, as all kinds of crops commonly raised here will have ample time to come to maturity, or at least sufficiently so to be far better than thistle roots. It may be well to remark that insects appear to injure peas and mechanic potatoes less than any other articles cultivated for food, hence in places where it should prove to be impossible to raise grain, peas and potatoes may escape, and with meat afford an abundant, nutritious, and very palatable diet.

In planting potatoes the earliest varieties had better be used, where the mechanic cannot be had, and reject the pinkies and the very late kinds, unless lack of other seed should compel their being used.

Owing to the small amount of snow in the mountains, and the present dry state of the soil, it will be necessary to curtail the size of fields, and tend a smaller amount with more skill and care, which will doubtless secure a sufficiency for our prudent wants.

Each one will understand that before re-seeding, dry soil must be properly moistened by irrigation to insure germination.

Though we do not feel, and have not felt the least uneasy apprehension for the final result of the present destruction, still we are inclined to think that Government troops, should any design wintering here next winter, will find their fare rather more unpalatable and expensive than they did last winter, unless they bring it with them.—As for the Saints, we are perfectly aware that thro' faith and obedience they can prevail in the grasshopper war, at least as well as they did in the cricket war of 1848, and far better and more pleasantly than against mobs and other abominations of, so called, Christian civilization. And if any quail at these small matters, and cease their faith and efforts, how can they ever expect to overcome the world, death, hell, and the grave?

## Elders' Correspondence.

By letters to Pres. Brigham Young, from Elder Franklin D. Richards, dated Liverpool, Jan. 26, and from Elder John Van Cott, dated at Copenhagen, Feb. 21, we select the following items.

In England multitudes of the working class begin to feel the effects of the war severely, thousands being put upon short time, or entirely thrown out of employment; and, when seeking for labor, are told to "go to the Crimea and fight for their country." This and other circumstances were preaching emigration so powerfully, that it was only necessary to wisely manage it.

President Richards has printed 3000 Books of Mormon, and 5000 copies of the "Voice of Warning" to supply the constant demand, and only a few of the 25,000 edition Hymn Book remain in the office. Elder P. P. Pratt's "Key to Theology" is nearly ready for the market. Elders E. Ellsworth, J. A. Little, W. H. Kimball, J. A. Young, G. D. Grant, W. G. Young, and James Ferguson, were richly enjoying the Spirit, and were strong in the power of the Priesthood. Elder J. A. Young, has been appointed to succeed Elder M. Atwood in the Presidency of the Bradford Conference; he is much esteemed, and rejoices in his mission.

Elder Van Cott has printed 500 copies of each of the 17 back numbers of the "Stjerne," 2000 copies of the sixth edition of the "Voice of Truth," in the Danish, and 2000 copies of the same work in the Swedish language, 2500 "Invitations to come into the Kingdom of God," the same number of "Bible references," 1500 of the "Voice of Warning," 800 "Doctrine and Covenants," 2000 copies of the "Patriarchal Order," 3000 of the 5000 Danish Hymn Books have been sold. The edition of the Book of Mormon, published by Elder Erastus Snow, had all been sold except 100, and the 700 unbound copies which are being bound. The regular issue of the semi-monthly "Scandinavian Stjerne" is 1500. The Scandinavian mission is in a very prosperous condition, the Saints being anxious and willing to do all in their power to roll forth the Kingdom of God.

## Missionaries in the States.

From the St. Louis Luminary of March 17, we learn that Elder Thomas Colborn was at Lyons, N. Y., on the 4th of March; he had recently visited the Tom's River Branch, where fifteen members had been lately added, and they then numbered between 70 and 80, with prospects of further additions. He intended to return home this season.

Elder Wm. Martindale wrote from Grand Bluffs, Texas, Feb. 7, that the prospects were brightening in his field; his health was better, and he was rejoicing in the spirit of his mission.

Elder James Case, at Sullivan, Ill., March 9, had baptized several, and expected to baptize more in a short time.

Elder Benjamin L. Clapp, when last heard from, was in Troy, Freestone Co., Texas, and expected to take a company, mostly composed of his relations, through to Utah this season.

Elders Elisha Edwards and Edwin Whiting wrote from Ohio, March 4, as follows, "There is almost a famine here, many of the poor are suffering for the necessities of life. The rich are so afraid that they shall starve, that they hoard their money and provisions. Cattle are dying by hundreds for want of feed. Snow is 18 inches deep. Spiritualism is the order of the day here; it takes with the people like fire in stubble."

SAINTS.—From minutes of a conference held in Philadelphia, Jan. 7, and published in 'The Mormon' of March 10, we learn that the Philadelphia Branch had 130 members, including 7 Elders, 8 Priests, and 5 Teachers. The Branch at Hornerstown had 25 members in good standing. The Union Branch at Quincy, Franklin Co., Pa., had 30 members, Elder William Turman President. The Branch at Tom's River numbered 75.

