

and the affair grew so enlivening that the judge gave the attorney a savage blow in the eye, closing up the optic and almost knocking the lawyer out. The latter, however, maintained his equilibrium long enough to deal the judge a staggering blow on the nose. Others interfered, and now the sheriff is in charge of affairs, including the disputed house, which blocks up one of the principal streets of the town.

All this is very interesting, though not encouraging to the poor of the town, who, though not wholly forgotten are left uncared for. When a request for relief is made to either faction the women are too mad at the opposing party to pay any attention to those who are suffering, and sweet charity's mantle, which had promised an alleviation of poverty's affliction, is cast away in anger. When men quarrel there are gentler hands to supply the wants of those in need; but when the women get to fighting, charity hasn't the ghost of a show. Just now Alameda society is sadly in need of a modicum of sisterly affection.

### LOUIS KOSSUTH.

With the death of Louis Kossuth at Turin last night, March 20th, one of the most prominent heroes in the struggle for Hungarian independence has passed away. He was born in the village of Monok on April 27, 1802. His father, being a patriotic lawyer and thoroughly imbued with Lutheran protestant ideas, gave his children a liberal education, and Louis—or Lajos, as his name is written in his native tongue—devoted himself to the study of law and philosophy at an institute of learning which was animated by opposition to foreign rule. At the time Kossuth reached the age of manhood three countries, Greece, Italy and Spain, were struggling for freedom. Patriotic Poles were also secretly planning for liberty. Hungary was at that time much oppressed by the rule of the aristocracy directed and upheld by the Austrian government. Under such conditions the young patriot, on leaving college, entered the assembly of his native country and soon became very popular among the people for his liberal and progressive views. His popularity was further augmented when during the ravages of cholera in 1831 he employed all his energy in alleviating the sufferings of his fellowmen. Soon afterwards he was sent to the upper house of the Diet as proxy. The deliberations of that body were closely watched by the patriots of the country, but they could obtain only scanty information owing to the censorship exercised on the press. This obstacle was overcome by Kossuth who undertook to circulate a written newspaper. The "Parliamentary Communications" were dictated by him to a large number of copyists and by this means liberal ideas were spread in wide circles. The continuation of the enterprise after the Diet led to a conflict with the government. The publication was prohibited, but Kossuth placed himself under the protection of the county of Pesth, whose representatives declared all censorship unconstitutional. The government now seized the fiery journalist and had him tried and condemned

to four years' imprisonment as a traitor. This was in 1837. A general outburst of indignation followed and the liberals carried the elections for the next Diet. The government was in great need of money on account of the turbulent state of affairs of Europe, the Egyptian question being added to other complications, and consent had to be given to the liberation of Kossuth and other prisoners in order to obtain the desired appropriations. The treatment these political prisoners had received may be judged from the fact that Lovassy emerged from his confinement insane; another had lost his sight and Kossuth was enfeebled in body forever afterwards. Events of this kind gave new strength to the opposition.

In 1841 Kossuth was placed at the head of the *Pesth Journal*. In this capacity he led his party on the road of reform in every direction. He aimed at the complete renewal of the people, in harangue with the aristocracy if they chose to follow, or without them or even against them if necessary. He discussed every question of public interest fearlessly and skillfully. The government took alarm and even some of his friends denounced him as an agrarian and demagogue. Kossuth demanded the freedom of his country as a right, while others were begging for it as a gift. The *Pesth Journal* became the leader of the liberal party and the oracle of the rising generation until through the intrigues of his opponents he was removed from the editorial chair of the paper.

His energy was now applied in another direction. Hungary was at the time suffering from tariff laws calculated to keep the country in a state of colonial dependence. Kossuth conceived the idea of forming a protective union, an association whose members agreed to use exclusively home-made articles whenever possible. Other societies were formed as auxiliaries to this union. The members soon were counted by hundreds of thousands. The result of this immense agitation was to strengthen the bonds between the different parts of the country.

In 1847 Kossuth was elected member of the lower house of the Diet and soon became its recognized leader. His attitude to the government was now uncompromising. The news of the revolution in Paris in 1848 reached the Diet. Almost immediately Kossuth, taking advantage of the panic, proposed an address to Emperor Ferdinand urging the restoration of Hungary to its independence as a state and the granting of a charter of liberty to Austria. The proposition was accepted and Kossuth was sent to Vienna, where he was received with great honors. Ferdinand had to yield. A Hungarian ministry was formed and Kossuth was made minister of finance. A great revolution had been successfully carried out by constitutional means, and victory had followed the leadership of the greatest mastermind of the nation.

An internal war followed, however, which ended in the defeat of the great statesman, mainly through the interference of Russia. Kossuth fled to Turkey, and both Austria and Russia demanded that he be extradited. Through the influence, however, of the United States and England this

demand was resisted and Kossuth escaped death. In 1851 he was conveyed on the U. S. S. *Mississippi* to this country, in accordance with a resolution of the Senate. He arrived in December 1851, and was met by a number of deputations in the various cities he visited. He was still laboring in the interests of his country when the *coup d'état* of Louis Napoleon put an end to the hope of the speedy liberation of Europe. But while in this country he was treated with all the hospitality and deference due to him as the most distinguished defender of an oppressed people and the honored guest of a free nation. He returned to Europe the following year.

His last years were devoted to science. In 1871 he published a work on the change of colors in the stars. Since 1872 he has been living in an unpretending residence in Turin, where his last struggle was made easier by the presence of his beloved family and a few devoted friends.

A CONGREGATIONALIST paper recently permitted a contributor to its columns to say: "I do not think that the pulpit knows what Christianity is, because that which is taught in the theological seminary is not Christianity, whatsoever else it may be." With a view to finding out what the critic's idea of Christianity is, he has been invited by the Princeton theological seminary to come and preach to them. It is to be hoped he will feel to accept the summons, and will be welcomed by a full house of both faculty and students; above all, that he will be able to make good his bold aspersions and point out the better way. All of which, however, may be regarded as extremely unlikely.

WHAT STRANGE things suffice, in this sensation-loving world of ours, to give obscure men notoriety! Here is a Massachusetts painter, now residing in California, getting his name in all the papers because about forty years ago, when living with his parents next door to Whittier, he accidentally shot the poet through the fence that separated the respective premises.

A NOVEL bequest is reported from Bethlehem, Conn. The late Harmon Bird, of that place, left \$100 to the local Congregational church, provided they would never engage the services of a minister who wore a mustache. The church has just voted unanimously to reject the gift.

It is said that Mr. Labouchere, the editor of *Truth*, draws an income of eighty thousand dollars per year from that well-known English publication. It is encouraging to know that although it is frequently unpalatable, truth is not always unprofitable, even in these degenerate days.

THE WISDOM of the ground-hog or the bear, whose appearance and prompt disappearance some six weeks ago was commented upon at the time, has been fully vindicated. His critics owe him an apology.

GEOGRAPHERS AND travelers say that Mount Ararat, the resting place of Noah's ark, is in reality two mountains separated by a valley. The higher peak is 17,210 feet and the lesser 13,000 feet above the sea level.