

government live in the hearts of the people. The trouble of Ho duras, as of some of the other countries in that region, is the lack of good schools, the domination of superstitious ideas in religion and the evident tyrannical disposition on the part of the leaders, who constantly fight among themselves for the spoils. Under such circumstances material progress is impossible.

There is no reason why the republics to the south of us should not be—on a smaller scale—as prosperous as the United States has been. But the foundations of the greatness of this country owe their firmness to the unselfish work of the founders; it is a result of the noblest virtues ever exhibited by statesmen, and it will remain as long as the course outlined by them is adhered to by the people and its leaders.

HIPPOPHAGY'S OPPONENTS.

Those who are most genuinely opposed to the use of horse flesh for food ought most sincerely to regret the source from which the latest display of opposition has come. It may be altogether lamentable that the Chicago drainage canal contractors are feeding their employes upon horse meat costing from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per horse, but the cheapness of the product has in itself nothing to do with its purity or healthfulness. Especially inconsistent is it that the outcry should have been raised by the beef packers, whose canned product at wholesale rates is quoted at from six to nine cents per pound. Unless we are very much mistaken, there have been occasional sensations as to the quality and healthfulness of the cattle that are converted into canned beef. There are many ways of combatting a taste in food products, just as there are in fashions and fads of all kinds; but to assail the prescribed article on the mere ground that it is cheap has never been very successful in securing its condemnation. For the beef packers of Chicago to attack the horse meat on the simple score of disease or impurity might be a case of the pot finding fault with the kettle's complexion, but at this distance it looks as though it was the only plan of campaign offering the least hope of victory.

DIPLOMACY TOO SLOW.

Ministers Denby in China and Terrill in Turkey assure the government in Washington, on behalf of the rulers to whom they are accredited, that Americans will be protected in the respective countries. At the same time, anything but satisfactory reports are coming from both eastern and western Asia of the perilous positions of foreigners in those parts of the world. In China, it seems, the very instigator of the Cheng Tu massacre has been given a responsible place on the commission to investigate the matter, and the foreign members are regarded as little better than spies. A similar course has been followed all along in Turkey, where the government exhausted every resource at its command to prevent a full investigation into the outrages committed.

It is well known that it is useless to deal with most of the Asiatic

powers on the same principle as civilized countries. Their very religious systems encourage them to mendacity when dealing with "Christian dogs," it being considered right and proper to evade all obligations as far as it can be done with safety. Truthfulness is not considered much of a virtue in the orient, and it is certainly not a material factor in its diplomacy.

There is only one way in which to obtain, in that part of the world, the consideration due to the American name, and that is to force the people to respect it, by the only argument they can appreciate. Any dilatoriness on the part of the government is interpreted as weakness and is sure to result in further outrages, sooner or later. We do not mean that it would be necessary to shell any cities or kill any innocent people, but if an imposing display of power and determination were made at the right places, reparation for what has been done, would be speedily forthcoming, and, what is more important, a wholesome fear would prevent a repetition of the atrocities for a long time to come.

PETTY GAMBLING.

An evil which a degree of even semi-alertness on the part of the proper officers would seem to do much to restrain if not exterminate in this city is gambling in its various forms, but especially in its most injurious and (if the comparison will be allowed) least reputable aspects. We refer to "playing policy" and the other schemes where small sums of money are used, and with the smallest possible chance of the player winning a cent. It is a serious reflection upon the good name of Salt Lake City that these low devices of so-called games of chance should be permitted to flourish to such an extent as they do, when even in mining towns and more pretentious cities where open gambling has been more or less winked at, they are not tolerated for a moment. Men who make a business of gambling, or those whose means and inclinations prompt them to gratify the passion, know too much of the chances against them in such a game to venture a dollar upon any of the schemes referred to. Such persons will no doubt gamble, whatever the legal or moral penalties may be, and perhaps all that a consistent municipal guardianship can do in their case is to restrain their nefarious practices as much as possible by the terror of raids, fines and imprisonment—all the time aiming primarily at the protection of the young and unwary from the temptations that would otherwise be offered.

But in the case of the small concerns where "policy," "wheel of fortune" and other games of downright robbery are played, there is the special evil that the victims are nearly always young, thoughtless or ignorant. The News is told upon good authority that such games are patronized by persons little more than children—nickels and dimes being the sums generally invested. We hear of cash boys in various mercantile institutions, youthful street-car conductors, school-boys and even giddy female clerks and typewriters devoting a goodly share of

their small earnings to the support of these odious and immoral concerns. If even the half is true that is heard about such practices and the number who yield to them, the city is suffering from a disgrace that should be immediately and completely wiped out. Generally speaking there is little sympathy for the mature victim who goes into the game knowing what he is doing, and still less for the losing professional gambler; for he who expects to live by the sword should be prepared to die by the sword. But everybody with honor in his heart feels an interest in preserving the young and innocent from contamination and disgrace. Accordingly appeal to the city officials to pay particular attention to the class of offenders referred to, and to raid them unceasingly and punish them severely and continuously from this time forth until the unholy business is stopped entirely.

THAT THERE are two sides to every story is illustrated in the accounts of the Chinese massacre as given by a newspaper published by the Mongolians. According to these, the mission stations are veritable brooding places of crime, where little girls are kept for immoral purposes by "interpreters," and where criminals find refuge from Chinese justice. That is an awful charge against the men and women who draw salaries for the work of teaching heathens a higher morality than they are supposed to know. The report bears many evidences of "enterprize" on the part of the Mongolian editor, but missionary boards cannot afford to ignore it. For the sake of the public, they ought to seek to ascertain by impartial investigation whether there is any foundation at all, however slight, for the arraignment of the missionaries and their friends in China.

AS ONE of the triumphs of science, the fact can be mentioned that the average duration of life has been greatly lengthened during the last centuries, even among physicians, a class that naturally is much exposed to danger. A German doctor, who has been studying this matter specially, finds that in the sixteenth century the average duration of life among them was 36.5 years; in the seventeenth, 45.8; in the eighteenth, 49.8; and at present they reach the fabulous average of 56.7. In seeking the cause he finds that the terrible fatal enemies of the physician in the old times were the "Black Pest," smallpox and the extensive epidemics of typhus. The annals of medicine show that the most faithful doctors often fell victims to their own fidelity.

WESTWARD THE tide of population takes its way. Census figures show that in the grand old state of Massachusetts during the past ten years nearly one-half of the towns have lost in population, while in about fifty other towns the gain has been less than an average of ten persons each per year. At this rate it will not be long until the proudest boast of an eastern state will be that the decrease in the number and prosperity of its people is only slight.

IT ISN'T length of years that makes people old. No matter what his age, a person is just exactly as old as he feels.