

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - OCT. 1, 1873.

STEALING FRUIT.

It is not a pleasant thing to recur to infractions of the law and of the proper relations of meum and tuum, but we do it on the impulsion of circumstances, which we had no hand in bringing about, and the like of which every rightminded person regrets. The other day, as is frequently the case now, it was in order to say a word upon the prevalence of burglarious offences. But the thieving propensities of some portions of the community, or some characters who find themselves in the community, extend also to the stealing of fruit. A good deal of fruit of various kinds is raised in this city, and at the cost of much care, labor, and means. Some of our citizens depend upon sales of their fruit to bring them in the wherewith to purchase a few necessities, conveniences or comforts for the winter. How provoking, how aggravating to such industrious citizens it must be to discover, one of these fine mornings, that thieves have broken into their orchard or garden and taken their little but precious harvest of choice ripe fruit, to raise which they had been striving for months and years, and upon the returns for which they had been anxiously and hopefully making calculations for some few needed things towards a comfortable subsistence, or for some long desired additions to their personal apparel or household furnishings and fittings! Yet this is the experience of not a few of our citizens at the present. They can not leave their lots in the day time nor go to sleep in their houses without harassing apprehensions of the rifling of their trees of their loads of fruit in the meantime. Under these circumstances, were offenders discovered in the act of theft and dealt with painfully and summarily, the public sympathy could not help but rest with the victims of the thieves. The other day we heard of a poor widow who had some ripening grapes, to raise which she had toiled and watched, and on the sale of which she was depending for some things which she really needed. But one night her vines were cleared of fruit by these miserable sneak thieves, and the morning found her with her hopes blasted. The thief who steals from the rich is worthy of the punishment due by law, but the thief who steals from the poor and the needy, the widow and the orphan, is worthy not only to be punished with the utmost rigor of the law, but to be despised by the entire community.

There is a way to put a stopper to these orchard thieves, as well as to the burglars, and some of them may find it out one of these nights, unless their seats of honor are iron-clad and pepper proof.

CRISIS AND PANIC.

CRISIS and panic have been the burden of the dispatches for the last few days from the East. The great banking house of Jay Cooke & Co., unable to meet its immediate liabilities, collapsed, and great was the fall of it. The bursting of the *Graphic* balloon proved merely the precursor of the bursting of a far greater financial bubble. As a matter of course when one large firm of the kind falls, others of more or less importance, and in greater or less numbers, must fall also, because they lean more or less upon each other for support.

The reason that any bubble bursts is because it is blown or stretched beyond its capacity of endurance. Undue inflation is the cause of the bursting of most commercial and financial bubbles. Those institutions which eschew dangerous speculations and proceed upon a safe, solid basis, seldom burst—never, except by accident, while the other sort are kept intact chiefly by virtue of fortuitous accidents.

Jay Cooke & Co. came into note during the war, having the sale of the first U.S. bonds and being made the agent of the U. S. Treasury to float its loans, whereby the house became rich. Jay Cooke subsequently became a large stockholder in the N. P. R.R. and finan-

cial agent of the company, making heavy advances to the company, looking to a greater rise in its bonds in Europe than has been realized.

After a time things will settle down again, but the credit of the United States in Europe, already weakened by adverse circumstances, will have another set back from the Jay Cooke failure and the present crisis in the East. There have been the Credit Mobilier, the Erie, the Bowles Brothers, the Emma mine, the Vienna business, the Fremont suit, and other discreditable affairs, which have all helped to lower confidence in American securities and cause the name of America to be in some sort a by-word in Europe.

ABOUT STEALING.

