

Correspondence.

PINE KANYON,

Tooele Co., Dec. 30th, 1872.

Editor Deseret News:

Dear Sir:—It is interesting to read of the progress of agriculture and sericulture, two subjects which should interest all the people in these mountains, and mostly those engaged in the business. Much wealth may be made from the cultivation of the silk worm in a few years.

Reports from the Department of Agriculture, published by the Commissioner of the department, show that a large amount of wealth may be obtained by cultivating the silk business. See volume of reports from the department for 1870, page 237, an account of Mr. J. N. Hoag, of Yolo, California, giving the result of experiments in silk culture. He states that he raised from three and a half acres of mulberry trees, \$3,450.

The silk culture has been started in Pine Canyon, and there are about 12,000 mulberry trees now growing. Furthermore experiments have been made during the two summers, and silk has been raised of a good quality, eggs also. The French annuals are the kind we have tested, and have done well. We are satisfied that by good management the silk culture will be a success. The time has now arrived that improvement societies ought to be established throughout these mountains. The finest and best of every kind ought to be aimed at, and cultivated. Cultivation will have to be better understood, and farmers should meet together, and discuss all matters pertaining to the progress of agriculture. Farm matters generally may be much improved. The best breeds of stock of all kinds should be obtained as soon as funds will allow. The *American Farmers' Advocate* states that fifteen pounds of pork has been obtained by experimenting in hog feeding, from one bushel of ground and cooked cornmeal, which report teaches that much improvement may be made in swine keeping, by obtaining better breeds, and therefore more profit at less expense and labor.

It also stated in the agricultural reports that honey is raised in the States for sixteen cents per pound, and canned honey for twenty-six cents; here it is forty cents.

Much valuable information may be obtained by taking the best papers, and by frequent conversation upon agricultural topics. Agricultural societies will be formed or organized when the people see the necessity of them.

JAMES J. STEEL.

THE CLAIMS OF THE INDIAN.

The following is extracted from Commissioner Howard's annual report on Indian affairs:

The people of the United States can never, without dishonor, refuse to respect these two considerations: First—That this continent was originally owned and occupied by the Indians, who have on this account a claim somewhat larger than the privilege of 160 acres of land, and "find himself" in tools and stock, which is granted as a matter of course to any newly-arrived foreigner who declares his intention to become a citizen; that something in the nature of an endowment, either capitalized or in the form of annual expenditures for a series of years for the benefit of the Indians, though at the discretion of the Government as to the specific objects, should be provided for every tribe or band which is deprived of its roaming privilege and confined to a diminished reservation; such an endowment not being in the nature of a gratuity, but in common honesty the right of the Indian on account of his original interest in the soil. Second—"That inasmuch as the progress of our industrial enterprise has cut these people off from modes of livelihood entirely sufficient for their wants, and for which they were qualified, in a degree which has been the wonder of more civilized races, by inherited aptitudes and long pursuit, and has left them utterly without resource, they have a claim on this account again to temporary support and to such assistance as may be necessary to place them in a position to obtain a livelihood by means which shall be compatible with civilization.

Had the settlements of the United States not been extended beyond the frontier of 1807, all the Indians of the continent would, to the end of time, have found upon the plains an inexhaustible supply of food and clothing.

Were the westward courses of population to be stayed at the barriers of today, notwithstanding the tremendous inroads made upon their hunting grounds since 1867, the Indians would still have hope of life. But another such five years will see the Indians of Dakota and Montana as poor as the Indians of Nevada and Southern California; that is, reduced to an habitual condition of suffering from want of food.

The freedom of expansion which is working these results is to us of incalculable cost. Every year's advance of our frontier takes in a territory as large as some of the kingdoms of Europe. We are richer by hundreds of millions; the Indian is poorer by a large part of the little he has. This growth is bringing imperial greatness to the nation; to the Indian it brings wretchedness, destitution, beggary. Surely there is obligation found in considerations like these, requiring us in some way, and in the best way, to make good to those original owners of the soil the loss by which we so greatly gain.

Can any principle of national morality be clearer than that, when the expansion and development of a civilized race involve the rapid destruction of the only means of subsistence possessed by the members of a less fortunate race, the higher is bound as of simple right to provide for the lower some substitute for the means of subsistence which it has destroyed? That substitute is, of course best realized, not by systematic gratuities of food and clothing, continued beyond a present emergency; but by directing these people to new pursuits which shall be consistent with the progress of civilization upon the continent; helping them over the first rough place on "the white man's road," and, meanwhile, supplying such sustenance as is absolutely necessary during the period of initiation and experiment.

