

anybody's memory. The people rarely mix with those of other sections.

Infectious diseases are those due to the introduction into the body of some disease-producing agent, and much confusion arises from the fact that all contagious diseases are infectious, while not all infectious diseases are contagious. Knowledge gained chiefly during the last twenty years shows us that an essential condition of infection is that the disease-producing agent shall be a living organism, capable of reproduction in the body of the infected individual. It matters not, says Dr. George M. Sternberg, whether this living organism is large or small; whether it belongs to the animal or vegetable kingdom; whether it is located in the skin as in scabies, in the muscles as in trichinosis, in the lymphatics as in erysipelas, in the solid viscera as in amoebic abscess of the liver, in the intestines as in cholera, or in the blood as in relapsing fever, the introduction and multiplication of the living infectious agent constitutes infection. A disease is contagious when it is transmitted from the sick to the well by personal communication or contact. Small-pox, scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria, influenza, etc., are infectious diseases which are contagious; while malarial fevers, typhoid fever, yellow fever, cholera, pneumonia, peritonitis, etc., are infectious diseases which are not ordinarily contagious.

On imbedding a piece of metal in a mortar of chemically pure aluminum oxide, thoroughly dried, and then subjecting to a high temperature, H. Bischof, of Wiesbaden, has noticed a remarkable retardation of melting. A rod of silver, which should melt at 1830 degrees F. was solid until 2730 degrees was reached; and palladium, which should melt at 2730 degrees, was still unaffected at 2900 degrees. It is explained that the melting points of the metals are raised by the pressure due to contraction of the jacket of aluminum oxide on heating.

Glue containing bichromate of potash is suggested by Prof. Schweizer, a German chemist, as a water proof cement for glass. A well known property of bichromatized gelatine is that of becoming insoluble on exposure to light.

An African fat, used for domestic purposes, is the oil of a species of beetle. It resembles hardened coconut oil.

Flour compressed into bricks by hydraulic pressure, the material occupying only a third as much space as the loose flour, is being tested for army and navy use. Results thus far appear to show that the treated flour is quite unaffected by dampness, and is free from mould and safe from the attacks of insects. Unlike loose flour, it may be safely stored for a long time.

JUDGE KING AND HIS CUBAN TRIP.

Washington Times: Congressman King of Utah, who utilized his vacation to visit Cuba, returned to Washington yesterday. He was at the House for several hours, where he was received warmly by many of his friends and congratulated on his return to this country alive, considering all the romantic and dangerous things he was reported to have done and undergone in Havana and in the insurgent camp. Today Mr. King leaves here for Chicago, where he will meet Mrs. King, with whom he will return to Washington for the session. For personal reasons Mr. King does not at this time care to play the role of Ulysses and tell

in detail what he saw and heard in Cuba.

He went, of course, first to Havana, but, knowing the character of the information that is obtainable there, he preferred to get facts fresh from the people and the scene of action. He called on Consul-General Lee, by whom he was courteously received, and a meeting was arranged with Captain-General Blanco.

The captain-general treated Mr. King with kindness and consideration. "If," said Mr. King, "there was any espionage over my actions I was not aware of it." Mr. King thus exploded the story of his being followed by spies, and the misadventure by which he was prevented from getting through the Spanish lines. As a matter of fact, Mr. King did get through the lines and had conferences with the patriot leaders.

Mr. King was asked what conclusion he had reached as to the limitation of the war.

"There are two sides of that question," he said. "One is that of a great many Spaniards who believe that the ultimate success of the Spanish arms is inevitable; and the other is the opinion of the insurgents and a class of Spaniards who have been disheartened by the long failure of the loyal army to pacify the island. I may add, too, that the Spaniard who believes the war will eventually be ended in favor of Spain, couples his belief with the important proviso that the government of this country shall not interfere; that is, interfere physically. In general terms that may be called the pro-Spanish view of the case. On the other hand, the insurgents are equally confident of success."

Mr. King was asked how he obtained this latter information.

"Why, from the insurgents themselves," he replied. "I crossed the Spanish lines and got into the insurgent camp, where I talked with the chiefs. They are, as I have said, confident of the ending of the war in their favor."

