



GEORGE Q. CANNON.....EDITOR

Wednesday, June 17, 1868.

## NOTICE.

MESSRS. Joseph A. Young, Brigham Young, Junr., and John W. Young, agents for President Brigham Young, left this city on the 8th inst., for the head of Echo Cañon, to let contracts for grading on the Union Pacific Railroad, and will begin the lettings on Thursday, the 11th inst. Parties wishing contracts on that road can now start their men, provisions, tools, &c., as fast as they can get ready. As soon as the line is all located, about 10,000 men will be wanted.

## CO-OPERATION AND ITS BENEFITS.

THE combination of the working classes on a co-operative principle is said to be producing extraordinary results in many places. In Great Britain especially they are entering largely into the system and great benefits follow its adoption. In that country, as in many others, there is a class of middlemen, who stand between the manufacturer, the wholesale dealer and the other producing classes and the consumer. The profits which this class accumulate are enormous, and they are made entirely at the expense of the laboring classes.

It has long been felt that by this system there were serious burdens laid upon the lower classes, which were heavy to be borne, and from which they ought to be relieved. It seemed difficult, however, to find a plan that would successfully correct this evil. The co-operative principle was finally adopted. This was the combination of a number of men who contributed a certain sum each to the formation of a capital stock. They said to these retail dealers, "If you will not give us an article for a fair market value, we will form our own market—be our own customers. We can find our own capital; and we will see whether we cannot find our own judgment."

Stores for the supplying of every article of food and clothing were established upon this principle. They were patronized by the shareholders, and they were able to purchase what they needed at a lower rate than formerly, and then participated in the profits which the business yielded. It is stated that if the co-operative movement had not been started in England, and so successfully worked, emigration would have been much greater from that country than it has been. But it is asserted that by the system of co-operation nearly a million of money is divided annually as clear profits among the shareholders of its various provision stores. By a small, weekly payment, provision against sickness is made, the company granting so much per week during its continuance. Medical men are hired on the same principle for over a million of adults, and a certain sum provided in the event of death. People are beginning to be educated also on co-operative principles.

One company, which only numbered 40 when first organized, had increased last year to 1,600 members—"all small capitalists—nearly all freed from the thralldom of that greatest of poor men's curses—debt." Last year they were doing a business of £25,000 per annum, and had paid a half-yearly dividend of 1s. 10d. in the pound on all members' purchases; 11d. on all non-members; 5 per cent. for the use of all capital invested; bought and paid for a large premises which now belongs to the whole of the members, and which will constitute a bond of union for the future; had collected a select, but splendid library; built a good lecture room, and, what is of no little importance, compelled the outside shopkeepers to dispose of their goods for reasonable prices, or they could get no customers at all. They had no bad debts, for they sold for pay down, and changed their committee often, so as to accustom a large number of their members to the management of business.

Such a system as this, carried on so successfully in the world, is very suggestive to the people of Utah. It shows them what great results can be effected by a wise combination. It is their union that makes the people of this Territory power in the land. They co-operate, and the effects of their co-operation are marvellous. But they have much to learn yet respecting this principle. What they have done should encourage them to greater efforts in this direction. The organization of the people is of such a character that they can harmoniously co-operate as no other people can. There are not many large capitalists in this country. The means of the people is pretty equally distributed. But by a judicious system of co-operation, all the benefits which capital affords can be obtained without the evils which are too apt to follow the concentration of capital in the hands of a few men.

A combination of a large number of small sums can work wonders. Such a combination for the purchase of merchandise, etc., has been urged upon the attention of the people by President Young for some time. The necessity for it becomes more apparent every day. Besides merchandise, there are agricultural implements, machinery, furniture, carriages, and a great variety of articles needed. We pay a heavy tribute for everything we need that is manufactured out of iron, glass and lead. This will continue to be the case after the Railroad is completed. The demand for stoves, grates and the great variety of articles which are made out of iron will continue to increase; so also with glass and lead. Iron, glass and lead can be manufactured here with but little difficulty, and we need them. But such manufactories require capital to start and carry them on, and this capital, can be obtained by co-operation. The subject is an important one, and deserves attention.

