

enslaving tendency, were a means to fasten its hold upon the people till opposition ceased almost entirely.

Even its strongest advocates in therapeutics condemned its use outside of medicine, as shown by Burton, in his *Anatomy of Melancholy*, where he says: "Tobacco, divine, rare, super-excellent tobacco, which goes far beyond all the panaceas, notable gold and philosopher's stones, is a sovereign remedy in all diseases. A good vomit, I confess, a virtuous herb if it be well qualified, opportunely taken, and medicinally used; but as it is commonly abused by most men, which take it as tinkers do ale, 'tis a plague, a mischief, a violent purge of goods, lauds, health—hellish, devilish and damned tobacco, the ruin and overthrow of body and soul."

On the recommendation of doctors its use began for physical ailments because in some cases it exerted a soothing influence; but by practice and inquiry all expectations regarding its medicinal virtues were completely disappointed. It possessed none of these for man; it proved no sovereign remedy—no remedy at all. Stript of its medicinal value, every claim by Burton and others of the same mind of good in its behalf was swept away, and only the evil definition of it remains—a verified fact.

In the analysis of tobacco is found an answer to the query what it is. Tobacco—all its chief ingredients, singly and together—is a virulent poison when taken into the human system according to the usages of the tobacco habit. Now that we have learned what it is, we may next ascertain some of its effects.

UTAH SMALL FARMS.

The May 4th issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*, of Burlington, Iowa—which calls itself the "organ of the great middle class of this section of the valley; not taken up by the very rich or the very poor"—contains a pungent two-column article on the advantages of the small farm and the proposed experiments with irrigation colonies in the arid West under the law passed by the late session of Congress. The article throughout bristles with compliments for the people of Utah, their agricultural system, the sagacity of their leaders and the pioneers generally; and no small part of it is devoted to a description of President Woodruff's achievements with the forty acres of land in this county from which he and his family have been mainly supported in the matter of fruits, vegetables and bread-stuff, also provender for stock, for forty-seven years. A great many very nice things are said about the thrift and good management of this veteran farmer, also concerning the wisdom of President Yung and the zeal, industry and good sense of the people who have redeemed these mountain valleys and made them to them with prosperity; and while it is gratifying to know that the labors of the Mormon people are now appreciated and their example held up as deserving of imitation, it should also be a reminder to them that laurels bravely won must be stoutly maintained. This relates particularly to the

matter of irrigation, in which we have much to learn and put into practice in the way of the scientific and systematic use of water with reference to the soil and the crop grown. As was pointed out a day or two ago in an address on the subject, unless our agriculturists unite and improve and bestir themselves in these directions, they are in danger of being outstripped by other communities where better and more thorough methods prevail. We enjoy already the prestige and are receiving full praise for being the pioneers in American irrigation. We must not now be satisfied to act as imitators; and only by our own neglect can we be shorn of the continued credit of leading the van in all that makes the system a success.

ABOUT THE INDIANS.

The volume now issued by the census office is a splendid quarto of about seven hundred pages, illustrated by lithographs, maps and other plates designed to show the condition of the various tribes of Indians, their customs, habitations, employments, etc.

The question whether the Indians are actually dying out, and if so, at what annual rate, is difficult to answer, owing to the necessarily incomplete statistical reports formerly obtained. The present number of the aborigines is given as 243,253; and this shows a diminution, says the *Independent* in its issue of May 9, from the census of 1880 of more than 58,000, while the apparent decrease in the previous decade was but little over 7,000. As long ago as 1836 the Indian population was given as 253,464, while in 1850 it was stated to be over 400,000. Probably the last two censuses are more nearly correct than any preceding one, and from these the conclusion would seem to be warranted that the Indians are decreasing at the rate of about 5,800 a year. If this is correct, in another forty years the whole race would be practically annihilated.

In the report an attempt is made to illustrate the number of languages or rather groups of languages among the American aborigines and the distribution of these groups in the United States, Canada and Mexico. From this it appears that the Algonkian stock occupies nearly all of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, including the shores of the southern half of Hudson bay, south to Tennessee, east of the Mississippi and north of the Carolina and to the St. Lawrence river, excepting New York, part of Pennsylvania and a part of Ohio, which belongs to the Iroquoian stock. The Siouan stock embraces the territory lying west of the Mississippi north of Texas, extending to the Canadian line and including a large part of Wyoming and Montana. The rest of the states of the Pacific slope, excepting California and Washington, are the grounds of the Shoshonean stock, including Shoshones, Bannocks, Utes, Moquis and Plutes; the Caddoan stock is found in Texas, part of Nebraska and a portion of North Dakota. It is supposed that twenty-one different stocks, formerly represented in the United States, have now become extinct.

Of the 248,258 Indians now living, 133,417 are on reservations; 58,506 are citizens of the United States scattered over the various states and territories, besides the Six Nations of New York and the five civilized tribes of Indian Territory, amounting to 55,339.

The area of the Indian reservations is given as 104,314,849 acres, 288,613 of which are cultivated by Indians and 2,617 by the government. Under the policy of allotting lands to families, 15,166 allotments have been made, and upon these lands 5,554 families are living and engaged in the work of cultivation. Besides these there are 21,774 other Indian families engaged in farming or in civilized pursuits, and it appears that upward of 70,000 Indians wear citizens' dress wholly; 48,101 in part; 23,207 can read and 27,822 use English enough for ordinary purposes. As a further indication of civilization there are 19,104 dwelling houses occupied by Indians.

It is a just remark that these results are by no means satisfactory. With the exception of the Pioneers of Utah, early settlers of this country frequently adopted a policy of extermination rather than civilization, it being a foregone conclusion that no other solution of the Indian question was practicable. There are, however, signs of the dawn of a more humane policy, and its adoption may yet be means of saving the ancient race from total extermination.

TWO LONG LIVES.

The announcement of Lord Rosebery's failing health revives again the suggestion that Gladstone will resume the premiership of Great Britain—a suggestion that seems an utterly impracticable as to be not worth pondering over. Yet there are many among the Liberals in Britain who dote on such a movement as the only hope for retrieving the fortunes of the party in the general election campaign which is regarded as an event of the near future. A chief and it would seem effective obstacle to another Gladstone premiership is the fact that the grand old man of English politics has concluded that he is too old; and in this frame of mind it will be difficult to convince him that he should reconsider his determination. He has not been so fascinated by the glitter of control as not to recognize the fact that among the younger members of his own party he is looked upon as having performed his work in state affairs and as being in a position where he can afford to let some of the next generation have a chance at the nation's helm. Besides this, he is deeply interested in the project of sending forth in his later days a literary work that will fitly characterize the close of a great career, and to this purpose he is devoting his time and energies. In view of these facts it does not appear possible to draw the venerable statesman back into the field of active politics, even though the majority of his party should make the demand.

In connection with the suggestion of Gladstone's return to the premiership there is something which ought to serve as a lesson to those of later generations in pointing out one of the chief