

CORRESPONDENCE.

St. Louis Conference Report.

OGDEN CITY,
December 18th, 1877.

Editors Deseret News:

I have just received from John F. Shrepel, Secretary of the St. Louis branch of the Church, a copy of their quarterly report for the quarter ending November 30.

The Branch consists of 36 members, including 6 Elders, 1 Priest, 1 Teacher, and 2 Deacons. They met in conference on the 4th inst. in their hall, 1,310 Broadway, and sustained the priesthood as they now stand, with the Twelve Apostles as the presiding authority of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in all the world, with John Taylor as their president.

Elder Andrew Burman was sustained as the president of the St. Louis branch and all the priesthood associated with him, in their place and calling. They partook of the sacrament, received good instructions from President Burman and the Elders present, rejoiced in the spirit of the gospel, and all the brethren and sisters bore testimony to the truth of the glorious latter-day work now established in the mountains.

During the last quarter five have emigrated to Utah, and three have been added to the Church by baptism. They have a good Sunday school in session, well attended, their hall rent was paid up and the branch is out of debt.

I have instructed them to report hereafter to President John Taylor.

With kind regards to all in the office, I remain as ever your co-laborer in the cause of truth.

D. M. STUART.

Funeral Services.

FARMINGTON, U. T.,
Dec. 18th, 1877.

Editors Deseret News:

We were called on Monday 17th inst. to attend the funeral of Bro. Hyrum F. Richards of Farmington, a young man of promise and innate goodness not surpassed by any of my acquaintance. His death was caused by a sudden attack of inflammation of the bowels, a disease from which he had suffered very severely during the last spring and summer, but from which he thought himself so far recovered that he ventured to do some cañon work. The exertion, however, proved too much for him and brought on the return of the disease which caused his death after acute suffering of 24 hours.

The respect which the good qualities of this young man had inspired in the hearts of his companions, and the suddenness of his death called forth a spontaneous outburst of grief which manifested itself in the most profound attention to his funeral obsequies.

The services were held in the meeting-house, which was densely crowded, and were presided over by President C. C. Rich, who made a very kind, comforting, and instructive address.

The members of the Sunday School class to which Bro. Richards belonged carried his body on a bier to the grave, and the members of the Sunday School and the Young Men's Association followed the mourning family in procession, 36 vehicles attending crowded with sympathizing friends. The respect and attention manifested were a great source of consolation to the bereaved family of the deceased.

A. STAYNER.

Chicken-Hatching.

Chicken-hatching and raising by artificial means is a comparatively new branch of industry in the United States, although it was long ago carried on successfully in China, Egypt and other Eastern countries. Here it has many difficulties to contend with, arising chiefly from our variable climate. In the hatching houses the eggs must have a uniform heat always of the requisite degree, while to rear the young broods an artificial summer must be created and maintained.

An enterprising American, Mr. W. C. Barker, has apparently succeeded in overcoming these difficulties to such an extent that he may count with tolerable certainty

upon being able to furnish young chickens for the market in every season of the year. The buildings and appliances for this new enterprise, are located near Mr. Baker's residence on the Palisades, near Cresskill, New Jersey. The hatching house is a building twenty-five by fifty feet on the sides and two stories high, besides the attic and cellar. In the latter are placed the hot water and steam boilers—the first to supply heat for incubation, the second to pump water into a large tank in the attic, whence it is distributed over the premises through iron pipes. On the first floor of this building are the keepers' apartments, and part of the machinery for making gas for lighting all the buildings on the grounds. On the second floor are the room containing the "incubators," the office, the attendants' sleeping rooms, and the electric batteries which furnish means for controlling the temperature about the eggs, and by which an alarm is given should the air become too hot or too cold.

The incubators consist of eight shallow water tanks of galvanized iron, kept at the proper temperature by means of electricity, the current of which is governed by thermostats placed in the water, and acting upon dampers which let on or exclude the heat from the boiler-room according as the temperature varies. Close under each of these tanks are placed eight pans, also of galvanized iron. These pans are two inches deep. Each will hold eighty eggs. Thus the capacity of these machines is 5,120 eggs at once, or if constantly running, and allowing the natural period of incubation (twenty-one days) for each batch, 87,000 yearly.

