

"CHRISTIAN" CIVILIZATION
versus CHINESE MORALITY.

The New York Herald has received a telegraphic letter from Hong Kong, in which it is stated that the "Christian authorities" at Hong Kong have licensed gambling houses, and the Chinese of Canton have protested. The Herald makes the receipt of this intelligence the occasion for an article which contains a considerable amount of irony. After quoting the saying of Confucius, the father of Chinese philosophy:—"Riches and honor acquired by unrighteousness are to me as a floating cloud," and reasoning upon it, the article proceeds:

"It is but natural that the Canton craps philosophers schooled in the lessons of Confucius should raise their voices against the demoralizing fact that gambling receives the sanction of the law. Here is a fine commentary on an atrocious piece of sham. Our Christendom pulpits are eloquent against false gods, and missionaries without number are sent out to ground the deluded Orientals in a knowledge of heavenly things, and here, in the nineteenth century, those pigstails meet Western enlightenment with an argument against the degrading immorality it not only permits but protects. How, then? Have we no fine texts against this sort of vice? Plenty. Our moral law teems with precepts and commands that declare and threaten on this point. But here is a little difference. Our civilization is so fine and high that we value words as words, and

—words are but wind
Too feeble implements to bind.

Our precepts are precepts only. We listen to the lesson and then do what we like, while those poor deluded Chinamen are actually trying to shape their daily conduct in accordance with their abstract notions of moral right. Much is yet to be done in those countries, therefore, and we ought not to spare our missionary efforts."

Why is it that, wherever so-called Christianity goes, results precisely similar to these against which the Chinese protest follow? It might be imagined that a pure system of morals, such as its preachers and missionaries declare it to be, would bring forth different fruits to these. But it does not. Visit every land where *soi disant* Christian ministers have gone to propagate their creeds and evangelize (?) the heathen, and you will find the standard of morals among the poor, ignorant creatures lowered by the peripatetic teachings of their visitors. Treading on their heels are all the vices of their false civilization, which are a blight and a curse to any nation among whom they are introduced.

The christianity of this age has been of no benefit to any heathen nation to whom it has been preached. The visit of its missionaries to a pagan land, is the sure precursor of misfortune and evil to that hapless race.

In proof of this we need not refer to our own aborigines, to India or China; but only to the Sandwich Islands. For years that group of islands were held up as the missionary paradise. There christianity had achieved its highest triumph. And certainly missionaries never could ask for a fairer and more unrestricted field for the propagation of their system and the practical carrying out of their schemes for man's redemption than they had there. The entire control of the government, the education of the princes and nobles and leading men of the kingdom, and the dictation and the enactment of the laws, were all in their hands. They were virtually the rulers of the country. Had their system been anything but a sham, they might have made the people as attractive as their climate. But misery, degradation and prospective annihilation are upon and before the people. The laws which they enforced, and the practices they promoted, have proved the ruin of the nation. The institutions of

modern christianity have crushed them, and they will soon be blotted out.

The people of this Territory should be thankful that pseudo-christianity finds no field for its operations here. It is true that owing to its absence we have no number of sanctimonious, devious-looking men—we have no churches and chapels; but neither have we any brothels, gambling saloons, and the other concomitants which flourish under its protecting wing. If its missionaries could operate to their satisfaction, our happy and peaceful Territory would speedily be transformed into a pandemonium. Under their fostering care, the institutions of Christendom, in all their villainess, would soon flourish here. In this manner would we be christianized, if they had their way.

To call such systems christian is a libel on the Savior. The fruits they bear give unmistakable evidence of another origin.

(Special to the Deseret Evening News.)

By Telegraph.

MAX'S FUNERAL OBSEQUIES IN VIENNA.

FENIAN HOSTILITIES IN IRELAND.

MINISTER ADAMS TO BE RECALLED.

VIGILANCE COMMITTEE AT WORK IN DAKOTA.

Copenhagen, 19.—The Government has received the official vote of the people of St. Thomas on the question of the transfer to the United States. For the transfer, 1244; against it 22.

Vienna.—Obsequies in honor of Maximilian were celebrated to-day with great pomp. The Emperor with the Arch-dukes, the court, the cabinet, the generals of the army and the diplomatic corps assembled at the church of Capucinus to attend the requiem mass. The Emperor has written an autograph letter to Admiral Tegethoff, thanking him in the name of the Imperial family for his services in securing the remains.

Chicago, 20.—The Republican's special says, to ascertain the President's intentions respecting Stanton, a resolution will be passed to-day, requiring the President to give certain information only attainable through the War Office. The President will be compelled to recognize Stanton, or else send the resolution directly to Grant. The Democracy of New Hampshire are organizing for a stiff fight, a large fund is being raised for campaign purposes. Desperate efforts will be made to secure the State for the Democrats.

