

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## Culture and Curing of Broom Corn.

Broom corn is hardy when once well started and is then a safe and sure crop. The most essential part is to cut and cure it right. It should not be left to ripen too much before it is cut. As a rule, it is ready to table and cut when the seed is passing into the dough. The corn is then sufficiently matured for toughness and is green and of good color. Tabling is breaking it down waist high, so that your brush is handy to cut. Break two rows as you go, across each other. This leaves the brush to extend over the next space where you walk and cut your corn, laying it lengthwise on the table. Thus furrowed for the team to gather, cut your corn about two feet long in the brush or above the joints where the brush comes out. This will loosen the husk and let it drop off and your corn will soon dry and be much less apt to heat and spoil. The seed must be taken off at least a day after cutting. This done, and your corn, if free from the husk, will soon be cured in this dry climate. It must be spread in a building, shed or barn, up a little from the ground, so that a free circulation of air is accessible to it. As soon as the moisture is out of the stalk part it is cured and ready to bind up and use or sell. In no case should corn be left to dry in the sun, as it soon bleaches it out and destroys all the vitality of it, and it is only worth half price when sold. Good durable brooms cannot be made out of poor corn. Corn can be cured here in our climate at half the expense it is done east, and I am satisfied can be made a very profitable crop also, if properly grown and attended. The seed makes excellent horse feed by mixing half and half with barley and grinding together, also is No. 1 feed for hogs when chopped up, and sells at one cent per pound east or west. For the above use an acre of broom corn produces one ten and upward of seed and should in all cases be saved and used as feed. H. B. S.

## Intemperance—The Best Reform.

SALT LAKE CITY,  
Aug. 15, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

On the subject of intemperance much has been and still remains to be written. It is an evil that afflicts the world, and until it is subdued the pen should be vigilant. Through life we meet its baneful effects at every advance. What is most alarming in the phase it now assumes is its being so largely in excess of past generations. The monster is onward, steadily and constantly making its conquests, tearing away the safeguards of society and undermining the foundations that support the social fabric. It holds unblinking revel in our streets by day and the nights are made hideous by its carousal. Municipal laws are interposed to check it, police forces are marshalled against it in all the cities, and yet the peace is broken, rowdyism and uproarious tumult swell their demoniac choruses, and the defiant laugh mocks the futile efforts of force to check or hinder the pandemonium.

What can be done, we ask, to relieve or ameliorate a condition so lamentable? An appeal to reason, to the noble natures, to sympathy, to the kinder feelings, to the tender emotions of the heart, to the high powers of intellect, to the great endowments which the God of Nature has ordained to dignify man and make him the noblest of His creation, to reflect the scintillations of intellectual light upon the high plane which man was created to occupy, and urge him to step upward to the shining eminence, to portray life's pictures in the phases of the fallen and lost, to say, Come let us reason together and survey the paths to true and lasting enjoyment, to peace and perpetual joys—these are among the most effectual weapons within our reach, with which to grapple with the demon of intemperance, to bring back its devotees to the status of true manhood, and establish them members of a civilization untainted by the disgusting and soul-sickening spectacles which shock the moral sensibility in all the great thoroughfares and cities of the world.

"The pen is mightier than the sword," is a popular axiom among the literati of the day, and many

enlightened arguments may be brought in support of its correctness. Nations become renowned for the vastness of their armaments and fleets, for their conquests and subjugations, for their aggressions and reprisals, and for their arbitrary dominance over the weak and peace-loving, but it amounts only to a despotism of might over right, which the milder weapons of reason from the press and pulpit will ultimately rectify, and proclaim a lasting peace and final regeneration from the antagonisms which enslave and manacle the unfortunate but still dignified forms of humanity. These milder, gentler and more reasonable arguments, which appeal to the sense and not the physical organism, are destined to become the fulcrum and lever to overthrow the evils of drunkenness and every other great vice, to regenerate the world and sift society of its debasing contaminations, to bring in the era of universal sobriety and kindly brotherhood, when the drunkard will cease to quaff from the intoxicating bowl a liquid to drown domestic joy and desolate the blessed precincts of home, and when the peace will be so boundless that men will beat swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks and learn the arts of war no more.