When the eggs have been in the incubators four days, they are examined by holding them before a brilliant concentrated light. The eggs that are "clean"—that is, unfertilized—are as good as when first laid; the added eggs are at once cooked for chicken food, while the fertile eggs are returned to the pans for the remaining period of incubation. The treatment of the eggs is as nearly as possible in imitation of the natural process of hatching. From one-half to two-thirds of the eggs thus artificially treated produce healthy chickens.

When they first emerge from the shell the chickens are as wet as though they had been immersed in water. They are at once placed in less shallow pans, where they are kept for a few hours until dry when they are then removed to the "boarding house." This is a glass building, 150 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 16 feet high in the centre. Here are twenty-five oval shaped tanks, 10 feet long, 20 inches wide, and six feet deep, the under side of which is covered with flannel in folds, for the chickens to nestle against for warmth and rest. These tanks are filled with heated water, and serve the double purpose of brooding the chickens and keeping the building warm. Here may be seen flowers, vegetables, lettuces, and other tender green food for the nourishment of the infant poultry. On one side of each of these brooding tanks are two yards, about six by ten feet each, separated from each other by wire-cloth fences. In each of these yards are placed 100 of the newly hatched chickens, at full liberty to scratch the ground, pick insects from the plants, or run under the "brooders." When about three weeks old, the chickens are removed to the "hennery," a part of which is moderately heated. There they remain for about four weeks, or until ready for the market.

To attempt to raise large numbers of chickens by artificial means has hitherto met with scanty success, which may be ascribed principally to lack of scientific knowledge, as well as neglect on the part of the persons engaged in the undertaking to attend thoroughly to the cleanliness of the premises and the wants of the chickens, both young and old. Mr. Barker keeps no laying hens, depending entirely upon others for his supply of eggs, some of which are shipped to him from far western States.

Mr. Barker has also adopted the French forcing process for fattening chickens for the table. For this purpose he has constructed eight cylindrical houses, or *epinettes*, with five tiers of little stalls, one above another, so ingeniously contrived as to be kept constantly clean. Each fowl has a stall to itself, and is held in its place by a

soft leather strap around both legs, arranged so as to slide easily up and down on side stanchions, allowing sufficient freedom of motion for ease and health. The food, consisting of barley flour and Indian meal, mixed with water to a thin porridge, is prepared in a tank, to which is attached a flexible tube with a smooth silver mouth-piece. The attendant takes the fowl by the head with his left hand, and by a gentle pressure forces open the mouth, into which the nozzle of the feeding tube is inserted. By pressing his foot on the lever of a pump connected with the tank, the prepared food is forced into the creature's crop. Care must be taken not to overtax the capacity of the food receptacle. The cylinders are made to revolve, so that each fowl is brought successively to the assistant's stand, which, by means of a crank, is raised to any desired height.

It is claimed that the flesh of fowls fattened by this process is more tender and delicate than that of fowls allowed to pick up their living about barn-yards and fields, and that even tough old customers that are popularly supposed to have "come out of the ark" may be rendered fit for the table of an epicure by being submitted to this treatment.

Thus it appears that while the domestic "Biddy" shivers through the bleak winter nights in the cold barn-yard sheds, the chickens raised in large establishments like Mr. Barker's enjoy a delightful summer climate, secure from all changes of weather. The comparative ease with which the establishment is managed, the cheapness and reliability of the process, and the assured profits of the enterprise, will doubtless lead to a great increase in this branch of industry. We shall then enjoy the luxury of "spring chicken" all the year round, and brought within the means of all. From this point of view Mr. Barker's establishment ceases to be a merely private enterprise, and becomes a public benefaction. — *Harper's Weekly*, Dec. 15.

The Champion Neuralgia — Five Thousand Dollars Worth.

