

and stupor. In from twelve to twenty-four hours a glandular swelling occurs in the neck, armpit or groin, hard and acutely tender. Coma supervenes, and death occurs in forty-eight hours from the onset, or sooner. Cases which linger for six days are regarded hopeful for recovery, although relapses are liable to occur. In a few cases vomiting of blood is noted; in others black spots on the body, but no characteristic eruption. These spots are indicative of the last stages. It seems allied to the "bubonic plague" which visited China in 1882, but has more features in common with the Black Death than has that disease. It claims as victims at least two out of three persons attacked.

There had been some hope that it would be kept out of Hongkong by quarantine arrangements, but the dispatches bring disappointing news on this point, as the work of death is rapidly going on there. The people had propitiated their deities in vain, and the street parades, the exploding of firecrackers, burning of sandalwood, joss-sticks, etc., being ineffectual in checking the pestilence, have but added to the excitement of the populace. Up to the present exact figures of the mortality occasioned are not obtainable, but in the city of Canton alone there were several thousand deaths before the disease had been communicated to other towns.

There may be no probability of the disease spreading to Europe on this occasion, but it is interesting at least to note the similarity of many of the conditions which exist today with those of the last great historic visitation. On the former occasion the disease began in China. For some years previous to its commencement, from 1333 to 1343, that country suffered from drouths, famines, floods, fires, storms, earthquakes which swallowed mountains, and swarms of innumerable locusts. Those who have sought to explain the origin and remarkable spread of the disease present the theory that this great tellurian activity, accompanied by the decomposition of vast organic masses and many bodies of men and brutes, produced a change in the atmosphere unfavorable to life. It is said the impure air was actually visible, appearing like a fog in the heavens as it approached with its burden of death. This latter was a feature of the more advanced condition of the plague, and was not noted in its early history.

While the atmospheric poison did much to spread the disease, it is reasonably certain that the chief cause of its extension was infection and contagion. From China it made its way to the west, reaching the Black Sea and Constantinople. From there, by contagion, it reached the seaports of Italy, and from these to the various countries of Europe. The history and lines of its advance are such that there is no question but that rigid rules of quarantine might have excluded it from many places.

The mortality from this visitation is estimated to have been in China 13,000,000 people, and in the rest of the East nearly 24,000,000. In Europe the exactness of details was obtainable. London alone lost over 100,000 souls; fifteen other European cities give an aggregate of 300,000; Germany lost

1,244,344; Italy one-half its population; and in Europe there were about 25,000,000 people who succumbed to the disease, while Africa suffered with equal severity. The mortality growing out of the effects of the plague on society also was frightful. Many died of fear, others slew themselves, and still others directed their attention to sacrificing unpopular peoples in a vain hope of averting the calamity. In this latter procedure there were 12,000 Jews cruelly murdered in Mayence alone, while many thousands shared a similar fate at the hands of the maddened populace elsewhere.

At the present time China is in much the same situation as in the fourteenth century. There have been drouths, famines, floods, fires, storms and terrible earthquakes reaching over a period of years, culminating as before, even if not producing, a great pestilence among the people. The same disturbing elements have given the rest of the world a measure of attention, as they did just prior to the great plague. But quarantine regulations have been wonderfully advanced since that time, and the nations of the West have in their possession a weapon for defense not formerly held. It would appear to be a wise move to use this advantage in time, lest there be a repetition of "the great plague" whose record causes a thrill of horror. Above all, people should attend to proper hygienic regulations, in being cleanly and temperate, that not only general epidemics but those of a local character may be in great measure guarded against.

#### AS SEEN BY A KENTUCKIAN.

A reverend gentleman by the name of John L. Robinson, a preacher of the Cumberland Presbyterian faith, has succeeded in having a number of his letters, descriptive of the overland journey from Kentucky to Portland, Oregon, published in the Louisville *Courier-Journal*. Elder A. Bevan, writing from Henderson City, Ky., calls our attention particularly to the letter which Mr. Robinson wrote from Salt Lake City. It is in almost every paragraph a confession that he would not have been able to complain of anything he saw or heard had it not been for bigotry. For instance, the prayer that he heard at the Sunday services in the Tabernacle "was well-worded, earnest and spiritual;" and "if the man had been in a Methodist church, and you did not know he was a Mormon, there would have been any number of reverent 'amens.'" Further, "the sermon [delivered by President Joseph F. Smith] was a fairly good sermon on the principles of Christianity. In the main it was good, and it was only the student of theology that could detect its absurd and hurtful conclusions in some of the parts. This is all the worse, for error with some little truth is more hurtful than bold immorality." For the organ and the choir Mr. Robinson has words of praise, but the excellence of the acoustic properties of the building he plumply declares to be "a myth." Of course he has to fire his little pop-gun at polygamy, and he rolls his eyes in pious disgust at the "debauch-

ery consequent upon Mormon teaching." He dabbled in the cold clear water that came from melting snow, and congratulated himself on escaping the mistake made by a fellow-minister who on one occasion while traveling in Palestine "reverently bathed his face in what he thought was water from the melting snow of Lebanon but what was really lemonade." Finally, he found unqualified pleasure in Beck's Hot Springs, "of which delightful place" he says it is "impossible to say too much in praise."

Elder Bevan reports that all the advertising Utah gets seems to have the effect of helping on the cause and that that particular conference in which he is now laboring is in a flourishing condition.

#### THE SILK INDUSTRY.

The Utah silk exhibit at the Woman's Building at the World's Fair, Chicago, was one of the features that attracted the greatest attention from visitors, and the ladies interested in that industry very much appreciate the wise judgment of Mrs. Potter Palmer, president of the board of lady managers, to whose encouraging suggestions this feature of the exhibition was due. It was no easy task to make a creditable showing of an industry now but little attended to, if at all, but at last a number of Utah made silk dresses, shawls, scarfs, fringes, sewing silk and twists, as well as reeled silk and cocoons, were collected. A Utah woman was also engaged to reel and another to weave, using the primitive machinery of the early days of the Territory, and the whole presented an interesting picture. In the last catalogue issued it was mentioned as one of the most interesting features in the Woman's Building and experts were unanimous in their praise of Utah's silk as being of a superior quality. It was awarded a medal and a diploma by a committee of Japanese under the department of manufacture and received similar recognition by American experts under the department of agriculture. A copy of the latter has just been received and will be read with much interest. It is as follows:

WORLD'S COLUMBIAN COMMISSION, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON AWARDS.

John Boyd Thacher, Chairman, Albany, N. Y.

W. J. Small, New Jersey, A. T. Britton, D. C.

A. B. Andrews, North Carolina.

B. B. Smalley, ex-officio member, Burlington, Vt.

BUREAU—Pacific Building, 622 F Street, Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 25, 1894.

Dear Madame—I herewith enclose you an official copy of your award which in due time will be inscribed in the diploma and forwarded to your present address, unless otherwise indicated by you.

Yours,

JOHN BOYD THACHER,

Chairman Executive Committee on Awards.

MRS. MARGARET BLAINE SALISBURY, Salt Lake City, Utah.

#### UTAH.

Department A.—Agriculture, Exhibitor, Mrs. Margaret Blaine Salisbury. Address: Salt Lake City. Group 9, Class 61.—Exhibits Cocoons and Raw Silk.