

and all parts of the stomach are brought into view by a small movable mirror at the end of the tube."

Another application of electricity for physicians is the electro-cautery lancet or loop by which the principle of electric heating is applied to surgical operations. The instrument consists of a loop of fine platinum wire mounted in a rubber handle, through which connecting wires pass. These wires are led to a battery, the current from which follows the wires, and keeps the platinum loop white-hot. The heat is inside the wire, as it were, and can be regulated to any intensity, and kept there during an operation without withdrawing the instrument for re-heating.

The newly-discovered method of sending and receiving telegraphic messages to and from a train in rapid motion, is thus described:

"The surprising feature of this invention is that there is no connection between the train and telegraph wire beside the track, over which the messages travel to the station after jumping from the car to the wire. The message is telegraphed from inside the car to the tin roof of the car, and reaches the regular telegraph wire along the track by means of lines of force which each signal throws through the air as soon as it reaches the roof. The signals created in the main line in this way are much fainter than the ordinary telegraph signals—a difficulty, however, which is easily overcome by using more sensitive receiving instruments. The operation of telegraphing to the car is carried on in the same way. The message is sent along the line, and imparts a slight electrical effect to the metallic car roof at each signal. The weak signals thus produced in the car roof are listened to with a delicate receiving instrument in the hands of the operator. As the main line wire is parallel with the track, it makes no difference where the car is, and as the action of electricity is almost immeasurably quick, it makes no difference how rapidly the car is moving. The only special construction required to adapt a line for use with this system is that the wire be strung on rather short poles so as to bring it near the roofs of the cars. The instruments for the operator on the train are portable, and are arranged to be held in the lap like a writing table."

Electricity is now applied to the welding of iron, the operation being rendered much more perfect than by the old method; and new uses for this wonderful force are being discovered almost daily. To what purposes man may yet succeed in subserving it, is a subject for almost unlimited imaginative conjecture.

IS ANARCHISM DEFUNCT?

SINCE shortly after the execution of the Chicago anarchists there has been a lull in the agitations of that dangerous fraternity. This aspect has caused a feeling of security to supervene. The subject no longer appears on the surface to be one of national importance. The idea prevails to a large extent that anarchism was killed when the Chicago men were hanged.

As a consequence, general interest in the topic seems to have died out. As evidence of the general apathy, it may be noted that neither Congress nor any of the States have passed any legislation suited to promptly and adequately crush any violent demonstration that might be inaugurated by the dangerous class to which reference is now made.

It may well be considered whether the present lull is not the calm that is the prelude of a storm more violent and destructive than any that has yet struck the ship of state. It would be pertinent to enquire whether anarchism has passed from its incipient to its most dangerous aspect? Have its votaries learned a lesson other than that popularly desired as the result of the Chicago tragedies? The impression sought to be stamped upon them was that they could not carry out their petriotic designs in this country under any circumstances. A probable lesson taught them was, however, that in order for their conspiracies to carry, they must change their mode of procedure. Instead of loud mouthings, threats and expositions of what they intended doing, have they resolved upon the greatest possible secrecy, meanwhile laying the lines deep and secure in order to spring an outbreak upon the public much after the manner of a sudden thunder storm when not a cloud is to be observed overhead, and no adequate preparations are made to meet its contingencies?

It is a question as to whether anarchism is not more to be feared in its silent aspect than when it assumed a noisy, blatant and braggadocious demeanor. It is not the barking dog that is the most dangerous, it is the brute whose nature is impregnated with suppressed ferocity, who creeps silently up to the intended victim and inserts his fangs in his flesh before he is aware of his presence. So in relation to men; it is not he who is outspoken and open, but the silent, scheming, determined villain who is most to be feared.

Are the anarchists at work? Is an important question. If so there need be no explanation of their purpose. The probability is strongly in favor of the affirmative. The events of history are against the proposition that the

results of the Chicago affair crushed the anarchical spirit out of the hearts of the votaries of the fraternity. The more violent symptoms of the disease that had taken hold of the body politic were probably suppressed for the time being, but the virus remained in the vitals, liable to break forth symptomatically with tenfold greater force at a more advanced stage of the malady.

Several months ago it was telegraphed all over the country that a representative of one of the South American Republics claimed to be familiar with the doings and intentions of the anarchists in this country, and that they had formulated a plot for a general outbreak in the winter of 1889. If any such intention exists, there will be outcroppings of the scheme, as there are sure to be men in the secret order who will divulge the conspiracy. If such exhibits are not of a strikingly probable character on their face, it is likely that but little attention will be paid to them.

The American magazine announces that its May number will contain an article upon this important theme. It vouches for the respectability and reliability of the writer, who asserts that the people of the United States are living upon a slumbering volcano, liable to burst forth with appalling and destructive violence. If his statements are entitled to credit, then indeed anarchism is not only not defunct, but has taken on a silent and consequently more subtle and deadly phase.

