

LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

**THEATRICAL.**—On Saturday evening there was a good house to witness the third performance of Rip Van Winkle. The performance gave unbounded satisfaction. To-night there will be a great attraction at the theatre. Miss Lucille Western will make her first appearance before a Salt Lake audience, on which occasion her great specialty, fast Lyano, will be performed. In this piece she is said to be unrivaled. It has already been performed here—once or twice by Julia Deane, and latterly by Miss Jones. On both occasions the piece was excellently played, but from Miss Western's great reputation we expect to see a large audience this evening.

**CAUTION.**—The house of Mr. Samuel J. Brown, of the 5th Ward, was broken open one night in the early part of last week, and a sack of flour, branded with the Fort Birch Mill brand, a black cloth undercoat, and several articles of jewelry stolen therefrom. The suspected thief has left this city, and it is supposed has gone in the direction of Coalville. This is to caution the people of that neighborhood against buying anything of this kind if offered for sale in any unusual or surreptitious manner.

**SENTENCE OF HERMADEZ.**—Hermadez, recently tried in the District Court at Omaha for shooting his wife, the sister of Mrs. S. M. Irwin, and for shooting a policeman, has been sentenced to hard labor for twenty-one years and thirty days; fourteen years for the first offense, seven years for the second, and thirty days for the last. We glean this information from the Omaha Herald of the 23d ult.

**STATE OF THE WEATHER.**—By Deseret Telegraph line we learn that the weather at Logan is cloudy and dismal, snowed last night; Ogden, cloudy and windy, stormed last night; Provo, cloudy, looks like rain; very soon; Payson, cloudy and mild; North, cloudy, appearance of storming; Mt. Pleasant, cold and cloudy; Manti, cloudy and like a storm; Round Valley, very cloudy, roads bad; Fillmore, quite cloudy and stormy; Beaver, cloudy but mild; appearance of a storm, roads good; Cedar City, very cloudy and mild, like storming; St. George, cloudy and mild, appearance of a storm; Peach and apricot trees in full bloom.

**A NARROW ESCAPE.**—During the progress of a fire at Cheyenne, recently, a small revolver was discharged by the heat of the flames, the ball striking a Mr. Con. Crowther on the point of his chin, and glancing from the bone passed around under the skin to the left side of his neck, when it was attracted without having done any serious injury. So says the Cheyenne Leader.

**HEAVIEST SNOW STORM OF THE SEASON.**—A telegram was received, yesterday, by Mr. Tracy, General Agent for Wells, Fargo & Co., from their agent East, stating that they were having the heaviest snow storm of the season in the Black Hills. The trains, in consequence, were again blocked. A through train was due at Wasatch last evening with Eastern dates to the 9th instant, which are expected here this evening. Passengers which left last week for the East had gone through.

**HARD TIME.**—The Cheyenne Leader of a recent date mentions the arrival in that city of Mr. Ed. James, of Round Bay, Chicago, just returned from a business visit to Salt Lake, and one of the party that walked from Percy to Wyoming, distance of about one hundred miles, through, over and around the snow blockades. He is highly pleased with his trip from Wasatch, which, as he said, beat anything he ever experienced before or desired to again. He came in with only one boot and one shoe, and both of his heels uniformly blistered.

**THE LATE BLOCKADE ON THE U.P.R.R.**—Several good men have recently arrived in this city from the East who were among the number detained by the recent blockade on the Union Pacific Road. They are unanimous in describing the time of their detention as a rather uncomfortable period of their existence, but still nothing of a very serious character. The experience of some going East was of a far more uncomfortable character according to the account given by the Cheyenne Leader, which in a recent issue says:

"A number of parties have arrived here who walked over and around the snow blockade, reaching from Rawlins Springs to Wyoming, a distance of one hundred miles. Some with blistered feet, frosted ears, etc., and some with their feet and hands frozen and kept clear for the future. About six hundred passengers are delayed at various points by the snow blockade, which has lasted two weeks, and some of them are in a destitute condition, having expended their available funds for meals and lodgings. A subscription was raised at Laramie, for the relief of the destitute passengers. Ladies who left Salt Lake two weeks ago for the East, are detained at Wasatch, paying three dollars per day for board, two dollars per night for lodging, and one dollar per day for the privilege of sitting in the sleeping car. At some places a dollar is charged for the privilege of sleeping on the floor or table. Provisions are scarce; a cup of coffee, a biscuit and small piece of poor meat, costing a dollar, and difficult to get at that. Of fifty-seven passengers that started from near Percy station, and walking to Wyoming, but four arrived with boots on their feet, the feet of the others being covered with old overshoes, slippers, rags, tops of old boots, or whatever might ease their blistered feet."

