

Could you put the children of India, into a column four deep, and allowing a space of two feet for each child to walk in, you would have a procession reaching five thousand miles; and walking five miles a day, it would take them two and three-quarters years to pass a given point.

The widows of India would outnumber four cities like London, England. Give to each a standing space of one foot, standing ten abreast, and the closely-packed column would reach the full length of New York state.

One in every six of the females in India is doomed to a desolate and degraded life, and in this awful proportion, to disgrace and crime. The common term for widow and harlot in Bengal is the same.

### BRUTAL FOOTBALL.

Salt Lake is promised a game of football, in which a crack visiting team from Chicago is to engage a local club. It is quite probable that in this city the Chicagoans will present a less brutal display than that in which they took part in California for their closing game, on New Year's Day. On that occasion the Reliance Athletic club contended with the Chicago University team, winning by a score of 6 to 0. But the game was a most brutal affair, in which the superior weight, strength and fierceness of the Reliance men gained the day. Fortunately for the player, no one was killed, but that was not the fault of some of those who took part. It is related that Sherrard, of the California team, deliberately struck Wynt, of Chicago, and then knelt on his head as hard as he could; Wynt, of Chicago, was also purposely struck in the face and knocked over by a California player, and other brutalities were indulged in by the coast team till even the crowd blessed them for their cowardly tactics.

The game here may, perhaps will, attract a large attendance. Lovers of football, if there are any here who may be thus designated, no doubt are desirous that the set-to will present no particularly objectionable features, lest sensible people get a thorough insight into the innate brutality of the game, and direct their influence towards its suppression as a popular pastime. But nevertheless, it is a procedure that has no place in decent or safe athletic exercises, and should be frowned down. Regarding the endorsement it receives from certain educational institutions of presumed high standing, the following letter, which the New York *Independent* publishes for as having been sent to the president of a leading Eastern college by a gentleman who had three sons in attendance there, should be interesting reading, particularly to school officials:

Dear Sir—We are in receipt of your letter threatening our son James with disqualification for non-attendance at recitations. You can imagine the news was not agreeable to me, especially as he has been in bed for a week, under a surgeon's care, for a hurt received in that brutal game of football, which is authorized and endorsed by your college government.

I greatly regret that my sons are not sufficiently level-headed to ignore the game, and shall use my influence and possibly my authority, to induce them to look upon it as outsiders do. But

the whole atmosphere of the college is such that it is difficult to overcome the sentiment that the best use for a fine physical frame is to stand up and have it bruised and battered and disabled in endeavoring to uphold the glory of a college which will only expel a player if sufficiently disabled to be kept from attending recitations.

I feel strongly on this subject, with one son in bed with an abscess on his hip, the result of a kick; another disfigured with a broken front tooth; and still a third one wild with enthusiasm over the intercollegiate games; and I feel practically helpless to combat the sentiment which they imbibed at once on entering the college.

I think the time has come when parents throughout the country should rise up and demand a more wholesome influence on the part of the authorities on the subject of games.

The newspapers for a month have been filled with reports of casualties resulting from football, and it seems to the rural reader that the game is much more dangerous and no more respectable than ordinary prize fighting.

I have written to my son informing him of the penalty he will probably have to pay for his recreation, as I do not see how he will be able to go on if he loses two or three weeks' recitations, as he doubtless will now have to do.

### FANATICISM EXTRAORDINARY.

The resolution quoted in a dispatch from Tacoma, wherein a member of the Washington state legislature proposes that his state shall ask the general government to remove Mgr. Satolli from the confines of the United States, will be regarded by many people as opportune. The legislator referred to, F. T. Taylor, is state secretary of the A. P. A., and the paper he has prepared is an indication of the extent to which bigotry would be carried in this country by men whom the people occasionally entrust with the sacred responsibilities of lawmakers. If Mr. Taylor is backed in his proposition by the sentiment of the organization to which he belongs, then it must be classed, upon its own public attitude, as a more serious menace to American institutions than even it accuses the Catholic church of being.

Of course the request made in the resolution will not be acceded to. This country has not arrived at a condition when it can be induced to subject a man to banishment on account of his religious opinions. Such a suggestion as that referred to indicates an intolerance that might have been applauded by fanatics in the dark ages. The resolution, however, is opportune in further revealing the tendency of certain minds engaged in the anti-Catholic movement. It is a very small step from the proposed banishment of Mgr. Satolli to the indictment penalties for being a co-religionist with him; and then where non-religionists gain control, to make it a crime to profess religion at all. Therefore it is to the interest of all lovers of freedom to antagonize this tendency wherever it may present itself.

If Mgr. Satolli or any other Catholic, or a Methodist, Presbyterian or Rationalist, violates the constitutional law of the land, or menaces the national welfare, let him be prosecuted and punished by legal methods; but

when it comes to banishing a man from the country for his religious opinions, or for spiritual advice which he may give to persons who regard him as their spiritual guide, a people fit to govern themselves want none of it. Especially is this the case when the demand comes from a combination whose counsels and conspiracies are themselves antagonistic to republican institutions. Anti-Catholicism must be stripped of its fanaticism before its requests are entitled to even official consideration.

### A BAD POLICY.

The farmers of South Dakota have been so severely affected by the drouth the past season that it is said they have not sufficient seed for this year's planting. In fact the announcement is made that unless something is done to provide seed grain, not more than one-tenth of all the cultivated lands in the Dakotas can be planted this year. Under this comparatively destitute condition of the farming class, the merchants in the small towns also are made to suffer; and a failure to secure good crops this year will result most disastrously.

To make matters worse, the farmers generally have been pursuing a very bad policy for some years. The big elevator men have been ready to buy up grain at low rates in the fall, paying cash therefor. This ready money has been very acceptable to the farmer, who has let his full crop go, and then to secure seed grain has borrowed from the elevator companies, giving chattel mortgages as security. Thus he has proceeded on a continuous debtor's basis.

The evil of the custom now comes home with full force. The stock and other personal property about a farm is not regarded this year as good security, so the elevator companies say they cannot loan on that basis. Realizing the necessities of the agriculturist, however, the elevator men have made a proposition, in which they say they are willing to lend, not on chattel mortgages, but on county warrants. The counties are expected to pay in time warrants, and to distribute the seed among the farmers, looking to the latter for their recompense. Thus the elevator men are perfectly secured, by mortgage on the public funds. It is said that various county commissioners will be impelled by public sentiment, owing to the necessities of the situation, to accept his proposition, and some have done so already. By this means the Shylocks who lend are all right, but the agriculturists and taxpayers seem to be getting in a very bad fix; and all because, in the first place, the farmers were chronic debtors.

THE NEWS is gratified to be able to give in full, and to commend to the careful attention of all its readers, the admirable address by Dr. John R. Park, president of the Forestry Association, delivered at the meeting of that society on Friday evening, the 21st inst. The subject is of great importance, and the Doctor's treatment of it is exhaustive and valuable.