

the evident chuckle attending the statements which they and their organ cause to do duty as a justification. It is about time that they and all others of their kind, wherever or whomever they may be, were made to understand that prisoners have rights which their environment does but make more sacred; that while the officers on duty have a right to maintain discipline and enforce order, they have no right to revive and apply the practices of the Spanish Inquisition. Those who are under lock and key can be easily reduced to subjection, if not insane, without corporeal punishment at all, and if insane they belong elsewhere. Meantime, the showing made would seem to justify the calling of the performances of William McQueen and Joseph O'Brien to the attention of the grand jury of this district.

THE "WESTERN STAR."

There has always been an element in the United States which held foreigners and a certain class of religionists to be menaces to our government and thus to be kept in surveillance when they could not be excluded altogether. This feeling, which deserves to rank among the intellectual development of our race as the fungus does in the school of vegetation, a half-century ago crystallized into a political party with the more or less appropriate designation of Know Nothings. The "gontalon" of the organization was "put none but Americans on guard"—words which have a sufficiently patriotic sound but which were invested with a certain sinister meaning which developed as time wore along.

The Know Nothings proved to be nearly as strong numerically when they made their first appearance on the political stage as when, defeated and destroyed under the leadership of Bell and Everett, they disappeared from the scene in 1860. In a disorganized and sporadic way they have occasionally shown symptoms of a renaissance since, but the efforts put forth lacked coherency, cohesiveness and attractiveness. Of late years the organization has been but a memory and it confined to individual cases—showing that its foundation was un-American even as its tenets were diametrically opposed to the genius of our institutions.

But lo! and behold, what was a national failure "bohs up serenely" amid the Rocky Mountain ranges as an actual, existing thing with pride of ancestry and hope of posterity. Our own city supplies the Faneuil Hall for the new birth and its goes forth to the world as a branch of a stellar organization to be known in this balliwick as the "Western Star." That is much too pretty and not quite practical enough for the name of a political party; but the local designation—and we believe the Salt Lake constellation is about all there is of it—goes to the other extreme, it being "Anti-Cat." Opposition to the feline race is not necessarily an unmanly or undignified proceeding, especially with those whose nocturnal repose has been cut short by means of an uninvited serenade from the summit

of a neighboring shed; but cats are not the thing, as one might suppose, that word in this connection being an abbreviation of "Catholic." It is understood to be an adjunct of the Liberal party, but just how the misled young men expect to gain votes by systematically opposing a powerful and influential religious organization is beyond our ken.

[COMMUNICATED.]

SHALL WE ANSWER YES, OR NO?

It is a matter of query with some whether the Mormon people do really consume the amount (either in weight or dollars) of the three articles named in a late issue of the News. To be sure two hundred and fifty thousand dollars does seem an immense sum; but some pains were taken to verify those figures, which were understated rather than exceeded. [In analysis, the estimate given for tea and coffee is much below the average elsewhere. The English use more tea per head, as the Americans use more coffee. For the Mormon population of Utah, or members of the Church as they were assumed to be, it is after all but one pound per capita annually of the former and a little less of the latter. The incongruity of the statement is based on the assumption that the first two articles are practically tabooed, which is theory they are; and if the facts are against the people it will hardly do to say "So much worse for the facts."]

The two are indisputably articles which can be fairly classed as luxuries, save to the poor woman whose fare is meagre, and to whom after a life's use a sprinkle of tea in a cup or two of water can do but little (save in fancy), either special harm or good. Such habit or weakness has not infrequently been intemperately denounced, however, by enthusiastic sticklers for the "Word of Wisdom," those, too, who at the table would un-murmuringly "get away" with considerable of animal food, which is specially restricted in the same "covenant with promise." That much violence is done to the human organization by the use of these beverages, extra strong and far too hot, cannot be disputed; that much of our drinking water is hard by virtue of the lime which it holds in solution, and that special diseases are common from this cause, is generally acknowledged, so that boiled water and warm drinks are an improvement, if not adulterated unwisely or at too great a cost.

For the use of tobacco in any form but little excuse is offered. Chewing is a dirty habit, smoking an offensive one, particularly to nonusers, and cigarette-smoking, indulged in mainly by young dudes, is derided by the highest medical authorities as the most injurious of all methods of using tobacco.

The use of all three (tea, coffee and tobacco) is a custom which might be "more honored in the breach than in the observance," and were they all discarded tomorrow, it would be a greater pleasure to mention that fact than it is to be able to say today that much less is used in Utah now than anywhere else in Christendom with the same population.

Reference was made some weeks ago to the continuous importation of hog

products into this Territory, and experiences were quoted as to the wisdom and profitable use of wheat for feeding, if we must have pork at all! Almost every family uses ham, bacon, lard, etc., to some extent, so that upon the surface of things it might be concluded that importations would be heavy. But even the informed hardly realize an aggregate which astounds, if "figures do not lie." Calculations are not made for this at random. No sensationalism is intended. But it is intended to supply a lesson to the farmer, feeder, curer and consumer in Utah, so that if pork products are desirable, our prolific lucern—now selling in the country at three dollars per ton—may be tripled in value, and that rye and surplus wheat may supplement the lucern and surplus milk, etc., in the production of meat, vastly sweeter, as experience has proved, than the most choice importation, if we have enterprise and force enough to make self-sustenance a living article of a living and effective creed!

Can the Utonians give any reason why they should buy annually over half a million pounds (600,000 really) of dry salt bacon; over three hundred thousand pounds of ham; and nearly ten thousand pounds of breakfast bacon at a cost of eighty-five thousand dollars? Or that they should pay the railroads about twelve thousand five hundred dollars for bringing this in fifty loaded cars to their very doors? As if to show more glaringly the misuse of our own resources, and our determination to get Kansas and Iowa and Nebraska and Missouri to work for that gold which we give in exchange for their pork, we have to add to this fabulous abuse of the purchasing power the use of lard, which as a hog product must be included in the estimate of our folly, and of our ignorance in the alphabet of political or financial economy!

Utah—no, the two-thirds thereof—supposed to be Latter-day Saints—used in a year when poor butter went begging 250,000 pounds of lard, which cost east over \$20,000 dollars, and for which was paid to the railroads for gross weight freight \$4750, making the Utah expenditure south of Ogden, for lard only, nearly \$25,000, or for these unified products an aggregate of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars—paid out for that which if produced at home we should receive greater gustative enjoyment, run less risk as to health, secure labor for our local population, and be sure of a home market as well; all of which means the retention in Utah of that circulating medium now shipped away, but which if kept at home would give an impetus to industrial endeavor, would foster greater thrift and so aid the cause of general progress, prosperity and that assurance we desire of eventual practical independence.

For the successful production of any article, system and business management are indispensable. Individual pork raising will do, but cutting and curing promiscuously will not. Self-feeding will not answer even for a hog. Lucern would have to be cut, fed and eaten, milk supplied where practicable, or good clean water as a matter of course; then suitable quarters as shelter from heat or