

A RAPIDLY DEVELOPED CRANK.

On Friday, the 13th inst., some curious scenes were witnessed at Matamoras, Ohio, from the development of an extraordinary type of the genus crank. The eccentric individual who was the centre figure of the affair is Christian Dongel, who, previous to the date mentioned, was a confirmed infidel, and a man of considerable wealth, and a good deal of influence in the community. On the day named he attended church for the first time. During the services he preserved a stolid indifference until the invitation for mourners to come to the altar was given, when, with a loud cry for mercy, he ran like one possessed to the altar and knelt down.

The audience at once broke into a frenzy of shouting and yelling. Benches were pulled up, men picked up chairs and smashed them against the walls, while crowds marched up and down the aisles singing and shouting. A number of women fainted, and a Miss Lewis fell into a trance, in which she remained for a long time, a faint breathing being the only sign of life perceptible.

About midnight Dongel professed conversion, sprang up suddenly, knocking the minister violently against the pulpit, cutting his head and face severely. No heed was paid to this, and the preacher, with blood streaming down his face, led a procession of men who carried Dongel on their shoulders, followed by women waving handkerchiefs. All were shouting at the top of their voices, and the meeting continued until all were exhausted.

On Sunday the 15th Dongel became possessed of the idea that he was specially sent from heaven to provide for the preacher. He took all his own available money and started for the minister's home. On the way he met Jacob Meiser, whom he compelled to return to his house, when he locked him in the cellar. He then forced Mrs. Meiser to give him all the money in the house. Just as Dongel was leaving Meiser escaped from the cellar and attempted to stab Dongel, who savagely repelled the attack, inflicting dangerous wounds.

When the hour for evening service arrived Dongel put in an appearance at the church with a rude crown on his head and with a huge club in his hand. Ascending the pulpit he declared that he was Christ and had come to judge the world. After a desperate fight in which several were severely injured, Dongel was secured and placed in an asylum.

The crop of cranks has been phenomenally large of late, but for real rapid development and fanatical suddenness of behavior, Dongel seems to be well forward on the distinguished list.

AN ALLEGED DOUBLE DEATH.

At Newport, Pennsylvania, an incident has occurred in the household of a Swedish family named Wisholm, the relation of which may prove of interest to those who are inquisitive in regard to the sensations experienced in passing from this "vale of tears" to a brighter sphere. On Monday morning, the 16th instant, John Wisholm, father of the family, a miner living in Centre township, was taken suddenly ill. Before a physician could be summoned he died. His form was cold and rigid, the lower jaw fallen, and the ashy pallor of death on his face. With the usual demonstrativeness of the race his family gave large expression to grief, the oldest son in particular. He called on the father to come back, and was with difficulty restrained from prostrating himself upon the corpse.

A clergyman residing in the neighborhood remained with the grief-stricken family until 2 o'clock in the afternoon, seeking to comfort them. As he was on the point of leaving the son was seized with another paroxysm of grief more violent than any preceding it. He threw himself on the body of his father, embraced him and piteously implored him to speak once more and not to leave him without recognition. As though the agonized voice had penetrated the silence of the other world, the lips of the father moved, his eyes opened and cast a sad, reproachful look on the weeping son, and, in the well-known voice came distinctly these words: "Oh! why did you call me back?" As soon as the awe-stricken group could regain their composure they immediately administered restoratives to the patient. When the clergyman left him he was very weak but still alive. He related his experience up to the time he was apparently recalled to life.

He said that when he was dying he felt a sinking sensation. He knew everything that went on in the room, but could not speak. He next remembered of being in dense darkness and being led by two invisible forms, moving as though floating in air, with nothing above or below. Then it seemed to get lighter every moment, and he saw two beautiful, shining forms on either side of him. He experienced a feeling of perfect peace and heard the most soothing and delightful music. A feeling of rest was the most noticeable thing in his new state, until it was disturbed by the

voice in pain calling him. He felt a thrill of regret, then all became black, and he seemed to be back in the old pain-racked body again. Opening his eyes, he found his son and family crying and calling on him to come back.

