

The principle of gathering, and the blessings to be derived therefrom, have been prominent features in the teachings of the elders to the native Saints, for some time past, but very few however have manifested their faith by their works in gathering unto this place, according to the instructions which they have received. They are weak, fallible creatures, easily led into temptation, with seemingly no power, or but little desire on their part to overcome the lustful propensities of their natures.

The outlook here at the gathering place is not so cheering at present as we could wish, a severe drouth has prevailed upon these islands for several months past, and the cane crop has suffered materially, the damage amounting to several thousand dollars. Unless the parched and thirsty earth is soon moistened by copious showers of rain, considerable suffering in many places among the natives will be inevitable.

At our Conference, which terminated after a session of two days, Kaahumaunu, wife and child, Kinimakehewa, and J. B. Kane, were called to make preparations to gather to Zion as soon as practicable. The general and local authorities of the Church were presented and unanimously sustained, much good instruction was imparted by both foreign and native Elders, and a good spirit and feeling seemed to pervade every breast.

As ever,  
Your brother in the Gospel,  
H. P. RICHARDS.

Scenes, Shams, Stage Business, Episodes and Spectacles in the Comedy of Political and Social Life at the Capital—Scientists in Session—Their Work and their Diversion—An Inventor of Thirty-one Years the Greatest Lion of them all—What he will Exhibit at Paris—The Generic Rural Member and his Family of Redundant Rural Grace.

WASHINGTON,  
April 22, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

Washington has been called a cosmopolitan city, and so it is in a narrow sense; during the congressional session it is the most cosmopolitan city of this hemisphere, but the Cosmos from which it derives this distinction is contracted and separated from the grand Cosmos by the Atlantic Ocean. Still, as Macauley says, we have here the representatives of every science and the votaries of every art, and, as Macauley did not say, the charlatans of every sham, and beats from every part. Any day, and everywhere, may be seen diplomats, judges, politicians, admirals, generals, journalists, ladies, lobbyists and loafers. Every day are occurring little spectacular episodes, interludes in the grand political opera, apparently magnificent, and almost indefinable, but, for those who have eyes to discover them, not without importance in the swelling history of the times. A few days ago I saw the Senator from Mississippi, whom Senator Conkling has called a Jesuit, and the ablest man from the South, walk the entire length of the avenue from the Capitol to Willard's, nearly a mile, with Senator Bruce, from the same State, and the only colored Senator in Congress. There has never been any social recognition of colored people here; no matter what political distinctions their constituencies may have conferred upon them when they reach Washington they find the social barricade impregnable, and it may be said to their credit, that they make no effort to scale it. This ostracism is solely on account of race, for it cannot be denied that a few of the colored men that reside here, in official and political life, are, in all the attributes of respectability, the peers and even superiors of some of the white men who have in some providential way been sent to Congress.

The convention of the American Scientific Association has been in session during the week, and has attracted in its select and erudite circle almost as much attention as the too-talkative Senator Conkling has in political circles. Yesterday, in convention at the Smithsonian Institute, after discussing such light and diverting questions as the "photometric comparison of close double stars," "Characteristics of some of the lower spectral lines," "A new element of the Cerium

group," "Ruby conundrum in balsam," they were entertained by the inventor, Mr. Edison, with his phonograph, which sang, whistled, laughed, quoted poetry and Scripture in a startlingly natural way. It is Mr. Edison's intention to send a very large phonograph to the Paris Exposition; it will be run by steam, and proclaim its locality in stentorian tones that may be heard for three miles, thus: "Come and see the phonograph, section nine, American division, Grand Exposition." It will say this in half a dozen different languages, for although a Yankee by birth, it is a true cosmopolite, and can repeat French without an accent.

Among the entertainments both edifying and amusing to the quiet looker on in Washington, is that furnished by the generic rural member and his family. The rural member has been here a session, or a half session, and he has learned that to be a mere honest member of Congress, on a salary of \$5,000, does not give him boundless social, pecuniary, or political influence; but his wife and three healthy daughters who come to spend a month at the capital have not learned even the rudiments of this humiliating lesson, and they refuse to be taught it, looking always upon the father and husband, from their distant point of view, as the great lawyer and statesman, the man of genius and influence. They had imagined that their hero was on perfectly familiar terms with all the social magnates, and they expect to be welcomed at their houses as friends. At one or two places where he presumes to present them, with their redundancy of rural grace, they are coldly received. They see rooms furnished with extravagant luxury, and women dressed with an excess of jewelry, and a deficiency of drapery. Instead of having their call returned, 20 days after, a card is left at an insolently improper hour. They go to the Capitol and sit in the member's gallery of the House of Representatives, and look down upon the legislative Babel on the floor. Prompted by an excusable vanity they ask a reporter to point out Judge So and So, from such and such State, but they are mortified to learn that not even a reporter has heard of their great man. When the session adjourns, and the congressman returning home is met by a brass band and conducted to the town hall or school-house, where he addresses his proud constituents, and tells what he has accomplished for his country and for history—he is in his native heather, has become again a giant of genius and erudition, and the wife and daughter are too happy in this retransformation to reflect on the illusions and shams of men. C. A. S.