Rutland, Vermont.—The Compton Block was destroyed by fire to-day, loss \$100,000.

San Francisco, 20.—Sailed.—The *Belvedere* for Hong Kong. Flour is quiet. No export in demand, at \$7.50 @ \$8; wheat is firm at \$2.50 @ \$2.65, good to choice for shipping. Legal tenders are 72.

New York, Specials say the State Department will demand the instant surrender of Train and all American citizens who have not absolutely violated English laws. It is believed the English Government will make immediate reparation. The report in Diplomatic circles is, that the British legation has positive information that Train went to Ireland for the purpose of being arrested, to make it a test question as to the right of England to arrest citizens of the United States for language not used on English soil.

London, 20.—The Fenians are reported to have attacked the Martello Tower at Duncannon, Waterford County, on Friday; no particulars.

Boston.—Two cars of the Providence train were thrown from the track near Mansfield on Sunday night. Several passengers were seriously injured; none fatally.

Washington.—Senate.—Wilson presented petitions relative to the right of American citizens abroad, which were referred. Howard reported a bill relating to the Central Branch of the Union Pacific Railroad, which was tabled and ordered to be printed; also other bills extending the boundaries of the city of Washington, and annexing Georgetown. The bill prohibiting the payment of bounties to deserters and granting a million of acres of the public lands for the benefit of public schools in the District of Columbia was approved and appropriately referred.

House.—Several bills and resolutions were introduced and referred; among them one instructing the President to

demand an explanation from the British Government for the execution of Michael O'Brien, claiming to be an American citizen; and declaring the United States will acknowledge no right of interference by other States with naturalized citizens, and any infringement of such right to be held as a *sus belli*. The resolution also declares it to be the duty of the President to recall Minister Adams. It was referred to the committee on foreign affairs.

The London Press correspondent at Paris says there is a feeling of uneasiness in political and financial circles, owing to the great activity in the Government Arsenal and Dock Yards. This activity, together with the pressure brought to bear on the Corps Legislatif for the passage of the bill for the reorganization of the army, impairs confidence in the stability of peace.

San Francisco, 20.—Honolulu advices of December 28th say that Queen Emma has retired to Kailua, the city of the ancient Hawaiian Kings, for a lengthy residence. The English war steamer Chameleon, Commodore Annealey, which arrived at Honolulu, December 24th, on entering the harbor, collided with the ship Magnolia, damaging both vessels slightly. The flood in Kanawha valley has done considerable damage to property; also several lives were lost. Much anxiety is felt by the native population in regard to the failure of the taro crop. The high prices of last year stimulated an unusual planting the present season, but the plants have been attacked by the *aphis*, the same species as infest the rose bushes, and it is feared that the entire crop will be destroyed. Experiments are being made in tea raising, seed having been imported from Japan.

Big Laramie, Dak., 21.—A man who came over from Dale City yesterday, reports that the Vigilance Committee from Cheyenne, numbering about 100, came to Dale City, caught three men named Jack Hays, "Shorty" and Keith, and hung them. They said they had come after five, but only caught three. The three men got into a tussle just before the committee came over, and one of them shot a man, breaking his arm, and another ball grazed a man's breast.

Paris, 20.—The *Patrie*, in an editorial on the Eastern question, comments on certain mischievous articles on Prussia and France, which recently appeared in the Russian journals. It declares it is done to create discord and a rupture of the friendly relations between Prussia and France. The *Epogue* says the Emperor is preparing a manifesto, assuring Europe that the desire and policy of the French government is to maintain peace.

Berlin.—The American Minister is negotiating for the re-establishment of a new commercial treaty between the United States and the North German Confederation.

London.—Information in regard to Dr. Livingston is believed to confirm the previous account of his safety.

Advices from Japan announce that the new ruler will maintain the stipulations of the commercial treaty made by his predecessor.

Copenhagen.—A bill for the ratification of the transfer of St. Thomas is now before the popular branch of the Danish Parliament.

Toronto.—Attempts have been made to blow up the magazine at Jarrison. The sentries have been doubled.

Richmond.—Gen. Grant and wife arrived to-day.

Havana.—It is rumored that one Rafael left for New York to-day to issue bonds to enable Santa Anna to prosecute his plans against the Mexican government in Yucatan.

Washington.—The Senate ratified the commercial treaties with Madagascar and Venezuela. That with the Sandwich Islands is not yet taken up.

Correspondence.

By the kindness of Elder George A. Smith we have been favored with the following communication, which will be read with interest:

MILLERSBURGH, Washington Co.,
January 6th, 1868.

