

It seems that some reckless individuals (the *World* calls them "idiots") were practicing at a paper target on a neighboring roof and it is presumed that it was one of their bullets that struck the child and plunged a household in mourning. The article is headed "A Fool with a Gun."

It is stated there are 4,000 applications for 150 consulates, and that the number of seekers for the other offices in the gift of the government are in about the same proportion. This is not startling for the reason that we have been having it all along and have got so used to it that any other condition would be a surprise.

The New York *World* tells of a painful circumstance that happened in that city on the Fourth of July. A poor man took his little child to the roof of the house to see the rockets, Roman candles and other pyrotechnics which were very abundant in the neighborhood. While there the child was hit by a stray bullet and instantly killed.

Quite a curiosity in the petra line was left in the journal office by W. H. McClintock on Wednesday last. It was found in the sand that had been delivered on the ground for use in the new school building and resembles the moccasined foot of a prehistoric man. The curves of the bridge and side of the foot and the slope of the soles are plainly outlined and resemble very much the right foot of a person.—*Function City (Kas.) World*.

Abbey, the famous opera manager, has the new phenomenal tenor, Tarnagno, on his roll for this season. He is said to be superior to any one else, Marconi, Campanini and Reeves included. He made his first appearance before an English audience in London on the 5th in "Otello." He will come to America shortly, and those who intend to hear him can form some idea of what the luxury will cost them from the fact that Abbey pays him \$4000 a night, more than any other living artist. Patti not excepted, receives.

People who are in the habit of using large numbers flippantly and without consideration, would often open their eyes with wonder if even a comparatively simple number were analyzed and elucidated for them. "A million bushels of wheat," for instance, is easily said and don't seem to be so colossal, because its vastness is not realized. There is no building in this Territory which would hold it. At the rate of 20,000 pounds to a car—the usual capacity—it would require a train of cars twenty miles long to hold it, or if carried in ordinary farm wagons, the train would be 142 miles long. Utah barely consumes that amount in a whole year.

#### LETTER FROM PALESTINE.

As in olden times, at the day of Pentecost, the Jews gathered in Jerusalem in order to celebrate the completed harvest, to offer their loaves of bread from the new meal and grain as first-fruits, and to present their burnt offerings, so also now. It therefore happened that in going from Haifa to Jaffa I traveled with several Jewish families on the way to their beloved city. I naturally took this opportunity to ascertain what the feelings of these Jews were concerning the present prospect of the Jews. I put the question whether they expected that Palestine would shortly be restored to them, to which they replied that they firmly believed in a restoration, but that the time was probably yet far distant. A deep sigh accompanied this. I told them that God's time is not ours. God, in one day, can do what we might suppose to be the work of a thousand years, just as easily as He can postpone for a thousand years what we may think He could have done in one day. I also told them that I had traveled all the way from America in order to see this country and learn what the Jews are doing for the building up of the long-neglected "huts of David." One of my hearers then wanted to know if I was not a Jew. He thought that I had marked Jewish features. "Yes," I said, "I also spring from the loins of Abraham; I am from the tribe of Ephraim." A long explanation followed. I commenced at the division of the kingdom at the time of Rehoboam and pointed out how many of the ten tribes had been assimilated with the Assyrians and later with other nations, and how they were now found in England, Germany, and Scandinavia. I spoke of the message from heaven in obedience to which these tribes now gather from all the nations, and that this is one sure sign that the restoration of the Jews is near. I further had to explain that we worship the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, that we have no images, and that we consider the Jews as our brethren. To all of this they listened with deep interest. I do not think I ever had a more attentive audience, and although our church was the deck of a steamer, our benches various kinds of cargo, and our music the rattling of the engine, yet God's Spirit was there.

That everything points towards the restoration of this country is likewise clear from the marked progress of culture which even the Turkish government sustain. The making of good roads is one of those steps forward. The road between Jerusalem and Jaffa is already completed and is as good a one as can be found anywhere. That between Jerusalem and Hebron is also very satisfactory, and a coach can now in four hours reach that ancient place where once Abraham resided. To Bethlehem and Bethschola tolerably good roads also lead, and in Galilee it is likewise intended to build roads. The Prophet Isaiah predicted that the people should in these last days

bring their offerings to Jerusalem in "wagons." This was hardly possible before, but the time is not far distant when from every direction wagon roads will lead to Jerusalem—one more proof of the divine origin of the prophetic word.

Another evidence of progress is found in the erection of schoolhouses. In the Turkish part of the city of Jerusalem there is now a schoolhouse several stories high, which in every respect compares favorably with the schoolhouses of the Europeans. Country towns, too, of more or less importance are alive to the education of the children. It is true that in these schools the greatest stress is laid upon reading and reciting verses from the Koran, but the children are, besides, taught writing and some arithmetic; and were it that they were only instructed to read with ease, what a mighty step forward would this be toward everything that is good! All friends of progress must rejoice at this, and acknowledge the wisdom of the present Turkish government in endeavoring to lift the people from the depths of ignorance.

Another feature of the happenings in Palestine is connected with the pilgrims who yearly come here in order to "worship." Formerly it was only Russians who came *en masse*. The Roman Catholics, Greek Catholics and Armenians have always been thinly represented among the pilgrims, but now the French gather in hundreds and come to the holy sepulchre in order to entreat God to restore to France its lost power and influence. This year Spaniards, Austrians and Germans have been seen by hundreds marching as pilgrims to the holy sepulchre. These caravans come with banners and music and give the impression of devout Mussulmen on their way to Mecca. In fact, the difference between these "Christian" caravans and non-Christian "fantasies" of a similar character is hardly appreciable, being more in the color of the skin of the worshippers than anything else. This sudden revival of pilgrimages among the Catholics is no doubt connected with a recent command issued from Rome, that all good Catholics shall lift their voices for the restoration of the worldly power of the Pope; and perhaps they are only an indication of the coming final struggle for the supremacy of Antichrist. While the French celebrate apostasy, which a hundred years ago led their country into the most insane infidelity on record, the Pope tries to revive a religious enthusiasm on the fanaticism of which, no doubt, he hopes to find strong support for his tottering throne. But He who directs events dwells on high, and men can only serve His purpose after all. It is expected that among the tourists this year hundreds of rich Jews will be found, who come in order to view the country and study its prospects and possibilities.

I may in this letter say a few words about Jaffa, the city where I am at present staying, and where I purpose to remain a short time.

Jaffa (in the Old Testament