

HOME ITEMS.

SABBATH MEETINGS.—Elder John Van Cott reasoned on the necessity of our possessing a knowledge of the principles of truth, that we may have power to overcome in the contest waged against righteousness by iniquity and error. The hand of God has been visibly over us as a people, continually for good; He has had mercy upon us, and led us to embrace the truth, often by strange and peculiar circumstances; and He desires that we may continue faithful and obtain an exaltation in His presence. The friendship of the world is hollow and interested; men who profess friendship for the truth but do not embrace it, will be found willing to embrace the dollars of those who keep the commandments of God, when they can get them; but the friendship of the Lord may be relied upon, and He will save to the uttermost all who hearken to the voice of His servants and do His will in faithfulness and honesty of heart.

AFTERNOON.

Elder Edward Stevenson related many interesting reminiscences of his early associations with the Church, and predictions uttered in his hearing by the Prophet Joseph which he had seen fulfilled. He referred to incidents at Kirtland, Far West and Adam-Ondi-Ahman, to show that those who maintained their integrity to the truth were blessed and prospered, while those who apostatized and became traitors to truth and righteousness, sunk in degradation and infamy; and through all the providences of the Lord were plainly visible in behalf of His people. Among other things, the speaker referred to a meeting held in Iowa, in the early years of the Church, where the Prophet declared that some of the congregation before him would lay down their lives as martyrs for the truth; some would pass into the spirit world, worn out by their sufferings in its defence; others of them would apostatize; and some of them would go beyond the Rocky Mountains and see the people of God become a great nation; all of which had been fulfilled thus far, and we are seeing the last rapidly coming to pass. In conclusion he exhorted the people to righteousness and faithfulness.

Elder John Taylor reasoned on the philosophy of the world, and the false estimate placed upon it by mankind; and showed that a knowledge of the laws of life, revealed in the Gospel, is that which is of true worth to the human family, leading to salvation and exaltation. His remarks were reported.

THE WEATHER.—Friday noon:—

Great Salt Lake City, high wind from the south; snow melting fast. 3 p.m.—Snowing rapidly.

By Deseret State Telegraph Line:—

Provo, mild and cloudy, snow disappearing rapidly.

Beaver, cloudy but warm; no snow.

Parowan, some clouds; very pleasant.

Tokerville, warm and pleasant.

St. George, warm; looks like rain.

Virginia City, Montana, Feb. 20.

A severe snow storm prevailed at Pleasant Valley; the snow drifted six feet in front of the office. It is very cold here.

Virginia, Nevada, Feb. 20.

The weather is cold; snowing and blowing very hard.

Denver, Col., Feb. 20.

The weather is moderate; the snow is nearly off.

Ft. Bridger, Utah, Feb. 20.

The weather is quite warm; cloudy; no wind.

Weber, Utah, Feb. 20.

The weather is blustering; snowing and very windy.

On Monday morning as follows:

Great Salt Lake City, mild, but very cloudy.

By Deseret State Telegraph Line:—

Logan, cloudy and cold; about six inches of snow on the ground.

Brigham City, mild and cloudy; two inches of snow.

Nephi, fine overhead; snow six inches deep.

Fillmore, cloudy and warm.

Beaver, very warm and clear; but little snow.

Parowan, clear and pleasant.

St. George, very warm and pleasant; snow all gone.

BRIGHTON WARD.—At a meeting held on Sunday, 24th inst., in the house of br. Wms. W. Camp, over Jordan, Elder George A. Smith presiding, a new Ward was organized west of the river, embracing all of the inhabitants living on the west side of the river and north of West Jordan Ward. Br. Andrew W. Cooley was appointed Bishop; and the new Ward will be known as Brighton Ward. Besides Elder Smith, there were present from this City, Elder A. M. Musser, Bishop E. F. Sheets, Elders John D. T. McAllister, George Goddard and William Willes. There was a crowded meeting. Much good instruction was given by the brethren; and some excellent singing was enjoyed, Elders McAllister, Willes and Goddard being the vocalists.

CALENDAR.—We direct the attention of our readers to the Monthly Calendar for March, which appears in our present issue, courteously prepared for the News by Elder Wm. Clayton.

