

Correspondence.

HYRUM, CACHE COUNTY, U. T.

February 15th, 1870.

Editor Deseret News:—Dear Sir:—It is now some time since you had any communication from Hyrum; still we feel warmly interested in the welfare of Zion, and eagerly look for the news from headquarters, but are very frequently disappointed through the miscarriage of the mail. The fault is not with the Cache mail contractor, but somewhere in Salt Lake valley.

Our crops have suffered from grasshoppers the past four years, and last season only one hundred and fifty bushels of wheat were raised in this settlement, yet none have suffered for bread; and general good health prevails.

Our new meeting house was finished the last day of 1869, and dedicated on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, 1870, by President Peter Maughan, Bishops Wm. Hyde, Wm. Maughan and Elder G. L. Farrell. The building is 53 by 35 with an 18 feet ceiling; it is built of sandstone; it has a self supporting roof and presents a very respectable appearance.

Our Co-operative store has been in existence nearly a year, and we have found it one of the best moves ever set on foot for the blessing and benefit of the people. Our goods having been sold nearly at Ogden retail prices. Our dividend for the first half year was forty per cent; it will be about the same for the present half year. We are free from debt, our business having been done on a cash basis.

We have put up a good rock building for our store, 33 by 23 with good cellars, and it will soon be ready for business.

Our Sunday School is attended by 150 children; it has an efficient staff of male and female teachers under the charge of Elder Franklin Allen. We have two day schools well attended. Elder Chas. C. Shaw and Sister M. Smith are the teachers; also an evening school taught by Elder Shaw.

The Female Relief Society, under the charge of Sisters Barnham, Liljenquist and Wilson, holds regular meetings; the sisters are doing good.

The Hyrum Dramatic Association, performed three very good pieces on Tuesday evening last, and judging from the frequent applause, the audience highly appreciated their labors.

Elder Henry H. Peterson is teaching the members of our choir music with good success; and education and improvement seem to be the order of the day here.

I need not tell you that Bishop Liljenquist is alive to the interest of this Ward, and he is sustained by the faith and good works of the people.

The DESERET NEWS is eagerly sought after by the people; and judging from their expressions and works, there never was a time when the labors and sermons of President Young and the authorities of the church were so highly appreciated.

May they live long to be a blessing and comfort to God's chosen people!

Yours truly,
CHAS. C. SHAW.

AN SOLEMN JOKE.

One of the clergymen of Peoria, Ill., had been put in a parsonage that did not come up to his idea of what a minister should enjoy. Recently he was called upon to announce that there would be a mite society at the ministerial dwelling. He said:

"There will be a mite society on Thursday evening next at the parsonage. The parsonage is a little, old, tumble-down building on — street." Some of the oldest ones of the congregation took umbrage at this, while the younger ones laughed. In the evening the parson was called upon to make the same announcement. After saying that the mite society would be held at the parsonage, he paused a moment and then remarked:

"On the corner of the street, near my residence, is a well. Said well is covered over and clapboarded. It is unpainted and weather-worn, but I wish to describe it so that none of you may mistake, and take the well for the parsonage. The mite society will be held in the parsonage, and not in the well."

PREPARATION OF WHITENESS.—Whiteness is one of the most valuable articles in the world when properly applied. It not only prevents the decay of wood, but conduces greatly to the healthfulness of all buildings whether of wood or stone. Out-buildings and fences when not painted, should be supplied with a coat of whiteness once or twice a year, which should be prepared in the following way: Take a water tight barrel, or suitable cask, and put into it half a bushel of lime. Shake it by pouring water over it boiling hot, and in sufficient quantity to cover it five inches deep, and stir it briskly until it is thoroughly slaked. When the slaking has been thoroughly effected, dissolve it in water and add two pounds of sulphate of zinc and one of common salt; these will cause the wash to harden, and prevent it cracking, which gives an unseemly appearance to the work. If desirable, a beautiful cream color can be added to the above wash, by adding three pounds of yellow ochre; or a good pearl or lead color, by the addition of lamp, yvine, or ivory black. For fawn color, add four pounds of amber, Turkish or American, the latter is the cheapest, one pound of Indian red, one pound of common lampblack. For common stone color, add four pounds of raw umber, and two pounds of lampblack. This wash may be applied with a common whitewash brush and will be found much superior both in appearance and durability to the common whitewash.

SCANDINAVIAN STAR.

I AM authorized by Elder James N. Smith to receive subscriptions for the Scandinavian Star.

ROBT. L. CAMPBELL,
Historian's Office.

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