Wisholm lived until Wednesday, the 18th inst., and then died, as the family sincerely believe, for the second time.

HARD TIMES IN NEW YORK.

New York papers are painting graphic and heart-rending pictures of the hard times in Gotham. It appears that every trade and industry suffers from the general stagnation. The organized trades—the various classes of builders, as stonemasons, bricklayers, carpenters, tanners, plasterers, etc.—are as idle as the unorganized classes. About 5,000 bricklayers live in and very near New York. They are entirely idle. Many of the carpenters, also, are necessarily idle now. In fact, so are all, or very nearly all the trades; the cigar makers, of whom there are 22,000 men and women, being to some extent an exception. Bakers, of whom there are 4,000 in the city, work nearly as many hours as car drivers, and are up at 3 o'clock, but they do not on an average get over \$10 a week.

The condition of the working women is particularly bad. It is said that of the 100,000 idle people in New York, 30,000 are women. These were formerly employed in making men's and women's clothing—children's suits, cloaks, etc., in which a business of over \$18,000,000 was done last year—and in making artificial flowers, etc. In both of these principal fields the business has fallen off badly. This work on clothing is largely "farmed out" by the dealers; that is, they contract for large amounts with one man. He divides up the work, making much harder terms with the poor sewing-women than the firm would make, if the latter made the contract directly. It is the merciless exactions imposed by these heartless farmers out of work on clothing that compel such long hours, and such ill-requited toil, for these thousands of poor seamstresses. Working on coats fourteen hours a day, they cannot earn over \$7 to \$8 per week.

FIGHTING SLEEP WITH TEA.

The following appeared in the *Popular Science Monthly*:

"The practice of taking tea or coffee by students in order to work at night is downright madness, especially when preparing for an examination. More than half of the cases of breakdown, loss of memory, fainting, etc., which occur during severe examination and far more frequently than is commonly known, are due to this.

"I frequently hear of promising students who have thus failed; and, on inquiry, have learned—in almost every instance—that the victim has previously drugged himself with tea or coffee. Sleep is the rest of the brain; to rob the hard worked brain of its necessary rest is cerebral suicide.

"My old friend, the late Thomas Wright, was a victim of this terrible folly. He undertook the translation of the 'Life of Caesar,' by Napoleon III, and to do it in a cruelly short time. He fulfilled his contract by sitting up several nights successively by the aid of strong tea or coffee (I forget which). I saw him shortly afterward. In a few weeks he had aged alarmingly and became quite bald, and his brain gave way and never recovered. There was but little difference between his age and mine, and but for this dreadful cerebral strain, rendered possible only by the alkaloid (for otherwise he would have fallen asleep over his work, and thereby saved his life), he might still be amusing and instructing thousands of readers by fresh volumes of popular archaeological research."

ANTI-DYNAMITE LAWS AND DYNAMITE.

The dynamite agitation with its immediate and prospective dangers will doubtless result in the several States more immediately affected by it passing stringent laws in reference to its manufacture and disposal. The Massachusetts Senate has lately passed a measure of that character, which will in all probability become law.

The bill prohibits the manufacture, sale, or giving away of nitro-glycerine, dynamite, or nitro or chlorate compounds, to be used for an unlawful purpose, fixing the penalty at ten years' imprisonment and a fine of \$1,000; punishes with a fine of \$1,000 any person contributing or soliciting money, or other property for the manufacture, sale, transportation, or use of any such explosive compound for any unlawful destruction of life or property; requires all persons who are authorized to sell or otherwise dispose of any such explosive compound "to keep a record of the name and residence of every person to whom they dispose of any such compound, the kind and amount thereof, the date of such transaction, and the purpose for which such compound is to be used, and such record shall be preserved for not less than five years, and no sale shall be made to any one who is not personally known to the seller"—the penalty for violation of any of

these provisions being three years imprisonment, or a fine of \$1,000; and a bill further requires manufacturers the vendors of such compounds to take out licenses.

