

times as hazardous in the United States as in England. In England, the block system is used on 90 per cent of the roads against 5 per cent in our own country. Mr. Prout suggests that railways be compelled to pay heavy damages for accidents, which would, in time, lead them to adopt all possible safeguards. On the other hand, it must be admitted that our laws have tended to depress earnings to the minimum and it is believed that freightage in many instances is done below cost already. In England, the revenue from freight is much larger than here. It would appear that our restrictive legislation is carried out at the expense of human martyrdom. This latter suggestion is not alone urged by the railroads, it seems on its face to be reasonable and just. If it may be accepted as such, it confirms the complaint of "negligence of operation" as above; but while directly laying the blame upon the corporations, a large portion properly may be indirectly laid at the door of the government, which, it must be said, has essayed to grapple with the transportation question in a vacillating and impractical way, apparently not knowing where to begin, where to stop, and when to get through.

#### CATHOLICS PERSECUTED.

A dispatch from Berlin now contains the sickening details of the massacre of Catholics by Cossacks in a small town of the vast Russian empire. It appears that about a hundred of these semi-barbarous soldiers attacked a church where many worshippers were congregated, and commenced to desecrate the place and maltreat the people. An alarm was sounded and the inhabitants of the place gathered and drove away the invaders, after a hot fight. Shortly after this the Cossacks, to the number of six hundred, returned and renewed their work of vandalism in the church. Crucifixes, images and altar ornaments were broken to pieces. About a hundred of the unfortunate people were cruelly murdered, their blood sprinkling the floor of their sacred edifice. Others were captured and driven to an open place, where they were stripped of their clothes, men and women alike, and beaten almost to death. And all this seems to have been done under the direction of regular officers of a Russian regiment.

In connection with this outrage the recent correspondence between Rome and Petersburg will be remembered. The pope a short time ago sent the czar a forcible protest against the persecutions of Catholics in Russia, threatening to denounce the autocrat before the world, if a change did not occur in his attitude toward them. The report says the czar, on the reception of this message, grew furious and proposed to take revenge. His wrath, however, was appeased on representation to him that the Roman pontiff might change his policy towards Russia in favor of the Triple Alliance. A special messenger, a Catholic bishop, was therefore dispatched to Rome to negotiate the conditions of peace between the heads of the two great divisions of the Catholic church.

Of course the question will natur-

ally arise, how far the Russian emperor can be held responsible for the fearful massacre of these Catholics. Probably a great many things are done by his semi-barbarous subjects, which the ruler regrets as much as anyone else. In this case, however, the suspicion is pardonable that the massacre was intended as an answer to the strong language of the pope. Should further investigation prove that suspicion to be only too well founded, and should no adequate reparation be made, it is not improbable that whatever political influence the pope still has will be exercised against Russia and in favor of the powers of the Triple Alliance. Any such leaning, no matter how trifling, will not fail to necessitate new and perhaps critical moves on Europe's great political chess-board.

#### THE END NOT YET.

The Seventh-day Adventists in Michigan have received another impression that the end of the world is very near. And so strong has the conviction become that a great many of them are donating their worldly goods to missionary funds for the purpose of converting the world to the seventh-day doctrine before the supposed destruction takes place. At a recent meeting held in Battle Creek, Mich., the people present gave up their gold watches, rings and other jewelry; and others are selling their homes at a sacrifice in order to become preachers.

Panics of this kind have occurred before, both in ancient and modern times, but the world still moves. The trouble is that a good many have read the prophetic declarations of sacred writ as if the mere studying of these would turn them into prophets, the falsity of which supposition has been proven again and again. Prophecy was never intended for that purpose.

To prepare the world for a coming change is a most laudable work, for present conditions are such that some change is necessary. Those who seek in worldly possessions their only happiness need to be reminded that they are building on foundations without stability; and those who consider themselves "oppressed" should be called upon to look forward to a time near at hand when such conditions shall no longer exist. The world should be taught that the coming change is the establishment of a new dispensation on earth, not its destruction. Thus, in the doctrine of a second advent of the Savior is hope and an admonition to well-doing to all. Those who think they at this time must sell their homes as a preparation for the end of the world must be ignorant of the teachings of inspired men on that important subject.

#### A YOUNG PLANT BUT STURDY.

There may be movements in the development of human affairs that have gone forward with greater rapidity than the cause of woman suffrage, but there are few that have been pursued with greater perseverance or promoted with more zeal and devotion. Its champions have encountered incalculable and in most instances un-

reasonable opposition, and they have had to go about all the time with visor down and lance in rest, not only to gain inch by inch the ground maintained by the enemy, but to defend against insidious attack the small portion already wrested by themselves. But this they have done courageously and uncomplainingly; they have been satisfied with gains that were small and in other eyes would have seemed insignificant; and if at the close of any hard-fought campaign they were able to see their principles extended and their outposts advanced if ever so little, they have considered their tireless vigilance and their undaunted courage amply repaid.

But their progress has not been altogether slow; of late years the equal suffrage idea has obtained immense momentum. A paper before us gives some startling figures as to the present status of the case and makes very interesting comparisons as to the area of land and the number of people over and among whom it has made its influence potent. It is shown that women now have the full suffrage—can vote for all elective offices—in

	Square miles.	People.
Wyoming .....	97,890	60,000
Colorado .....	103,925	419,000
New Zealand .....	104,032	621,000
Iceland .....	39,548	72,000
Isle of Man .....	280	55,000
Jersey (British Island) .....	45	60,000
Pitcairn Island .....	8	200
	315,723	1,267,200

This much as to statistics. As to comparisons it follows that the women have full suffrage in an area larger than New York, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida combined; larger than all the states on the Atlantic; larger than all the states on the Pacific; larger than all the territories—Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Oklahoma, and District of Columbia; larger than England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Switzerland, Greece, Turkey, Portugal, Bulgaria and Montenegro combined; larger than all Scandinavia; larger than France and Prussia united. Also that they have full suffrage among more people than either Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Maryland, Nebraska, or South Carolina; more people than New Hampshire, Vermont, Oregon and Delaware combined; more people than all Alaska, Arizona, British Columbia, District of Columbia, Idaho, Indian Territory, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Utah united.

These impressive figures apply only to those lands where woman enjoys full suffrage. The regions where she has the partial suffrage (England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Canada, Sweden, Kansas, Australia, etc.) are many, and enormous in area and population. As still more emphatically showing the progress of the great cause, detailed statistics of these latter would be interesting if space permitted their reproduction here. Enough has probably been given, however, to show that the little acorn of a few years ago has taken firm root in kindly soil, has already made straight, strong and shapely growth, and is casting its welcome shade over and upon responsive sections in all parts of the earth.