

DESERET EVENING NEWS.

Monday, August 24, 1898.

Correspondence.

PERSEVERANCE COTTAGE, PROVO, August 8, 1898.

Editor Deseret News:—Sir:—A great deal has been said of late upon the culture of the grape, and in one of the articles the writer said he thought grapes could be raised upon the benches in Utah valley. That was demonstrated last year to some extent, for I gathered from one square yard two and a half bushels, and I would say this year come and see for your eyes. I have two rows, eight rods long, forming an arbor, from which I think I shall gather from 1500 to 2000 pounds of grapes. Many of the clusters last year weighed 3½ pounds, and, this season, as a general thing they will be much larger. They are the Los Angeles or California grape. I have several other hardy varieties bearing this year, but I have one that was sent me four years since from the Department at Washington, which bore a few bunches last year, and now, though last Spring, it only covered about two square feet, it covers over 300; and there is from 75 to 100 pounds of grapes upon it. It is a very early grape, and the fruit is nearly as large as the Los Angeles, or a musk flavor, and blue or purple. Its name is the Hyde's Eliza. It is said by Dr. Grant, to be a seedling from the Isabella; but if it is must be a hybrid, the Isabella being a fox grape and this is a musk. The foliage is very fine, some of the leaves measuring ten inches from stalk to point of leaf. It is very strong and vigorous in its growth.

Last year I fruited a seedling from the Los Angeles grape, which was white. It had five branches on one stem, one of which I sent to the Department at Washington. I named it the Pride of Utah, or Graves' seedling, No. 1. After having tested its qualities they sent for cuttings, which are growing in the propagating garden at Washington this year. I have some six other seedlings bearing; what their flavor will be I know not; but they will be large.

I am not a professional gardener, but have had one nearly all my life, but never turned my attention to the culture of the grape until the last few years. When in England, I had the opportunity of visiting many of the different noblemen's gardens, and I had my eyes continually open, and if a day passed me without gaining some knowledge I put it down as a day lost.

The plan I adopt in cultivating the grape is not the same as is generally practiced here; but something after the plan that is mentioned in the Agricultural Report for 1896, in remarks by the Superintendent of the Propagating Garden at Washington, from page 97 to 105.

Any of the brethren going south might call and see what can be done by perseverance upon land deemed not worth anything, and for the taking up of which I have many times been laughed at and called a fool, but now I can afford to laugh.

Yours truly,
DANIEL GRAVES.

PAYSON CITY, U. T., Aug. 10th, 1898.

Editor Deseret News:—Dear Brother, Forming, as the Latter-day Saints do, one great and united family, we are all naturally interested in each other's welfare; no difference what part of Father's wide domain we may call our home. Those who live in Ogden like to hear that their brethren in Parowan are prosperous and happy; and that part of the family who reside in Parowan love to hear of the well being of those who live in Ogden. The fact is, whatever interests any one particular section of our Territory, interests all the other sections. This homogeneous feeling, this brotherly sentiment, which is known to exist among this people, and which is as wide spread as the Territory which is inhabited by us, is a matter of astonishment to our enemies, and constitutes our strength and security as a whole. The fact of our unity as a people, is an argument in favor of the divinity of the work in which we are engaged, that the world, especially, that portion of it which is called Christendom, cannot gainsay or refute.

But I did not take my pen to write a sermon; but to make you and your thousands of readers acquainted with the progress of affairs in this portion of our common domain. As the locusts have been visiting all parts of our Territory to the partial or total destruction of our crops, you will be gratified to know that Payson, so far, has escaped their ravages. We have seen them in their migrations back and forth, and they have even come down upon our fields and gardens with tremendous force, but their visits have not been destructive ones. The wheat harvest has already commenced and is progressing rapidly; and the prospects at present are that we will have enough and to spare. An unusually large amount of land was platted with corn last spring, and promises an abundant yield; provided its natural enemies the frost and hoppers, keep away until it matures.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL is a thriving institution. Under the fostering care of some of our leading men it is assuming new importance each succeeding week. Many of our most experienced and exemplary citizens are employed as teachers, and their influence has a tendency to draw into the school many who would otherwise stay away. We do not pretend that we have a perfectly organized or a perfectly conducted school; but we are doing the best we can under the circumstances, and hope to improve and keep pace with the times.

A FEMALE RELIEF SOCIETY was organized here last spring by Bp. Fairbanks and Council, and the sisters are hard at work in their calling. Altogether there have been nearly \$125 subscribed by the sisters alone, in crude material, to work up into articles of comfort for the poor and needy, a class which, I am happy to state, is not largely represented in our community. Out of the funds of the Society the sisters are paying for the tuition of several orphan children; an expenditure of means which I consider not only judicious but in the highest degree praiseworthy and laudable. Sister Jane Simons is the President of the Society, and Sisters Agnes Douglass and Mary Moore are her Counselors and assistants. I was honored with an invitation, in connection with our worthy Bishop, to visit the Society at one of their recent meetings, and was pleased that the industry, order and good spirit that seemed

to prevail among them. Many of our households were represented there, and I was truly proud of the assemblage, and felt from my heart to say "God bless the sisters, and help them to do all the good they desire to accomplish." There are other items that might find a place here, but I will reserve them for another communication.

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