What lends plausibility to this belief is that many of the votaries of the sinister fraternity are capable as well as determined men, characters who are of such calibre that they would not hesitate to sacrifice their own lives if by so doing they could assure the success of their objects. If they are still working, they are operating in the dark and toward a purpose that means no good to the commonwealth. In that case the design is to precipitate calamity upon existing social conditions at a time when an outbreak is least anticipated. Should those within their own ranks divulge the time for carrying the plan into execution, it will be easy for them to delay the tragic performance to another date, until a feeling of general security again sets in.

It is probable that the forthcoming article in the American will have the effect of again setting inquiry afoot regarding this remarkable phase of modern times.

INTELLIGENCE GOD'S GIFT, NOT MAN'S.

A CORRESPONDENT of the News, writing from St. George under a recent date, referring to a remark made by Bishop Whitney in his sermon at the Tabernacle on the 25th of March, says:

"In your issue of March 30, 1888, Bishop O. F. Whitney is made to say, in his address to the Saints, March 25th, at the Tabernacle: 'The school teacher can give no intelligence to his pupil; he can only operate upon what is there.' Perhaps the Bishop can explain, or may be the clerk did not get it correct, as the speaker intended. There are a few of us that would like a light on this strange sentence."

We think we can shed the light desired by our correspondent without much trouble. In the first place let us explain that in a synopsis of a speaker's remarks, which is necessarily condensed, a newspaper does not always give the exact language in which he expresses himself, though aiming to do so as far as practicable, but contents itself with the gist of the utterance, containing the thought, as tersely worded as may be. In the address referred to, Bishop Whitney's exact words, so far as the sentence quoted is concerned, were these: "The teacher gives to his pupil not an ounce of brain, not a spark of intelligence; he only assists to develop what is there." In lieu of this, the reporter wrote: "The school-teacher can give no intelligence to his pupil; he can only operate upon what is there," the words quoted by our correspondent.

We must say, in all candor, that we see nothing very "strange" in this sentence; it simply expresses a truth; and which ever version is taken, the meaning is precisely the same. Intelligence, in the sense used by the speaker, is defined by Webster as follows: "The capacity to know, understand, or comprehend; the intellect as a gift or endowment."

Does our correspondent wish it understood that he regards this intelligence, this "capacity to know," as "a gift or endowment" from the teacher to the pupil? As well might it be said that the life within the tree, by which it blossoms and bears fruit, is the gift of the gardener who digs about its roots, prunes and trims its branches, waters it, or plants it where the sun may shine upon it and assist to develop its growth. This same simile, or one like it, was used by the Bishop in connection with the other, in illustrating the principle of "salvation from within"—the necessity of a living faith in the hearts of the Saints, as their means of salvation and deliverance from their troubles.

No; intelligence is the gift of God, not man. It is the light of truth, which, according to the word of the Lord through the Prophet Joseph "was not created or made, neither indeed can be." It is the light that lighteth every man that cometh into the

world, and is the "gift or endowment" of the Great Creator unto His offspring throughout the universe. Man cannot give it, any more than he can take it away. Even God did not create it, neither can it be destroyed; but it is capable of endless growth, expansion and development, by means of the experiences through which He ordains it shall pass. The teacher helps to develop it in his pupil, but he does not and can not impart it, it must be there in the brain before the teacher's work can be made effectual.

Now it is true that, in an inferior sense, intelligence is defined as "knowledge imparted or acquired" and this is doubtless the meaning placed upon it by our esteemed correspondent. But this is the fifth definition given by Webster to the word intelligence. Did our friend consult his dictionary before writing, or did he overlook the first four definitions, which have the precedence in the pages of the lexiconographer? Could he, "on this fair mountain, leave to feed, and batten on this moor?"

In order to get "a light" on any subject, it is best not to be too technical. A sentence isolated from its subject, may appear to have a far different meaning than when united with it. A nose, an eye, or an ear, gives a better idea of its significance and appears to much better advantage in its place, as a part of the human form divine, than when detached therefrom. We should always read and listen with due regard to the intention of a writer or speaker, as interpreted by reason and consistency. "The letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life."

TRUSTS.

WITHIN the last year the word "trust," used in a new sense, has frequently appeared in commercial literature. Well informed business men understand what the term means, but the masses of newspaper readers have but a vague idea of what it signifies. As is well known, during the last few years competition among manufacturers and the producers of merchantable commodities, has grown sharper and more vigorous. The result has been such a declination in prices as to make profits small or impossible. In order to prevent such results manufacturers have sought to combine by entering into agreements to sell only at certain prices, or through a common agent. But members of such compacts were continually violating them. The courts would not enforce contracts of such a character, the sentiment of business honor was not strong enough to maintain the combinations, and this plan to forestall competition had to be abandoned.

