

NEW POSTAL LAW.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Swan, of the Post Office in this city, we have been put in possession of a copy of the New Postal Law, which was passed by Congress, and approved July 27th, 1868. We present the following extracts from it, with a preceding paragraph from the editor of the *United States Mail*, the subject being one of much interest to the general public:

"Postmasters at Money Order Offices will make no change in the rate of fees charged (nor any other change in money order business) until they receive the instructions of the Postmaster General or the Superintendent of the Money Order Office of the Department."

SECTION 1 of the Act says:

"That when any writer of a letter, on which the postage is prepaid, shall endorse in writing or in print upon the outside thereof his name and address, the same, after remaining uncalled for at the post office to which it is directed thirty days, or the time the writer may direct, shall be returned to the said writer without additional postage, whether a specific request for such return be endorsed on the letter or not."

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all persons who receive money orders shall be required to pay therefor the following charges or fees, viz.: For one dollar or any sum not exceeding twenty dollars, a fee of ten cents shall be charged and exacted by the postmaster giving said order; for all orders exceeding twenty dollars and not exceeding thirty dollars, the charge shall be fifteen cents; for all orders exceeding thirty dollars and not exceeding forty dollars, the charge shall be twenty cents; for all orders exceeding forty dollars and not exceeding fifty dollars, the fee shall be twenty-five cents.

SEC. 10. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person employed in any department of the post office establishment of the United States shall, wilfully and knowingly, use, or cause to be used in prepayment of postage, any postage stamp or stamped envelope issued or which may hereafter be issued by authority of any act of Congress or of the Postmaster General which has already been once used for a like purpose, or shall remove or attempt to remove the cancelling or defacing marks from any such postage stamp or stamped envelope with intent to use or cause the use of the same a second time, or to sell or offer to sell the same, or shall remove from letters or other mail matter deposited in or received at a post office the stamps attached to the same in payment of postage, with intent to use the same a second time for alike purpose, or to sell or offer to sell the same, every such offender shall, upon conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of felony, and shall be imprisoned for not less than one year nor more than three years.

SEC. 11. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person not employed in any department of the post office establishment of the United States shall commit any of the offences described in the preceding section of this act, every such person shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be punished by imprisonment for not less than six months nor more than one year, or by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars for each offence, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SEC. 15. *And be it further enacted*, That the Postmaster General be, and he is hereby authorized to conclude arrangements with the post departments of foreign countries, with which international postal conventions have been or shall be concluded, for the exchange of small sums of money by means of postal orders, the maximum amount of which shall not exceed that fixed by law for domestic money orders, at such rates of exchange and under such rules and regulations as he may deem expedient."

SILK CULTURE.

THE necessity of launching into new branches of industry has, of late, been repeatedly urged upon the people of Utah, and preliminary measures, having the furtherance of this counsel in view, have already been adopted. A little reflection will render the reasons for this counsel very obvious. The branches of manufacture now carried on in Utah are very limited in number, owing in a great measure to the lack of money capital, and the great expense and time requisite to import the machinery necessary to successfully carry on almost any branch of trade. The completion of the railroad will greatly facilitate the importation of machinery

and the opening up of many new branches of manufacture, in which, if home capital be not invested outside capital will be, and others will thus reap the profit and advantages, to which our own people, having settled the country and made it a fit abode for civilized beings, are justly entitled. This has already been the case in one very important branch of manufacture, and will most certainly be so in others if the counsel on this subject be not promptly carried out.

Another reason why this counsel should be implicitly obeyed is, that if more branches of manufacture were opened up here, there would be ways, now unknown, of usefully and remuneratively employing our rapidly increasing rising generation. This is a matter of vital importance to the inhabitants of this Territory, the great majority of whom are dependant upon labor for their support. There are none amongst us independently rich, and very few who are moderately so; and in consequence of the existence of that peculiar domestic institution so offensive to the pseudo-morality of the world at large, our young folks are very numerous, and the necessity of employing them usefully and profitably is becoming more and more apparent.

Many of our people have extravagant ideas about the great change that will be wrought amongst us, in a pecuniary sense, by having a railroad through our Territory. They imagine that it will find employment for a great number and will also cause the general and plentiful circulation of money, and, consequently do away with the system of barter and trade and its innumerable inconveniences that circumstances have hitherto rendered, to a great extent, an absolute necessity.