MISSIONARY MOVEMENT IN CACHE.—On the 12th inst., Pres. E. T. Benson, Bishops Wm. Budge and G. O. Pitkin, accompanied by Elders Cummings, King and Shaw of Millville, Horseley, Hammond and Rammell of Providence, and C. J. Goodwin, C. C. Goodwin, W. Knowles, R. Evans and W. H. Shearman of Logan, left the latter place on a visiting and preaching tour to the northern settlements of Cache Co. They were joined on the way, by Bishops Roskelly and Merrill. Meetings were held in Franklin, Richmond and Smithfield, where good and attentive audiences were addressed by the above named brethren in succession. The Spirit of the Lord was enjoyed in a good degree, by both speakers and hearers. The teachings of the brethren were of a practical nature, urging the imperative duty of improving and beautifying home so as to make it lovely and attractive, of taking care of the sheep, the wool and the products of the earth, internal development by the establishment of woolen and other factories, and the importance of cultivating correct and pleasing habits, expressions and thoughts in private as well as in public. Two grist mills were dedicated:—One at Franklin, owned by L. H. Hatch & Co., 43x28½ feet; foundation of rock, to be two stories high, with room for four run of stones when completed. It is enclosed at present with logs, for immediate use; John Gosling architect. It will be a fine and substantial improvement. The second at Richmond, owned by W. W. Merrill & Co., 36x36 feet, a wood building, but a more than ordinary good mill, containing one run of stone, with calculation for another. Both these mills are about one and a half miles from the settlements.

The brethren everywhere met with the warmest welcome and the most liberal hospitality. Everything was done that kindness could suggest to make their visit agreeable and mutually beneficial. Whether at the meetings, the theatre, or the dance, both old and young seemed to vie with each other in exhibiting that courtesy and unselfish deference which characterize the true gentleman and lady. The Hall at Richmond, for its comfort and convenience, certainly deserves mention.

The Elders returned to Logan on the 16th inst., after one of the most pleasant and profitable visits imaginable.

The above item has been courteously communicated. Many thanks, friend S., for your kindness.

THEATRICAL.—There was a very good house on the opening night of the Spring Season. "Victims" is an amusing comedy, with plenty of laughable points and a nice little moral. Mr. McKenzie as Merryweather, Mr. Dunbar as Rowley, Mr. Lindsay as Fitzherbert, Mr. Margetts as Skimmer, Mr. Graham as Butterby and Mr. Malben as Hornblower, were all good. The character of Butterby is a peculiarly unctuous one, and was quite a favourite with the audience. The ladies acquitted themselves handsomely, Miss Adams being the loving, patient wife, Lucy; Miss Colebrook the sentimental, literary loving, and supposedly ill-mated Mrs. Merryweather; Mrs. Waugh the strong minded Miss Crane, who accepted Joshua as a convenience, that she might have more liberty in the married state than as a spinster; and Mrs. Bowring the not very hard-hearted landlady Mrs. Sharp. The rest of the ladies and gentlemen in the cast played very creditably, and the piece was well received. The presentation of the "unmentionables" was a big point.

Miss Alexander's hornpipe drew a hearty and well deserved encore. It was capitally executed, and is a fine dance.

Everybody knows the "Spectre Bridegroom," and how very laughable it is. All we need say is, that the characters were well rendered, and Mr. Margetts surpassed himself as Dickory.

The popular tragedian, Mr. T. A. Lyne, has been engaged, and will appear at an early date.

THE JUVENILE INSTRUCTOR.—The first number of Volume II of this periodical has been laid upon our desk, and is a highly creditable sheet. Its matter is excellent, and it appears in a new and elegant dress, which makes it as attractive in appearance as it is instructive and entertaining. The number before us has a couple of good illustrations,—"The Disobedient Prophet," and "A Volcano," with an article on each. We commend the paper to every family in the Territory.

PROVO VALLEY.—By a letter from br. John Huber, of Midway, Provo Valley, we learn that they are having cold times there, yet they feel first-rate, have excellent meetings, sufficient amusements, a good day school with about one hundred scholars, and a night school. All good. Write again, br. Huber.

EN ROUTE.—Elder George D. Watt wrote from Denver, Feb. 9, that Pres. B. Young, jr., and himself arrived in that city within a little less than six days from their departure from here on the 4th. The weather was rather boisterous and unpleasant during that portion of their trip, which was made by alternately sleighing and wagging. After resting 36 hours at Denver they resumed their journey; and President B. Young informs us that they arrived in Omaha on the 16th, all well, and would leave there at noon of the 17th.