A CHALLENGE FROM FROUDE.

Before beginning his third lecture in Boston, Mr. Froude delivered the following challenge to those who have accused him of bad faith in his treatment of historical documents:

Ladies and Gentlemen: I feel it my duty, in view of the manner in which my lectures have been received in this country, to say a word to you who honor me with your presence at my lectures in defense of myself and my books, which I am pleased to learn have had a somewhat extensive sale in this country. I am accused of bad faith in my treatment of historical documents, and it has been charged against me that I am not to be trusted, and that I am a dishonorable man. It is impossible for me to reply in detail to the charges of inaccuracy which have been made against me, and I have therefore determined to answer my assailants in the following manner: It is a challenge exactly similar to that sent by me to the *Saturday Review* some time since in answer to some criticisms which had been made against me. Let my accusers select any number of pages from any of my historical works, one, two, three, or four hundred pages, as they may please, and submit them to the keeper of the records in England, with whom all historical documents are deposited. Let them then appoint a commission to examine and compare my works with these documents, and in case their charges can be made good, I forever after to hold my peace and accept the dishonored position to which they would now consign me. If they do not make good their charges, they to make me a public apology, retracting what they have said against me, the expenses of this commission to be borne by me. As a writer who has done his best to tell the truth, I think it simple justice that this challenge should settle the question of the accuracy of my writings.

A Canadian steamer is frozen in at Bear Lake, with fifty passengers aboard.

An Illinois paper suggests a pleasing connection between the prevalence of horse disease and the abundance of mincemeat.

The New York and Brooklyn bridge when finished will be the largest suspension bridge in existence. The height of the towers above the high water mark will be 268 feet, the height of the centre of the main span, by the same measurement, 135 feet, the length of the river span 1,616 feet, of each land span 240 feet; of the New York approach, 1,441; of the Brooklyn approach, 941 feet; and the total length of the bridge will be 5,878 feet.

UTAH MINERALS.—By the late fire at Boston a collection of minerals of this Territory, purchased in this city by Prof. Woolson, for the Boston English High School, were destroyed. Mr. Barfoot, of the Museum, will be pleased to receive any specimens of minerals or ores with a view to replacing those destroyed, without expense to the School. It is proposed to send a parcel so as to reach Boston before the New Year.

WATER.—Of late there has been considerable complaining in regard to the water in the streets. People will complain—it is much easier to do so than to satisfy complaints. First there is no water running in some of the street sects, the residents can't get water for domestic purposes, or for building, or in case of fire; next, the water runs in the sects and overflows in places, and freezes and overflows, and freezes and overflows, and the boys skate in the streets and on the sidewalks, and so matters go. If people will have water running in the sects all over town, they must take advantage of the mild weather and clean out their sects and keep them in condition to hold water, otherwise it will find its way into the streets and the frost will glaze it and the boys will skate upon it. Even with good ditches and considerable attention to them, the winter's frost will cause overflows. The fact is, you can't have the advantage of running water before your door without some of the disadvantages thereof, and while you enjoy the former you should cheerfully endure such of the latter as cannot be avoided.

OGDEN.—The following are gleaned from the *Junction* of Friday and Saturday:

A conference of the Latterday Saints in Weber county will be held at the Tabernacle, Ogden City, Saturday and Sunday, December 14th and 15th.

A new grand hotel is to be erected at the junction depot, on the site of the former house, which was destroyed by fire.

Abraham Chadwick and ——— Cazier were bound over to the Probate Court, of Weber county, on Saturday, the first in \$1,000 and the second in \$800 bonds, to answer to a charge of stealing shingles from Mr. J. Terrell, of Mound Fort.

"A passenger on the C. P. R. R. was found dead yesterday morning, December 6th, upon the arrival of the train in this city as announced in yesterday's issue. The officers of the city proceeded to investigate the causes which led to his death, and to identify his person. Mr. Fife, the coroner of this county, at once ordered an inquisition. A jury was summoned and, after the examination of witnesses, it was found that the deceased was a person named E. A. Smith, of Virginia City, connected with a large banking institution. In making an effort to rise from his seat, he fell back a corpse. The following verdict was rendered by the jury selected to inquire into his mysterious death:

"An inquisition holden at Ogden precinct, Weber county, on the 6th day of December, A. D. 1872, before William N. Fife, coroner of said county, upon the body of E. A. Smith, there lying dead, by the jurors whose names are hereto subscribed. The said jurors upon their oaths do say said E. A. Smith came to his death from disease of the heart.

WM. N. FIFE,

Coroner Weber county.