**CHANGE OF FIRM.**—The firm of Byrn, Bowen & Co., Chicago, dealers in all kinds of crockery, glassware, etc., has recently undergone a change. It is now known by the title of Ira P. Bowen & Co. Mr. Johnson, the representative of that house is expected shortly to visit this city to wait upon our business men to whom we confidently recommend the firm as one of excellent standing.

Special Notices.

An enormous stock of fine SILVER WATCHES, from \$15 to \$25 each, warranted, at CARL C. ASMUSSEN'S, Jeweler and Watchmaker, next door to the Post Office, Salt Lake City.

The Jobbing Trade in town and country will do well to examine the large stock of Boots, Shoes and Hats, which is offered at reduced prices, at DUNFORD & SONS.

SAVING! CHICAGO STOCK ARE on draught at the Salt Lake Billiard Room.

CHOICE GUNPOWDER TEA.

And a full supply of Staple and Fancy Groceries, at reduced prices, as cheap as the cheapest.

G. W. DAVIS.

Two doors north of Kimball & Lawrence's.

SERICULTURE—PRODUCING EGGS.

BY LOUIS A. BERTRAND.

XIII.

When a large quantity of eggs is not wanted, the selected cocoons are regularly disposed on the shelves of the hatching room, where a uniform temperature is maintained. It is unnecessary to operate in the dark, but cocoons and moths, and especially eggs, must be sheltered from the direct rays of the sun. If the weather is warm and favorable, the worms, in from ten to twelve days from the time they have finished spinning, are transformed into a chrysalis, which emits immediately from its mouth an oily substance against one end of the cocoon, and simultaneously, with its head, it commences a shoving and pushing motion, when in a few hours it will emerge again into the world.

BIRTH OF THE MOTHS.

As the reproducing qualities of the eggs from which you are to propagate the species depends entirely on the operation, it is becomes important that every female be paired with a male. If let alone, there being a large number of males and females all mixed promiscuously together, it is not probable that more than two-thirds of the females will be properly paired with a male, and hence a large number of your eggs would be valueless. Here, then, is work necessary to be done, and done thoroughly and at the proper time. The moths generally come out of the cocoons in the morning, before nine o'clock each day, in about the same order that the worms commence spinning cocoons.

Hence you must be present every morning to keep a watchful eye over this important operation. As soon as they come out, take hold of the wings of the moths and lay them upon some soft cotton cloth, spread on the shelves. They will immediately stick on the cloth. Males and females should be far enough separate that they may not get mixed. They are thus left during an hour, or until their wings fall flatly on their bodies. During that time, they will get rid of a reddish dark matter, the residue of the work of metamorphosis. The males usually come out before the females. Sometimes the males are on the first day far more numerous than the females. Keep for the following day, those that are not wanted. It will be sufficient to lay them upon some cloth and to remove them from the females.

SELECTION OF THE MOTHS.

The moth emerges from the cocoon, in the shape of a large butterfly, of a grayish white color, with four wings, two fore and two hind, and two feathery plumes or horns. The male is easily known by its smaller size, and a continual flutter of its wings. The female is of a larger size, of a white color, and seldom moves.

A careful breeder must review all the moths coming out and reject every one which is not perfect. The males which are found among the females, are necessarily excellent, since they have been mixed with the later, on account of their great size. Preserve them. On the contrary, the females which are mixed with the males must be generally rejected, because their weak constitution is the reason why they have been selected as being males.

PAIRING.

Before performing that interesting operation, spread a soft cotton cloth horizontally on a table. As soon as the reddish matter, above mentioned, has been evacuated, bring the males nearer the females to facilitate the operation of coupling. For that purpose, take hold of the wings of the males and place one near each female. The pairing is done immediately. They are then, to be left in darkness, as when complete, the silk worms is a night insect.