Elder O. Spencer writes to The Mormon, March 2, that the Elders in Ohio were all well at last reports.

FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.—Elders John S. Fulmer, Isaac Allred, O. M. Deuel, James Pace, William Smith, and George Simpson, Ex-Presidents of Conferences in the British Isles, are on their way home.

IMMIGRATION.—We learn, from the St. Louis Luminary of March 17, that 175 Danish brethren, in charge of Elder P. O. Hanson, left St. Louis March 12, for Atchison, K. T. en route for Utah.

CINCINNATI.—In The Luminary of March 27, we find a letter from Prof. Orson Spencer, dated Cincinnati, March 9, from which we make the following extract. "We baptized two pretty good men yesterday on the Kentucky shore, yet Cincinnati is a queen that never intends to be a widow, so long as the devil lives, and her children take after their parents."

HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR YOUNG, and suite, left Manti on the 14th inst., en route for Fillmore, and the more southern settlements. The details of the trip as far as Manti, and of the newly discovered beds of bituminous coal, in the mountain range between Sanpete and Juab counties, will be found in a letter from the President to General Wells, and printed in this No.

"THE EARLY MAY PEA" was in full pod on the 12th inst., thus fairly demonstrating that, in ordinary seasons, we can have an abundance of green peas by the middle of May, if a little pains is taken to secure seed of that very early variety of pea; enough at any rate to supply the table until the "marrowfat" and other more yieldly varieties come to maturity.

Peach trees are very heavily loaded with fruit, some of it is now, May 21st, as large as hickory nuts.

WEATHER.—May 20, slight showers in the valley; snows on the mountains. 21, slight frost, and a light dash of hail about daybreak; cool enough throughout the day to make fires comfortable. 22, cloudy and cool.

## NEWS FROM THE FIRST PRESIDENCY AND COMPANY.

[By politeness of Gen. D. H. Wells.]

MANTI, San Petre County, }  
May 13, 1855. }

BR. WELLS:—We arrived at Willow Creek about 6 p. m., of the 8th inst.—the day we left G. S. L. City—where we were hospitably entertained at the house of br. Ebenzer Brown.

On the morning of the 9th, at 8 a. m., we left Provo; passed through Lehi about half past 10, dined with Bishop Harrington, in Lake City, and then passed thro' Battle Creek, or Pleasant Grove, at 3 p. m., and arrived in Provo at 5 1-2 o'clock. By 7 o'clock the Town Hall in Provo was densely crowded, and br. J. M. Grant and myself addressed the audience, on principles pertaining unto their immediate practical duties. Quite a good spirit and feeling prevailed; and I am happy to state that the people of Provo are awakening from their slumbering and lethargy, to animation and vigor in the scale of improvements.—Brs. Kimball, Grant, and myself, and some others of the company remained over night with br. Joseph A. Kelting.

We left Provo on the 10th, at 9 a. m.; passed thro' Springville, and Palmyra, and arrived at Payson about 12 1-2 p. m., from which place I wrote to you on the same day. At 5 p. m. we preached to the people in the open air, and the most profound attention was paid to the principles advanced.

On Friday, the 11th, we started from Payson at 7 a. m.; passed thro' Nephi at 11 a. m., and camped for the night at Uinta springs, in Sanpete valley, where our horses had a rather indifferent supply of grass.

On the 12th we started at 7 a. m., and at 9 1-2 halted near the ford across Sanpete river. Several of the company tarried at this place, while others, with 8 wagons, 1 carriage, and about 15 on horseback, started for the coal beds, about 5 miles from the road. This company was piloted by two or three men from Fort Ephraim.

Between the point of starting, and the mouth of the canyon where the coal was discovered, there is much sage and greasewood, and about midway there is a pretty rivulet of clear, cool water, which, at a future day, can be made available for irrigating purposes in that section of country. The wagons broke the road to the mouth of the canyon, where the animals were turned out to graze, under a guard, and the balance of the company proceeded one mile and a half up the canyon to the coal bed. To our gratification we found that it was no hoax, for we both saw, and handled it, and secured specimens to take home. Br. Adams took a sackrull to Fort Ephraim, where it was tried in a blacksmith shop, and it made an excellent welding heat.

The part of the bed which we visited is in a cove in the canyon, and its first appearance resembles a massive, stratified rock. At this point it is about 25 feet from the surface of the soil to the top of the outcrop, down which falls a small stream of water. The upper outcropping vein is 3 ft. and 4 in. thick, and rests upon a stratum of rock below which is another vein from 22 to 24 inches in thickness, succeeded by a layer of rock, about 2 inches thick, which it is thought will give out in a short distance. Below this thin seam of rock there is a vein of beautiful coal 5 feet thick.

