

sent to the unsuspecting assayer. The test was made, showing a result of \$300 per ton in silver. So disgusted were the miners at this apparent fraud or inability that the unfortunate assayer was invited to leave town and never return, which he did. It was afterwards found that the grindstone came from or near the place where the rich discovery was made in Silver Reef. Eighteen years ago the writer was at this place, and at that time it was a lively camp. Every building in the place was occupied; others were being erected, and building material was in great demand. The streets were thronged with men and teams. All was hustle and activity. The saloon, the gambling den, and the brothel were here to lure the unwary to vice and degradation. But a great change has taken place. Now there are very few people living here. The change is partly due to the exhaustion of the ore, and partly to the demonetization of silver. It is said that it silver is ever restored to its proper place as a money metal the camp will yet become a great producer, as there is a vast amount of low grade ore. Those now living here are engaged in what is called "ohloridizing." Here and there in the old mines are found small pockets of rich ore. This is carefully collected and milled, and the proceeds used to bear the expense of another collection and milling. The miners note with unusual interest the variations in the silver market, as upon that depends their bread and butter. They are evidently very poor, and offer in exchange for the necessities of life tools, guns, household furniture, etc.

The desolate appearance of this place teaches a lesson well worthy of consideration. The deserted mines, the lonely streets, the vacant dwellings and the empty stores and saloons proclaim the uncertainty of mining enterprise.

How different it is with agricultural pursuits. Not far from here is the agricultural town of Lees. It existed before silver was discovered in the reefs above; and still exists. It is but a type of many towns and cities in the vales of this inter-mountain region. From its inhabitants prayers of thanks and hymns of praise ascend to the Giver of all good, by whose hand they were led to this favored spot. In the streets are heard the merry voices of rosy-cheeked, well-clad children. The necessities and comforts of life are had in abundance, and the farmer is measurably independent, as the mines in which he lives are exhausted.

Well did the founders of this commonwealth instruct the people to follow agricultural rather than mining pursuits, and the wisdom of that counsel becomes more apparent as the years roll by. J. W. BUTLER.

UTAH FISH AND GAME.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 26, 1895.

Dear Sir:—Enclosed I hand you a copy of letter from Washington agent the car of white fish fry I have for three years been negotiating for. The department would, no doubt, have sent them before, but lacked transportation for the great distance when they had so much to do nearer home.

Thanks to the local railway author-

ities, I have secured free transportation for the car and crew from Chicago to this point. The value of the consignment cannot be well over estimated. In the first place it means several millions of fry. The white fish (*Coregonus Clupeiformis*) is toothsome and comparatively boneless and matures and multiplies rapidly, each spawner producing from twenty thousand to seventy thousand eggs. It is the most important food fish in the great lake region. It is called Osego bass in the neighborhood of Osego lake, New York. The average weight varies from fourteen pounds in Lake Superior to two and one-half pounds in Lake Ontario. It is caught in pond nets, gill nets, hook and line and by torching. The eighteen-mile haul referred to is from Montpelier to Bear lake, into which I intended planting a part of the consignment, but the fry being so tender it seems to be impracticable to attempt their transfer by vehicle the distance indicated.

I also enclose the report of the Fish and Game Commissioner of Sevier county, for the year 1894, which you will please publish for the delectation of your numerous readers commendably interested in the subject of fish and game.

Yours truly,

A. MILTON MUSSER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 22, 1895.

A. Milton Musser, Esq., Fish and Game Commissioner, Salt Lake City, Utah:

Dear Sir—Replying to your letter of the 14th inst., I think it will be practicable to send you a carload of white fish fry or eggs to be hatched on the car en route if you can arrange the transportation from Chicago to destination. It will be best to place all the fry into Utah lake as it would not be advisable to attempt transporting the fry eighteen miles by wagon after so long a trip. It is impossible to say definitely when the shipment can be made, but I suppose it will leave Alpena or Sandusky in February or March. The car has a regular crew of five men including the cook.

Yours truly,

W. DE C'RAVENEL.

B. Carter, fish and game commissioner of Sevier county, has sent in a report from Richfield in which he says: "There is little to look after in this county in the way of fish and game. As to fish I will say the Sevier river is converted into canals. There are eight ditches taken out of the river in this county. Fish Lake is the main fishing place and the Rabbit Valley Irrigation company has that shut off all winter and until June, when they open the lake and destroy large numbers of fish. Fish Lake is about thirty-seven miles from here and it would take one man all his time to look after that part of the county alone. The county only allows \$75 per year to its fish and game commissioner. There were two arrests made at the lake last summer. We don't have many deer to look after and there is not much hunting going on so far as I am able to learn.

OLD FOLKS AT AMERICAN FOLK.

AMERICAN FORK, Jan. 24, 1895.

Wednesday, the 23 inst., the Old Folks of American Fork had their annual gathering in the opera house of this town. Truly it was a wintry day; the heavens scattering broadcast snowy flakes. Prancing steeds with jingling

bells, attached to numerous sleighs, were gliding their living freight to meet each other. Such laughter, "how do you do," electrifying each other by contact of hands, has not been seen or heard since this body of veterans last met.

Bishops Preston and Barton, Brother Savage and daughters, Brothers Dunbar and Goddard and ladies, Assistants Eddington, Binder and Wm. M. Romney arrived by the 9 a. m. train from Salt Lake City to take part in the pleasures of the day.

At 12 o'clock two hundred persons were told to get seated around tables laden with meats, pies, cakes, jellies, vegetables and fruits, gifts of the citizens of this burg, who always upon these occasions manifest their liberality, great love and interest to make it pleasurable for the aged and helpless. When seated, Mr. Turldon, American Fork's photographer, took a picture of this venerable body, after which the rattling of table furnishings and the jolly laughter told the enjoyment being had, friend Dunbar giving merriment to the occasion by his parade around the tables, giving those caledonian charms of bagpipe music. One aged Scotchman of 91 winters smilingly said that the music "makes me feel all over." An aged lady of 91 winters said: "Grand music; grand music; let those bagpipes make these old lives feel all over once again, friend Dunbar."

Afternoon entertainments began at 2 p. m. Mayor Porter congratulated and extended to the guests the hospitalities of the citizens to make happy all present. Bishop Preston said these goodly gatherings, and such bounties of life for the old to enjoy, raises one's feelings to happy remembrances of God's blessings upon the people. All the visitors from Salt Lake City spoke briefly, expressing words of kindness and encouragement. The speeches were intermingled by interesting songs from the Pyne and Bochard company of Provo city. President Paxman made an interesting speech. Mrs. E. Robinson and Mrs. Wootton and others gave recitations, and John Peter's songs were first class.

At 5 o'clock the meeting dismissed and the aged were soon conveyed to their respective homes. God's blessing upon all those young gentlemen who, under the order of Amos Wagstaff, done their part so speedily and without harm to the aged ones.

The evening pleasures were dancing and singing. Mr. James Crystall danced the "highland fling," music by the Caledonian club, Captain Dunbar. Brother Barratt's graceful step dancing was approved by acclamation of all present.

Much praise is due to Sisters Grant, Clarke, Featherstone and numbers of other sisters who managed the food supply and distributed so freely during the afternoon and evening's pleasure oranges, candles, etc., etc., and the committee, T. Barratt, John Tracy, Brother Grant and their well-selected help. You have the good wishes of the Bishops and citizens, that during your life's journey you can rely on the public for aid to make many such happy days in the future for the aged folks of American Fork city. W. W. G.

The town of Goldfield, El Paso county, Colo., has been incorporated.