

THE EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 1874.

Correspondence.

The Coding Moth.

St. George, Utah, Jan. 1st, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

Observing an inquiry in a late number of the News, in regard to the insect that destroys so great a portion of the trees in Salt Lake City, and a request for information, I hasten to respond.

The trouble is caused by the coding moth, or apple worm of the Tortrix tribe. The moth, with expanded wings, is about twice the size of an inchworm. It is a beautiful insect, at a little distance its wings resembling lustrous watered silk. It has large oval brown spots, edged with copper color, on the hinder part of the fore wings, and by close observation may be found in the latter part of June and through July every evening about the apple trees, and sometimes in the windows inside the house.

The coding moth has long been known in Europe, whence it has been imported to America, and may easily be distinguished from all the moths by the descriptio

n of the wings, and those are brown, mingled with gray, and the hind wings and abdomen are of a light yellowish brown, with the lustre of satin. It is seldom seen in the moth state.

During the last of June and through July, these moths by their eggs in the apples, and the caterpillars hatch in thin-walled summer apple suffering the most. In a few days after, the egg hatches and a tiny worm works its way into the centre of the apple. Cutting through the aperture makes a brown powder. The insect is whitish, head heart-shaped and black. The first instar is white, and the second is black, with little black spots in pairs along its back. In about three weeks it comes to its full size and is then of flesh color, and generally makes a passage through the side of the apple to "threw out the chips" or fragments.

When the injured apple is opened, a brown, measured insect crawls out, and hiding under the scales of bark, in cracks or other covert places, winds for itself a white silken cocoon, and sometimes in a few days changes to a moth and again lays eggs for the destruction of later fruit, but usually the cocoon remains unbroken until the following June. The caterpillar is of a bright mahogany color, and has across each of the wings on hind part of the body two rows of spines or prickles.

These insects have doubtless been imported in fruit from California or the older States. They soon breed to an enormous number if not checked or destroyed, and will not only ruin all the apples, but attack pears and some other fruits. People who enjoy the delicious apple should guard with a jealous care that apples are not carried from an infected district to one that's free, and I think the Legislature would be justified in passing laws to protect districts not infected, by making it a penal offence to transport the infected fruit to such places for let there be a pair of moths from the worms carried in the apple, and there is enough seed to ruin the apples of a whole district.

There are various means of decreasing the number of moths, but sure cure would be to import information. An open-mouthed bottle containing sweetened water, hung to the limb of an apple tree, will entrap some. Fire at night (evening) in the orchard will destroy many. Scrape your rough barked trees, when the coconuts are forming. Tie in your tree, and let in all the light you can, and, better than any perhaps, hang plenty of old rags about the limbs and forks of the trees at the time the worms are about matured, and in crawling down the limbs they will take cover and make cocoons under the rags, where they can easily be捉ured. If you find a single worm early or immature contains worms, and should every morning be gathered up and destroyed, or the worm will pass out and find a place among the weeds or rubbish to make its cocoon. Wind a rag around the body of the tree, and place scraps of boards under the tree. All these traps and rays examine daily and destroy the insects. J. E. JOHNSON.

JOCULARITIES.

It costs \$2,000 to bury a Congressman who dies in Washington.

"Bad temper bites at both ends," is a maxim to be remembered.

The Chicago Times with perturbation inquires, "Will Slickies lecture?"

"Transactions in Hair" is the heading of a Detroit editor to an account of a street fight.

No other living thing can go so slow as a boy on an skateboard—if you ask me a href="#">Can't a girl?

"What is more exhilarating sight," asks a Vermont paper, "than to see eighteen handsome girls riding down hill on an ox sled?"

A Boston court has decided that if a woman lends money to her husband she cannot get it back. That is making custom law.

Here's an example for bores: A man in Livingston county, Ky., hangs his hat on a gate post and talks to it for ten hours at a time.

The Dundee (New York) Record says that you can't fling a brick in the town without hitting a dash young widow worth from \$5,000 to \$5,000.

That water will find its level was recently shown at Marion, O., where, on Christmas day, a Mr. John C. Water was married to a Miss Caroline Level.

Only 327 men have, during the last week, sent in to this paper "A plan for improving our currency." Why this resolution, this holding back?—Detroit Press.

Some Vermont husbands are now attached to the Twilight Club. Their wives think they had better call it daybreak or else come home earlier.

The Springfield Republicans say: "It may startle some people to learn that there is not a single man in Ohio who is legally married! We submit the matter to our new legislature, and hope to bring them enough about the single men, but what does the Republican say about the married men?"

A man sauntered into one of our apothecary shops the other morning, and after spending a few moments looking into the show cases, and turning a piece of toothpick several times in his mouth, started his clerk with the question: "What good is this poison?" "What kind of poison?" asked the clerk. "Well, Mountain poison," said the singer. "You see, the old woman took a couple of teaspoonsful of laudanum, and I kind of thought I'd better drop in for her." "All this is a drawing voice," "Here, John," shouted the clerk, "put up a strong snuffbox quick as you can, and you sit down, it's time to give it to your wife, follow it with some coffee and some doctor." "A doctor?" says the man, taking his medicine. "He doesn't write no money on doctors, but if I know it,"—Fayland, Mo.

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