## MORALS OF PUBLIC MEN.

In an article on "The Morals of Public Men," the New York *Observer* says that public opinion in the United States and in England and France does not regard moral character as essential to the possession and exercise of the highest public office. In England Gladstone has been declared to be the only statesman who is pure and unselfish, and on that account he is not considered fit for the leader of his party. And, adds the *Observer*, it is a lamentable fact that in this country it is not considered necessary that the President, Senator, Representative or Judge should be a man of good morals; and that intemperance, or at least frequent inebriation, is a vice of our most distinguished public men. The facts that come to us from the halls of Congress are enough to startle the nation when it hears that legislation is in the hands, and sometimes liable to be settled, by the votes of men who are so besotted by drink as to be unfitted for public duties. The *Observer* concludes as follows:

"We have no other evidence to give than the unchallenged statements of those who see and hear what is going on. We accept the facts and deplore them, but see no remedy and no hope.

The financial interests of the country are now suffering, in consequence of a public demoralization that has no parallel in the history of our country, and perhaps in no country on earth where the Christian religion has prevailed."

We are sometimes accused of a love of exaggerating and distorting the evils that exist in the present state of society; but we venture to assert that the above statements of the *Observer*, a paper having no sympathy with us or the views we entertain, so far as we are aware, contain a more sweeping expose than ever appeared in our columns. The fact of immoral men and sots being eligible for and holding the highest public offices is preposterous and criminal. It proves the existence of an almost universal venality among electors and is amply sufficient to account for partisan legislation, heavy taxation and for that sectional strife and animosity which threaten the complete ruin of the country. Men elected to legislate for all the material interests of millions of people ought to be the very best of men—men far above venality and corruption, and whose morality integrity and sobriety are invulnerable. No wonder that England and America no longer occupy the proud positions as nations which they once held, if the statements made by the *Observer* are true, and very few will attempt to question them.

The *Observer* deplores the existence of such a state of things, but sees no hope

or remedy. This is worse than all. Is the nation so far gone that the Halls of Legislation cannot be purified, and the welfare and interests of the people be placed in worthy hands? What is the good of our boasted enlightenment and education if this cannot be done? They surely cannot be working out the effects we have a right to expect. Are the people generally too corrupt to elect good and worthy men to legislate for them? Are they so ignorant of political science that they cannot see that the most momentous interests of the nation are being played away and trifled with by men, many of whom care for office only for the power and influence it may give them? If so, it is a poor compliment to their public teachers. Let it be henceforth the aim of the latter to rouse the attention of the masses to the fact that in the Halls of Legislation, and in all public positions integrity, honesty morality and purity are more needed if possible than in the pulpit. Instead of men who are intemperate and immoral being eligible for the highest public office, they should not be for the lowest. The servants of the great public ought to be men of exemplary life, men of wisdom men of tried integrity; not anxious for office, but elected because of their goodness and virtue.

In the early days of the Republic the men elected to control the affairs of the nation were of this class. Then the wisdom manifested in our halls of State commanded the respect and admiration of the world. Our legislators had the spirit of their callings, and, too lofty in soul to make laws for selfish or party purposes, they sought only the real good of the people at large. But in our own day politicians are notoriously venal, and brass and loud-mouthed blatancy have, to a very great extent, replaced the patriotism which was the distinguishing feature in the characters of those who fought for and founded the Republic.

The people of Utah are accused on almost every hand of barbaric tendencies. They are said to be opposed to the building of the railway and to everything else indicative of progress; but with all their blindness and ignorance they are far too wise to elect for law-makers and all offices of public trust, men who are either intemperate or immoral. Far from electing such individuals, they look upon them as among the most disreputable members of society. Our law-makers are elected, not because they want office, but because their wisdom, disinterestedness, invulnerable integrity and patriotism render them especially eligible for office. The result is that in no country in the world is there so little partizanship and so little waste of the public means; and in no country in the world are peace and good will so general among all classes of the people as in Utah.

When our enlightened fellow-citizens in the other States and Territories of the Union will adopt the same principles in the election of their law-makers and public men they may confidently expect similar results to follow, but not till then.

## FISH CULTURE IN THE EAST.

THE Hon. W. H. Hooper has forwarded us a "Report of the Commissioners of Fisheries for the year 1868," of the Commonwealth of Mass. In the Report the question of Fish Culture is entered into at considerable length. To prevent the decrease of fish the Report says, "that good laws will be a wholesome check there can be no doubt, but they alone will not suffice to make our rivers and ponds a sure source of abundant food in the same sense that our pastures are so."

