

smartly, indeed painfully, feel, the situation; that the capitalist, who, by the way, is an entirely distinct person from the manufacturer in most cases, will also be reached in his turn;" and they assert that a too bountiful harvest in this emergency, judging from recent experiences, has come to be looked upon as an evil rather than a blessing. Their market is rich in real estate, but mortgages with accumulated interest and taxes consume the largest proportion. The situation is growing worse year by year, and they are in a quandary what to do, hence are in a state of marked unrest. They are ready to jump any way politically that affords them a prospect of change; and that is one reason why politicians feel very insecure as what will be the outcome of election day next November in the Old Bay State. The farmers referred to do not yet see any clear light in any political policy now proposed, and are rather inclined to the view that there is "no harm in Gilead" for the present ill that afflict the land. This view is very far from hopeful, and it must be conceded that it is shared in by a very large number of people who are watching the signs of the times and note that men's hearts are failing them for fear of that which is coming on the earth. Truly the present is a trying time for the hearts of many people in this great nation.

A TEMPERANCE LESSON.

One of the peculiar features of the Tulede horror was undeniably his maintenance to the last of his innocence. To many it seems difficult to explain this in connection with all the circumstances pointing to his guilt, and indications are not lacking of a disposition among some to view the terrible denouement with a degree of doubt.

One of Salt Lake City's physicians, whose opinion is entitled to consideration, speaking of this subject, expressed himself to the effect that it was quite possible that Tulede had committed the crime of which he was convicted and yet afterwards was fully convinced of his innocence. Tulede was a drunkard and could under the alcoholic paroxysms commit acts entirely different from those he would do when governed by reason—acts that left no trace behind them in his memory. High medical authorities agree that persons under the influence of liquor can execute a series of acts which all seem premeditated, well connected and intelligent, and then fall into a state of torpor and unconsciousness and finally wake up entirely ignorant of their movements. There seems to be a kind of vacuum in their consciousness, which not even the recapitulation of the details of their doings can fill. On this hypothesis protests of innocence may be made in perfectly good faith and yet have no weight as proofs of not guilty, although the question of responsibility thereby becomes more complicated.

The views here voiced are generally held, we believe, among medical men, and as far as they are founded on facts they certainly emphasize the terrible danger to the community of in-

dulgence in strong drink. Human beings should be careful to avoid a power that may deaden their better nature and leave the brute in full possession of the wonderful machinery that constitutes the body. The Tulede drama should be a temperance lecture of irresistible eloquence and thus, though evil, result in good.

LI HUNG CHANG'S VISIT.

It seems there is some worry in government circles about the visit to this country of China's famous representative Li Hung Chang, because of the scarcity of funds available for his entertainment. He comes as an extraordinary ambassador and is the bearer of a personal letter from the emperor of China to President Cleveland, and he should be received in a manner worthy of this nation, not too much in contrast with the display made by the European countries he has been visiting. Had it been known early enough that he would come to the United States, Congress might have been asked for an appropriation. As it is the only recourse is to the extraordinary fund of the state department, which is believed not to exceed \$40,000. That this is an unfortunate circumstance may be judged from the fact that the impressions the distinguished Oriental is likely to form of the country undoubtedly will depend largely on the display made in his behalf.

Originally the intention of Li Hung Chang was to remain in the United States long enough to form an idea of the country's industries and its people. He is particularly interested in shipbuilding plants, as China intends strengthening her navy. But it seems that during his stay in England his plans have been changed, and he will hurry through this continent. It is stated that affairs in China have suddenly assumed such an aspect that his presence there is material for the well-being of the empire, but that other influences have been at work causing this change in the program is not improbable. His visit to this country being brief, it is all the more important that it should be made pleasant as well as profitable. This country ought to be able to compete with others in the construction of ships for China, and the opportunity of securing orders should not be lost.

RAILWAY LAW DECISIONS.

The decision of Judge Welborn, of the United States circuit court, made at Los Angeles, Cal., Tuesday, in the case of the Atlantic and Pacific railway vs the United States, is of far-reaching importance as declaring a principle heretofore invoked in this nation only in times of war. The railway wanted \$25.70 for carrying a trooper from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to Prescott Junction, Arizona; the government offered \$13.23. The court decided that the railway was not entitled to more than the government said, for the reason that the latter had the right to

fix the amount. The effect of this decision is to announce that government supervision over railways is in effect in this country in its most pronounced form in governmental affairs. Just as the citizen may be required to do service in the militia at a rate of pay which he may deem altogether inadequate, so must corporations submit to the same rule. The full force of the application in times of peace may not dawn upon the public all at once, but it represents a most emphatic declaration of the supremacy of the government in all matters where the administration of public affairs is concerned.

Another railway decision of importance to the public is the laying down of the rule, by the New York court of appeals, in the recent case of Graham vs the Manhattan Railway company, that a railroad company, by inviting a person to take passage on its cars, is bound to furnish him with a safe place to ride, and an omission to do so is evidence of negligence on its part; that disregard of the statute requiring the elevated railroad to place gates upon every passenger car and keep them closed while the car is in motion is evidence of negligence on the part of the company in an action to recover for an injury resulting from its failure to observe such a regulation, and that violent conduct of a servant of the company upon the platform of a car, causing the crowd to sway and jostle a passenger, and thus contributing to an accident resulting in his injury, is negligence, for which the company will be held responsible; it further holds that the exposure of a passenger to danger, which the exercise of a reasonable foresight would have anticipated and due care avoided, is negligence on the part of a carrier, and that whether the overcrowding of cars is negligence is a question of fact.

A CARPING CRITIC ANSWERED.

The Saints' Herald (Josephite) for June 3, 1896, contained an article entitled "An Important Document Changed," in which it was charged that a liberty had been taken "by some parties in changing and corrupting the words of Joseph Smith since his death," and the responsibility was inferentially placed upon the undersigned, and it was intimated that as editor of the Millennial Star, in 1855, he had "wilfully and maliciously put into the mouth of our martyred dead words which were never used by them." A complete answer to these charges was published in the DESERET EVENING NEWS of June 27, 1896, the anniversary of the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith. That reply allowed:

That the full text of a letter from the Prophet Joseph Smith and others, as published in his history in the Millennial Star in January, 1855, was copied verbatim from the DESERET NEWS of January 26, 1854.

That the letter as it appeared in the DESERET NEWS was taken verbatim from the manuscript history of Joseph Smith, written in Nauvoo, the volume containing it dating from November 2, 1838, and closing with July 30, 1842,