

Correspondence.

BIGHAM CITY, Dec. 9th, '93.  
This morning, before day break, a messenger from the grading camp this side of the Promontory brought in the sad news that Bishop Wm. Hyde was killed by a mule right on the temple. Brother Snow sent his carriage immediately to bring him in.  
Twenty more days of fine weather will enable us to finish the work of President Snow's contract, extending from the county line to the Promontory, with the exception of certain cuts and fillings, which can be worked at during any kind of winter weather. The Railroad company has a temporary depot of supplies here. The engineers are very favorably known among us. General Hurd is the superintendent for this part. He is accompanied by his cousin, Dr. Hurd.  
Mr. Langrishe's troupe has been performing at the court house hall several nights. As I have been absent at such times I cannot judge, but the people are highly pleased with the various plays.  
A considerable number of strangers are staying in our midst this winter. Mr. Rosenbaum's hotel is over crowded. Mr. H. P. Jensen is about converting his new building into a hotel for their accommodation. In our private residences we have not room enough for the convenience of our families, which makes it rather hard for anybody to rent.  
A. C.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 10, 1893.

Editor Deseret News:—In keeping before your readers the subject of agriculture I would not weary them. I hope that I am properly and reasonably impressed with its importance to our people, for I would not be found giving to it undue interest, nor would I create expectations of results and profits from it that cannot be realized. It is time that we opened our eyes to see the hollow pretensions of all hopes for future competency that are not founded upon the productions of our country and the hand labor of our own people.

Quantities of money are now being made on the Railway, and are as readily being spent, without bettering our homes, agricultural or manufacturing interests. Preparations are being made in almost all our settlements to import largely of manufactured goods from abroad, or to purchase them in Salt Lake City, while but little is said or done by the great majority of our influential and wealthy citizens to lay foundations at home to increase the raw material in quantities for the employment of home labor. Goods from abroad may be placed in the hands of our people, perhaps at cheaper rates, and combinations of wealth and influence for this purpose may for a time accomplish a purpose to be reached, but a system that has for its object the importation of manufactured goods from abroad, to sell to a depending people, can never enrich them and give them self-maintained competency; but it must, in time, entail upon them and their children continued and badly paid toll and hopeless poverty. Could we have manufactured goods from abroad given to us for nothing, it would be still better to make our supplies at home, to be sure of them, and to form a school for agricultural and mechanical knowledge combined, which we could not otherwise possess, for true religion and these underlie all human refinement and all true greatness.

Do the people of Utah want a constant and sure supply of money? Do they wish to reach a position in which they will have the raw and manufactured material to sell and have none to buy? Do they wish to cease parting with the products of their toil to enrich and build up strangers abroad? If they do, let them turn their attention to the multiplication of those products suited to this climate and soil, that will supply their wants at home, and command a ready market abroad. The great Railroad may prove a very uncertain means of conveying goods to us, prejudice, persecution, an Indian war, a deep snow, great floods, national troubles, and other unforeseen circumstances may occur to cut off our supplies. If these should never occur, that road will surely take away all our money and bring comparatively little to us. This may cripple our commercial trade and hurl bankruptcy upon our citizens engaged in it.

In this view it may be a God-sent blessing to the Mormon people in showing them the uncertainty of wealth in money, without the wealth of home production and home labor to manufacture all they need. Do the people of Utah want to take the first steps towards competency and independence? If so, let them grow millions of mulberry trees for the production of silk, these will give to them clothing and money both, build up other industries in the country, and give influence and importance abroad to our institutions.

An acre of land planted with mulberry cuttings in rows three feet and a half apart, and six inches apart in the row, will produce the first year eight tons of good leaves, and with proper pruning and culture, will produce the second year sixty thousand pounds. It is reckoned by a California silk grower, that one million of cocoons produced by the large Chinese race of worms, will consume seventy-eight tons of mulberry leaves. These cocoons will weigh one thousand four hundred pounds after being well dried, and will produce four hundred and twenty pounds of reeled or raw silk. This, at seven dollars a pound, gives the handsome sum of two thousand nine hundred and forty dollars for two and one half acres of mulberry trees the second year after planting the cuttings. The expenses of feeding and reeling will reach nine hundred and fifty-two dollars, leaving about two thousand dollars for two and one half acres, or eight hundred dollars net per acre.

There is no culture from which we can reap so soon such grand results. By it we can produce a vast quantity of raw material almost at once. The establishment of this glorious industry will open up a bright future to our mountain home, give assurance and stability to trade, and create a profitable and safe investment for surplus wealth and labor.  
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