"It is a sin to steal a pin," so the trite old saying ran, and right it was, for stealing is unauthorizedly taking what belongs to another. Consequently, whatever the thing stolen, the act is still theft all the same, and the theft is criminal, morally and statutorily. When a man steals, he is not the less a thief because he has not stolen gold. If he steals a sheep, the act is as certainly criminal as if he had stolen greenbacks, though Indians are apt to consider a little animal stealing much a matter of course, and many white people seem to possess similar easy consciences. To break into a man's house and steal therefrom gold, greenbacks, or goods to the value of \$20 is as much and no more criminal than to break into his orchard or garden and steal therefrom fruit to the value of \$20. Some people think, or act as if they thought otherwise, but they think and act wrongly. A man is just as culpable if he goes into a garden and steals ten pounds of grapes or strawberries, as if he goes into a store and steals ten pounds of sugar, and may be the grapes or strawberries are really worth more in cash than the sugar, and they undoubtedly cost more labor and anxiety and patient waiting in their owner to raise them than the sugar does to the merchant to procure it and place it in his store. Nevertheless, many people are apt to give reason to suppose that they think different to this. Some people seem to imagine that it is something like a joke to step into a garden, and, without the consent of the owner, help themselves to his fruit. But it is no joke to purchase ground, purchase trees, plant and prune them, dig and hoe and irrigate the soil, wait year after year, through summer's heat and winter's cold, through drouth and grasshopper raids, and then, when the trees so cared for begin to make their returns in their luscious fruit, have it taken by some lazy or vicious neighbor, who has not the energy, enterprise, and industry to go to work and raise his own fruit. Such neighbors are thieves as surely as if they robbed a bank and they are as deserving of the felon's brand, so far as the moral character of the offence is concerned, and sometimes so far as the financial extent of the robbery goes.

SUBSIDING.

THE crisis in the East is gradually subsiding, confidence is increasing, and people are beginning to return their money to the care of the banks. It will take a little time for things financial to resume their wonted steadiness, and money may be tight, but after a while they will return to the old ruts in great part, and the wheels of commerce will revolve much as usual, until further reckless speculative driving throws them off the track and out of gear again. It takes a great deal to ruin a country, as witness France and what she has done within a few years to retrieve her financial disasters. America is such a vast country, with such wonderful resources of various kinds, resources not half developed, not begun to be developed, that there is probably no other country under the sun that could endure such strains and recover so quickly and completely therefrom as can this country. Many of her foremost men are corrupt, undoubtedly and extremely so, and recklessly extravagant with other people's means. But the resources of the country are practically inexhaustible, and therefore the country may defy even the high-handed corruption in it to utterly ruin it. But it will suffer grievously

from such corruption before it is eliminated from the body politic, and though there is reason to grieve at some things, yet there is none to despair, for all things will eventually work together for good.

ANOTHER BALLOONATIC.

Now it is Barnum, the irrepressible, who has become possessed with the desire to "go up in a balloon," or rather see somebody else go up and start for across the Atlantic. Our exchanges say P. T. B. is determined that the experiment shall be fairly tried, if not under the auspices of the *Graphic* people, then under his own, though it cost half a hundred thousand dollars. Barnum, having always an ambition to succeed wherein others have failed, is thus represented as writing to the papers on this flighty subject—

In reply to a host of letters from all parts of the country, I wish to say that if a balloon does not cross the Atlantic the present autumn, I will expend \$50,000, if necessary, in having that feat attempted, and, if possible, accomplished, as early next year as may be, provided one or more aeronauts can be found in America or Europe who have faith in its success and will heartily attempt its accomplishment. Mr. Green, the English balloonist, who has made upwards of six hundred ascensions, told me in London twenty-eight years ago that he had no doubt the Atlantic could be safely crossed in a balloon in from two to three days, and he offered to attempt it if I would provide the funds. I am already in correspondence with several aeronauts in France and England, and although I shall prefer to have the honor given to an American, I have no doubt that the great feat will be accomplished within a twelve-month. I shall have the silk material manufactured in China, put together and prepared under the direction of scientific men in London, an experimental ascension made from the Sydenham Crystal Palace grounds, then bring the balloon to America, and make the trans-Atlantic trip from New York. I trust the public will believe that if I put my hand to the plough I shall not look back.

P. T. BARNUM.

BRADLAUGH IN NEW YORK.