Dr. Edward P. McCarthy has sued Joseph D. Clark, in the Twelfth District Court, for \$5,000 for medical services rendered. For years the defendant had been the tortured victim of a remarkably virulent specimen of neuralgia that extended longitudinally from the tips of his toes to the top of his head, and in all other directions from the outside cuticle to the innermost viscera. Clark had put up this case of neuralgia successively against every school of medicine known to the world since the days of Esculapius, and come off an easy winner. He had pitted his little joker against every patent medicine and pill and drug, and bolus and powder, and extract and oil, that the long centuries of pharmaceutical and chemical genius have invented or discovered, and it beat them all. Although the neuralgia was mighty rough on Clark himself, still he was proud of it as being a kind of world-beater in the way of maladies. He continued his conquering march, leaving in his wake regiments of discomfited doctors and enough depleted drug stores to make a neat little city, until he haughtily threw down the gauge of battle to the plaintiff herein, said Dr. E. P. McCarthy. It was a rough battle, a kind of Kentucky knock-out and drag-out, and for many weeks it was hard to tell for a minute at a time which was the under dog—the said neuralgia or the said plaintiff, Dr. E. P. McCarthy. But the Doctor had good staying abilities, and in one mighty and final collar-and-elbow effort he tore the champion neuralgia of the world out by the roots, and left the said defendant a physically painless man, it is true, but smarting with defeat and mentally depressed at the loss of his boss twinger. And now comes the Doctor, after deducting the glory of the victory from the original bill, and sues the said defendant for the inconsiderable balance of \$5,000. — *San Francisco Chronicle*.

MARRIED.

ZEIGLER-HAMMER.—Salt Lake City, December 18, 1877, by Bishop Thomas Taylor, Mr. S. M. Zeigler, to Miss Emma Hammer, both of this city.

Saving Seed.

One of the most important questions that should interest the farmer, is that of selecting the most perfect seed for sowing and planting. The question here will become pertinent: Why should not farmers use the same care in growing and saving their seed, and in experimenting as regards excellence in quality, as do the seedsmen engaged in growing vegetable and flower seed for sale?

We know from actual experiment, not only that any given variety of grain may be brought to a high standard of excellence, but, this attained, care must be used in keeping the standard good, else it will degenerate in far less time than was required to bring it up.

The means to be used to breed up grain or other vegetable products of the farm, are precisely those used by the breeders of animals. That is; careful selection and breeding to a type. This, and attention in selecting only thoroughly ripened seed, with good cultivation, will in a few years increase the yield on any farm from 50 to 100 per cent.

From our experience, we know, that one of the great disabilities in the germination of seed corn, is, the practice of many otherwise good farmers, who select their seed from the field as soon as the grains are glazed, trace it up and use this for seed. It is true this will tend to earlier ripening, but at the sure expense of both quality and quantity. The same is true of our serial grains generally, and of every other product of the farm.

From this we see the necessity of examining, not only into the perfect development of the seed, as regards quality, but also that the seed be perfectly ripe.

Let us take a case in point. A farmer well known for his care in the selection of his seed, made it a practice to set apart, each year, a certain portion of his fields, for the raising of seed. Upon these seed plots none but the most select seed was used, and of a given quality. The best cultivation was given, without regard to cost, and the product of these seed plots was used for the general crops; the top or extra grain being carefully sorted each year, to be again sown for future seed. Thus he always had none but the best and most mature seed for sowing, and always obtained an extra price from others for seed from his fields. But his own selected seed, for these seed plots, could not be bought at any price. Any farmer may do this, and if all would do so, the careful cultivation required in these cases would soon educate the individual to more careful cultivation in his general crops intended for market. It will pay! — *Prairie Farmer*.

Waterproof Bees.

