

GEORGE Q. CANNON,
BRIGHAM YOUNG,
EDITORIAL NOTES.

Saturday, September 14, 1878.

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Pestilence usually follows war. The fiercest is ravaging Roumania. Better that the beast should suffer than that mankind should perish.

A Franco-Jewish company has been organized and has obtained a permit to extract bitumen from the Dead Sea. This is emphatically the age of utility.

Farmers and orchardists, the best time to top-dress grass land is in the fall. Spread the manure over the soil before snow falls, instead of leaving it in heaps in the fields. Then the moisture will soak it into the ground and fertilize the grass roots and tree roots, penetrating where it will do the most good.

Sixteen persons have been prostrated and four have died, in the village of Montclair, "the garden spot of New Jersey," from drinking milk which had been exposed in a dirty house of a milk-seller, where two children were sick with typhoid fever. Milk is a great absorber of poisons and contagion. Make a note of it.

A little girl in Cincinnati, when asked by her Sunday school teacher what God made her for, replied, "To wear a red feller in my hat." Have you ever seen any adults who seemed to have no higher conception of the object of their existence than the Cincinnati child? Girls and boys, the Creator designed all sentient beings for a nobler destiny than to be merely wearers of fine clothes.

Disraeli is a Jew by birth, but a sort of Christian by profession. The following from an exchange shows that blood speaks louder than creed in the heart of the British Premier: "Lord Beaconsfield will provide that he shall be buried in the Jews' graveyard at Mile End. It was by a trick of the post Rogers that he was baptized. A Jew who knows him well says that Beaconsfield has a respect for Christianity because Christ was a Jew and the Virgin Mary was a Jewess."

AN ILLOGICAL ATTACK ON PRAYER.

The continuance of the terrible plague in the South has moved the sympathies of all classes of the community in nearly every State and Territory in the Union. It has also stimulated devotion and faith in Divine Providence. The governors of several States have issued proclamations calling for a day of prayer and supplication for the interposition of Almighty God to stay the progress of the pestilence.

The Sacramento Record-Union, which, though an able paper, is evidently conducted on anti-Christian principles, stiffsly borrows the Governor of Ohio for what it called his "insolent blasphemy," in making such a proclamation. That paper takes up the matter from a logical standpoint. Its argument is that Governor Bishop makes God the author and originator of yellow fever, because the Governor states that his "object in commending a day of prayer was simply to secure a united invocation to Almighty God by all who believe in and recognize His goodness and mercy, that He would interpose His omnipotent power which alone could stay the progress of the terrible scourge which was devastating a large portion of our common country."

We think the Record-Union in its zeal against prayer and prayer has overreached itself. Human wisdom, and those means, within the reach and knowledge of mortals having failed to stay the spread of the epidemic, the aid of the Supreme Being is invoked. Now if this proves that God made yellow fever, then similar reasoning will prove that the doctors made it. When the disease first appeared, the friends of the sick did what they could to relieve the sufferers. Being unable to effect a cure they applied to physicians. If the doctors proved to have more knowledge and skill than the nurses, did this make them responsible for the epidemic? And if they fail and God is implored to stretch forth His omnipotent hand to arrest its further progress, does this logically make Him any more responsible than the doctors for the outbreak?

But it may be argued that the Almighty could have prevented the plague, and therefore may be charged with its continuance. This is, indeed, part of the Record-Union's logic. There are certain fixed laws or conditions governing all material as well as spiritual things. God acts through and by them, with a perfect knowledge of their existence and a complete comprehension of their principles. Man's understanding of them is imperfect, but to become acquainted with such of them as govern in this lower sphere is a part of the object of his probation here. And the Supreme Being makes it an inviolable rule not to interfere with the agency of his creatures. Man is left free to obey or disobey. But the violation of natural laws brings inevitable penalties. Man learns this, often by the things which he suffers. It is part of a necessary education to prepare him for implicit obedience to higher laws when he reaches a higher sphere. Law preserves and sanctifies as well as rules. Without it or in defiance of it, there is no progress, no happiness, no life.

