

DISPOSITION OF CITY SEWAGE.

At the last meeting of the City Council, a motion authorizing the Mayor to appoint a committee to look into the matter of conducting the sewage of the city to Great Salt Lake prevailed. The committee was appointed; inquiry into the subject of obtaining the right of way for the sewage to the lake was also defined as part of the investigation.

It will be necessary for the committee to proceed cautiously, because the subject entrusted to them for consideration involves some interests of vital importance. There is probably no sheet of water on the face of the globe that affords more delightful or invigorating bathing than the "Dead Sea of America." Because of this fact it is not only a place of popular resort for people who reside in Utah, but also for visitors from every part of the world. If ever the filth of this large and growing city should be poured into that body of water, its reputation would be blasted forever. Its attractiveness would vanish into thin air, and the admiration it has always inspired would be transformed into loathing.

It may be held—we understand some do take the position—that the sewage would extend only a limited distance beyond the point of emptying. We do not know by what process this information can be obtained aside from a practical and somewhat protracted test. But even if this should be the case and if it should be demonstrated by chemical analysis, nothing of that kind would be effectual in destroying the impression formed by the imagination, this faculty being with many people exceedingly active. The strangling qualities of the water are naturally, owing to its strong saline properties, quite remarkable, as demonstrated in the cases of people who have involuntarily swallowed it. The very thought of the possibility of its being impregnated with city sewage, would intensify its effects in that respect.

The salt interest should also be an important consideration in this connection. The finest quality of that article manufactured from the waters of the lake, is probably not inferior to any product of the kind obtained from any part of the world. It has been, so we have been informed, pronounced by Mr. Armour, the great pork packer, as fully equal to the best Liverpool salt. We are of the opinion that if the sewage of this city were to be emptied into the lake, the occupation of the salt-makers on the borders of America's "Dead Sea" would instantly depart. The amount of the article in which they deal that would then be shipped out of Utah would soon become an invisible quantity, aside from whether or not it should be a fact that the waters used for the conducting of this industry would be impregnated. Imagination leaps over chemical demonstration.

It is not improbable that should the city pour its sewage into the lake, the municipal corporation would get into trouble. The damage to individual interests would be great. Doubtless the sufferers would not take the situation supinely, but would seek re-

dress in the courts. Hence, as we stated in the beginning of this article, it will be advisable for the Council to act cautiously on the subject under consideration.

KNOW-NOTHINGS VS. CATHOLICS.

It seems that the Know-Nothing organizations which once troubled society in the East are being revived and are actively opposing Roman Catholicity. In the New England States and in the valley of the Mississippi the Catholic and Anti-Catholic forces have already crossed swords in what might be termed skirmish encounters. The Catholic press throws down the gauntlet and declares itself ready for the fray. Here is what the *New York Catholic Review* says:

"We are here not by their invitation, their courtesy or their toleration. We are in the country that we discovered, that we explored, that we first settled, in which we first of all proclaimed the principle of freedom of conscience, whose independence we helped to establish, and whose existence as a united republic we aided to perpetuate. Therefore, the Know-Nothings that oppose us, we will oppose, no matter in what party they may be found, under what cloak of "Americanism" they may hide their intolerant heads, or what unconstitutional oaths they may take to destroy the fundamental principle of religious liberty."

THE BROOKLYN INVENTOR.

A FEW days ago we published an article which treated upon a remarkable piece of mechanism by means of which the inventor, Charles G. Loeber, of Brooklyn, claims he will be able to fly through the air safely at a tremendous rate of speed. We remember Mr. Loeber when he resided in Utah. He practiced law and engaged to some extent in mining and other pursuits, in none of which he was successful. According to our recollection he was a well-behaved man, and the possessor of considerable ability, without the tact to utilize it for the benefit of himself or anybody else. When a resident of this city he undertook the role of lecturer, his subject being "The Signs of the Times." The lecture was delivered to a small audience in the old "Liberal Institute" building. It showed careful preparation and considerable ability, but its delivery was so tame as to mar its effect and fatigue the audience. We hope that Mr. Loeber, who tenaciously pursues any idea that forcibly strikes him, will succeed in demonstrating the feasibility of aerial navigation with his proposed high and fast flyer.

The largest water-wheel ever constructed is said to be that at Laxy, on the Isle of Man, which is 72 feet in height and is about 150 horse power, lifting 250 gallons of water per minute. The smallest water-wheel in the world is about one-tenth as large and yet has equal power. The first was made about 40 years ago, and in that time such advances have been made that the little wheel is now doing the work of its gigantic progenitor.

AMERICAN TENANT FARMING.

AMONG the many interesting features of the last census, perhaps none is more so than the inquiry into the tenant farmer system in the United States. The bulletin already published on this subject is devoted to 10 counties in the central part of Kansas, and 10 counties in Southern Ohio. In the Kansas counties 66.75 per cent. of the farmers own the land, and 33.25 are renters or tenants. In the Ohio counties only 63 per cent. of the tillers own their farms, while 37 per cent. hire or rent the farms they cultivate.

But what is worse still is the fact that two-thirds of the Kansas owners of farms have incumbrances on them equal to 37 per cent. of their full value, and bearing 8 per cent. interest. In the Ohio counties about one-fifth of the owners of farms have incumbrances.

In 1880 no investigation was made as to renters, but estimates have been made from other data which show that the ten Kansas counties which have now 33.25 per cent. of their farms under rent had then but 13.13. In the Ohio counties which show a percentage of 37 renters, there was in 1880 but 24 per cent.

These figures mean a great deal for the future of the United States. If they are correct, and there is no reason to doubt that they are, at least approximately so, the question of landlord and tenant is not a far distant prospect. They show that agricultural interests are increasing in prosperity, or else the farming classes must be becoming woefully thriftless, extravagant and inefficient.

A tenant-farmer class is not to be desired in the United States. It would lead to a species of feudalism that in a very few years would subvert our most cherished institutions.

SALT LAKE CORRESPONDENCE.

THE intelligent (?) correspondent still gets his work in of enlightening the eastern public with bogus information about the "Mormon" people. In the *Philadelphia Press* appears a lengthy letter from Salt Lake, in which the writer, essaying the humorous, makes manifest his ignorance of the subject on which he dilates. Here is a specimen paragraph:

"Brigham Young would have a difficult time of it recognizing his old kingdom for lo! the invading Gentile has brought his abominations in the way of steam and electricity into the land of the people of Nephi, and it's a muddy day when a solemn Mormon doesn't get run down by the hurrying motor cars that really belong to the other side the divide."

There is more of similar stuff with spurts of strained jocularity in the effusion of this "special correspondent of the *Press*," but one specimen is sufficient. The *Press*, if not its readers and this contributor, ought to know that Brigham Young was a pioneer in the introduction of steam and electricity into this mountain region. The Deseret Telegraph line was built by a "Mormon" company, under his direction, and connected Salt Lake City with the most important points in the Territory before the advent of the railroad. The great trans-continental