

the street accomplish? Yesterday and today a force of men are engaged in the amusing and altogether harmless business of filling up Tenth South street between Third and Fifth East. To say nothing of the folly of dumping dry mud at a point where there is already too much of the wet variety—thus making a bad matter worse—the object seems to be to make the water channel, which is already too narrow, still narrower. Evidently there is no thought of or care for the property along the outer side of the contracted canal; if the beautiful streets can only be built up high and dry, or even high without being dry, the trick is done, the problem solved, the danger averted, full security restored. In other words, there seems to be a feeling that the only fear of the News and of others who have expressed themselves on the question is that the street might perchance be submerged. We suggest that a person who can be so culpably shortsighted as this—who can see no further, in other words, than the track along which his horse trots and his buggy rolls—is hardly one to be entrusted with the care of people's property in an official capacity. He is too costly a hand to retain under any circumstances; for he not only spends time and money at places where there can be no basis for suits for damages, but he also, by this very course, increases the danger to those places where suits may appropriately lie.

Is there no one in the city's employ who has the authority and the courage to order the closed canals to be reopened? That is the remedy, and the only one that can be made effective this season. If real estate speculators without permission have filled up the channels that have been found useful in the past, let them be compelled to restore them at once. If they have done it with permission, let the city do the work of re-excavation itself. This would be a confession of error, it is true; but we have reached a point where nothing could be better for the municipal soul than such a confession. The blunder has been made; everybody knows it; why make ourselves ridiculous by attempting to conceal it?

THE LORD RULES.

The laws according to which atmospheric changes are effected are apparently among the most difficult to ascertain. The student of nature is puzzled, to account for the difference in temperature in the same locality during the same seasons of the year. One is at a loss to understand why the spring should be late one year and early another, or why snow and rain should be copious one year and almost fall during the corresponding period of the next. That the laws on which these changes depend are but imperfectly understood is evidenced by the fact that nearly all "forecasts" prove most unreliable. The unphilosophical observer is likely to ascribe it all to chance, which, however, is no explanation at all; while those whose minds penetrate a little farther perceive that there must be laws governing even the weather—causes of which the atmospheric changes are but "natural" effects.

It is interesting to notice the position of the writers of the Bible upon this subject. These were men who in many instances give evidence of a most remarkably intimate knowledge of nature as well as familiarity with the Creator of nature. They were men of all degrees of learning and social standing, and various gifts and accomplishments. Among them were poets, historians, lawgivers, kings, shepherds, orators, statesmen, but all agree in representing the weather and its laws as under the control and superintendence of God.

A few quotations will illustrate this:

Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving who covers the heaven with clouds, who prepares rain for the earth, who makes grass grow upon the mountains. He gives snow like wool; He scatters hoarfrost like ashes; He casts forth His ice like morsels; who can stand before His cold? *Psalm cxlvii: 7-17.*

Let us fear the Lord our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in His season. He reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest. *Jer. v: 24.*

Seismic disturbances are in the same way represented as being under the Lord's control:

He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers. Basan languisheth; and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languisheth. The mountains quake at Him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at His presence, yea the world, and all that dwell therein. Who can stand before His indignation, and who can abide in the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by Him. *Nab. i: 4-6.*

From the New Testament writers we quote:

He maketh His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and unjust. *Matth. v: 45.*

Nevertheless He left not Himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons. *Acts. xiv: 17.*

This philosophy may not explain the immediate causes of rain, snow and frost. It leaves that an open field to diligent research. But it certainly gives the most satisfactory account of the first cause of it, the source to which honest inquiry will ultimately lead the student, and it gives the devout heart ample food for contemplation. God's rule extends to all departments of His wonderful creation.

In this connection it may not be out of the way to recall the fact that the closing scenes of this dispensation are by ancient prophets described as remarkable for unusual atmospheric disturbances. To refer only to one of them—John the Revelator (chap. 16) describes these scenes in a remarkably vivid manner, under the representation of seven angels pouring out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. These vials are represented as affecting the sea, the rivers, the sun, etc. The results are to be seen in epidemics, excessive heat, drought, floods, earthquakes, as well as wars and commotions among the inhabitants of the earth. The language used by the Revelator reminds so much of the history of the exodus of Israel from Egypt as to warrant the expectation that the wonders performed there will

be repeated at the end of our era on a much larger scale. And when it is understood that the Creator governs in all things, the predictions given in this respect assume an importance that should command the attention of the whole world.

A FITFUL OPENING.

The World's Fair was looked forward to as the "top blossom and culmination" of the quietude and concord presumably prevailing among and between the nations. In it were to be exhibited the triumphs of peace, no less renowned than those of war, and man was to meet his fellow man from other shores in friendly, not hostile rivalry. And as if to aid in so delightful a situation and make the show and the concourse a picture of peace on earth and good will to man such as would cause those disposed to quarrel to feel ashamed of themselves and forever afterwards to hold their peace, the softening touch of woman and the soothing influence of melody were invoked and applied. It looked as though all was to be placid, serene and lovely as the first blush of a June morning when the skies are cloudless and the zephyrs so gentle that the rustle of the leaflets blending with the carols of the winged songsters lull the listener to a reposeful stillness. But it didn't work that way by several lengths.

The first note of discord—apart from the hammering and sawing going on in the unfinished buildings of course—came from the man who was never before known to produce one. He is a Pole, with Circassian hair and a name which begins in Ireland, continues in France and ends in Russia—Paderewski. He has been playing on one particular piano (at \$1000 per play) for several years, and will use no other, while the fair arrangements call for another; hence a difficulty which we believe was finally bridged over, but it was warm for a time. Then came Theodore Thomas with a speculative turn of mind and a disposition to make the most of his opportunities, resulting in the effort, perhaps successful, to boycott certain brands of musical instruments. And last, but by no means least, we are shocked with an account of discontent breaking out into wrangling and division among the fair sex in the women's building! To such an extent did this go that the president, Mrs. Potter Palmer, had to visit her displeasure upon the contending forces and announce her intention of resigning unless there was a surcease of such sorrowful things forthwith—and then the women all cried and vowed to be more harmonious thereafter. The tears settled in and that particular drawback was set aside.

It is not patriotic to anticipate misfortune at such a time and place, but it must be confessed that the big show opened out rather inauspiciously. Perhaps, however, it will be a case of a bad beginning and a good ending; we hope so, anyway.

A daily stage line will be running during the summer from Rock Springs to Atlantic, Wyo., for the accommodation of the traveling public.