Now the railroad may be made a means to do this if we will take the steps necessary; but the people must do their part. Under present circumstances it will no doubt improve the condition of the few who may be employed by the Company; but unless we, as a whole people, take steps to produce and export that which will meet a ready sale for gold in the markets of the world, we shall find that the main difference effected by the railway will be the more rapid importation of merchandise from the East or West as the case may be; but that money will be as scarce as, or scarcer than, ever.

The staple produce of Utah, hitherto, has been grain, tolerably large quantities of which have been exported from the territory; but owing to the great amount of labour required for its production, this very exportation, instead of proving a benefit to the people, has increased their poverty. It has, in many cases, no doubt afforded a very temporary relief to pressing necessities; but being in nearly every case bought up by speculators at a cost far below the price of production, it has really retarded the permanent prosperity of the producer. The same causes will operate in the future against the successful production and exportation of grain.

There are some branches of industry, however, which, if the people of Utah would unitedly and vigorously enter upon, would beyond all doubt increase to an inconceivable degree their general prosperity. Among these stand out most prominently the manufacture of silk and iron. We shall confine our remarks on this occasion to the culture of silk.

The knowledge of silk culture, and the manufacture of silken fabrics has been possessed for many ages by Oriental nations, and was obtained from them by Europeans. For several centuries this branch of industry has been a source of great profit to some of the European nations, but specially to France and Italy. For some years past an epidemic has prevailed among the European silkworms, which has compelled the importation of eggs from China and Japan; but latterly the worms produced from the foreign eggs have likewise fallen a prey to the disease, and those engaged in this business are being compelled to turn their eyes to new localities for their purchase.

For a few years past this branch of industry has been urged upon the attention of the people of California by several experienced sericulturists, the most prominent of whom are Messrs. Hayni, Hoag and Prevost, who have proven by experiment that the soil and climate of California are admirably adapted to the growth of the mulberry tree and the silkworm; and the State, in view of the great prospective advantages offered by this branch of industry, has offered a premium of \$250 for 500 or more mulberry trees grown there, and \$300 for each

10,000 silk cocoons of home production. The California worms are free from disease, and this fact having become known, their eggs have been exported to Europe and have given the greatest satisfaction, and already the demands from that quarter are greater than California can supply.

The experiments of our townsman Geo. D. Watt, Esq., for the last few years have proven that the soil and climate of our Territory are second to none for the production of the mulberry and silkworm; and through his representations and labors, this matter is beginning to receive serious attention from some of our people; and it is probable that before long, sericulture will prove a source of great wealth to the Territory.

The propagation of the mulberry tree—an indispensable pre-requisite to the prosecution of silk in its raw state, being the only food upon which the worms will thrive—is easy; and the soil of our bench lands is just the kind required. The trees can be propagated most readily from cuttings, the following being the method adopted with success by some who have already made a start in this direction: Furrows are plowed between three and four inches deep and ten feet apart, into which the cuttings are placed lengthwise, about five feet apart, or close together according to taste. If planted close together, they must be gradually thinned out until they are five feet apart; the advantage gained by the latter method being that a supply of healthy food can be more speedily obtained for the worms. The planting should be done early in the Spring. When the young trees begin to grow they should be trained like willows. After the first year no further care need be bestowed upon the mulberry tree.

The propagation and management of the silkworm is a matter requiring very little skill. The hatching of the eggs is best effected in a warm room, commencing with a temperature of about 60° Fah., and gradually increasing it for ten days, until a temperature of 80° is attained. It is best to keep the room heated by night as well as by day. During the process of hatching, the eggs may be placed on small wooden stages six feet wide, placed one over the other, about fifteen inches apart. Over these frames the young worms are gradually spread, until their full size is attained, when for each ounce of eggs hatched about 300 square feet of surface is allowed. The worm should be fed regularly, at least four or five times a day, and oftener than this when they have shed their fourth skin, which is by the time they are three weeks old, as at that time their capacity for eating mulberry leaves is greatest. Those hatched at one time should be kept together; and those which shed their skins at the same time should be fed together. When about six weeks old they commence to spin the cocoon, at which period a net work of twigs or twine should be stretched over small frames upon which the worms will fix themselves preparatory to spinning the cocoon. They must now be kept comfortably warm, and in three or four days the cocoon is finished.