"The following dispatch was received by the Superintendent of the C. P. R. R.:

"Virginia City, 6.

To R. H. PRATT:

"Please send E. A. Smith, placed in the best possible shape, to J. C. Smith, Reno; also, all effects, and draw on us for expenses incurred.

"A. E. RALSTON,

Agent of the Bank of California.

"Coroner Fife immediately ordered a metallic casket, and is superintending the necessary arrangements for sending the body to Reno this evening.

"The deceased had in his possession about \$315 in gold and currency, a first-class ticket to Chicago, and other property, which will be sent with his remains to Reno."

BREVITIES.

The following is the most startling compositor's "line to fill out a column" we have seen for a month: "Does not a young mother's heart leap 4th with joy when she beholds her darling babe's 1st 2th?"

One of our residents about to depart West, desires to sell a sitting in one of the most eligible groceries in town. The stove is one of the most powerful in the market, and the cracker and candy barrels are in easy distance.—*Ex.*

"Don't you think it safe, my dear," said a husband to his wife, "for men to take off flannel when it looks like spring?" "Perhaps so," replied his wife, "but I never saw any flannel that looked like spring."

A lady called on a witty friend, who was not at home, and finding the piano dusty, wrote upon it "slattern." The next day they met, and the lady said, "I called on you yesterday." "Yes, I saw your card on the piano."

BY TELEGRAPH.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 10.—Cole offered a resolution directing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of amending the Constitution so as to provide for the election of a President and Vice President of the United States and Senators by direct vote of the people. The resolution was adopted.

Sherman, from the committee of finance, reported the House bill for the relief of the sufferers by the Boston fire and stated that the committee was equally divided on the bill, which was placed on the calendar.

HOUSE.

Sargent, who reported the bill, explained it by stating that the amount appropriated by it was nearly a million less than the regular appropriation for the current year.

Niblack asked Sargent to give the House an idea of the present policy and views of the administration in regard to the Indians.

Sargent replied that he was not authorized to speak for the administration on that matter. His own opinion would be in favor of doing away with the old Indian treaties.

Shanks, chairman of the Indian committee, said so far as his committee was concerned it would rigidly adhere to the conditions and spirit of the treaties between the U. S. and the Indian tribes until some other mode was established with the consent of the Indians themselves.

Sargent spoke in commendation of the peace policy of the government toward the Indians.

GENERAL.

WASHINGTON, 10.—Blaque Bay, the Turkish Minister here, has received a letter from the minister of finance in Turkey, asking a series of questions in regard to the Pacific railroads their condition and management; also whether it would be well for Turkey to adopt the American trans-continental railway system, and whether it would be well for Turkey to send its raw products across this continent per rail, for re-shipment to China. Blaque Bay answered yes to the first question, and no to the second, excepting as regards opium, gum arabic, and silk which are inconsiderable matters.

The commission appointed to inspect the Minnesota division of the Northern Pacific report the road well located, grades light, embankment and excavations within the requirements of the law, ballasting well done with gravel, rolling stock uniformly excellent, and engine houses and repair shops adequate. Assistance is recommended.

NEW YORK, 10.—Maud Merrill was shot dead to-night in a house of prostitution in Neilson Place. The murderer said, as he was passing out of the house, that he had shot his niece and would give himself up, but he did not do so. He has not been arrested. The real name of the girl is said to be Martha Smith.

NEW YORK, 10. The run on the Mutual Bank subsided considerably today. Confidence in the institution is restored.

The *Italy*, from Liverpool, arrived yesterday, bringing 862 immigrant passengers, of whom nearly 500 are Italians in an extreme state of destitution. The authorities at Castle Garden are in a quandary as to their disposition. They are, as a general thing, unable to earn anything after their arrival, so that at present they are without means of any kind. Several have been sent to Ward's Island, to be supported by the city. Other vessels are now on the way here with large numbers of Italians. As nearly as can be ascertained, they are led to immigrate to America by promises of the agent of the Colonization Society. The Italian government is also reported not unfavorable to a general exodus.

A fire at midnight at the laundry of the Fifth Avenue Hotel ruined two upper floors. Margaret Fagan was fatally burned and two others seriously.

BOSTON, 10.—Gaston is re-elected Mayor by 352 majority over H. S. Pierce. Gaston was candidate for the Democrats and Citizens, and Pierce the nominee of the People and Labor Reformers. The Common Council stands about 40 Republicans and 24 Democrats.

The President has nominated Wm. Carey, of Galena, Ill., United States Attorney for Utah, vice George C. Bates.