The bludgeon is not an effectual weapon against intemperance and its effects. It is useful and must be resorted to in municipal districts to quell drunken riots and preserve the peace. Police forces must be employed to ensure the safety of our cities and protect citizens from assault. But when they have done their work, it is then the task of the reformer to sow into the mind good seed that will spring up and bear fruit, and from their stores of truth and mental arguments reflect a light which will reveal to the wayward the path to lead him back to the respect of society and the associations of the honorable and wise.

Armed force, pitted against drunken rowdyism, is necessary for special occasions, but appeals from the eloquent and humane, words of gentle rebuke, truths fitly spoken, kindness of manner and tone, a humane feeling, a generous demeanor, and a liberal and forgiving spirit, will accomplish more lasting good and bring to pass a still greater redemption of the fallen and besotted victims.

Let more of the representative men who lead in society act as saviors to redeem the fallen, and not by arbitrary rule and the domination of might, on all occasions, aim to drive and enforce obedience—remembering that kind words turn away wrath and that the door to supremacy leads through the affections to the heart of man. When once you are admitted and stand there you are indeed and in fact their peers, and with willingness, not abject submission, they will accord to you the trust to lead out in every beneficial enterprise.

The growth of intemperance is indeed alarming. On every hand is visible its bleared visage. It looks out upon us not alone from the circles of the humble and impoverished, but from the palaces of the opulent, from halls of legislation, from courts of jurisprudence, and from the assemblages of statesmen and international arbiters. The brightest intellects are darkened and genius is eclipsed; men of large brain and vivacious minds, possessing natural endowments to qualify them for the highest distinctions of trust and honor, even these have drained the tempting goblet, until confidence is lost, and their visions of earthly renown become a phantasm and often disgrace falls upon them like a darkening pall.

Lamentable indeed is the spectacle which our loved America presents, with her distilleries, her vernal politicians and whiskey rings, all conspiring to swell the volume of intoxication, increase the facilities for debasement and defraud government of revenue for purposes of self-aggrandizement, which in many instances has eventuated in their ruin. But these evils are not here referred to as being peculiar to the *lux loci* of any special town, city or nation; for they have a prevalence that encircles the globe and permeates all departments of government and social existence.

Intemperance is found so generally permeant in the integral elements of society—with the laborer, mechanic, merchant, scientist, politician, statesman—and its damning effects upon the helpless

and unwary are so deplorable and heart-rending, that the common space given to a newspaper article will not admit of satisfactory ventilation.

Respectfully,  
L. O. LITTLEFIELD.

## THE TWENTY-FOURTH.

BALENGER'S CAMP,  
Sunset Crossing,  
Little Colorado River, Arizona Ter.,  
July 30, 1876.

Editor Deseret News:

We celebrated the 24th in this camp in a very creditable manner, considering our circumstances. We were awoke from our slumbers at day break by a volley of musketry from Capt. Knowles' company, and by a salute at sunrise, at the raising of the flag.

The whole camp assembled in the bowery at 9 o'clock, when meeting was called to order by the Marshal, followed by singing, by the choir, "the Standard of Zion," prayer by Jesse O. Balenger, Chaplain, singing by the choir, oration by John Morgan, songs, speeches, recitations, toasts, and dialogues, from the brethren and sisters, which were in order until 12 o'clock, when some of the boys jumped in sacks. We all partook of a good dinner, prepared under the superintendence of Mrs. Maryann J. Adams. Committee—Mrs. Louisa Johnson, Mrs. Elizabeth Cox.

In the afternoon we drove out to Dry Lake, a very fine place for playing at ball, foot racing, or horse or carriage racing, all of which was done by the brethren and sisters, who mostly took an active part, and enjoyed themselves first rate.

All went off good through the day, except a slight accident that took place in the morning. Charles Tietjen, of Santaquin, while driving in the horse herd, was thrown from his horse, and hurt his left side and his left ankle, but he is getting considerably better and will soon be able to attend to his duties again.

The amusements of the day closed with a dance in the evening, which closed at 10 o'clock, all being well satisfied. The health of the camp is good.

Committee of arrangements, John Evans, Aaron Johnson, Francis Cox.

John Evans, marshal of the day.  
Yours very respectfully,  
JOHN MORGAN,  
Reporter.

