

can be obtained with comparatively little risk is another and growing one. It is a sad state of affairs all around and there is no promise that it will be immediately if at all improved.

### THE SUNDAY OPENING.

The effect generally of Chief Justice Fuller's ruling in favor of the World's Fair being open on Sunday has been pretty closely observed by a good many people. Some of these looked upon the ruling as the legalization of what has all along been regarded (by themselves at least) as a flagrantly irreverent practice, and these naturally watched with some anxiety the outcome of such an experiment in an admittedly Christian land. These, and perhaps many others, have been disappointed to some extent; the things held sacred before are so held yet and matters generally seem to be as nearly normal as they can be in the presence of a new but so far harmless departure.

A Chicago paper issued the day after the first Sunday the Fair was thrown open by reason of the judge's ruling, speaks of the ability of even indifferent visitors to notice the great number of closed and covered exhibits, while the foreign exhibits that were thus placed out of sight (literally) caused much surprised comment among the sight-seers. It is stated that ropes and chains barred entrance to displays whose attractions were not enhanced by the intervening distance. Sheeted exhibits started up on all sides, forming uncouth excrescences where the day before beautiful bronzes delighted the eye. Whole sections were shut off without notice to those who paid the same price for admission charge on week days, when every inducement that well-arranged displays can offer was set forth to attract the sight-seers into these identical sections. Columbian guards in lonely dignity patrolled aisles of exhibits which contained show-cases concealed beneath heavy cloth covers, and, answering the whys and wherefores flung at them, said: "Because it's Sunday."

Of course there was a good deal of disappointment, but no matter; the judge's ruling did not require the Fair or any portion thereof to be open, it simply gave those in charge permission to so show if they felt so disposed. It seems that the general management did feel so disposed but the majority of individual exhibitors did not and as the board could not compel them to do otherwise than as they chose to do, it followed that all the prominent exhibits were closed to sight-seers. In hundreds of exhibits where exhibitors and their attendants gladly answer all questions on week days, those exhibitors and attendants were conspicuously absent. This was particularly noticeable in the gallery of the manufactures building. The electricity and mines and mining building were barren wastes of covered or unattended exhibits. In machinery hall, where the fascinations exerted by moving mechanisms draw crowds, not a wheel, except those of a few generators, was moving. Transportation exhibits are of a nature not easily concealed, but even here the sheet and

canvas covers were generally used. The agricultural building was in much the same condition, still there were enough novel displays in cereal decorations to partially compensate for the covered agricultural implements. The children's building was closed. The woman's and fisheries building suffered to some extent from the prevailing "Closed today." And thus, we presume, it has been to a greater or less extent ever since.

There is a certain degree of reverence for things and occasions concededly sacred in the breast of every civilized and educated man, and there is a varying percentage in each of the characteristics most strikingly manifested by a balky horse. If you attempt to drive a man to church he may refuse to go; pass stringent laws against his violating the Sabbath and that is the thing he is prone to do by one means or another. But let down the bars so he can enter or stay out and use no manner of compulsion, and oftener than otherwise he will enter; forbid him to do so if you would make it an almost sure thing that he will. So with the great show at Chicago. Let the exhibitors exhibit and the spectators observe on the Sabbath day without risk or hindrance if it so please them, and as we already see, in about nine cases out of ten when Sunday morning comes they will conclude that they have done enough for one week and as it is a day of rest they will rest accordingly.

### GOLD IN THE LAKE.

A local humorist not long since apparently victimized a good many people by publishing with evident seriousness a scheme to extract gold from the waters of Great Salt Lake at an immense profit. He "showed" that the waters contained three dollars per ton's weight of the precious metal, and that it could be extracted at an expense of fifty cents a ton, leaving a clear yet highly colored margin of two dollars and a half. At this rate the national debt would soon lose its solidity and he no more of an encumbrance upon the land than the shadow of a passing cloud. Then the rigid clasp of the Rothschilds and the British bank upon the world's finances would gradually but surely relax and finally give way altogether, and an era of good times everywhere would be inaugurated.

A friend of the NEWS, who is also something of a humorist, called to offer an objection to the scheme being worked. He was burdened with the idea that such an unceasing, unlimited and voluminous product of gold would in the long run (if not in the short run) have the effect to reduce the metal in value, and as it followed along in the path which silver has been made to occupy for twenty years its course would be steadily and irretrievably downward. Eventually it would be valueless for the purpose of money, would be demonetized, used only for mechanical and scientific purposes, and silver having already been thrown out we should have no money at all—in consequence of which he thought it would be better if he paid for the NEWS a few years in advance. As he

was not accompanied to the counting room we are unable to say how that part of the proposition turned out.

After the smiling has all ceased, we will undertake to inform those who thought themselves "sold" by lending credence to so rank a "fake," that they were not entirely disposed of after all. There is gold in the waters of Great Salt Lake, not perhaps as much as \$3 a ton, but still some. Ocean water contains some few cents per ton of gold, the amount running up to as much as fifty cents in places. In either case it would cost with any known appliances not less than \$50 a ton to extract it, so if any one wants to get overpoweringly wealthy on the Milesian plan here is his chance.

### REV. HILL'S LATEST.

Readers of the Utah papers will remember that Ogden was afflicted a year or two ago with a bumptious young preacher named J. Wesley Hill, whose chief claim to distinction in this Territory was his arch hypocrisy, his bitterness of spirit, his love of falsehood, and his shamelessness as a sermon-thief. He "accepted a call" to Montana a short time ago, and from a dispatch in last evening's NEWS it would seem that he has recently returned to Ohio, which we believe is his native state. When we say that this is the man who, according to the dispatch referred to, discloses a huge scheme of Mormon bribery—the actual purchase of enough members of Congress to ensure Utah's admission as a state—we have given all the attention to his charges that they merit. It is a pity such people as he cannot be made to answer at the bar of public justice for the accusations they are ever so ready to make. Even the absurdity and nonsense apparent in most of them ought not to shield their authors from punishment and disgrace.

### THE CALIFORNIA FAIR.

The latest number of the San Francisco Chronicle to hand announces that the success of the much talked-of midwinter exposition for that state is now well assured. It shows that the doubting and hesitation apparent in certain quarters till the last minute have about disappeared now and that all that is needed to secure the perfect success of the project is harmony and energy on the part of the people of the golden state. Here is a timely paragraph from the same source:

There should be one warning note sounded, however, and better first than last. That is, whenever there shall come some hitch in the proceedings or some obstacle in the way—and such must come—the pessimistic contingent, with its never-ceasing cry of "We told you so," shall not be allowed to influence and bias public opinion. In the organization, manipulation and installation of a great enterprise like this there must be more or less friction, more or less delay and more or less cause for disappointment, but these will no more interfere with the success of the winter fair than a lat fence would stop a tornado.