"There lies perhaps a remedy in our own hands, and that remedy is *Artificial Breeding*, a sowing of fish, just like a sowing of corn. People will at once ask, what advantage is there in artificial over natural propagation; why not let the fish breed in their own way? This question may best be answered by another: What advantage is there in sowing, over wild growth? Why not let corn grow and sow itself in its own way? Or, in a less striking form, what advantage is there in good cultivation over bad? Suppose two equal quantities of corn sown, and the product gathered and again sown, for three successive seasons, and suppose the one was ill cultivated, and so produced only ten bushels to an acre, while the other was well cultivated and produced seventy bushels to an acre. Then the increasing ratio of the two products, at the end of each season would be as seven to one, and for the three seasons, 7:1—49:1—373:1. In other words, at the end of the third

season where the poor cultivation has produced one bushel, or one quart, the good would have produced three hundred and forty-three bushels, or three hundred and forty-three quarts. Turn now to a living animal and see if there be any analogy in what is called the "waste of nature," (though more properly the *prodigality*, or the balance, of nature)."

The Report then proceeds to show by statistics the great gain there is made by artificial breeding over the natural process. A carefully prepared statement estimates that of 40,000 eggs of shad laid in the natural way, only one arrives at the age of three years. From two pairs of adult shad, which should come to a river each year, for three successive years, and there breed, a calculation of what they and their descendants would amount to at the end of that time, is made. A carefully prepared estimate is then made of what the results would be from the artificially hatched spawn of two pairs of large shad, taken three years in succession, added to the spawn of their mature progeny within that period. The results in favor of artificial propagation are as 162,036 to 84, or as 2,000 to 1 nearly. This, in the language of the report, is nothing unbelievable, when we see what a difference was made in corn, by a poor or good cultivation. But it is a difference that ought to call the attention of all thoughtful persons to this subject.

There seems to be a necessity in New England for attention to be paid to this pursuit. The Report says:

"As this whole subject, though not new, is certainly novel to our people, it is well to consider to what point we have come, here in New England, in the matter of animal food. We have come, then, to good beef at 35 cents a pound, poultry at 33 cents, sea fish at 20 cents, and other things in proportion. As to game, we have come to grouse, venison, quails and ducks, brought 1,200 miles by railroad, and sold at high prices to people who can afford such delicacies. Time was, when our country boys could go to the next brook and catch enough good trout for a meal; now, one may buy a pound of trout, if he has half a dollar wherewith to pay for it, and he will probably get a newly spawned fish, speared in its bed, and which the fish-monger is prepared to prove that it was 'caught out of the State!' People complain, and the legislature passes game laws, and nobody pays any attention to them after they are passed. Why? Because we insist on considering wild animals as our remote forefathers considered them, when men were scarce and wild animals were plenty. In a new country, the first settlers may properly have, not only liberty, but in some things license; license to till land anywhere, to cut wood anywhere, to shoot and trap game anywhere, to catch fish anywhere and in any way. All such things then are too plenty. As population increases, land and wood become PROPERTY, until, as in Tuscany, the one is cultivated by the square rod, and the other, as in Paris, is sold by the pound. This is the march of civilization; but in our march of civilization we have very thoughtlessly trampled under foot a most valuable property, because of a vague idea that it was game, and, by immemorial right, belonged to anybody and to everybody. And, to-day, there is many an honest fellow who might safely be trusted with untold gold, but who, nevertheless, would not scruple to steal trout from your brook."

After showing the profits which can be made from the culture of fish, the Report says, "let it be remembered that what stands here only on paper, may, with the same pains that produces a crop of wheat, be illustrated by an accomplished fact. And yet our clever people go on, year after year, putting up more thousands of spindles, and flooding the market with unsaleable cotton goods, when from the very water which turns their wheels, they might coin money, with no other machinery than a net and a hatching trough."

We publish these extracts, not because the plans adopted in the East are in every way applicable to our country, but to show the interest the Eastern people are taking in this branch of business. In this country we will necessarily have to depend upon ourselves for the needed experience to enable those who enter into this business to carry it on successfully and profitably. But that it can be made, with the facilities we possess, both successful and profitable there is no room for doubt. We shall probably make further extracts from this interesting work, as the whole subject on which it bears is replete with interest just now to the people of this