

to help themselves, and we have the best of reasons to believe that a body of Indian raiders are now in this vicinity.

Our visit discloses to us, with pain, a seeming indifference on the part of many of the people in regard to the necessity of continued vigilance, as there is no certainty that the present peace will last longer than the snow makes the mountain passes eastward difficult, though many are alive to a sense of their exposed condition.

The labor of guarding, herding stock with armed men, traveling in connection with armed companies from place to place, armed escorts for woodhaulers, and lumbermen, quarry-men, lime burners, colliers, &c. &c., has almost paralyzed the progress of the settlements for three years; and the many families that have been called to mourn, while some are suffering from wounds, and all, more or less, for the loss of property and the prostration of business, naturally has a tendency to create discouragement; and rather than continue these necessary precautions some prefer to leave the country. This feeling is more observable in the smaller settlements. Many have left Gunnison, reducing its numerical strength to about forty families.

Bros. F. Lewis, S. G. Whitney, J. E. Metcalf, jun., J. Bartholomew, and J. Childs accompanied us from Gunnison and Warm Creek, twenty miles on our way to this place and then returned.

We feel under many obligations to the Bishops and brethren for their uniform kindness in attending to our personal wants and safety.

On arriving at this place about 4 p.m., we were pleased to meet with Bishop T. Callister, and Elders John L. Smith, R. A. McBride and G. Huntsman, and later on the evening F. M. Lyman, from Fillmore.

We preached in the evening, the congregation bearing evidence of the rapid increase of the population of the place. Four hundred acres have been added to their field, and a tier of blocks laid out around the entire city plot.

Friday, May 15th, 8 a.m., Generals Pace and Thurber are inspecting the militia.

Yours truly,

GEO. A. SMITH.

MT. PLEASANT, May 16, 1858.

*Editor Deseret News:*—Sir, I have pleasure in noting the progress and development of the people generally throughout the country. In my tour recently I was gratified to hear of the organization of the Female Relief Societies. These powerful adjuncts to the Bishopric cannot fail to prove a blessing, besides giving to the hitherto dormant sisterhood a chance to step forward as the Lydias and Deaconesses of this dispensation.

Certainly the enterprising city of Ephraim is making rapid strides. There is a watchfulness and a care, that too much of one kind of machinery is not introduced, but the variety necessary to produce wealth. This idea is somewhat opposed to the "free trade and sailors rights policy," but with a wise fatherly bishop, monopoly will not show its hydra head here. Broad acres are stretching out far on the road to Manti, and for a certain consideration Ephraim has purchased the noted Shumway springs with a view to a fish pond. An extensive cheese factory is in contemplation here. A No. 1 article of cheese is profitable for trade and traffic. The military display of Ephraim on the recent inspection was a decided success. The people have reason to be proud of Canute Peterson, their bishop.

The street improvements of some cities are just as they were seven years ago; the same poles, sheds, and stones are there still. Some buildings rejoice in the primitiveness of first erection. In the city of Manti, like some other places, improvement has been crippled in consequence of Indian raids, and through dependence upon Snow's Saw Mill, at Fountain Green (25 miles distant), for lumber. I always imagine myself entering some old feudal town so solid and stationary are her houses.

Gunnison with her wide fields and limited population, would seem to invite, if nowhere else does, the coming of about 500 families. Her unlimited resources, and advantageous position demand more than a passing notice. I walked her ample streets, "I viewed her landscape o'er," and thought what a chance for a shingle machine and a nursery. The tar factory was in full heat and the enterprising Madsen—the oasis of Gunnison, was all alive. I saw no mills, nor machinery, but three stores were taking all away and bringing little in return, as some farmers do

with their land and then complain of sterility, and want to summer fallow it. If farmers would give as many loads of manure as they take off of produce there would be no need of summer fallowing. I inspected the initial bastion with two pieces of wall, ranging in height from 2 to 6 feet. It is a good piece of work. I visited the new flouring mill being erected at the Duck springs, and prayed for its hasty completion, as I hate to see a travel of 8 miles to go to mill; for towns, like families, when not self-sustaining, must be poor and dependent.

At Fountain Green I saw the inevitable doom written on the fine mills of B. Snow—decay or a move, as there is one flouring mill nigher the town than his and preparations are in progress for another; also, two shingle machines. I thought if only these vast outlays had been diffused in several channels, the result might have been more fortunate. "But who is to direct?" "Why, the Bishop." "But, what does a Bishop know of saw-mills, &c.?" "No, but he should, if he enjoyed the spirit of his calling." For, for this was the Bishopric ordained—to have charge of temporal affairs. See Book of Doc. and Cov.

As I rode home through the cedars, I could not help reflecting how implicitly we trust the guidance of our souls to their eternal home to the Bishops on Sundays, and how we oppose his Monday's propositions for, and about that which perishes with the using. I regretted the absence of my friend B. Snow, when I called at his hospitable home for a chat.

Grasshoppers are abundant. Some are careful not to kill them; but for my part I don't see the point; for if the destroyers of our crops must not be killed, then why kill any insect, reptile, or vermin, as they are perhaps all ordained to keep us awake.

I must close with saying that if fine rains, well tilled and well filled fields are an indication of success, then the harvest must be great.

Respectfully,

ITEM.

[Our correspondent furnished us the names of the officers of the Female Relief Society, but as they are only of local interest, we omitted them.—Ed.]