Next came the "trust," as a stronger form of combination. In a small work written by William M. Cook, Esq., a member of the New York bar, the following definition is given:

"A 'trust' is a combination of many competing concerns under one management, which thereby reduces the cost, regulates the amount of production, and increases the price for which the article is sold. It is either a monopoly or an endeavor to establish a monopoly. Its purpose is to make large profits by decreasing cost, limiting production, and increasing the price to the consumer. This it accomplishes by presenting to competitors the alternative of joining the 'Trust' or being crushed out. Its organization is intricate, secret and subtle. It is a masterpiece of modern ingenuity and fertility of resource. It is a product of the highest order of business talent and executive ability. It is at once a monument to American genius and a symbol of American rapacity."

"The term 'trust' is popularly applied to all methods of effecting a combination in trade. It is used to designate not only the most recent development and approved method of forming the combination, but also the primitive and crude contracts called 'pools.'"

"And indeed there are few 'trusts' exactly alike in their construction. They vary in their organization, according to the property involved, the objects to be attained, and the willingness of the parties to place their property in the hands of others."

"The latest, and, perhaps, the most efficient method of organizing the 'Trust' is for each of the parties to incorporate his own establishment. The stock of these various corporations is then turned over to certain persons called trustees. In payment therefor the trustees issue to each party 'trust' certificates, similar to shares of stock in corporations. Sometimes each party receives from the trustees a bond secured by a mortgage on his own establishment, and also receives 'trust' certificates in payment for the 'good-will' of his business. By these exchanges the trustees hold a majority of the stock of each of the separate corporations. The trustees thereby elect the directors, place their agents in charge, prevent all clashing of interests, and so control the market. They then have the power to cause one concern to be closed, limit the production of another, consolidate the different establishments, or centralize production at one point. The various parties are not injured, since their part of the profits comes from the whole 'trust,' and not from their particular establishment. The trustees are elected annually by the certificate-

holders. The 'trust' certificates themselves are 'watered' up to a point where the vast profits of the 'trust' will make only a reasonable dividend on all the trust certificates which have been issued. Sometimes the various parties turn over to the 'trust' only a majority of the stock of the several corporations composing the combination. This plan, however, interferes with the shutting down of some of the concerns, and, in various ways, is not conducive to harmony."

This writer describes at some length various other forms of trusts, their modes of operation, etc., but the main principles involved in all of them are set forth in the above quotation. Of the general nature of the trust he says:

"It is well calculated to baffle investigation and work out its scheme secretly, silently and effectively. Its structure bears witness to the ingenuity displayed in its construction. It is a labyrinth that is a puzzle to the investor and a peril to the public. It controls the wealth and concentrated power of a corporation, but avoids the publicity and restraints which a wise public policy has placed upon corporate acts. It is a skillfully constructed machine. Whether or not it is legal, and whether or not it should be permitted to continue and exist, remains yet to be seen."

With considerable ability Mr. Cook discusses the legality of trusts, and reaches the conclusion that the only ground upon which they can be nullified by the courts is that of public policy. Whether they can be destroyed upon this ground is, he says, a question not easily nor quickly determined, and he predicts that it will be one over which there will be much litigation and contrary decisions in different states. He, however, cites a number of decisions which tend very strongly against such commercial combinations as the modern trust. Mr. Cook's work is published by L. K. Strouse & Co., 45 Nassau Street, New York (price 50 cents), and is entitled "Trusts." It is well worth reading by all interested in the subject.

The jurist may be in doubt as to the legality of trusts, but the statesman will not question their dangerous tendency, nor the necessity of preventing them. They are designed to increase the already enormous power of wealth, and enable its owners to bear down still more heavily upon the masses, by reducing the wages they earn, and increasing the cost of the necessities they consume.

PROPOSED CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAN NATIONS.

A LATE telegram from Washington says: "Mr. McCreary of Kentucky submitted the conference report upon the bill authorizing the President to arrange a conference between the United States and the South and Central American republics, Hayti, San Domingo and the empire of Brazil. The report was agreed to."

A plan similar to this, having in view a general conference of all the American nations was advanced in 1881 by Blaine, then Secretary of State under the Garfield administration. Garfield, it is said, was attached to the scheme; but nothing was done until Arthur, acknowledging the wisdom of the measure, caused formal invitations after Blaine's form of draft, to be forwarded to all the American governments, summoning them to a continental peace conference to be held at Washington the ensuing year. Here the matter stopped and nothing further came of it. For reasons never fully explained, a counter order was soon sent out recalling the letters of invitation.