CHARLES BRADLAUGH arrived at New York from England on the 17th of September and rested at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. In the evening he was visited and interviewed by a reporter of the New York *Herald*. Bradlaugh is sensationally heralded by the *Herald* as "the future president of England," and is further spoken of as the "first president of the English republic," with, however, the shrewd addition of "when it has come to perfection," as the "future Washington," or rather Jefferson, of Old England," also as the "greatest agitator Great Britain has seen since the days of O'Connell," the "legitimate successor of Ernest Jones," who, by the by, was a gentleman, of being which probably no one, who has ever heard Bradlaugh, has ever accused him. The *Herald* further states that this agitator's "name has often pained the arm of the English Government." These are statements which intelligent Englishmen would meet with a smile. But here is the sensational description of the gentleman from that paper—

The personal appearance of the man would make him noticeable in any assemblage of his peers where the English tongue is spoken. Over six feet in height, with a loose, swaying gait, and his chest like the breast of an ox; his large blue eyes, brown hair, which thickly clusters back of his ears; his fair, ruddy skin; and his thoroughly athletic proportions, bespeak him as the pure-blooded Saxon Franklin, who from the days of Runnymede has been habitually creating trouble for the oppressor and the bloated aristocrat. This is the man who leads and has led for twenty-five years the ever-growing masses of the people in England who pray for a republic of law and order, and whose prayers, if successful, must entail the downfall of the English lauded aristocracy. This man is the greatest agitator Great Britain has seen since the days of O'Connell, and his nature is the same "peaceful and incessant agitation." Bradlaugh is the legitimate successor of Ernest Jones and Richard Carlisle, and his name has often pained the arm of the English government. He has been lucky enough to be surrounded by such men as Charles Watts, Foote, E. Truelove, William McCall, Austin Holyoake, Haines, Charles Murray, Beales, Charles Herbert, Ogier, Richard Deane and many others in the Republican Movement.

He is further represented as closely shaven, weighing about 210 pounds, and in personal appearance somewhat resembling the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, only more massive in appearance.

Bradlaugh is represented as saying, in answer to the queries of the reporter, that there are in England over 200 efficiently organized and thoroughly and avowedly republican clubs, openly in favor of a republican form of government for England, of the rules of which

clubs he was the careful framer, and of most of which he was a member. He was also President of the London Republican Club, and a member of the Executive Council of the National Republican League of England. The policy of his party was to agitate and promote republicanism, by constitutional means only. His supporters were chiefly the artisans, mechanics, miners and operatives of Birmingham, Sheffield, Nottingham, Manchester, Rochdale, Back-up Valley, Northumberland, Durham, London, etc. In Scotland were many republican members, and 40 or 50 clubs, but no good organization. At the last municipal election at Norwich a complete list of republican candidates was presented for the first time in the history of England, with what effect, however, does not appear. Bradlaugh was well acquainted with Castelar, who was an old and warm friend, one of the most honest, thorough, and loyal republicans, Mazzini was B.'s friend twelve years, and Garibaldi had written him a letter of thanks for his efforts to promote republicanism in Italy. He utterly repudiated the initiative of force in any political or social movement to attack wrong in any country where parliamentary government obtained. He favored home rule for Ireland, but would not support it if it meant the separation of authority between the two nations. He had no objection to more than one parliament, but he believed in federation. There must be some centre of imperial authority, and for the British Islands that centre naturally was London. The most hostility to republicanism in England was among the territorial aristocracy and the clergy of the Established Church.

The *Times* was the only English paper that treated him fairly. The *Times* hit hard, but it was just to him in some things. The *Saturday Review* and the *Figaro* (published by an American) he beat into silence. There were 15,000,000 acres of good land held in parks, preserves, and domains in England, and if it were thrown open to cultivation the English people need not emigrate. The English did not think Caesarism possible in America. Bradlaugh thought the French government under Mac Mahon would not stand. Mac Mahon himself said to M. Pinard, "I am only the cork" of the French bottle.

Mr. Bradlaugh intended to give his first lecture, Oct. 3, at Steinway Hall, on "The Impeachment of the House of Brunswick," etc., and if he was not successful with the New Yorkers he should start back to England on the 4th. But he had a message from the English to the American people, and he was sure if the latter heard him once they would go again. Nothing like a mission and a message. That's what has held a certain judiciary up, right or wrong, and also in spite of acknowledged wrong.

