

The measure is quite a lengthy one, and embraces many other radical changes in the present mode of doing business in the great marts of this country. It also embodies severe punitive provisions for violation of the law. It passed the House by 167 yeas to 46 nays, 118 not voting.

THE MAD MONARCH.

A RECENT issue of the *Cologne Gazette* announces that the condition of the mad King of Bavaria—Otto I—is now merely vegetative; that he is unable to distinguish persons in his familiar entourage, and that his attendants have the greatest difficulty in getting him to take food—a condition of things which seems to indicate steady progression toward the inevitable and gloomy finale.

This is one of the most peculiar cases within the records of the materia medica. Of course the eminent station of the patient adds importance to the subject; but divested of kingliness and all other extraneous considerations, it is still a peculiar, almost a mystifying one. What caused it? Gradual disintegration of the brain tissues? Most likely; but this does but give rise to another and just as perplexing a problem—What caused the disintegration? We have not heard it described as organic, a weakness of creation, because the symptoms, if we are correctly informed, did not manifest themselves in early life but developed only a few years ago.

Perhaps the following extract from a recent article on this subject may throw some light upon it: "The king is extremely fond of cigarettes and smokes more than thirty a day. Every time he lights a cigarette he burns a whole box of matches, and seems to enjoy the noise and the flame."

The poisonous smoke of thirty of those things every day being drawn to and saturating the salivary glands and searing the pores of the mouth should, in the natural course of things, produce death within a more or less measured time corresponding with the physical ability of the victim to resist the baneful influence. Insanity would almost surely take place at an early stage, and what death more to be dreaded than that which is preceded by the complete occultation of the mind? We have not heard of the King's condition being ascribed to this cause; but that the loathsome and devouring habit is enlarging the malady and hastening the tragic denouement, there can be no manner of doubt.

NEEDS NO PUBLIC ENCOURAGEMENT

ON last Tuesday, June 21, something new occurred in this locality. The leading business houses closed their establishments in order that all hands connected with them might attend the races. This is the first instance in the history of this city of a closing day for such a purpose.

Looking at the subject from the standpoint of the conservation of the public good, the propriety of the step was, in our view, questionable. We agree with the plea put forth by some people that horse-racing, pure and

simple, is not necessarily demoralizing. On the contrary it is probably altogether harmless. It is, however, in its actual condition all over the world, associated with gambling, and more or less drinking, and draws together a great many vile characters, as well as people who are unquestionably respectable and good.

It may be argued that people can attend such occasions without being affected with the baser concomitants connected with them. Doubtless many have strength of character to go anywhere without having their moral sentiments or desires tainted in the least. This is not, however, the invariable rule. The effect in numbers of cases is liable to be the opposite of this.

What we wish to insist upon is that any public act that will induce the people of this community to enter and swim down the current of pleasure-seeking, and that might lead some into paths of danger, is of questionable propriety. Any person who has lived a good while in Utah will conclude, on a moment's reflection, that the popular trend in that direction has been for several years sufficiently impulsive without any assistance of any character whatever. In thus commenting we run the risk of being deemed, in this respect, out of the prevailing drift, and consequently foggyish. Be that as it may, it is better to be right and regarded as odd, than to be actually aside from the proper line and be popularly esteemed.

Horse-racing has grown in this Territory until even the smaller settlements have become infected with the spirit of it. Occasionally we, in consequence, are called upon to record the fact that some young fellow in the bloom of life has come to an untimely end, by meeting with an accident by which his neck was broken. It is sometimes also the painful duty of this journal to refer to quarrels, the result of betting and drunkenness that have sprung from this species of amusement. But, as we have already admitted, these are not necessary adjuncts to this species of sport, although so frequently associated with it.

Coming back to the point of closing business establishments on account of a horse-race, what must be the legitimate effect of such a step? Necessarily to popularize the sport and give it an aspect of legitimacy that, in its present status, few will have the temerity to insist properly belongs to it. We believe in employers being mindfully generous to their employees, in the way of tendering them opportunities for the recreation they need. But in order to do this it is not necessary to hold into prominence a species of pleasure-hunting which ought not to be cultivated.

As a matter of course these remarks have reference to people belonging to the community of Latter-day Saints. Incidentally, others may take them by a process of self-application, if they wish.

History teaches this lesson, if it teaches anything; that an inordinate disposition toward frivolity and pleasure-seeking indicates a corresponding decay of those solid, sterling qualities which render a community or nation great.

A LONG AND GOOD REIGN.

ON Monday last Queen Victoria had reigned over Great Britain fifty-five years, this being equaled by only two sovereigns of that country—Henry VIII, who held the throne a few months longer than the Queen so far has, and George III, who occupied it sixty years. It is also the case that but two other British sovereigns have lived to the age acquired by Victoria—George II, seventy-seven, and George III, eighty-two, while there is but one living sovereign, so far as known, whose age equals hers, he being the King of Denmark, and his age seventy-four, a year or thereabout more. Albert, the Queen's husband, died thirty-one years and six months ago.

THOSE WIGWAM INCIDENTS.

THE mishaps that occurred in connection with the late National Democratic Convention at Chicago are unparalleled by any occurrences of the kind associated with a similar body in the history of the nation. The forerunner of those discomfiting incidents was the partial unroofing, by a cyclone, of the wigwam before the Convention convened. During its session the deafening thunder rolled overhead, while the rain poured through the flimsy roof, drenching the assembled multitude. Then came the breaking of the electric light attachments, the crashing of the fragments upon the heads of the members of the New York delegation and the terror which these circumstances inspired, a panic and consequent disaster being barely prevented by the more cool-headed of the men who comprised the great throng. Those who believe in omens will be likely to speculate upon these occurrences as portentous in their relation to the future.

DESTRUCTIVE FLOODS.

THE dispatches from the East contain lamentable details of floods and rain storms. Today it is reported that Chicago, the Convention city, is in a dire condition, the result of continued floods for the past few weeks. It looks as if the United States was becoming remarkable for its floods, as well as other elemental disasters.

Calamities of this nature are not unknown in history. According to Piny and Tacitus the most destructive floods ever known occurred in Europe about the time of Christ. The Celts, which in prehistoric Western Europe dominated the countries from the Atlantic to the mouth of the Danube, were compelled, by reason of floods along the western ocean, to move into Northern Italy. In the North about the same time terrible floods drove the Teutonic tribes to the South. Rome suffered severely from floods from about 44 B. C. to A. D. 70. In that city plague and pestilence invariably followed the inundations from the Tiber. About 60 A. D. France and England suffered a great deal from floods.

The present century is especially remarkable for its floods. In 1631 7000