

hot arena of public life need not here be traced—history has been generous with him, and in every land his name is held in high esteem as among the most illustrious of mankind. But it is strange that while all people and languages know him, so few, even of his own countrymen, know his mother. The fame of Abraham Lincoln will live throughout all time; but how many are there who know that the fair young being who gave him birth and who so soon left him motherless, bore the homely, honest name of Nancy Hanks?

The greatness of the gallant little race-mare and the coincidence that in all her record-breaking work she is encouraged by her pacemaker, Abe Lincoln, will not be lessened one whit by the fact that she bears the name of the martyred President's sainted mother.

THE COTTON FIELD.

COTTON may not be as kingly as it once was, that is, it is not so much the unapproachable despot of *ante bellum* days; but it is yet a mighty factor in the economic scale. The census bulletin on this subject just issued by Commissioner Porter shows the increase in acreage and yield in one of the Southern States during the past decade to be something decidedly wonderful and altogether unprecedented, this State being Texas, which, while being the largest is not the most populous nor in all respects the most productive State; there the yield for 1889-90 was 3,932,755 acres against 2,178,435 acres in 1879-1880, the crops respectively amounting to 1,470,353 bales and 805,284 bales—an increase of 665,069 bales, being an advance at the enormous rate of 80.53 per cent. and 82.59 per cent respectively. Of course this gain is not uniform throughout the cotton belt; on the contrary, those States lying nearest the northern limit show something of a falling off both as to acreage and yield, indicating that they are gradually drifting into other pursuits which are to them more profitable. The other Gulf States are not reported on, but it is reasonable to suppose that they will at least keep pace with Texas, and all contribute to making the Southern side of the American Republic the great cotton empire of the world.

AN AWFUL CONDITION.

In this issue of the NEWS will be found a communication from Dr. Seymour B. Young responsive to one addressed to him recently by Dr. J. E. Talmage. We request that the readers of this paper do not overlook the letter, and, having read, do not forget its contents or its import. It contains matter which no one can afford to ignore or treat slightly, if he values his own health or that of his neighbor.

We do not propose to assume the role of alarmist, nor do we ask that the people of this city become unduly apprehensive because of the unwelcome and threatening state of affairs which the Doctor's letter discloses. But we do propose to contribute what little of effort we may toward advancing the hygienic condition of the community; and to that end do we fully sub-

scribe to the statements and endorse the conclusions contained in the communication.

The condition of the Jordan river below the point where the sewer is discharged into it, has been a source of apprehension ever since the pollution of its waters began, not only to those resident near the banks of the stream but to all others in the neighborhood. The evil has now attained such proportions that something will have to be done and that quickly, or we may have to endure a pestilence next season no less to be dreaded than the cholera itself.

THE SILVER CONFERENCE.

THE friends of silver—which means nearly everybody in this western country—have not been greatly encouraged regarding the situation of the white metal of late years. For a few weeks in 1891 it took an upward turn, went above 100 like a rocket and kept soaring till it threatened to reach the place it occupied before its demonization in 1873; but the cause of this movement had its origin, no doubt, as much in enmity as did the act which made it simply a commodity—that is, the speculators saw an opportunity to use silver just as at times they use wheat or railway stocks, and so the "bull" movement was imparted to it. When the holdings of this interested gentrie were let go at the highest point, naturally the downward movement set in, and the rocket became a stick, falling even below the point from which it started on its upward flight, and it has been groveling around in the depths ever since.

It is greatly to the credit of the present administration that some consistent tangible steps have been taken looking to the relief of silver from its present debasement. Realizing that, with so many of our people, and they chiefly eastern men and capitalists, arrayed against it, it would be futile to attempt its restoration as money in the United States alone, the President has succeeded in having an international conference constituted, composed of representatives from all the nations interested. A dispatch received by the NEWS yesterday briefly announced that Brussels had been agreed upon as the place and November 22 as the time for holding the conference, so that the plan for remonetizing may now be considered as fairly under way.

To us on this side of the Republic, the Brussels conference will be one of the most important ever held. It is called to adjust a question which not only directly affects our material welfare, but in a certain sense that of the people generally at home and abroad. Silver mining reduced to dollars and cents and with the white metal at its full value, is one of our principal industries. This relates not merely to itself but to its dependences also, for with the silver mines closed down every other industry in Utah and the adjacent States and Territories would suffer. Some would be slightly affected, others would shrivel up until practically suspended, and others again would disappear altogether. This is not a merely selfish plea as previously suggested. Silver is the "common

people's" money everywhere, and as it shrinks in value or becomes curtailed in volume, their power to purchase commodities and pay debts is reduced in like manner; so that all classes, except those who live and thrive by speculation pure and simple, are deeply concerned in the furtherance of silver mining and the restoration of the metal to its legitimate function as money.

It is quite probable that the conference will not adopt the standard in vogue in this country, that of sixteen to one; but that does not so greatly matter. What we want and must have is a standard of some sort, and that when fixed will remain and be recognized by all the powers, and then there used be—in fact cannot well be—restrictive laws regulating the amount of silver which the government mints will coin; one dollar being the equal of any other, the miner or any one else having silver bullion will be treated like the patron of a mill or factory—his product will be converted into coin of the realm to the fullest extent, as in the other cases the wheat is converted into flour and the wool into cloth. This will be free coinage with a substantial, unchangeable meaning attached to it; and when ore is struck that assays so much in silver, the owner will not as now be in doubt as to what extent his possessions are augmented, if, in fact, they are augmented at all.

Success to the Brussels conference, say we all.

CHOLERA FREAKS.

IT is now asserted that it is all a mistake to suppose that the Russian Jews brought the cholera to Europe. The results of an investigation conducted by certain rabbis are said to prove that the Hebrew race has been all but exempt from the plague; that of nearly 250,000 victims, only forty were Jews. The cholera, it is said, did not take the communities of this people in on its deadly march but passed them by. Another fact brought out by this investigation is that the epidemic has not followed the railroads but the canals and rivers. "It came," says a correspondent to a New York paper, "from Asia by water, and fastened upon the swarms of workmen and tramps who in the summer go southward to the lower Volga for employment. When they returned northward and westward to their homes they carried cholera with them. Wherever they went their routes were chiefly the valleys of the rivers Volga and Don. These were all fiercely devastated by pestilence. Wherever they left the main course of water travel and tramped overland into the interior, there also cholera went."

WITH A devotion that under other circumstances would be sublime, the Tuscarora band have hoisted in their local wigwam the banner behind which they marched to inglorious defeat at Chicago. Some people are of so delicate, sensitive a nature that the less they see an unpleasant reminder flaunted in their faces, the better they like it. Of such, however, are not the Tuscaroras. They desire to be known as possessing neither delicacy nor sensibility.