The above may be Bradlaugh's sentiments or may be not, as some of the "interviews" narrated in the New York *Herald* are believed to be purely imaginary. Bradlaugh is a thorough infidel, which gives him some weight among sceptics in England, but operates very forcibly against him with most of those people who believe in religion. He was first known to the reading and lecture-hearing public of England as "Iconoclast," his name Bradlaugh being concealed and little known, and his literary and oratorical efforts being almost confined to attacks upon religion. But of late years he has written and lectured under the name of Bradlaugh, and while losing no opportunity of giving religion and religionists a vigorous kick, he has devoted his energies chiefly to political matters, and especially to attacking aristocracy and monarchy and advocating radical republicanism. He comes to America to make capital in this same republican cause.

THE NATHAN MURDER.

IN July, 1870, one of the most atrocious and mysterious crimes that was ever committed in this or any other country was perpetrated in the city of New York. We allude to the Nathan murder. The victim was a wealthy banker, who was found dead with his throat cut in his sleeping room in his dwelling house.

Among the peculiarities connected with this crime was the fact that no struggle had been heard by the porter of the mansion, the door

of the room in which the crime was committed was locked, and there was little about the room to indicate that a struggle had taken place, and no clue whatever was left of the murderer or murderers.

Suspicion, for a time, seemed to point to one of the sons of the deceased as the murderer, but no confirmatory circumstance was ever disclosed to fasten the guilt upon him. The most skilled detectives were set to work, inspired by the promise of a large reward, to discover the guilty, if possible, and soon one Billy Forrester, whether a real or mythical desperado never seems to have been decided, was prominently mentioned, and various circumstances were pointed to, seeming to indicate that he was the murderer. But strange to say, although his name was repeated so often in connection with this mysterious crime, nobody could ever discover his whereabouts, and in attempting to discover it the utmost cunning and sagacity of the most expert members of the detective force was baffled. Now he had crossed the ocean and was in Scotland, and a detective was on the track; then he was in Arkansas, and again the ministers of the law were after him, but they were ever a day too late, all their efforts to bag the game failed, and finally the pursuit seems to have been given up as well as all thought of discovery.

Public interest in this subject has recently been re-awakened in the east, and an opinion now prevails that justice is at last on the track of the Nathan murderer. This is not founded on any discovery made by the officers of justice, but on the confession of a man named Irving now in custody in San Francisco.

Some three months or more ago this individual confessed that he was the murderer of Mr. Nathan, and word to that effect was sent to the authorities in New York. But it was received with a good deal of incredulity. It was admitted that a man of that name, whose family is still in New York, was formerly known to the police there, but he was only a "fourth-rate" burglar; and the knowing ones in Gotham are said to have expressed the opinion that a man of so low a status in the criminal profession as a fourth-rate burglar, would never have the courage to commit a crime of such magnitude as the Nathan murder, and that the so-called confession was nothing but a ruse on the part of Irving to get a cheap ride from the Pacific to his home in New York city. The mention of certain circumstances by Irving has, however, tended to shake this belief, and it is now thought that if he is not the murderer he certainly knows more about it than some other folks, and investigations made since his confession was made, show that the day before Mr. Nathan was assassinated, Irving, then in custody on a charge of burglary, was discharged on a writ of *habeas corpus*.

The telegrams, to-day, state that two of the smartest of the New York detectives have arrived in San Francisco, sent thither for the purpose of taking charge of Irving. The action of the New York authorities in sending officers to the Pacific for this man will arouse public interest in the matter to a very high pitch; and it seems probable that, at last, the mystery which has for more than three years surrounded this terrible crime will be cleared away, and its perpetrators convicted and punished.

A NICE REGIMENT.—The 11th regiment, New York militia, went out to Prospect Park, Brooklyn, for a field day, September 18, and while there a mutiny arose in the regiment, and those of the men who did not escape on the way were escorted back into New York as prisoners by the Third Cavalry, the Eighty-fourth Infantry, and a detachment of police, and lodged in jail. The ostensible cause of the mutiny was the unpopularity of the colonel, but it is said that the real cause was liquor. A searching investigation is called for, also the disbandment of the regiment, the newspapers commenting upon the affair as the most disgraceful that has occurred in the entire history of the New York militia.

— A prudent man is like a pin—his head prevents him from going too far.