THE THEATRE.—The Theatrical Card of Messrs. H. B. Clawson and John T. Caine, published in our last number, was received too late to make any comment on the opening of the Theatre in that issue. The desire for this place of popular resort being again opened, was general and often expressed. And there is no doubt but the patrons of the drama here will be much pleased that their wishes with regard to it are gratified. The former Managers are now the Lessees, and in undertaking this responsibility they do so with the hearty and unstinted confidence of the public in their ability to cater successfully for public amusement and theatrical enjoyment. It is gratifying to know that President Young, after having reared with munificent liberality so magnificent a structure for dramatic purposes, and exercised a close supervision over the entertainments presented for years, is now relieved from a great amount of personal care with regard to it, satisfied that as it has subserved the purpose for which it was erected thus far, it will continue to do so under the Lesseeship of the gentlemen who have been for years its indefatigable and able Managers.

Perhaps there is no theatre on the continent so well supplied with many of the accessories of effective dramatic representations, in appointments, scenery, costumes, &c. Certainly there is no one west of the Rocky Mountains that is at all equal to it, in these respects; and the completeness of its internal arrangements while speaking loudly for the generous liberality of President Young, give Messrs. Clawson and Caine advantages for successfully producing pieces which few other Lessees or Managers have.

We wish the present Lessees, and believe they will receive, a long continuation of the confidence which they now possess, increasing with the increase of population; and the liberal degree of patronage that they are so well entitled to by their past services in laboring for the gratification of the public.

WHAT A SAD CONDITION?—Truly things are in a sad state in this city, and the advocates of modern civilization (!) have reason to mourn over, and look unutterable things, concerning it. Only think, we have but one solitary magistrate who is ever called upon in a professional manner, and his office is supported so poorly that there is danger of his collapsing for lack of employment and fees. There are a couple or three bars in the city, but they don't pay. There is not a "hurdy-gurdy" shop within the municipal boundaries. There are say 20,000 inhabitants and over in the city, and our police magistrate is running the gauntlet of starvation, unless he can support his—Doctor, is your family a large one? by some better paying business. The drift of "regenerative" labors, in a great degree, is now apparent. They are philanthropic. They would save—well, no, not the nation from ruin, nor the community here from vice—but they would save—financially, we mean, our worthy police Court, and furnish employment for the peace officers. That's it. Their philanthropy is overflowing; and, under the circumstances, who cannot sympathize with them? It would be such a relief to them if they could introduce "civilization" here; here, where it is needed so much! Why, only the other day, an individual was so anxious to elevate the character of our city, that he actually dreamed of a theft with his eyes open, and told it to a scarcely credulous public. But virtue has its own reward! He was believed by some for an hour or two, till the truth was known. Lawyers are in a woe-begone state. Lawsuits are as scarce as grasshoppers on snow. The police have not enough occupation to waken a semblance of animation. Dr. Clinton will soon have to go to farming, or take "a mission." No wonder the cry is, that we "need civilization." He must be blind indeed who cannot see it. Why even the bar loafers and gamblers swear they can't stand it, and are putting off every fine day to "civilized" regions, where they can shoot a man for breakfast, patronize "hurdy-gurdy institutions," have a free fight when they want one, and show to all the world that they are "civilized." Don't we need "regeneration" sadly!

THE MENDENHALL LOOM.—It is a pleasure to see the Mendenhall Loom at work in Messrs. Cronyn & Co's. Store. Our Junior claims to be considerably acquainted with weaving, and he speaks in high terms of the performances of this loom, which works with astonishing ease and speed. Those who have not dropped in to see it, should do so by all means, as watching it operate will practically speak more in its favor than half a column of writing could do.

FROM UTAH CO.—Our friend Judge Bean dropped in to see us on last Wednesday, in capital health and spirits, and reported all prosperous in Utah County. That is gratifying. The heavy storm which visited this City on the evening of Tuesday, the 19th, had poured forth its fury in Utah Co. and up to the point of the mountain, on the morning of the same day.

FOR THE EAST.—Cronyn and Co. announce that Mr. Ferris will start East soon to buy goods for the firm and on commission. They are agents for Blandy's Engines, the Mendenhall Loom, and other machinery.

READ Esiray lists

ST. GEORGE.—By a letter from a gentleman of St. George to a friend in this city, we learn that good times have been enjoyed "down South" this winter. Parties have predominated; and the spirit of enjoyment has prevailed. A couple of transients who, among others, were heading south, had been arrested and proven guilty of larceny. One was sentenced to the penitentiary, and the other to a period of labor for the public benefit, with ball and chain attached. Two others of the same stamp were kindly escorted out of the settlement, after being furnished the provisions they needed. "Dixie" folks have not learned to fraternize with "regeneration." Glad of it.