P. S. I forgot to mention that during our meeting in the forenoon a little stranger came to camp, Sister Anderson gave birth to a fine son; mother is doing first rate. This is the first occurrence of the kind that has taken place in this camp, but there will be several more before long. J. M.

## WYOMING.

A few miles from Wahsatch Station, on the Union Pacific R. R., the traveller will observe a board with the words, "Utah" on the West and "Wyoming" on the East side. This is the Western boundary of our subject. Pine Bluffs, on the same railroad, is near the eastern line. At Otto station you approach the most southern point reached by the great highway, and should you wish to find the most northern point I would merely say that it is close to the Summer residence of Sitting Bull. The many rivers, with their odd names, such as Crazy Woman's Fork, Little Big Horn, Grey Bull, No Wood, Stinking Tongue, and Powder Rivers, have their rise on the northern slope of the Territory. These ultimately find their outlet into the Yellowstone. The Great National Yellowstone Park is located in the extreme north-west corner, and portions of the gold regions of the Black Hills are in the north-east. The southern line runs through the Uinta Mountains. In brief Wyoming is bounded on the South by Colorado, on the East by Nebraska and Dakota, on the North by Montana, and on the West by Utah and Idaho.

The general elevation of the Territory is all the way from 5,000 to 13,500 feet, the last named point being Fremont's Peak, in the Wind River Mountains.

It is a Territory full of wonders, like all the rest of Uncle Sam's babies that are not allowed to run alone. The foremost is the Geyser land of the National Park, where old mother earth's kettles spurt

higher, are bigger, and blow more than at any other point on her bosom, beating the famous Geysers of Iceland all to nothing.

The next wonder is the great coal deposits that extend over an area of 30,000 square miles, being able to warm up the whole human family for hundreds of years, whenever wanted, without which the U. P. road would have been almost impossible as a paying institution. As a proof of what I say, when the R. R. Company were boring for water at Rock Springs, they passed through eleven veins of coal all of working thickness, and apparently inexhaustible, quality excellent.

The next wonder is the gold deposit of the Black Hills, and the great soda lakes.

To cut this wonder business short, let me just mention that Wyoming gave to the gentler sex the right of suffrage, thus leading the van of the whole nation. Smart politicians afterwards gave to the down-trodden ladies of Utah the same right, and now that the working of the designed injury don't realize their expectations, they want to take it from them. O tempora! O mores!

The average length of Wyoming from east to west is 358 miles, width 276 miles, with an area of nearly 98,000 square miles, being one and a half times as large as all the New England States combined.

In all the printed descriptions of Wyoming they fail to tell the real truth, as to how cold it can be at times, on the great plateaus which are spread over its surface. I have seen the mercury at thirty-three degrees below zero in Laramie City in the spring of 1872, but no mention was ever made of such a fact. That winter was no doubt an exception to the general rule; but it is not much use bragging up a country for its wonderful mild climate when it can get that cold should the weather clerk choose to turn the crank that way.

There is enough to admire and to speak about that is correct without claiming for our subject great agricultural advantages. On the 9th of August, this present year, the frost had nipped the potatoes in Laramie city; which fact, although it may not occur annually, is sadly against success in that direction. There are no doubt many nice little sheltered valleys, where gardens and fruit trees will flourish, if the right kind of emigrants settle down to it, but for the present Wyoming must draw her supplies from outside sources in the matter of fruit and tender vegetables. I asked the very intelligent local of the *Laramie Sentinel*, "What do you folks do for emigrants who wish to settle down with you? Is there any person to advise them where to go?" He said, "No, we just let 'em sit at the depot." If the residents of Wyoming had the *snaps* of those of Utah, they would have lots of good things of their own raising, that they do not now enjoy. The wild raspberry that flourishes in the hills, would be transplanted to the gardens, and the famous currant of Utah, would be obtained; that no winter in Wyoming could kill off. The sandhill cherry of Nebraska and the Pottawatomie plum will all live and bear well in our sister Territory.

