

will not answer the purpose at all. There must be intelligent and unceasing warfare against the evil. The masses must be aroused, their independence stimulated, their high duty pointed out, their irresistible power invoked. As a nation, Americans are slow to anger against wrong-doing fellow-countrymen, and they do most supremely love to be gulled. Once in a while, however, they rise in their wrath, and swoop down on the offender. Just at present there are offenders enough, and a sufficient cause for wrath. How long, oh, how long, will the necessary and salutary outbreak be withheld!

#### GAMBLING IN MONTANA.

The decision of the Montana courts that the anti-gambling law which lately went into effect in that state is unconstitutional, is probably not a bad conclusion in most respects, inasmuch as it only postpones, and does not by any means defeat, the emphatic enforcement of a correct moral code in the mountain commonwealth. From the first there were known to be flaws in the statute, and its best friends have been doubtful as to its standing the test to which its opponents determined to subject it. If a law is not sound, the sooner it is found out the better; litigation, expense and annoyance might just as well be avoided if the righteous purposes sought are not going to be accomplished. The earliest effect of the present decision, should it be affirmed, as it no doubt will be, is already furnished in the mad rush of the gamblers for licenses to continue openly their nefarious trade; the business will probably go on with even redoubled energy, superinduced no less by the temporary cessation of it during the past few weeks than by the prospect that in the near future this cessation will be permanent, so far as a strong, tight law can make it so. It is hardly to be believed that the better element of the people of Montana will permit their legislative representatives to take a step backward in a crisis so grave as this; and it is fairly to be assumed that the defects and weaknesses of the present statute will be corrected and its good purposes made impregnable in the law which the next legislature will put upon the books.

We allude to the Montana incident more for the purpose of pointing a moral than because of any intrinsic interest it possesses here in Utah. As may not be generally known, that state has confined its non-interference with the gambling fraternity to such of them as indulged in a certain class of games—these admittedly the best and most honest, if a comparison will be admitted between various games of chance; such as gave absolutely no chance to the patron were not tolerated at all. The present judicial decision accordingly allows the resumption of "straight games," without in any degree removing the ban from the "skin swindlers" which entice the youthful and unwary and in which none but the proprietor was ever known to win. Bad as the condition is, therefore, it is not without some small claim to respectability. But Utah in general and Salt Lake City in particular need not be troubled with the blight at all, if

the law officers would but do their duty. There is plenty of law and ordinance on the subject, and all of it is constitutional, besides being universally backed up by public sentiment. Yet while the regular gamblers are occasionally raided and made to pay for their offense, the still more deadly policy shops and swindlers of like character are let severely alone. It may be a very hard thing to say, but out of regard for the reputation of the police of this city, there are plenty of good citizens who would rather have no law at all against gambling, as has been the case in Montana, than have a dozen laws and none of them half enforced.

#### CORN FOR FUEL.

There is always a suggestion of unpleasantness and wastefulness in the proposition of using corn for fuel. This distinctly American product has such splendid food qualities both for man and beast that the consumption of it in stoves and fireplaces producing external warmth can hardly be regarded as other than a shame and a riotous misuse of one of the best gifts of Providence to mankind. Yet the present winter, in the magnificent abundance of the season's corn crop and the extreme scarcity of the farmer's cash, promises to prove the actual economy of using the former in place of wood or coal.

It is a rule of commerce as old as the world itself that when the supply of any article largely exceeds the demand, the price must inevitably come down. Unless all the history of the past shall be overturned, the tremendous excess of corn this year—no crop being the largest in the country's history—will make the receipts for such as can be sold extremely low. There are already evidences that this will be the case, for the December corn option at Chicago has already more than once touched the low level of price—some 26 or 27 cents per bushel. This figure at Chicago means about 12 cents per bushel to the farmer in the corn producing sections away from the railroad centers. At 12 cents a bushel a ton of corn would be worth less than four dollars—and where in the farming regions can decent coal be had for any such figure! In the corn country this side of the Missouri river, hard coal is worth from six to nine dollars per ton. But it is asserted that an equal weight of corn on the cob will yield more heat than the same amount of coal; so that in addition to its being cleaner and almost smokeless, the corn fuel costs less than half as much. An eastern paper tells of a prominent operator on the Chicago board of trade who offers a \$10,000 forfeit if he cannot furnish corn for fuel to one of the elevated roads there at less cost than that of its coal supply. This man bases his calculations on an experiment made by him on a ranch in Nebraska. He bought corn of a neighbor at 16 cents a bushel. The neighbor expended the money in buying coal, and the operator claims that he heated as much space with the corn as his neighbor did with all of the coal, and he had three tons of corn to spare besides. By actual test, says this man, it has been found that a ton of corn will yield 25 per cent more heat

than a ton of coal. And if, he asks, corn could be used economically for fuel in Chicago, what is to be said of its superior economy in western Kansas and Nebraska? The question is pertinent, and there is fair prospect that this winter will witness many practical applications of the line of economy herein suggested.

#### THE AMERICAN INDIANS.

In the scientific discussion that has taken place about the origin of the Indians, a great variety of opinion has found expression. Professor Huxley and others assumed that America and Asia at one time were connected where now the Berlin Straits separate the two continents, and that the Mongolians came over that way and settled on our western shores. It was claimed that the Indians were distinctly Mongolian in type; that many of their customs—notably that of exposing their dead to the open air and certain marriage ceremonies—were of Mongolian origin.

Against this supposition stands, however, that the style of ancient architecture found in this country, as shown in the ruins still extant, is entirely different from anything discovered in the portions of Asia most contiguous to America. Amid the stupendous ruins of the dead cities of Yucatan and Peru, the conviction is irresistibly produced in the spectator, that here are the remains of a civilization that must be the source of other civilizations upon the earth. Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, after an able examination of the historical facts connected with the Aztecs, admits the connection between this ancient race and those of western Asia. On no other ground can he account for the fact that they possessed a tradition of the creation of the world, of the deluge, and of the confusion of tongues. They held strictly that there were but one woman and one man saved from the flood, and that the descendants were the Aztecs. The man corresponds with the northern Hiawatha, Manah-shah, or Otobensic, but if one travels to South America he finds that the Peruvians believe that they originally came from an island in the ocean.

Ethnology as far as the aborigines of this continent are concerned has just commenced to bring order out of chaos, but a beginning has been made which, if the conclusions of Le Plongeon and others be accepted, promises great results.

To the student of American antiquities several distinct civilizations present themselves, and so far they have not been able to frame any one theory that acceptably accounts for their origin, or for the causes that resulted in their overthrow. Revelation alone has anticipated science and suggested in outlines the ground on which the tree of knowledge can be found.

According to this source of information, man first appeared on this continent. The civilization of the progenitors of our race flourished here and perhaps spread to other continents. Immediately after the flood history centers in the countries of western Asia. About a hundred years after that great cataclysm, at the time of the