DEAR BROTHER:—I take the liberty to inform you, that a disastrous flood has destroyed this place and the chances of its continuance as one of the settlements of the Saints.

On the 24th of December, early in the morning, the banks on both sides of the great wash, on which our town was built, began to give way to the violence of the roaring current that had rushed from the mountains for about eighteen hours and reached its greatest volume about daylight, running about seven

feet deep and the full width of the wash, which is about a quarter of a mile. We began to remove our effects to the adjoining hills, and during the day seven buildings were torn away by the flood, and the rest rendered so unsafe, that even those persons whose houses remained, returned to them very reluctantly after a few days. The fields on both sides of the wash were principally washed away, and the rest rendered useless, by the chances of future irrigation being destroyed. Young orchards and vineyards, with good promise of ample fruiting the present season, the first of their full bearing, have taken passage towards the Pacific. The rich alluvial land on which they stood melted away before the roaring tide of turbid water, and the Rio Virgen, into which the wash empties, rose about seven feet above high water mark. This location has always appeared somewhat dangerous, for, as the wash by which this margin of fertile land has been deposited in former times, takes its rise about fifty miles north from here, and drains a large surface of quick sloping hills, it was not unreasonable to suppose that there might be danger; but as the floods of six years ago had worn a deep and wide channel, the hope was entertained that this might be sufficient for any flood to pass harmlessly by that might be likely to come, and this might have been the case if the centre of the channel had not been obstructed by a dense growth of willows and cottonwood. Preventive measures were often urged by some of our number who could see the danger; but nothing was ever done. It was highly desirable that there should be a settlement here; for, being the only spot considered eligible for one on the long stretch of ninety miles of lonely road between St. George and the Muddy, and offering as it did the advantage of a fertile soil, a delightful climate, healthy water, and refreshing groves of timber, it seemed very desirable and promising. It will now relapse into its former condition as a camping place for the traveler in the midst of the deserts, unless its position as a connecting link be deemed so important that a few families be required to remain at, or to come to, this place to depend upon the chances of trade for subsistence or to occupy one of the adjoining bottoms of the Rio Virgen, which offers a modest chance.

Yours in the gospel,
DANIEL BONELLI.

LOCAL ITEMS.

THE WEATHER.—Last night and this morning the snow fell very fast and re-covered the ground, for more or less. The atmosphere to-day is much milder than it has been for some days past. The following, per Deseret Telegraph, gives the state of the weather at the points named, this a.m.:

Logan; snowing.
Ogden; snowing very fast.
Springville; very stormy; snowed three inches last night, and still continues.
Payson; snowing; snow fell last night two inches; very cloudy; looks like continuing all day.
Nepht; cold and stormy; snow fell one inch last night; still snowing.
Fort Ephraim; rather cloudy yet; snow fell two inches last night; about six inches on the ground.
Chicken Creek; dark and dismal; snowed three inches last night; still snowing.
Round Valley; storming; snow one inch.
Fillmore; snowing.

MR. MCKENZIE'S BENEFIT.—This pains-taking actor and excellent gentleman, than whom as a "theatrical" (to quote a word of our friend, L. O. Littlefield's, coinage) there is no greater favorite on our boards, is to have a benefit on Thursday evening next. The play is *Walter Rellin's* great drama, entitled the *Huguenot Captivity*. We never read the play, and have no details respecting it that we can give to our readers. We did not expect to write about it, or we should have posted ourselves; but now we have not time. We are assured that it is a very fine drama, and we can believe the assurance, as everything about the Huguenots is interesting. Besides, we give Mr. McKenzie credit for too much good taste to suppose that he would select any but a good play for performance on the occasion of his benefit. Then he gives a recitation. This will be a treat. The performance will conclude with that pretty and interesting farce, *Nature and Philosophy*, or *the Youth who never saw a Woman*. We think that farces, as a rule, are humbugs; but we must make the one question an exception. This is worth seeing, even if you have to stay till 11 o'clock to witness it.

We expect to be at the Theatre on Thursday night, and if Mr. McKenzie does not get a bumper (we think that is the word) house we shall be disgusted. For particulars see bills.

We have been favored by Major Stanton, of the 2nd Cavalry, with two packages of papers, containing Harper's Monthly and Weekly, Frank Leslie's Illustrated, Godey's Lady's Book, and a variety of other illustrated and news papers. The Major is ever giving and deserves success. He will please accept our thanks for his courtesy.

THEATRICAL.—Since the performance of *Bal-zer's* fine comedy of *Money*, every general desire has been expressed that Mr. Stark appear again in his excellent personation of "Alfred Eveyza." A pressing request was addressed to