Such laws are expedient and intrinsically good and wholesome, but unfortunately their enforcement will meet with almost insurmountable obstacles, because of the simplicity of the manufacture of the destructive explosive, and the consequent secrecy with which it can be carried on by the enemies of social order. Dynamite is a simple compound composed of nitro-glycerine mixed with a suitable absorbent. Nitro-glycerine consists of the common oil of glycerine, nitric acid and sulphuric acid, mixed under certain conditions, and is a most dangerous compound. Its transportation is particularly dangerous, as a very slight concussion will cause its explosion. The nitro-glycerine is mixed with infusorial earth, brought from Germany, for the best qualities of dynamite. For cheaper grades, wood pulp, charcoal, sulphur and paper pulp are used.

It is commonly supposed that dynamite is exploded by concussion, but this is not the case. Fifty pounds of it might be thrown from the top of a high building, it is said, with no more effect than would result from throwing down a bag of sand. Neither is it exploded by fire; it is easily ignited, and in burning gives an intense heat, but it cannot be exploded in this way. The only way in which it can be exploded is by means of fire and concussion at the same moment. For this purpose a strong copper percussion cap containing fulminate of mercury is used. Without the cap the cartridge is comparatively harmless, and the cap is not inserted until just before the cartridge is to be used. The best dynamite is about twelve times as strong as gunpowder.

But there is a vast difference between the action of gunpowder and dynamite; the former, if placed on the floor of a building and exploded, might blow out the windows without seriously injuring the structure; but dynamite exerts a powerful force downward, and for this reason is used by the dynamiters, as they can hastily place it anywhere in a building, without confining it, as would be necessary in the case of using gunpowder. The effect of dynamite is almost entirely local. It is a mistake to suppose that a moderate quantity of it can effect any great damage. In the immediate vicinity of the explosion there may be something of a litter, but the effect will not be widespread.

PLEASED WITH PATIENCE AND ITS PERFORMERS.

Editor *Deseret News*:

I went to see Patience last evening, and was amply repaid, as was everybody else, I am sure, who saw it. One feature of the performance was very noticeable, and indeed, very enjoyable to me, as it must have been to every person of age and experience, who had the pleasure of witnessing it, namely, that sweet, that innocent, refined look of purity that filled the stage from the beautiful Mrs. Leyberg to the charming little Miss Thatcher—a feature, I am sorry to say, seldom adorns the stage of to-day. This, Mr. Editor, to such as I who have traveled and known the world for many years now, proved a treat never to be forgotten, and on this account (aside from its really artistic excellence), I am free to pronounce it the most enjoyable entertainment I ever beheld. O blessed innocence! O immaculate virtue! to gaze upon thy fair form resplendent with beauty and intelligence is, indeed, a sight never, never to be forgotten.

LADY TRAVELER.

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 25, 1885.

THE REWARD OF TELLING THE TRUTH.

SOME months since an English temperance advocate—Mr. T. W. Glover—visited this city, on his homeward journey from the British Australasian colonies. He held a number of meetings in the Salt Lake Theatre, and created considerable interest in the cause of which he is a capable representative. On the 4th instant, according to the *Hastings Observer*, the same gentleman took a prominent part in a temperance gathering in the English town of that name.

In the course of a clear narrative of his experiences during his recent extended trip he spoke of his visit here, and while expressing a wide difference between his own religious views and practices and those of the "Mormons," he gave that people credit for sound views on temperance, sober habits, industry and other good qualities for which they are noted. In these respects he placed them ahead of Christian communities generally. He also gracefully acknowledged, as any man of gentlemanly instincts would, certain courtesies extended to him during his stay here, by members of the Church.

