

was propagated in this manner. Epidemics of croup and scarlatina have also in England been attributed to the same cause. The nutritive and hygienic qualities of milk and its tendency to transmit disease have for the last ten years been frequent subjects of discussion at the sessions of the Paris Academy of Medicine. The matter is sufficiently practical and important to attract the attention a little oftener of medical associations in America.

### THE CAR COUPLING QUESTION.

AN interesting report comes from the committee of national railroad commissioners now in session in New York, which was appointed to secure congressional action upon the question of uniformity in car couplers and other railway attachments of similar importance. In the judgment of President Hains of the American Railroad Association, who addressed the committee yesterday, there are 1,200,000 freight cars in use by the railroads of the United States, and 1,000,000 of them are still fitted out with the old style link and pin coupler.

There is some disposition to attribute this condition to a tendency on the part of railroad manipulators to stick to whatever is cheapest, without any regard to the lives of employees. We do not believe this to be just. The fact that to change the couplers on 1,000,000 cars involves an outlay of twenty to twenty-five million dollars will excuse the railroad companies from hasty experiments or independent action in that line when the general adoption by other companies of some different patent might necessitate another overhaul of their entire system.

The question is a proper one for legislation, and if a law were passed, specifying and requiring a given principle to be carried out in the coupling arrangements the country over, we believe the railroads would readily adopt it. The fact that about 8,000 persons are injured annually in the coupling of cars gives the subject a national importance.

### VIGILANCE COMMITTEE THREATENED

It will be observed by the following, from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, that that city is in danger of witnessing similar scenes to those that were so notoriously common on the Coast in the early times of its settlement:

"Within the past week there have been no less than six deaths by violence in this city, all of which may be denominated murder in the popular sense of the term, if not in a strictly legal sense. Some were murder with premeditation and malice, and some were killing in anger or under some provocation, real or fancied, but there is, for the purposes of this article, no need of drawing fine-spun distinctions.

What we earnestly desire to call attention to is this, that there is a growing tendency in this city to believe that the machinery of the law either is not adequate to the prevention or due punishment of crime, or that its operations are abused so as to result in defeating the ends of justice. The people of San Francisco are losing faith in the efficacy of courts and juries and prosecuting officers, and are coming to believe that if one accused of crime can but secure a certain amount of

delay he is practically secure from punishment.

"This belief has nothing to do with the grand jury questions which have been so prominently before the public of late. It is not delay in investigating charges or finding indictments which is undermining the confidence of the people, but delay in bringing men to trial who are charged with crime, and additional delay in carrying into execution the sentence if a verdict of guilty is rendered.

"The sequence of this loss of confidence is not hard to foresee. Distrust in legal methods and processes will be certain to beget an undue admiration for methods which are clearly illegal, but which, under analogous conditions have certainly proved effective. In plain words, this city is beginning to think vigilance committee very seriously, and if this epidemic of murder be not checked it will not be possible to answer for the consequences."

### WEEKLY FINANCIAL REVIEW.

HENTY CLEWS in his report for the week ending November 7th, 1891, says the Stock Exchange still keeps dull and stagnant. Much of the dullness is attributed to election excitement. The report that Russia had prohibited the export of all cereals produced little or no effect, simply because it was neither confirmed nor denied.

The advance of the Bank of England rate appears to have stiffened the money rate on the Continental bourses, and as that measure was doubtless intended to divert the westward drain of gold from London to the European centres, it may be expected that the German Reichsbank and even the Bank of France will soon follow the example of the Bank of England as a measure of defense.

London finance is subjected to a new and by no means insignificant strain by the outbreak of what appears to be a serious form of revolution in Brazil. Argentine matters are also complicated. The distress in Russia will necessitate the remittance to that country of the bulk of the recent loan negotiated in Paris. Under ordinary circumstances much of this money would have remained in Western Europe. Taking the foreign situation as a whole, Mr. Clews thinks it is more suggestive of future trouble than of support to the American market.

Imports for September show a decrease of \$14,400,000 compared with last year, while American exports show an increase of \$14,000,000. This is the beginning of a course of the foreign exchanges which is destined to continue to bring gold to New York and create an ease in money which can hardly fail to produce favorable results in Stock Exchange values later on.

### WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

DUN & Co., in their report for the week ending November 7, 1891, state that the striking event of the week was the failure of a widely known Boston bank. This failure, however, caused more astonishment than disturbance. Withdrawals of money from New York to fortify Boston have caused higher rates, 6 per cent., against 3 per cent. a week ago.

Though the Bank of England is largely losing gold, yet it does not

change its rates. Supplies of money are coming steadily from Europe. The official Treasury report shows an addition of \$33,000,000 to the actual circulation of all kinds in October.

The report says that it is a reassuring fact to Eastern capitalists and investors that Western elections have resulted in the complete defeat of those who advocated wild financial schemes, so their power in the next session of Congress is likely to be much diminished.

Though the failure of the Maverick bank caused some uneasiness in Boston, business is steady and healthy. The wool business is fair with sales of 2,400,000 pounds. At Hartford, wool is in moderate demand, and at Philadelphia better than it has been for months. At Chicago the receipts in hides and wool have been 33 per cent. larger than those of last year.

Speculation has lifted wheat 14 cents, though the western receipts continue enormous. Exports for the week are about equal to those of recent weeks. Corn has declined half a cent. In the main labor is well employed, with few controversies about wages. The treasury continues to add new notes to the circulation in exchange for silver purchased.

Business failures for the week mentioned number in the United States 223, and in Canada 43. For the corresponding week last year the figures were 182 in the United States and 33 in Canada.

### DEATHS.

BADDLEY.—In this city, November 11, at 11:30 p.m. of blood poisoning, Harry, the beloved son of H. O. and Phoebe Baddley, aged 4 years and 15 days.

GERSTNER.—In this city, November 12, at 11 a.m. of childbed fever, Mary Gerstner, aged 38 years.

BAKER.—At his residence, 225 Sixth street, November 12th, 1891, Thomas J. Baker. The funeral services will be held in St. Mark's Cathedral, Saturday, at 2:30 p.m. Those wishing to view the remains may do so at the residence, as the casket will not be opened in the church.

HARVEY.—In this city, November 9, 1891, of asthma and general debility, Eliza, widow of the late Andrew Harvey; aged 65 years, 7 months and 5 days.

WALTON.—In the Eleventh ward of this city, Nov. 10, 1891, at 12:30, of diphtheria, Ivan, son of J. J. and Anna B. Walton; aged two years and nine months.

ANDERSON.—In this city, Sixteenth Ward, November 10, 1891, of diphtheria, Alexander William, son of Peter and Eliza Anderson; aged 4 years and two months.

NORMAN.—In Salt Lake City, November 15th, 1891, of senile debility, Henry Norman, in the 92nd year of his age.

MARGETTS.—In the Seventeenth ward, this city, November 15th, 1891, of typhoid fever, Richard Bishop, son of, Philip and Elizabeth Margetts, aged 11 year and 27 days.

BALLINGER.—At Pleasant Grove, of diphtheria, Glenroy, son of J. M. Ballinger. Deceased was born November 18th, 1876, and died November 10th, 1891. He was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and greatly beloved by all his associates.—[CON.]

BAKER.—In the eighteenth ward, Salt Lake City, Utah, Thursday, November 12th, 1891, of pneumonia, after an illness of two weeks, Thomas Baker, aged 15 years.

WOOD.—At the residence of her son Aaron Gorridge, at South Jordan, Salt Lake county Utah, October 31st, 1891, Elizabeth Wood, age, 91 years. She lived the life of a faithful saint.