As we were not prepared to mine, we could not determine the position of affairs under the surface; but from what we could discover, there is a fair prospect of almost an inexhaustible quantity. I am endeavoring to engage the people of Manti and Fort Ephraim to make a road to the beds, and to commence mining, so that we can have coal in G. S. L. City this summer.

We again started for Fort Ephraim, and arrived there about 5 p. m. Preached in the schoolhouse at early candle light, and this morning in the open air. The brethren here have been very diligent in making improvements; they are erecting a fort wall of stone, to inclose an area of 60 by 44 1-2 rods, and to be 18 feet high, 4 feet thick at the base, and 18 inches at the top.

In all the settlements we have visited, the people appear to be rubbing the scales from their eyes, and awakening more to righteousness and general improvement, which affords me much pleasure.

As a general thing, so far as we have proceeded on our journey, the grasshoppers are much more numerous than in G. S. L. City; while fields of wheat, that a few weeks past promised a plentiful harvest, at present show not a spear, or blade. We have had only one small shower, and that while passing up Salt Creek Canyon.

Doctor Sprague reports that the health of the people in the settlements we have visited, is good, as is also that of the company. We have not had a case of sickness, and the weather has been very favorable for traveling, with the exception of dust.

We have a goodly company, and an excellent spirit prevails throughout. We are making as much headway as we could reasonably expect, considering all circumstances. I remain affectionately

Your brother in the gospel of salvation,

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

## New York Mirror.

Strange things are constantly happening in the last days, and few are more unexpected to us, than to find a reasonable article on Mormonism in any of the world's newspapers, hence we most cheerfully publish the following extract of an article, in the New York Mirror, entitled "The Mormon:"

As polygamy is a "local institution" we do not see how Southerners and Union-savers can consistently interfere with it. For the rest, if Bro. John Taylor values the testimony of a "Gentile," he can have ours, that Brigham Young is a perfect gentleman, kind and courteous to emigrants, even when dressed, as we were, in fustian, and calling upon him, as we did, an entire stranger, without introduction from Mormon or Gentile.—During a three weeks sojourn at the city of the Great Salt Lake, we saw more order, industry and decorum than we ever observed elsewhere in the world, and the writer of this has seen a little of the spheroid. We venture the assertion, and challenge contradiction, that a more peaceful, orderly, industrious and law-abiding community than the dwellers in Deseret cannot be found, and we wish it distinctly understood that we know not a soul among them, and have not a particle of sympathy with their religion or polygamic institution.

Thank you, Mr. Mirror, for your frank, candid, and certainly impartial testimony; and if all who know, would boldly speak out the truth as you have done, and the ignorant hold their peace, the honest in heart would not have so much difficulty in determining who are practicing the pure principles of the Gospel. But the wicked delight in working iniquity, and only a few have the moral courage and nerve to breast the tremendous tide of error that is sweeping priests and people to destruction by millions.

## Summary.

[From a broken file of the New York Herald of Jan. Feb. and March, latest date March 22. The Herald is regularly and faithfully mailed, and it is highly desirable that it may be faithfully and promptly forwarded, that we can omit the word broken, and be able to furnish our readers with a more connected series of noticeable events.—Ed.]

A large cotton mill in Dorchester, Mass., was totally destroyed by fire Jan. 11. Loss \$150,000, and 200 operatives thrown out of employment.

—Hickory wood was retailing in New York city at from \$9 to \$9 3/4 a cord, on the 13th of Jan.

—Under the administration of the new mayor, Fernando Wood, New York city is taking quite a step towards beginning to be a civilized place, and if the respectable portion of citizens will screw up their moral courage, and aid the reformation, that locality stands some chance of becoming well governed—an event very desirable, on account of the wide margin for improvement.

—Nassau Hall, in Princeton, N. J., was destroyed by fire on the 10th of March; loss, \$50,000.

—A fire in Geneva, N. Y., March 13, destroyed property to the amount of \$100,000; and on the same day fire destroyed a large number of buildings in Bath, N. Y.; amount of loss not stated.

—An earthquake shook the houses in Tampa, Florida, Feb. 27.

—A tremendous hail storm visited Louisville, Ky., March 16, which demolished skylights, broke in roofs, and did much other damage; some of the hailstones were two inches in circumference.

—Fires in the woods in portions of North and South Carolina and Georgia, March 9, 10, 11, and 12, burnt an immense amount of fencing, several mills, much plantation machinery, and a large number of dwellings and outhouses. In many places, the fences, buildings, and other property of the planters, were so completely destroyed as to leave the owners unable to make seasonable preparations for putting in crops. At last accounts the fires were said to be abating. —The balance of the Herald's items adapted to this altitude are too lengthy for this condensation, and will appear in full as fast as we can find room.