The yellow fever, as well as other epidemics, comes into action through violation of hygienic rules and sanitary regulations, based upon known natural laws. If the Almighty should interpose His omnipotence in mercy, after jus-

has claimed its own, and should touch a key by which the germs of the pestilence are transformed or dissolved into innocuous elements, answering the united prayers of a humbled people, all would be done by superior knowledge of nature's laws, and would exhibit the loving kindness of the great Father Heart. But this would not prove that He was the originator of the calamity, any more than that a skillful and successful dentist is the author of the toothache. Christ stilled the winds and calmed the waves, but he did not raise the tempest nor bring forth the storm. He opened the eyes of the sightless, but did not smite them with the blindness which he cured. He cleansed the lepers but did not generate their disease. Yet according to the Record-Union's logic, those who importuned Jesus to heal the sick, were guilty of "insolent blasphemy," and made Christ the originator of their afflictions. When sepiets and scoffers start in to overwhelm faith with logic, they should at least be logical, and when hurling a weapon against a Christian adversary, should take care that it is not a boomerang.

THE TOOLES STRUGGLE.

THE TOOLES muddle continue. The defendants not being able to find good and sufficient sureties on their bond for appeal, and the plaintiffs not being willing to accept "straw" bondsmen, the peremptory mandamus should have been issued. But, after the different stays of proceedings with which they have been indulged, the defendants are now permitted to begin over again, and make a new appeal. Five days time will be allowed in which to file their bonds; five days more will be given to the plaintiffs in which to object, then several days further for the defendants to perfect the bonds satisfactorily, and if they fail to do so there is no saying but that the court may allow them to repeat the farce ad libitum. However, we do not think it likely that the Judge will allow such ridiculous trifling with the law to proceed further, but that if the necessary bonds are not filed and the appeal perfected after these delays, the mandamus will issue and the count proceed.

The men who desire to retain offices in which the people do not want them, evidently think they will wear out the plaintiff, by the law's delays and the tricks which lawyers know how to play when the Court is willing. But we think they have made a great mistake this time, and that they will get tired of litigation and hold positions that do not belong to them, much sooner than the people's officers, who are struggling to obtain their rights and the triumph of popular suffrage against fraud, violence and chicanery. The right will surely win. Let its champions hold on to the end without wavering, and they will be certain of victory.

BY TELEGRAPH.

EASTERN.

NEW YORK, 14.—All the theatres of this city are now running. The Standard opened its doors last evening with the new and original American drama entitled "An Open Verdict." The play is a foolish and motiveless production; and is a splendid failure. In the whole cast there is not a single striking character.

The San says: Bonicelli's "Classical Harlequin" occupying the stage at Wallace's, was founded on a play written by Jules Janin in 1844, rather than upon the novel of Richardson.

Ada Cavendish, who made her debut at the Broadway, on Monday, has proved a popular favorite, and is drawing crowded houses.

The estimated benefit to Theodore Thomas at Gilmore's Garden, on Wednesday night, netted nearly \$5,000.

During the performance of "Macbeth" at Niblo's, on Wednesday evening, Miss Buckingham was most severely wounded in the knee while in one of the sword encounters.

Kate Byron, one of the Byron sisters, variety singers, was drowned in New Haven, on Saturday. A case of probable suicide.

The Florence opera at the Grand Opera House, on Monday, "The Mighty Dol" on the 30th.

"Evyadne" with Mary Anderson in the title role, will be produced in the Fifth Avenue, on Monday.

Rose Kyrtling has made a great hit in her new play, "A Woman of the People," at Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia.

The Railroad Sinking Fund Law, CHICAGO, 14.—The Tribune's Washington special says: The Pacific Railroad companies will, by Monday next, state whether or not they intend to furnish information to the government regarding the financial transactions as required by law. The Union and Central Pacific are determined to contest the constitutionality of the sinking fund law, but to do so by refusing to furnish their report would, in case they lost the suit with the government, imperil their charter.

Another Coach Stopped by Road Agents—One Killed, Others Wounded. HAT CREEK, WY., 14.—The north bound coach was stopped about 11 o'clock, last night, by six armed men, but returned to the coach, came up, disarmed and returned to a gulch, keeping up a steady fire on the messengers, who returned it, but dare not leave their position. The coach, in the mean time, had driven on and after waiting some time, and seeing that they were not strong enough to dislodge the robbers, the messengers mounted their horses and rejoined the coach, leaving the mail sacks lying in the road near the body of the dead robber. The

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