This truthful and well-sustained statement of facts seems to have burned like caustic into the puckered soul of a person named J. E. Fison, who claims to have paid a visit to Utah. Probably he did, and while here he evidently never removed his anti-"Mormon" goggles, by which the very virtues of the Latter-day Saints are twisted and contorted so as to become in the eyes of men of dwarfed mind

and uncosmopolitan sympathies, the most monstrous iniquities.

The Saints and their religion—both beyond his limited comprehension—were not the only objective points of Mr. Fison's impotent wrath, but the splinters of his indignation were also aimed against the hapless Mr. Glover.

Here is how he talks:

"Mr. Glover and the writer are strangers to each other, but I trust he is no stranger to the Lord Jesus Christ. Mr. G. being a warm advocate of Gospel Temperance, it appears strange that he should have been led to make such an unwitting apology to the followers of that gross impostor, George Smith."

Judging from the spirit Mr. Fison manifests, he and the Lord Jesus Christ must be utter strangers. And Mr. Glover, having stated the truth about the "Mormons"—regarding their practical virtues—commits the horrible enormity of making an "unwitting apology" to the followers of George Smith. Fie on Mr. Fison for claiming to have sifted "Mormonism" to the bottom, and then showing that he doesn't even know the name of its founder.

In answer to the fiery Fison, Mr. Glover came out in another correspondence, in which he re-affirmed his first statements, as will be seen by this passage.

"I maintain, these people are thrifty, sober and industrious, and that the desert in which they settled has been transformed, comparatively speaking, into a garden. In addition to temperance, our politicians may learn much from the Mormon settlement to help them in their efforts to settle the great land question, now agitating the country."

If Mr. Glover continues to speak a good word regarding the "Mormons," by simply telling the truth about them, he may calculate on being roundly abused on all sides, for the truth on that subject is just the opposite of what is popularly wanted.

This reminds us of an incident that occurred about two years ago. A couple of highly educated gentlemen from Canada were here on a visit. They investigated the "Mormon" question, and were struck with admiration at the excellent condition of things generally in the community. The ideas of one of them especially well nigh reached a point bordering on enthusiasm. In a conversation with us, he held that the reason why so much anti-"Mormon" prejudice existed was because the question had not been properly laid before the people. He thought that if capable men were sent out to enlighten the public mind, it would work wonders. It was explained that the effort in that direction was active and continuous, and the advocates of the truth were largely rewarded for their trouble by being mobbed, kicked, abused, beaten and some of them murdered. He still seemed to doubt. We then asked him to prove the matter by personal experience. So he promised to give what public explanations he could when he should return home. He kept his word, and sent us some journals containing his favorable comments on the "Mormons." Shortly afterwards we received a batch of papers containing articles that attacked him in the most vicious and malicious manner. We have not heard from him since, so we presume he gave up telling the truth about the "Mormons" as an exceedingly uphill business.

Doubtless there are scores of thousands of honorable men whose sympathies are with the Latter-day Saints, but behold this is a supple-backed generation.

GET AFTER THE CHRYSALIS.

THE preservation of the fruit crop is of great importance to Utah. Now is the time to take practical steps to that end, by destroying the chrysalis to be found upon the fruit trees. The work of demolishing the fruit pests in embryotic form should be universal with all owners of orchards. Otherwise efforts made by individuals will be comparatively valueless.

This morning Hon. Wm. Jennings informed us of a method that he is pursuing on his premises. It is very effective, and we hope his example will be followed. The trees are being trimmed and the detached boughs burned, the chrysalis rings on the branches being consumed with them. A boy follows up the gardener and examines each tree carefully, picking off the remaining depositories of embryotic grubs and burning them, making the work of destroying the pests as complete as possible.

But, as Mr. Jennings remarked, all his care will go for next to nothing unless his neighbors pursue the same tactics. As soon as the grubs develop in adjacent orchards they will come over in swarms and pay him a visit without waiting for the ceremony of an invitation to dine on the luscious products of his well kept grounds. Should those who reside in proximity to his residence not feel sufficient interest in the subject to clear their gardens and orchards of the prospective worms, he would like to be accorded the privilege of attending to it for them.