If it is intended to reel the silk the chrysalis must be destroyed, which may be done by exposing the cocoons for a day or two in the sun's rays, or placing them in a tolerably warm oven. If it is designed to raise eggs the cocoons must be let alone, and in a few days the chrysalis, transformed into a moth, issues from the cocoon, when the males and females must be paired, after which the eggs are laid, when the moths die.

The raising of eggs for exportation, in view of the epidemic in Europe, bids fair to be a very lucrative business, as all that can be produced, in good condition, will readily sell for four dollars an ounce in gold, and the amount annually expended in Europe for imported eggs is said to be not less than \$15,000,000. The worms are very productive. About a hundred pairs of cocoons will produce an ounce of eggs, and one man can attend to 50,000 pairs of worms.

The cocoons, after the moths have left them, can be spun by hand into beautiful silk yarn, and is more easily spun than either wool, hemp or cotton, all the preparation necessary being to boil the cocoons in soap and water for a few hours, in order to dissolve the peculiar gummy material by which they are held together.

The feeding and management of the worms can be attended to as well by women and children as by men, and while the latter are attending to their usual labors in the field or otherwise, their families may be employed in a light, easy and remunerative occupation. This is no mere theory or fancy sketch; but here is a means by which

our bench lands, and the numerous nimble, little fingers of every family may be made a means of largely increasing the wealth and prosperity of the people.

There is no reason to hinder Utah in the course of a few years from annually exporting thousands of ounces of eggs, and receiving in return the gold for them. This, with the completion of the railroad would be the means of greatly increasing the wealth of our people; but unless some such step is taken it is more than likely that that general circulation of money and its accompanying conveniences and comforts, now expected by many, will be looked for in vain.

If this branch of industry be entered upon and prosecuted in earnest, it will, besides increasing the wealth of the people, also enable our ladies, young and old, to legitimately gratify that love of elegant attire that seems so natural to every female heart, and will do more, perhaps, than any other branch of home manufacture can do, towards fulfilling the revelation given by the Lord through the Prophet Joseph many years ago, commanding the Latter-day Saints to let the beauty of their adornment be the workmanship of their own hands.

Correspondence.

ZURICH, Switzerland, Aug. 3, '68.

Elder George Q. Cannon:—Dear Bro. I trust I shall not intrude by addressing a few lines to you to let you know how we are getting along here in the old world. We are now in the beautiful country of Switzerland, where we can enjoy the pure mountain air, which brother W. B. Richards and myself highly appreciate, after being cooped up in smoky London for the past 12 months. We left London on the 6th of July and arrived at St. Imier on the 8th after an interesting trip of two days. I was much pleased with portions of the country, crossing the Jura mountains, and on descending this side saw some of the most beautiful sights I ever witnessed.

Since my arrival in Switzerland I have had the privilege of traveling through some portions of it, and of seeing some of its many sights, and I think that the topographical appearance of the country surpasses anything I have had the pleasure of seeing. The lakes, mountains and valleys are beautiful, and in many respects remind me of our peaceful home in the far off west. The customs of the people, though strange and in some cases disagreeable to one like myself, are still in many respects highly commendable. To see the way in which agriculture is carried on is really pleasing as well as being a novelty to me. One thing I think worthy of note, that is, that farming can be carried on, wheat can stand out in the open field without being protected by a stone wall, and still permitted to grow and not be subject to prowling "critters," which are so great a pest in our own country.

Yesterday we held a conference at which there were quite a number present. Amongst the happy number was President F. D. Richards, K. G. Maeser, Octave Ursenbach, W. B. Richards and H. Young. It was truly a day of rejoicing and long to be remembered by all present. The Spirit of God was poured out in rich abundance. Much valuable instruction was given by bro's Richards, Maeser and Ursenbach. W. B. R. and myself were not able to instruct much as we were not able to "deutsch zu sprechen." The presidents of branches will return to their homes and fields of labor with new determinations, and fresh zeal.

The work of the Lord in these lands is in a promising condition, and I am sanguine that with the help of God much good will be done during the present year. The spirit of the work is extant, many strangers are attending our meetings, and we are privileged every day or two to add one or more to the kingdom of God. Our mutual friend "Karl" is wide awake to the work, and is laboring with all his might, mind and strength. The Saints love him as a father, and I do most emphatically think him "the right man in the right place." All are well and send kind love to you at home. Praying for your welfare and happiness.

I am your brother and well wisher.
HEBER YOUNG.

MRS. JOHN McMILLAN,
Dealer in all kinds of

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