Mr. King was asked on what the patriots based their hopes.

"In the first place," replied Mr. King, "the insurgents are determined to win, and in the next place, I believe that they have the materials with which to win. They have guns and ammunition, and they have the men, although nothing in numbers to compare with the Spanish host in their front."

This was as far as Mr. King would go for the present in telling of his experiences and observations. He said, however, that the suffering of the reconcentrados was not exaggerated. He believes that since the beginning of the war between 300,000 and 400,000 of these innocent people have died from starvation, exposure, violence, and the other ills which will come to masses of people who are crushed to the earth between opposing forces, and there left helpless, or, as they are now, on the charity of the great and responsive American people.

Mr. King said that the evidences of the increasing death rate can be had at any time by watching the ox-carts and their sad mortuary loads as women and children are carted away to add to the list of the dead. He believes that there was a great lack of foresight in delaying the appeal on behalf of these poor people for so long a time. Thousands of lives could have been saved had the official appeal of the government been made eight months ago. He does not understand why it was not then made, or made at any time, since the facts of the suffering must have been known longer than eight months ago to the government.

Mr. King said that he was amply satisfied of the need of the greatest charity, and that none of it would be misapplied. He had also seen enough to justify his vote for the granting of bel-

ligerent rights to the patriots. The most important point of Mr. King's interview is that he is of the opinion that if the patriots are left unaided for a year they must succumb to the Spanish overwhelming forces. All delay is against the struggling, brave patriots. Mr. King stands for the granting of belligerent rights as the first step towards putting an end to the war in a manner that will not compromise this government. This given, and the moral support of America's neutrality removed, Mr. King says that the insurgents may be depended on to achieve their own independence, and they will be satisfied with nothing else.

LAST RITES.

The chapel at Undertaker J. W. Taylor's was filled at 11 a.m. on Sunday last by the friends of Joseph E. Benwell, late of St. Johns Wood, London, who had departed this life on the 14th inst., at St. Mary's hospital, from Bright's disease and old age.

Hundreds of Elders in the Church who traveled and visited in the London conference, will read with pleasant memories and regret of his passing away, for he was a unique figure in their experiences, a genial, hearty and cheerful soul, who was the embodiment of history so far as the work in that giant city was concerned.

Somewhere in the early fifties (if not sooner) Brother Benwell was baptized, being then on the police force in the Clerkenwell district, and in his associations with the Church as Teacher, Elder, or in charge of a little outside branch, he was true as the needle to the pole, walking many miles each Sunday, and often on week nights, to attend the duties laid upon him.

Leaving the force he took up again the profession of gardening for the gentry in his locality, this being far more congenial to his taste and thought, for he was a lover of trees and flowers. He was one of those who could look "through nature up to nature's God," and through this calling he always exhibited in his way his reverence for and appreciation of the servants of God; at conferences or district meetings especially, for his high hat was a very receptacle of choice boutonnières which he was proud to fasten on the lapel of every missionary's coat, in accordance with a custom very general in the mother country.

Like many another, our friend failed to secure from his family that interest in the Gospel which he himself possessed, waiting many years in faith for the dawning of sympathy and unity in religious family life, which failed to come; but when aid was tendered him in 1884 as a recognition of his many years' fidelity, his family became willing for his gathering. On his arrival here he was employed by H. W. Naisbitt, James Dwyer and Wm. White successively, in each case being the same ardent, honest, industrious, appreciated and trusted employe. For all the succeeding years Brother Benwell remitted most of his earnings to his distant family, always hoping to hear of them softening as to Gospel truth, and deferring his own blessings in the Temple, (partly from indisposition to press himself forward), but mainly that he might enjoy the privilege of taking with him the wife of his youth, and possibly some of his children. Last April he was induced by Brother White to go to St. Mary's hospital for treatment, from which he emerged much relieved; but in the fall he had a relapse and finally concluding that anything needed for his family would have to be done by other hands, he attended to what was needed, so his tabernacle could be laid away befittingly as an Elder in Israel.