

Correspondence.

Milwaukee - Prevalent Corruption and Wickedness, Etc.

VIOLA, Richland Co., Wis.,
July 16th, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

Landing in Milwaukee, and having several hours to wait for a train, I took a walk up town to view the "sights," and having spent a great portion of my life in the building line I naturally am interested in anything pertaining to that line of business. Passing up one of the principal streets, my attention was drawn to a large block of brick buildings, which was raised up two feet from its cellar walls, and was supported by jack screws, braces, wedges, &c., and the busy masons were laying rock to fill up the vacuum of two feet. The building had been raised to bring it up to the level of the sidewalk, and the strangest part of all to me was that business was being carried on in the numerous stores as though everything was solid and permanent. The frontage of this immense block was some 600 feet, and the buildings were four stories high, and they had been raised without cracking the building in the slightest degree. This I consider a fine piece of engineering.

Passing up Wisconsin Street and turning to the left, a short distance brought me to the new court house, a fine, noble building, built of brown sandstone. Getting permission of the janitor, I visited the interior, which is finished in first-class style, and then after getting almost out of breath, and ascending several spiral staircases, I found myself in the top of the dome, 210 feet above terra firma, when a scene of unusual loveliness burst upon my vision. There, apparently almost under my feet, lay the city of Milwaukee. The metropolis of Wisconsin contains 80,000 inhabitants, in the midst of which were numerous spires rearing themselves heavenward, denoting a "Christian" city, numerous streets with shade trees adorning the walks, filled with vehicles of all descriptions, as well as the usual pedestrians; the parks well arranged and beautiful; the landscape views, in all their fresh, Spring-like loveliness; the river filled with boats and vessels loading and unloading; the iron horse, puffing and snorting along the "great highway," conveying its millions of wealth and its thousands of travelers; the light-houses on the rugged, jutting high points of land, standing as sentinels to the wary mariner; the beautiful crescent-shaped harbor, capable of anchoring five thousand vessels; and in the distance, the beautiful, clear sparkling waters of Lake Michigan in all its glorious beauty, and in its bosom could be seen all kinds of vessels from the fisherman's boat to the three masted vessel, as well as the swift sailing pleasure yacht, and the noble steamer, plunging her way through the trackless waters, leaving a long black cloud of curling smoke to mark her course. To crown all this, the glorious sun casting its golden tints and resplendent rays over water and land, formed a picture long to be remembered by your humble correspondent.

As far as my observation goes, the modern cities of the northwest are superior in many respects to the older cities of the East, namely, the streets are wider, affording better ventilation, and generally cross each other at right angles, and shade trees adorn the walks, except in the principal business streets. But as yet I have not seen any city with streets so wide, and so well laid out, as Salt Lake City, though many cities of the northwest have more pretentious buildings.

It is strange that in the midst of such lovely scenes of nature and art, so much corruption, and wickedness should exist as does in the most "Christian" cities of this boasted "land of freedom," from the humblest peasant in the land, to those who wield executive and law-making powers. Yet our nation to-day, in this centennial year, is filled with corruption in high places, the people are groaning under taxation, and the public funds are being squandered by unprincipled, selfish demagogues and bigots, who thus squander the public means that they may pander to the foul extravagance of the age, thus sacrificing honor, virtue, and integrity to their greed for gold, gold, until, when they shuffle off this mortal coil, there is none so poor

as to do them reverence. What will be the feelings of these degenerate sons of America when they appear before the bar of God to give an account of the deeds done in the body? Will there not be wailing and gnashing of teeth? Will not the cries of the widows and the fatherless, whom these men have disregarded, then be heard in tones of thunder against them? Will they not then realize that there is a God of all the earth, who will do right, who hears the widow's agonized cry, when she humbly asks a mere pittance that the offspring which God has given her may not perish for a mere morsel of bread? Will not the heartrending wail of the once happy, pure, innocent maiden, who was led along by false promises and deception, to her degradation and destruction, by the unprincipled libertine, and who is now seen in our "Christian" cities, abject and uncared for, while her unprincipled seducer holds his head high among the so called "honorable," be heard? Yes, I am assured there is justice, with vengeance on her wings, and in the wild mutterings of the late storm that passed through Iowa, leaving death in her track. Methinks I hear whisperings that indicate that God will soon hold a "controversy" with the nations. And the untutored red man is waxing wroth at the cold inhumanity of the heartless white man, and already his wrath has made many hearths wild with anguish for the loved ones stretched scalped and bleeding upon the broad prairies.

