

THE FENCE LAW.

Laws in relation to fencing land must materially affect the interests of any people whose chief pursuit is that of agriculture. In our Territory they have given rise to considerable discussion at various times since its settlement, some strongly advocating the necessity of a fence law, while others take the opposite view of the case. On the Territorial Statute book there is at present a law, which we believe gives the power to the settlers in any settlement or precinct to make the owners of stock responsible for any damage that may be done by them, whether the land where the damage is done be fenced or not, as the majority of the people shall determine.

This subject is just now being discussed, pro and con, with considerable interest in California, and definite action in relation to it is being urged upon the attention of the State Legislature.

Some time ago a committee was appointed by the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce to consider a proposition to repeal the fence law. A few evenings since they made their report which is strongly in favor of repealing all or nearly all the fence laws on the statute book, believing that it would greatly promote the agricultural, commercial and general prosperity of the State.

This report is said to be grounded on the fact that there are hundreds and thousands of acres of the best grain raising land in the State, or in the United States, which cannot be cultivated for the reason that the cost of fencing amounts to far more than the cash price of the land itself, and thus farmers of limited means are driven into other lines of business or into other States and Territories where their interests are more protected.

The ranching system of California it is said by the advocates of the "no fence law" system, has proved a signal failure. The ranchmen with his five or ten thousand head of cattle, roaming over a hundred thousand acres of good land is worth less as a producer of wealth, a supporter of schools or a patron of manufactures and commerce than a few small farmers cultivating yearly their hundred or two hundred acres of land; and the former, like the Indians on the plains, having barred the progress of civilization, must be pushed aside to make room for, and to secure protection to small farmers.

The sole wealth of the ranchman consists in the increase of his stock, and if this, as is not uncommonly the case, fails or is swept away through flood or drouth, the inconvenience caused by the scarcity and high price of meat is felt by all classes; but the abolition of the ranching system would increase the number of small farmers, improve the quality of stock and lead to their more general distribution, greatly add to the wealth of the State generally by the increase of its exports, and would be quickly followed by great improvements in rural life.

The advocates of the fence law, on the other hand, contend that the repeal of that law would be inimical to the best interests of the people of the State. It would enable land speculators and capitalists, who now possess immense tracts of land, valueless for grain raising, to enrich themselves at the expense of unsophisticated, would-be farmers by selling land to them at high figures, for grain growing experiments.

To the small farmer it would also work very disadvantageously. Now, in case of the failure or partial failure of his crops, he has his hogs and cattle,

raised at comparatively small cost through roaming at large on the range, to fall back upon; but in case of the abolition of the fence law he would have to herd them or keep them up at great expense during the grain growing seasons. The advocates of the fence law in California maintain that its repeal would materially decrease the value of the pasture lands of the State without increasing the value of grain lands, that it would double the price of meat by curtailing the facilities for raising stock and would produce no general good.

Whatever may be the result of the present discussion in California, this is a matter touching the interests of the people of our Territory as well as the people of California, and, to effect the greatest good to the greatest number, demands careful and wise legislation.

PRIZE FIGHTING.—In looking over our exchanges we are struck with the great interest there appears to be taken at the present time in the prize ring. There is scarcely an eastern paper that we examine that does not contain the disgusting details of, at least, one prize fight, and, not unfrequently, more than one. It seems as though the spirit of war, which found vent during the rebellion on the field of battle, now seeks gratification in the narrow arena of the prize ring. Such exhibitions are dreadfully brutal, and do not speak well of the condition of society where they are patronized. It is not surprising that roughs of every class should find employment and patronage, as they do in frontier and newly established towns; but for the leading papers in the east, to chronicle the particulars of such matches, and thereby countenance and encourage them, seems sadly inappropriate.

The frequency of these contests at the present time, and the patronage and encouragement they meet with, remind one of the days of Rome's decadence, when gladiatorial exhibitions formed one of the chief amusements of the people. The increase of these things throughout our country is a sure sign of the demoralization which is in progress, and unless they are checked, the results will be most sorrowful and disastrous.

(Continued from first page.)

Then let us go to, and adopt the counsels given to us. Let us make our own clothing and hats and bonnets; gather the poor from the nations, haul the rock from the cañons to build the temple, and let the young men who have been called to go south take wives along with them. Let us contribute our mite as far as the Lord requires of us that we may do something towards the building up of His Kingdom. This is the way I feel. I have ever felt that my interests were identified with the Kingdom of God, in other words that I had no interest apart from the Kingdom of God, no friends aside from the Saints of the Most High.

