

The ivory trade has been revived of late. It was almost suspended by the German war with the Arabs. But late advices speak of thousands of carriers bearing large quantities of ivory from the interior to the coast, one dispatch stating that Tippoo Tib was on his way to Zanzibar with 7000 porters carrying the precious article of commerce, the largest caravan ever known to the trade.

It will not be long before civilization will penetrate to the innermost recesses of the land. Railroads and telegraphs and modern electric appliances will be used to convert the wealth of the country to the uses of the world. Savagery will be subdued. The customs, religions and political systems of the Caucasian races will be introduced, western influences will be brought to bear upon the vast hordes of turbulent and untutored Africans, the dark continent will be conquered by Christendom and the way will be prepared to illuminate the land with the pure light of gospel truth.

A GOOD BOOK FOR CHILDREN.

Among the most brilliant of Utah's contributors to current literature is Mrs. Augusta Joyce Crocheron. Her versatility is remarkable, her originality attractive, her poetry charming and soulful, her prose always interesting. The latest production from her brain and pen is a volume modestly called "The Children's Book." It is a collection of stories and poems for the young people and is very timely, as it will make a suitable Christmas present to either boys or girls. The author explains that it was written in response to a query made by President Brigham Young, when speaking of other works, "Who will write a book for the children?" We have not had time to examine critically the pretty volume of nearly three hundred pages Mrs. Crocheron has produced, but from what we have seen of it we think she has satisfactorily responded to the question. We recommend the book to the public, and will add that it can be obtained at the office of the *Woman's Exponent*. We congratulate the gifted author upon her effort, and hope it will prove as successful in a financial sense as it is in its literary merits.

The best way to tell a canvas-back duck from a redhead is to look at the bill.—*Ex.*

A TRAGIC EPOCH.

THE tragedy which occurred on Eighth West, between First and Second South Streets, Friday, Dec. 12th, was an incident of surpassing horror. It is all the more to be regretted because of Mr. Scott, the victim of the homicide, having been, according to all accounts, a genial, amiable and peaceable man. The men who worked under his foremanship bear testimony to his being possessed of these desirable qualities. They did not seem to apprehend that the wound inflicted in Mr. Scott's forehead by Diamond was necessarily fatal. The news of his death was afterwards communicated to them by a member of the press, who visited the scene of the homicide. Some of them shed tears, and one especially was almost completely overcome, exclaiming, feelingly that Scott was as good and fair a foreman as ever had charge of a gang of workmen. Another sad feature of the dreadful occurrence is that the deceased leaves a wife behind him to mourn and suffer on account of his untimely and tragic end.

The record being made in the United States in the line of murders, suicides and kindred casualties is unparalleled by any other civilized nation in modern times. They constitute an appalling catalogue. The spirit of violence, engendered by the most trifling causes, seems to have swept over the land like the baneful breath of a simoon, exciting human passions to unquenchable heat, until satiated by some deed of blood.

Doubtless the laxity displayed in the administration and execution of the law has something to do with the phenomenal disregard of the value of human life. There are, all over this country, popular outbursts against this slackness of the courts, which renders the law powerless to protect society from the vultures which prey upon it. Hence the daily record of lynching of red-handed assassins by an outraged public. But this attempted cure does not diminish the evil. It is worse than the disease. Those who administer the violent mobocratic remedy place themselves, as law-breakers, on the same plan as that of their victims.

The epidemic of violence has reached the fair vales of Utah. This is a matter of the deepest regret. It is also a sad fact that out of the considerable number of kill-

ings that have occurred during the last few years, but few of the perpetrators have received the penalty which the law prescribes, and most of them have been allowed to go scot free. We now have in vivid recollection the shooting, in cold blood, of young Burton and the deliberate slaying of a young man, a resident of the Sixth Ward, two or three years since, on Main Street, as instances of the immunity from punishment extended to men who stain their hands with the blood of their fellows. So long as freedom from restraint is given to men who commit such deeds, so long will those crimes be duplicated by others who have not necessarily before them the personal fear of the consequences accruing, because as a rule they do not follow.

We do not pretend to say that a rigid application of the law would stop the sanguinary deeds committed in this country and which daily horrify peaceable folks, but it would certainly act as a deterrent.

In thus treating the subject suggested by yesterday's homicide we do not have reference to the leniency extended in cases of a class involving an irreparable wrong done by a person slain to his slayer, previous to the commission of the killing. In such instances a healthy popular sentiment finds expression in union with the protection of woman's virtue. There are numbers of people, however, who have a mania for seeking to shield every man guilty of taking the life of a fellow-being from the penalties which the law specifies should be applied in his case. There is no objection to the sentiment of sympathy, to which all unfortunate people—criminals included—are entitled. Their very condition of criminality should attract that feeling to them, theirs being about the most unfortunate condition that can encompass a human being. But that is no reason for the sentiment invading the domain of justice, or for it to actively attempt to rob society of the protection to which it is entitled. Such extreme tendencies necessarily lead to social chaos.

FROM WAR TO PEACE.

IT is gratifying to learn that Chili and Peru, which not long ago were engaged in deadly strife, are now uniting in praiseworthy efforts to promote industrial enterprises in both lands which will mutually benefit the people under each government. A submarine cable from