The rumors from Europe remind us of the word of the Savior, "There shall be wars and rumors of wars; and these are but the beginning of troubles." Should not the Latter-day Saints wake up to a realizing sense of their position before God, and should we not be willing to devote our time, our talents and our means to the upbuilding of his kingdom? "For if we gain the whole world, and lose our soul, of what will it profit us?"

Bro. M. H. McAllister will arrive here to-morrow direct from Philadelphia. In my weakness I am trying to do all the good I can.

Respectfully,
MILES P. ROMNEY.

DIED.

At Smithfield, Cache county, July 20th, 1876, LEONORA TRYPHENA, wife of Samuel A. Merrill, and daughter of William G. and Mary Ann Noble, aged 28 years.

Deceased was born in Northampton, England; was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in 1856. She was a faithful mother and a true Latter-day Saint, and died in the hope of a glorious resurrection.—(Com.)

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Salt Lake City, 1876.

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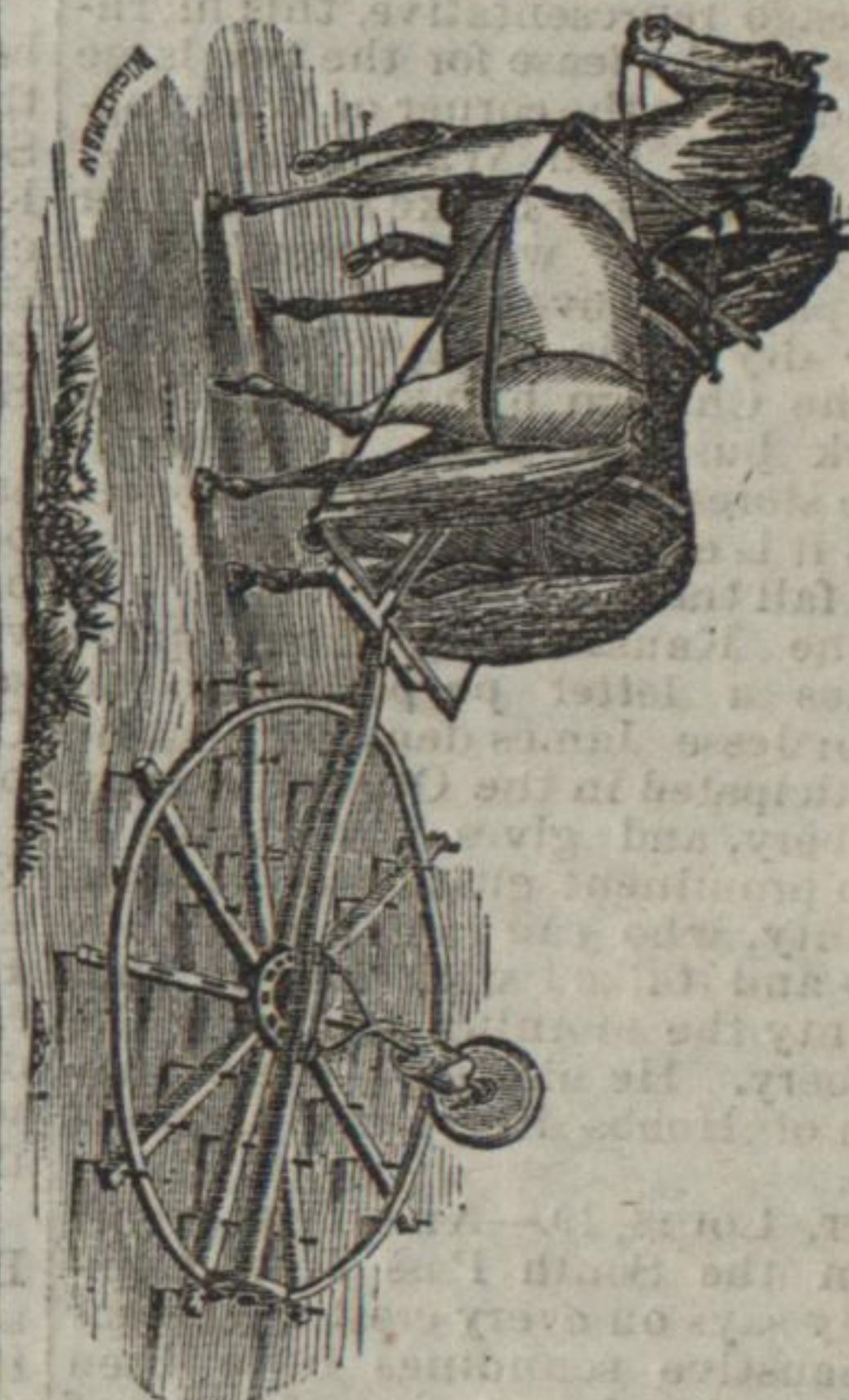
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