I seek no friendship and desire no familiarity or associations but with those who have embraced the gospel of the Son of God. This has ever been my feeling, so much so that I could no more associate or mingle with those who are not Saints than I could be persuaded to cut off my right arm. I can not do it. Such associations are repugnant to my feelings, and I have never yet been able to overcome that repugnance. I have been placed in circumstances where I have tried to be sociable and friendly; but it was all I could do to be courteous and pleasant, and I am of opinion that it was all that was necessary. I desire to be numbered with the Saints, to dwell with them in time and eternity. My interests are with the Kingdom and I desire to labor to build it up, and for the establishment of the gospel in the earth; that wickedness may cease and righteousness predominate; that the wisdom of the Lord may prevail and take possession of our minds; that we may know the truth, understand God and His ways, work righteousness, be faithful, pure, holy and upright in all our thoughts and straightforward in all our dealings one with another. This is our mission as Saints. We see sin and folly all around us, ignorance and superstition everywhere; we see that the adversary of souls has great power over the minds of the children of men. We see that the world is prone to folly; right in the midst of Israel we see this. The rising generation is given to vanity and foolishness; they seek after and follow the fashions of the world. It is a part of the mission of the Latter-day Saints to overcome these things, to put them

under our feet and to make all subservient to the accomplishment of the purposes of the Almighty. Let the gospel of Jesus Christ be the ruling passion of our minds; our guide all the day long, and let all other things be secondary, then we will not be led away and become subject to the world.

When we begin to follow after the fashions and follies of the world we are like the sow that was washed returning again to her wallowing in the mire, or the dog to his vomit, we are returning to the pit whence we were dug; we are bringing ourselves into bondage to those things that are forbidden. We are acting foolishly in the sight of God; for we are commanded to abstain from these things. You can easily tell the young men or women whose minds are solely occupied with dress, with their external appearance or with the desire for admiration.—You may tell by their walk and actions what occupies their minds. Young men you may easily tell whether a young woman will make you a useful wife—a help meet, or not, by observing her actions, her walk and conversation. I advise young men and young women to be careful. We all have experience to gain. Experience is a dear school-master, and we are such dull scholars that we often learn by buying our experience than by being taught. We are slow to believe, to listen and receive instruction and admonition from those who have had experience, and we too often go blindly along until we learn by the things we suffer. Look well, be wise, make a wise choice of your company, your principles; speak wisely and kindly. Seek wisdom at the hand of God; ask the Lord to teach you the way to walk that you may keep in the path of truth, and prosper. If we take our own course we are sure to fail.

I believe I have occupied my allotted time. I am thankful to be with you here, and I pray that the Lord will bless us individually and collectively, that we may enjoy his spirit, increase in wisdom, faithfulness and all good works, which may God grant for Christ's sake, amen.

(Special to the Deseret Evening News.)

By Telegraph.

A MURDER BY THE BLACK FEET INDIANS ON DEARBORN RIVER!

EIGHT HOURS' BILL PASSED BY THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE!

A TEMPORARY GOVERNMENT FOR WYOMING!

THOMAS, FROM MARYLAND, AND JOHN YOUNG BROWN, FROM KY., CANNOT BE ADMITTED TO CONGRESS!

AN IMPORTANT BILL IN RELATION TO LANDS GRANTED TO AID IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROADS!

LT.-GEN. SHERMAN TO BE PROMOTED!

THE IMPEACHMENT QUESTION RIPENING!

THE ALABAMIAN PROTEST AGAINST NEGRO RULE!

Helena, 13.—On the night of the 8th, Chas. R. Scott, formerly of Roscoe, Illinois, was killed by Blackfeet Indians while camped on the Dearborn river, 60 miles from here, on the Benton Road. Thermometer 48 above; warm, but cloudy.

San Francisco, 13.—The San Francisco, Vallejo and Humboldt Bay Railroad Company have been incorporated with a capital of \$10,000,000. They will build a road from Vallejo to Eureka, Humboldt county.