It is to be hoped that the present effort will not similarly fall short of its aims; but that a Congress of the Republics of America will be summoned under the patronage of this government, with a view to settle in the future all difficulties by arbitration; to promote trade; and, if found advisable under a better understanding of things, to enter into such treaties or alliances as will more fully develop and exemplify in practice the broadest principles of the Monroe doctrine.

The Monroe doctrine, so called from its first enunciator, which many statesmen have tested with their philosophy and have long clung to in their advocacy, is not without special claims for admiration. Principally it contends against all foreign intervention with the republics on this hemisphere. The reasons are apparent. The political system of the Old World being so essentially different from the system prevailing in the New, that any attempt of Europeans to extend their political polity to any part of this hemisphere would be dangerous to our own peace and safety. Our nation, besides, is devoted to the advocacy and maintenance, by its moral power, of those principles of free government which should be so constantly cherished.

There are material interests, also, that might follow from such a counciling together of nations. A better understanding between us and our neighbor governments as to our physical relations, our natural resources and our social dispositions, would ensure that trust and friendly feeling which alone can conduce to the fullest development of commerce. The ex-

tension of our commerce is most desirable. We have a broad country, blessed by Providence with a wonderful variety of soil and products; but we have still to obtain many valuable products from the Central and South American States. As it now is the balance of trade with these countries is largely against us; and it would be one of the good effects of an international conference to direct much of the trade now monopolized by our rivals of Europe, from its present channels and into American ports. An increased demand for our manufactures would naturally follow, and the resultant era of prosperity may be something more tangible than a speculative dream.

But the sordid love for gain ought not to be, and probably is not the sole, nor the principal moving force for the measure now under consideration in Congress. A higher principle argues for the success of the enterprise. Every humane and philanthropic sentiment demands that the customary resort to war for the solution of international disputes should now give place to more Christian-like methods. Arbitration should take the place of the sword. Besides it must not be forgotten that the American republics have, like us, purchased their government by a dear expenditure of treasure and blood. Like us they are involved in working out the same problem of free-government. A degree of similarity of experience, then, and a community of interests should bind us to them in ties of sympathy such, at least, as might warrant any friendly convocation that would tend to devise order and harmony, peace and good-will for the American Continent.

INCOMPETENT ENGINEERS.

THE Burlington strike has been discussed very fully by the newspaper press of the country, but there is one feature of it which has not been much dwelt upon by public journals. We refer to the danger to life and property arising from the incompetency of the engineers who have been employed or improvised to take the places of strikers. Upon this subject the Chicago World of the 12th inst. has the following significant paragraph:

"The Burlington system appears to be a system of wholesale murder. A record of twelve men killed and injured in the Chicago switch yards within twenty-four hours (Monday and Tuesday last) is one to be proud of. The Burlington is slaughtering its green men rapidly. It is as much as life is worth to go near a Burlington train. The officials responsible for this state of affairs ought to be indicted for manslaughter."

The above indicates the necessity of congressional legislation upon the subject, contemplated by the resolution providing for an investigation of it, which was adopted by the national House of Representatives two or three weeks ago. The traveling public are entitled to protection against such serious danger as arises from the employment of incompetent engineers, and shippers are entitled to similar protection in respect to their property.

NEWS NOTES.

Items Gathered from Various Sources.

Nogales, (A. T.), April 25.—Anacleto Contreras, an actor, fell dead on the stage a few evenings ago while playing in the town of Araudas, Mexico. He had a part in a drama entitled "After death," in which he was to feign death after exclaiming "I die, I die!" He uttered the words and fell to the floor, but the other actors supposing him too hasty, called to him that it was not yet time to feign death. No answer came, and it was found that the man was in reality dead.

There is a very strong probability of a war on live stock rates between Kansas City and Missouri river points, —all from the fact that one of the hues has been taking a large share of the business by what the representatives of the other lines claim as under billing. The method used is to bill a car at the minimum weight of 20,000 pounds, regardless of the actual weight. It is an indirect way of cutting the rate, or is the same as a rebate, which is in direct violation of the interstate commerce law. The other lines say that if the practice is not stopped they will retaliate by cutting the rate.

Albuquerque (N. M.), April 25.—Two deputy sheriffs of Socorro county who have been on the trail of Joe Atkins and Frank Porter for the last two days came up with them near San Jose, this county, yesterday afternoon, when a regular pitched battle ensued, in which Porter was killed and Atkins captured. The prisoner and the body of the dead man were brought to Albuquerque this morning. These are the same men who shot Slaughter in the American valley about a year ago. Atkins killed a man named Shipman near the same place about a month ago because he was working for Slaughter. He has threatened several times to kill Slaughter's men. Porter is reported to have killed a number of men and it is said that rewards are offered for him in various places west and south-west to the amount of \$10,000.