Mr. Jennings had a quantity of the chrysalis put into a jar and placed in a hothouse, where they speedily developed into caterpillars, the heat causing them to germinate with remarkable rapidity.

Let the onslaught in the orchards begin. The weather and all other conditions are favorable, and the time is by no means too early. And let those who do not feel disposed to move in the matter on their own account remember the golden rule—"Whatsoever you would that others should do unto you, do ye likewise unto them." If self-preservation is not an inducement sufficiently strong to move to action, begin operations that you may protect your neighbors.

IMMIGRATION AGENCIES.

A COMMUNICATION will be found in another part of the paper from one of the missionaries in Denmark treating upon a subject which ought to interest all who have friends in foreign lands whom they purpose assisting to immigrate.

A Church emigration agency was established in Liverpool as long ago as 1840, and since that time upwards of 77,000 persons have availed themselves of the advantageous rates secured thereby to our emigrants from Europe to this country. A very large proportion of these have been assisted either have P. E. Fund, established for that by the, or by means which their purposes or relatives in this country friends forwarded to them. They have usually traveled in large companies, presided over and cared for by missionary Elders who have had experience in traveling, and have had, as a rule, much better accommodations in journeying both by sea and overland than emigrants usually secure.

The steamship rates have usually been secured by the year, and with a view to the comfort and safety of the passengers as well as economy. The good judgment exercised in the selection of vessels and the special providence of the Almighty in caring for His Saints while journeying upon the waters are attested by the fact that of all the vessels bearing them from Europe to this country—numbering upwards of 250—none have been lost at sea; nor has any very serious accidents involving loss of life occurred while making the voyage.

For a great many years now the Guion Steamship Company have conveyed the Saints from Liverpool to New York, and the business relations of the representatives of the Church in emigration matters with this company have been of the most pleasant and satisfactory nature.

An emigration agent in the employ of the Church remains in New York during the greater part of the year for the purpose of procuring the best possible rates over the railroads between there and here, meeting the immigrants on their arrival in that port and arranging for their speedy transfer to the cars, etc. In fact, the whole business is so arranged that the immigrants travel with the utmost possible freedom from care and anxiety from the time they commence their journey until they reach their destination.

There has been sharp competition during the past year in the matter of emigrant rates, both by sea and over railroads; so much so that a number of the steamship lines plying between Liverpool and New York have been almost or totally ruined and the railroads between the latter port and the Missouri have been and are still carrying on a financial war that must ere long end in the collapse of some of them and a greater monopoly by others.

While this cutting of rates has been going on individuals in our Territory have been tempted by the prospect of making some money out of it to enter into business as emigration agents and compete with the Church agency for the patronage of the Saints. Through tickets from the "old countries" to Utah have been offered by them, and some persons, as our correspondent intimates, have been thoughtless enough to purchase such tickets to send for the immigration of their friends, not knowing perhaps but what they could travel the whole of the distance with the companies emigrated through the Church agency and under the care and direction of the Elders returning from missions. They have come at least from New York to Utah by a different route and consequently separate from the body of the company, and the danger and inconvenience to which they have been exposed are by no means exaggerated by our correspondent.

There is another point that is worth considering in this connection. If through tickets are purchased at this end of the line (which of course are not transferable), there is always danger of the parties sent for failing from some cause to come, and a consequent loss resulting. On the other hand, when a draft on the Church emigration agent in Liverpool is sent to pay the fare of parties, and they fail to come, the draft or any portion of it that may be left can be returned to the sender at any time at his request.

We strongly advise all the Saints who intend to send means to bring their friends from the other countries to do so through the Church agency. They will not only get as good rates as others offer, but the advantages we have mentioned in addition.

Elder James H. Hart, the Church emigration agent, will probably leave this city for New York on Tuesday next, and we expect at an early date to be able to publish a list of the rates which will be secured.