A CONFERENCE IN LONDON.—The *Millennial Star* of the 2nd inst. contains the minutes of a conference held in London, April 5th. The following Elders were present on the stand: Franklin D. Richards, President of the European Mission, C. W. Penrose, from the *Millennial Star* Office; James McGaw, President of the Nottingham District; Edwin Walker, Isaac A. Kimball, Ezra J. Clark, John E. Pace, Henry Barlow, and C. P. Liston, Presidents of Conferences, and Heber Young, Willard B. Richards, Platte Lyman, Zebulon Jacobs, H. Chariton Jacobs, William S. Grant, Joel Grover, Lewis W. Shurtliff, Levi W. Richards, Robert Dye, Joseph H. Lee, John W. Lee, Traveling Elders.

Elders Platte Lyman, Willard B. Richards, and Heber Young, reported the condition of the Districts of which they had the watchcare. The reports were encouraging; many of the Saints were keeping the Word of Wisdom. The meetings were well attended and the prospects for an increase in numbers were good.

Elder C. W. Penrose read the Statistical and Financial reports of the Conference for the previous half year. The first showed that 132 had been added by baptism during the past six months, and that the total number in the London Conference was 1172.

Elder Penrose also delivered a discourse upon the nature and principles of the great Latter-day work.

President F. D. Richards gave instructions to the Saints upon many important points. He informed them in relation to the coming emigration. He said it was the wish of President Young that the oldest members should be first selected to be assisted. Elder Richards also delivered an interesting discourse upon the fulfillment, in this age, of prophecies uttered by the ancient prophets.

Elders James McGaw, and Robert Dye, addressed the Conference upon suitable subjects.

#### LETTER FROM NEVADA.

PROGRESS OF RAILROADS—INDIAN EXPEDITIONS—ELECTIONS—CHINESE, ETC.  
[Special Correspondence.]

RENO, NEV., May 13, 1868.

The Central Pacific Railroad Company sold some forty lots here the other

day, at from \$250 to \$1,000 each, in coin. The natural advantages of this location will make this place to the Central what Laramie will be to the U. P. R. R. The water power of the Truckee river, will attract machinery and mills of every description; timber and minerals to support a manufacturing town are not to be found at any point east of here on the line of this road. The mammoth shops, both of this road and the branch southeast, will be built here. Work is about being commenced on the road southeast through Washoe, Virginia, Carson, Aurora, Belmont, Pahranaagat, St. Joe, St. Thomas, Freemansburg and Wallapai Valley, to tap the Southern Pacific Railroad at Prescott, Arizona. The grade on the branch from here twenty miles, to Virginia, averages 116 ft. to the mile. Daily freight and passenger trains are now running each side of the summit of the Sierras; and in two or three weeks the twenty feet of snow on the mountains will have been cleared away and the cars will run directly through from Sacramento. The Company calculate to reach the Humboldt Wells, at the western base of the Humboldt mountains, next Fall, and the Winter of seventy will meet the U. P. R. R. at Ogden.

The military sent out against the Indians, who lately stole several hundred head of stock, and scalped a number of men, women and children in adjacent valleys, have just returned to Fort Churchill; and as usual, without accomplishing anything.

The whole Democratic ticket was elected in Virginia the other day, except one Alderman, and he is like a one eyed dog in a smoke house. This State will be very apt to go with California, against Chinese and Negro Suffrage, next Fall.

It seems to be the purpose of the clique who procured the appointment of Anson Burlingame as Minister from China, to over stock America with Mongolians.

The C. P. R. R. are now paying \$30 per month for laborers, and they board themselves; and of this new hands are required to pay \$3 for fare to the end of the track. The other day a white man started to walk 200 miles to Austin, on two loaves of bread, saying that he could not board himself when the Company would not pay him money enough to keep him from becoming so weak that he would not be able to get away at all, if he staid longer.

HORATIO.

BOUNTIFUL, May 21, 1868.

*Editor Deseret News:*—It was only a week ago last Monday since Bountiful was called to mourn the loss of one of her faithful sons who died, it is supposed, of consumption; and now, this afternoon, we are called to mourn the loss of one of her noblest, bravest and best citizens, Elder Jeremiah Willey, who met his death to-day about two p. m. A few minutes before this hour, he was sitting in the house with the partner of his youth, engaged in cheerful conversation, when he rose to leave, remarking, "I will go and see where the calves are." His wife bid him not go, and offered to go herself; but he said, "No, I will go." He went, and only a few moments had elapsed when a cry was heard, "There is some one in the creek!" The creek runs across the main road near the school-house, below brother P. G. Sessions' house, and passes on by the north end of the late A. V. Call's lot, and across the road running east and west, on which brother James Duncan lives, and thence at the back of brother Willey's house. A search was instantly made, and his body found. Restoratives were administered but life was extinct. It is supposed that he must, soon after leaving the house, and on reaching the creek, have fallen into a fit, to which he has been for a long time subject, and then while struggling got into the water. His death has spread a gloom over the Ward, and filled the hearts of many with sorrow. Further particulars will undoubtedly be forwarded in a few days.

Yours truly,  
WM. THURGOOD.

#### ESTRAYS.

Manti City, May 17th, 1868.

I HAVE the following described animals in my possession, if not claimed before the 20th day of June next, will be sold to the highest bidder:

One red yearling Heifer, white on top of hips and shoulder and under the belly, white spot in forehead, crop off each ear.

One white yearling Bull, some red spots on his body, red neck, under half crop and hole in left ear.

One dark iron-gray Mare, some four years old, saddle marks on her back; with foal.

One brown stud Colt, 2 years old, hind feet white, branded on left thigh. From Gunnison Precinct.

M. D. HAMBLETON,  
County Poundkeeper.

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Salt Lake City, May 18, 1868.

d152:1w-s30:2w-w16:1w

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