A lady in Providence relates the following story: "Her father once brought home a molasses hogshead, to be used as a water-tank. On washing day her mother said, 'Let's throw the suds into it, to soak the molasses from the bottom.' The instant she had done so she exclaimed, 'Oh! I have drowned hundreds of our neighbors' bees.' The hogshead was black with bees that were busily appropriating the sweets from what they must have considered an enormous blossom. The good lady made haste with her skimmer to skim the bees from the top of the water, and spread them on a board in the sunshine; but they seemed drowned, and nearly dead, and she was very sorry.

The bees that were around the hogshead had flown away at the dash of the water—but in a few minutes they returned accompanied by scores of others. They began a curious work. They immediately went to work upon the unfortunate bees, turning them over and working upon them constantly with their heads, feet and antennae. The result of their busy labor was, that one after another gave signs of life, stretched its limbs and wings, crawled about, and dried itself in the sun and flew away. The lady said that there was half a pint at first, and that there remained only a dozen hopeless cases beyond the human efforts of their brothers."

BORN.

To the wife of Mr. David McKenzie, December 18th, a daughter.

How a Horse Kept Warm.

One cold morning last week Dr. Wilson drove up to a house on Crown Street, and left his horse without hitching it. The horse waited a few moments, and his master not returning, he began to dance a double shuffle, presumably to get his feet warm; finding this rather monotonous he started up toward Oliver Street, keeping up a kind of Kentucky break-down. When he had gone several rods, he cramped the buggy, backed and turned round, as neatly as though guided by a skillful driver, and pranced back to the hitching-post. Here he waited about five minutes, and then started towards Main Street, going through several kinds of paces. Near the corner he stopped and turned round as skillfully as before, and frightened a boy, who had tried to stop him, almost out of his wits, by pursuing said boy with open mouth and bent back ears, as though his usual habit was to eat every small boy that he came across. He then continued his antics until he had reached the house where he had been left, and when Dr. Wilson came out he was standing at the hitching-post as demurely as though he had never thought of leaving it. — *Meridian Republican*.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The *Cleveland Plaindealer* says the medical students while dissecting a female subject recently in the Cleveland college, found what is called in surgeon's parlance, a "corset liver." This is one of the effects of tight lacing. A permanent dent or hollow is formed in the liver, and this occurs so frequently in women that the physicians have given it the name of corset liver. Young ladies, take warning! If you must wear corsets, don't lace them tightly, or the consequence will be that you will not live long, but will run the chance of having your livers described in the papers.

Ex-Governor Hendricks, in his new lecture on "Revolution," concludes this way—"We cannot always tell which is the right side of the barricades. For myself I know that I stand where I should stand when I am for equal and exact justice to all. And when that sentiment shall become universal, and the powers of government shall be exercised only for the benefit of all, then history will recount the story of no more struggles behind the barricades, nor of blood shed in revolution or war, but universal peace will bless mankind."

T. W. Higginson, though a pronounced woman suffragist, is rather opposed to agitation for a constitutional amendment to make woman suffrage obligatory throughout the Union. He thinks such action would be a step in the wrong direction, that of increasing and consolidating the internal powers of the national government at Washington. Moreover he says that hitherto the matter of suffrage has been one of the points left to local decision in each community, the Constitution expressly prescribing that this matter shall be controlled by the separate States themselves. "The true theory of our government," says he "seems to me to be the original method of the Constitution; to leave these matters for the separate States to determine, and to let the Constitution undertake no more than it now attempts."

Mr. Farjeon, the English novelist, who married the daughter of Mr. Joe Jefferson (Rip Van Winkle), is a Jew, and his mother was one of twenty-three children. He says, "The Jews are a hardworking, domestic people, but I have never heard such sentiments from their lips as those uttered by Daniel De-ronda or Mordecai. The Jews are not miserly, but thrifty; they save money, but when they want to enjoy themselves they are ready to spend it, not foolishly, however. A Jew never throws away his money. When he spends it he gets its worth. There are no more domestic people in the world than the Jews. They enjoy their families and never come home drunk. There is another reason for their success. A Jew may drink, but he never gets drunk. In London they have their clubs for reading and debate, and they drink a little beer, but never touch spirits."