But the crowning item that causes Wyoming to be in the front ranks is the matter of stock raising. In this respect, Utah is distanced. The broad Laramie plains are beautiful to look upon, after feasting one's eyes on Bitter Creek Valley—a short kind of bunch grass covers the ground, making it the finest sheep range in the world. I stopped one night at Cooper's Lake, with the gentlemanly agent of the U. P., Mr. Field, and on rising early in the morning scores of beautiful antelope were grazing quietly yet timidly almost within gun-shot of the station. The legislators of Wyoming have very successfully put an embargo upon the wanton killing of game. No person can shoot them for an outside market. No express company is allowed to carry them out of the Territory. If there is a wrong committed by mankind, it is the wanton destruction of beasts and birds. Men who think themselves endowed with the finest feelings and highest refinements will shoot and kill the beautiful antelope just for fun. I think the game law of Wyoming an honor to the legislative council that passed it.

Sage hens, cotton tail rabbits, elk and deer abound in the mountains that environ the plains in vast numbers. Cattle and sheep are raised by thousands, the firms

engaged doing a very heavy business, and a successful one too. There is yet room for hundreds in the same line, but the general fault is that a man of limited means can't make a start. This is purely and simply because he won't. In talking with a young man, a farmer, I asked him, "Why don't you go and take up some land and start a small farm, and raise sheep?" Said he, "There is plenty of chance, but I can't buy one or two head. If I could buy one hundred head, I could get them." I urged him to go where he could get three or four, start a little farm, and wait with patience. He said in reply that it was too slow work, making money that way. I replied, "Is not a home money? What more can you enjoy than all you need and all you can raise easily?" But the reply was it was too slow, and moreover he had no wife. I then said he was poor indeed, and that the first element of true wealth and happiness was a good wife.

This is similar in tone to the remarks of the agent at Rock Springs, who said that he could not make money at farming in Nebraska, giving as a reason that the agricultural implement makers had got everybody's crop in Nebraska mortgaged, and no sooner did a man start a farm than he must have this and that to harvest his crops, and he oftentimes left the costly implements out in the sun to dry up. The implement sharpeners follow in the wake of the toiling farmers and generally over-persuade them to mortgage what they do not possess—their first crops. No wonder that a cloud of locusts lighting down upon their farms will cause such consternation. This is always likely to occur, hence a co-operative movement would be right in all such matters and a saving effected, as with plenty of help, one instrument can do the work for a great number.

Herein lies the secret of the solid prosperity of Utah. A few weeks ago 631 emigrants arrived in our midst, perfectly ignorant of the way to get a living in a new country. In a few days they were all absorbed in the different settlements. In the first place they were willing to be directed, and in the second place there were persons to direct them, and to help them to get a start.

In the Territories around us very little effort is made to have the poor emigrant stay with them, the rich ones are the best game. The fact will yet be admitted that the emigrant, with his large family, is the true source of wealth. Hence Utah is the best of them all, in this particular, but the man of means is always welcome.

Wyoming owes her advanced condition to the U. P. R. R. Cut out from the map the towns adjacent to it, and very little is left. The Sweetwater country once loomed up as a great mining camp, but to-day it is down, down so flat that it will take a long time to regain the population it once had. The principal towns are Cheyenne, Laramie and Evanston. Cheyenne is the largest, and promises to be the leading city for a long time. It is the fastest. Many of the stores and buildings have the style and finish of older cities. Newspaper scribes have dubbed it the "Magic City of the Plains." It is the starting point for Fort Laramie and the Black Hills, and much of its present life and bustle is due to the investment of capital in new buildings, stores, etc., and should the Black Hills gold fields hold out, it will no doubt be a large and flourishing city; otherwise it will be like other railroad towns, dull and prosy. Once a railroad is built to the Hills from some other point, good-bye to the great future of Cheyenne. Hurdy gurdy dance houses and scores of the demimonde may be seen. A noted place of amusement, McDaniel's, is so constructed as to offer to the green and unsophisticated a ready introduction to the syrens that make up one of the chief attractions. Dancing, singing, and the usual melodeon entertainments are given nightly, and what with bad whiskey and worse company the bull-wacker fresh from the plains is soon shorn of his earnings.

One fact struck me as singular, that most of the fruit and vegetables consumed there comes from California. Many of the products of Utah would sell well, could they be furnished in good shape, like the California produce. When once our gardeners have succeeded in producing the largest and finest of