It is essential to watch the millers with assiduity. Sometimes, among the paired ones, a male or more gets loose; as soon as you see this, you must make them off, because they would disturb the others, and cause many of them to get loose also; and it is important that they should not be disturbed. Put these loose ones, male and female, back with the unpaired ones, so that they may all get paired again.

When the millers have remained together six or seven hours, you must just as punctually be on hand and separate them. For that, catch the belly of the female with three fingers of the left hand, and without disengaging her from the cloth, with the other hand, take the wings of the male, and draw them apart gently, so as not to hurt them.

You have no further use for the male unless, as sometimes is the case, there should be a greater number of females the next morning than males. To meet such a contingency it is prudent to keep some of them over by putting them in a box, which cover over to keep them in, giving them plenty of air. Very soon after being separated from the male, the female exudes a drop of yellowish matter on the cloth. The eggs are to be collected in the following manner:

LAYING EGGS.

A certain quantity of soft paper of uniform size and thickness is wanted. Dispose regularly your sheets of paper upon boards, frames or cloths, with a sufficient inclination in order that the millers may easily catch hold of them. Of course, these egg-cards have been prepared beforehand. Then remove your females to the card, and place them at about an inch apart, each way. Every card is large enough for twenty-five insects.

This having been done, the female commences her last act—depositing her eggs. Strive to dispose them orderly, and avoid having them laid too thick. When a card is not full enough, you may place more females upon it, or those of the next day which have been gathered upon other cards; but, in that case, be careful to bring them nearer. On the third day, these females are to be rejected, because their laying is insignificant. The name of the race of worms must be written on every card. The operation of laying lasts about forty hours. Each female lays on an average about four hundred eggs, and the most fruitful five hundred. They will lay nearly all of these between the time of separation, say at two o'clock p.m., and dusk. The eggs laid during this period are generally considered the best and most vigorous, and that they may be kept separate it is well at this time to transfer all the females to other cards on which to deposit the balance of their eggs. Mark the first cards No. one, and the cards on which the moths lay the balance of their eggs No. two. This same routine of pairing and separating the moths, and securing the eggs, must be gone through with each day, until all the moths have

come out of the cocoons and laid their eggs. Having performed these last acts and left their eggs behind them for the propagation of their species, both male and female die a natural death.

The eggs, at first of a yellow-jonquil color, become successively gray, then of a slate tint; these variations of shade take place in about two weeks. But the barren eggs do not change their color—they are easily detected by their peculiar aspect, and by a light central cavity which does not exist in those which, having been duly fecundated, are of a good quality. To keep your eggs safely for the next season, you may roll together carefully the cards, and place them in tin boxes perforated with holes, so as to give the eggs plenty of air. The boxes, to be preserved, should be placed in a cool room, or in a cellar—but an ice-house is far more preferable. In fine, during the winter, and every month, the boxes should be exposed a few minutes to the open air, in order to preserve the eggs from all mouldiness.

SILK-REELING.

Having conveniently stored the eggs for the next crop, I will now give you a short description of the silk-reeling operations:

In France and Italy, there are innumerable domestic flatures where the cocoons, raised by one or more families, are reeled by the wives and daughters of the breeders. These employ from one to five or six reels, and the art of reeling is preserved in families from generation to generation. But the raw silk produced from these small factories is always of an inferior quality. There are also, in those countries, large establishments, or flatures, which employ from fifty to five hundred reels. These establishments have a superintendent who is thoroughly and practically a perfect master in every department of that business; women and girls work at the reeling under his direction. At these large factories the most perfect silk is reeled, which commands the highest price.

The reeling of cocoons seems, apparently, a very simple operation; but it is, in reality, a difficult and delicate one. It requires much experience, a continual and nice attention, and above all, a skilful suppleness in the fingers, which is seldom found, save in a lady's fingers. And yet, all ladies do not possess it to the same degree of perfection. It is admitted that good silk can only be made by a good female reeler.

The people of Utah are a very peculiar people, being composed of representatives of every nation of Christendom. A few French, Swiss and Italian sisters can now be found here, I think, to reel with ability the cocoons of our next crop. The above digression compels me to postpone the description of the silk-reeling operation to the next chapter.

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Late Teacher at South Willow Creek,

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