NOTICE.—There is a letter in the Historian's office, for WILLIAM COOPER, formerly of Godmanchester, England, from HARRIET THORNTON of Eaton Socon, Bedfordshire, England.

READ Deseret Telegraph Company's notice.

Correspondence.

A PLEA FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—How is it that we cannot keep up our Sunday schools, at least as successfully as do some of the Wesleyans and other sectarians? It is surprising to note how shortsighted we are in this respect. I know of those amongst the Saints (old "Mormons" and elders) so foolish as to send their children to a sectarian Sunday school. What folly to travel and endure so much to get away from sectarianism, and then to send our children to imbibe the teachings of those whose acknowledged aim is the destruction of all that a true Saint holds dear!

One means made use of by the self-styled "regenerators" to decoy our children, is the frequent presentation of little books and tracts full of sectarian twaddle and falsehood, with an occasional grain of truth to season it. And to get such worthless rubbish, the little illustrations and trifling gifts pleasing unthinking childhood, some parents, who should know better, permit their children to attend. How unwise in parents to thus endanger the eternal welfare of their own children!

Whilst it must be admitted that our boys and girls are naturally as quick, intelligent, robust and healthy as any on the face of the earth, yet it is true that a carelessness about learning is too prevalent with many. To say nothing of book education, many positively know little or nothing concerning the divinity and mission of Jesus Christ, and are equally ignorant concerning the nature of the mission of Joseph Smith, and, indeed, of nearly everything that appertains to the Gospel of Christ and that which the children of the Latter-day Saints should know.

I know that many excuses can be advanced, such as "new country," "no schools," "hard times," &c. This would do for a few years ago, but is less applicable now. And those who are the readiest with these excuses are often those who are most neglectful when, if they chose, they could do better in this respect.

For several months I taught a Sunday school here, and I think I may say that I did so faithfully, did not keep them in too long, and tried to have the meetings as interesting as the necessary teachings could be made, but it was no use. It was impossible to keep the school where, with only one or two exceptions, children were allowed to do exactly as they pleased, and on Sunday permitted and encouraged to go racing round in wagons or on horseback, swing between trees and gossip together at every corner—do anything and everything but devote an hour to the acquisition of some slight knowledge of the principles of their religion.

With the influence of the Bishops and their Councilors, the selection of competent and suitable teachers, the firm yet kind determination of parents to send their children to school, providing them with copies of the Bible, Book of Mormon, Hymn Books, Jacques' Catechism and, though last mentioned, not least, taking the *Juvenile Instructor* and giving it to the young as their own paper, to keep up their interest, and I can bear witness that it does interest and set them to thinking, by such means, with the judicious distribution of tokens of merit, their examination and visitation by the Bishops and others at intervals, and the blessing of God to crown the whole, might we not hope that a little might be done to qualify the children of this community to bear off the Kingdom of God with honor?

I believe that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy;" cannot something be done to render our Sunday Schools more beneficial?

Respectfully, your Bro. in the Gospel,
ADOLPHUS H. NOON.

SHOAL CREEK, Washington County, Feb. 11.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—We are very thankful to find the DESERET NEWS coming to hand quite regularly—a welcome visitor in this newly settled place. We are twenty miles from Pinto, Iron County, which is our nearest post-office; and our friends are requested to address letters for us to Pinto, instead of St. George. We are in hopes the time will soon come when we can have a mail route from Pinto through the Mountain Meadows, Shoal Creek, Clover Valley, Meadow Valley, Eagle Valley, &c. There are thriving settlements at all these places, but many of them have to go from 50 to 100 miles to a postoffice.

Shoal Creek is within the Great Basin, drains its southwestern extremity, and sinks, as do so many of the lesser streams within the Great Valley or Basin. What excellent locations for railroads this Basin affords, extending nearly the whole length and a goodly portion of the breadth of our Territory.

This place is the great Hebron or stock region of "our Dixie," with stock, beef, butter and cheese as its characteristic products, varied by a little farming and gardening.

The winter thus far has been very dry and pleasant, and our meetings, schools, lectures &c., have been conducted with spirit and success, notwithstanding our remoteness from the large assemblies of the Saints.

JOHN PULSIPHER.