Frost, Sickness, etc.

KANAB, April 19, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

About nine inches of snow fell last Monday and Tuesday, followed with two or three frosty nights, which killed most of our fruit, I think, however, some of the late apples are uninjured, and our grapes are not forward enough to receive much injury.

A large number of children are down with pneumonia, which has proved fatal in two cases, others are very low, but hopes are entertained that no more deaths will occur. The two cases were infants four and five weeks old. Any information as to the best treatment of this disease, especially among young children, will be thankfully received. The cases referred to proved fatal in about 48 hours. Respectfully,  
J. L. BUNTING.

Fire—Progress—Prospects.

SPRINGDALE, Kane County,  
April 21, 1878.

Editors Deseret News:

At 1 o'clock a.m. of the 17th inst. a fire was discovered in a log shop belonging to your correspondent. The shop stood between, and a few feet from, two stone buildings, a family living in one of them, the other used for a shop. By the aid of Bros. E. Homer and E. Hepworth, who were awakened by the explosion of a can of rifle powder, we were enabled to keep the flames from the nearest building. It was a still, frosty night.

The members of our Y. M. M. I. A. are wide awake and well officered. Their main subject to-day was

faith, as found in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants. I believe our mothers, wives, etc., are all, with one exception, taking an active part in the Female Relief Society, making quilts, planting cotton, etc. Faith and love are on the increase in our midst, and all are trying to serve the Lord.

There has been more rain and snow this spring than for 14 or 15 years past; the mountains are white, and yet there is a fair prospect of a good crop of fruit in this region. Feed is getting pretty good in the hills. The farmers are very busy putting in their crops. Grapes will soon be plentiful in this place, but it is to be hoped that they will be used more for the pulp than for the juice, as too many of our men and boys in the south are becoming wine-bibbers.

Yours very truly,  
S. K. GIFFORD.

SERICULTURE.

ON COCOONERY.

It is necessary, before entering into sericulture, that some place or building should be prepared for rearing and feeding the worm; also for the spinning and making of cocoons. To the novice, or those who wish to commence on a small scale, I would recommend the fitting up of a small room, or corner of a room that is well ventilated, with shelving made as follows: A frame four feet by two feet, lath nailed across at a distance of about half or three-quarters of an inch apart. The cocoonery may be built any dimensions, with either adobe, brick, or lumber, according to the number of worms to be fed. It would be better not to build too large a room, but as the business increases, erect adjoining places, as it would be better to have two small rooms than one large room. It is estimated that a room 54 feet long, 22 feet wide, and ten feet high, would be large enough to raise over twelve ounces of eggs. The way to fit up said cocoonery is to make three rows of frames for shelving all along, the posts to be placed four feet apart each way, divided in the middle so as to make the shelving four by two, and placed one above another, fourteen inches apart, commencing at the least one foot from the floor and at a suitable distance from the pitch. The frame work should be made of scantling, planed for uprights two by four. The room should not be full of window light, but well ventilated at the sides, near the bottom; and a ventilator upon the top; it should also be fitted up with a stove in case, after the hatching out of the young worms, the temperature of the room should go down below 65 deg. so as not to chill the worms and thereby cause sickness and disease. Let it, if convenient, be built upon rising ground, removed from stagnant pools or water, or any stench; and care should be taken that no refuse is allowed to remain in the cocoonery, that tobacco smoke, or any other offensive matter, is kept away, and that a thermometer is kept to regulate the heat, which will be treated upon in one of the succeeding chapters.

D. GRAVES.

Sensible Advice to Girls.

Never marry a man who has only his love for you to recommend him. It is very fascinating, but it does not make the man. If he is not otherwise what he should be, you will never be happy. The most perfect man who did not love you should never be your husband. But though marriage without love is terrible, love only will not do. If the man is dishonorable to other men, or mean, or given to any vice, the time will come when you will either loathe him or sink to his level. It is hard to remember, amid kisses and praises, that there is anything else in the world to be done or thought of but love-making; but the days of life are many, and the husband must be a guide to be trusted—a companion, a friend as well as a lover. Many a girl has married a man whom she knew to be anything but good, "because he loved her so." And the flame has died out on the hearthstone of home before long, and beside it she has been sitting with one who, if she followed him as a wife should, would guide her steps to perdition. Marriage is a solemn thing—a choice thing—a choice for life; be careful in the choosing.—Belgravia.

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