New York, 13.—The Herald's St. Petersburg special by mail, states that the naturalization laws of Poland have been superseded by the Russian laws on the subject. The Herald's Constantinople special says, that during the last week two Turkish frigates left for Crete with fresh troops and stores; aboard one of the frigates was an aid-de-camp of the Sultan's, the bearer of the Firman granting the recent concessions.

Fortress Monroe.—It appears that the revenue cutter Nemada, the destruction of which, by an explosion, has already been announced, first took fire, and being loaded with powder, all hands made haste to leave the vessel, though a furious gale was blowing at the time; one of the boats was swamped and two men were drowned, the remainder got ashore.

Gen. Palmer, of the Union Pacific railroad, will be at Visalia on the 18th. Reby reports the line through the Bitter country better than was expected. Notwithstanding the weather, the party had encountered no snow except in Te-hachapa Pass, and there it was not more than eight inches in depth at any time

during the winter. At no place on the entire route will the grade exceed sixty feet to the mile. Palmer is satisfied with the survey, and expects to leave San Francisco for Washington by steamer on the 18th inst. A bill, making eight hours a legal day's labor has passed the Legislature, and there is no doubt of its receiving the approval of the Governor.

Washington, 13.—Senate.—Little presented a memorial signed by over a thousand citizens of Alabama, protesting against negro rule and praying for the continuance of military government over the State. The memorial sets forth many alleged grievances and concludes as follows: "Continue over us, if you think well to do so, your own rule by the sword; send down among us honorable men of your own people, of a race to which you and we belong, and however ungracious and contrary to a wise policy and the institutions of the country, and tyrannous as it will be, no hand among us shall be raised to resist, by force, their authority; but do not, we implore you, abdicate your own rule over us by transferring us to the blighting, brutalizing and unnatural domination of an alien and inferior race, which has never shown any administrative capacity for good government, and which, in all ages, has, itself furnished slaves for all the races of the earth."

A memorial from the members of the convention at Cleveland, was presented, praying for economy in the administration of the government. Howard presented a memorial from the citizens of Ann Arbor, on the same subject. Trumbull, from the committee on the judiciary, reported a bill to supply the vacancies in the Executive Department at an early day. Yates introduced a bill to provide a temporary government in the Territory of Wyoming. Wilson introduced a petition to grant relief for property destroyed by Federal troops during the war; referred. He also offered a resolution, which was adopted, calling upon the Secretary of War for information in regard to the amount of subsistence stores purchased for the Indians, under the Indian Bureau; also the amount paid the Pacific Railroad on the eastern division, and the Chicago and North-western railroad, for transporting troops and stores. When the morning hour had expired, the resolution to admit Senator Thomas, of Maryland, came up. A substitute was offered to the effect that Thomas cannot be permitted to take the oath of office because he allowed a minor son to enter the rebel army, which was giving aid and comfort to the enemy. Sumner opposed the admission of Thomas; Trumbull favored his admission, denying that there was any evidence of disloyalty before the Senate. Yates, Sherman and Corbett also opposed his admission. Buckalow rose to speak, but gave way to adjournment.

House.—The bill concerning the rights of American citizens abroad was considered, and a motion to refer it to a committee of the whole was rejected. Banks moved to re-commit the bill, with the amendments, to the Foreign Affairs committee. Adopted.

Miller, from the committee on revolutionary pensions, reported a bill, giving eight dollars a month pension to all the surviving officers and soldiers of the war of 1812, honorably discharged, who did not aid the rebels during the late war, and who could take the test oath. The bill was discussed till the expiration of the morning hour, when the Speaker presented a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, with the draft of a bill for commercial relations with Spain and her colonies; referred.

The House then proceeded to consider the election case of John Young Brown from the second district of Kentucky. A substitute was offered by Kerr, admitting Brown, which was rejected, 430 against 108. The first resolution reported by the committee, rejecting Brown, was adopted; the other resolution, ignoring the claim of Smith was re-committed. Ketchum, from the committee on military affairs, reported a joint resolution, directing the Secretary of War to take immediate steps for the reduction of the army expenses in the vicinity of New York City; adopted. Donnelly introduced a bill to regulate the disposal of land hereafter given to aid in the construction of railroads. The bill gives all such land to the States to be sold to actual settlers at prices varying from one dollar and a quarter to five dollars an acre, according to the distance from the road, the proceeds to go to the railroad companies. The land is to be sold to settlers on long time, with a view to encourage the settlement of the country. The bill reflects the views of the committee on public lands. Adjourned.