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JAMES GORDON BENNETT, PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

- GRAND OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st. and Eighth av.—ROBERT LEVY. NEW FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, 728 and 730 Broadway.—ALICE. WOODS MUSEUM, Broadway, corner Thirtieth st.—NICK AND NECK. AFTERNOON AND EVENING. ATHENEUM, No. 126 Broadway.—GRAND VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT. ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Fourteenth street.—ITALIAN OPERA.—MINIONS. NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston streets.—LEO AND LOTUS. ST. JAMES THEATRE, Broadway and 23d st.—BERNARD OPERA.—LA SONNAMBULA. OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway, between Houston and Bleeker streets.—LUCY DUMPHY. UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Union square, between Broadway and Fourth av.—ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD. WALLACE'S THEATRE, Broadway and Thirteenth street.—DAVID GARIBOLDI. FOSTER'S THEATRE, Twenty-third street, corner Sixth avenue.—NO THOUGHTS. BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—WALTS OF NEW YORK.—CREATORS OF IMPULSE. GERMANIA THEATRE, Fourteenth street, near Third av.—MARRI AND MARGARENA. THEATRE COMIQUE, No. 514 Broadway.—'93: OR, THE FUGITIVE AT THE FARM. MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—AMBIOS. BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE, Twenty-third st., corner 6th av.—NEBRO MINSTRELS, &c. TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Monday, March 10, 1873.

THE NEWS OF YESTERDAY.

To-Day's Contents of the Herald.

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THE NEW MINT AND COINAGE BILL.—THE EFFECT UPON EASTERN TRADE.—We publish to-day in another part of the paper a very interesting article on the new silver coin authorized by Congress, and the probable effect this will have upon our trade with Asia, and particularly with China. The trade dollar, which will have the weight and fineness stamped upon it, and will be very superior in finish, and which is only intended for foreign commerce, will, it is thought, prove very attractive to the Chinese and tend to increase our trade with China. The object is commendable, no doubt, and may have the effect desired; but we do not see how the trade dollar is to be confined to foreign trade as proposed. The money dealers will, undoubtedly, make use of it for trade and speculative purposes. We hope, however, it may tend to develop and increase our trade with China, for that is the part of the world we should look to augment our commerce and shipping interests. This is a movement in the right direction, if even it should fail to produce all the results anticipated.

THE POPE STILL PROTESTING.—On Saturday His Holiness the Pope, replying to an address, stated that reconciliation with the Italian government was impossible. God would punish the invaders of his dominions. The Holy Father has the utmost confidence that the Church will ultimately triumph. We have often in these columns tried to show that the fall of the temporal power did not affect the welfare or prosperity of the Church. The Church is, or at least ought to be, a spiritual institution. The temporalities have been a hindrance to the Church rather than otherwise. Pity that the Holy Father does not see it in this light! His dominion is larger than Rome. It is wide as the world, and in all the regions of the earth he reigns in the hearts of his faithful children. The ultimate triumph of the Church will not depend upon the restitution of the temporalities.

Beginning of the Presidential Terms of 1861 and of 1873—The Rebellion and the Revolution.

The contrast between our political system and the elements and surroundings of the first inauguration of President Lincoln in 1861 and the second inauguration of President Grant in 1873 marks the epoch of a revolution and a work of political reconstruction the most radical, complete and comprehensive in the history of any people. It embodies the leading idea of the American Declaration of 1776 and the enduring principles of the great French Revolution of 1789. It establishes the equal and inalienable national rights of all men and the sovereignty of the people. This great revolution, precipitated upon the country in the Southern rebellion of 1861, has not only been carried through to its logical conclusion within the brief historical epoch of the twelve eventful years that have followed, but is universally accepted from the lately rebellious section of the Union as fixed beyond any probabilities of change for generations to come.

To comprehend and to appreciate the height and depth, the length and breadth of this amazing and comprehensive revolution in a few brief touches of pen or pencil, we have only to outline the pictures—two widely different—of the first inauguration of President Lincoln and the second inauguration of President Grant. In 1861 President Lincoln, en route from Harrisburg to Washington, to avoid the dangers of treasonable conspiracies lying in wait to cut him off along his appointed route and time for the journey, was constrained to adopt a convenient disguise and to slip through like a thief in the night. Thus safely arriving at his destination, he found himself surrounded by new dangers, which appeared to offer no loophole of safety or of escape for the national government or the Union. A Southern Confederacy, founded upon the corner stone of negro slavery, was already in the field and preparing for war. Mysterious rumors were afloat that Lincoln never would be inaugurated; that an organized body of ten thousand Southern men from Virginia and Maryland was within convenient distance for a descent upon and seizure of the capital; that the city was filled with the sworn confederates of this alarming conspiracy; that they were in every department of the government, and that they had the active sympathies of nine-tenths of the resident white population of Washington.

That these rumors were well founded could not be doubted by any eye-witness of the precautions adopted by General Scott for the safety of President Lincoln on his memorable inauguration day of 1861. The handful of loyal United States troops which General Scott had collected in Washington were distributed with remarkable sagacity for the safety of the city against an apprehended rebel raid and for the protection of the new President in his progress from the White House to the Capitol. For the safety of the city pickets were stationed at various points of approach to announce, if required, the coming of the enemy, and for the protection of the President a squad of cavalry, equipped for bloody work, surrounded his barouche, and sentinels on the housetops were posted from point to point along the line of march, prepared with a pre-arranged system of signals for the concentration of the troops at any point where an attack might be made to cut off the inauguration. At the Capitol, from the street to the side door of the Senate wing, where the President entered the building, a covered way had been erected, under which he could pass without danger of a hostile bullet from the miscellaneous multitude there assembled. The platform on the eastern central portico, on which the inauguration ceremonies were enacted, was boarded up so high above the mighty mass of people assembled in front that no pistol shot could reach Lincoln from any would-be martyr for Southern independence from the plaza. But the most touching and the most suggestive fact on that awful day of doubt, suspense and mystery and peril was the fact that the outgoing President, Buchanan, in the same barouche, and seated by his side, rode up to the Capitol with Lincoln, and was there by his side to the close of the inauguration. In this courteous and courageous act on the part of Buchanan there was an endorsement of the incoming administration of Lincoln which, we cannot doubt, gave it in that critical emergency a moral support the value of which cannot be too highly estimated. That act of President Buchanan is at least entitled to be held by every surviving Union man of that day in grateful remembrance.

President Lincoln was quietly inaugurated, and with the going down of the sun of that ominous 4th of March it is said that General Scott remarked, "The great immediate dangers of the morning have been safely passed, thank God; but there are other and broader dangers still before us." The dangers of that morning, in the judgment of Scott, from the facts and rumors in his possession, were the dangers of the seizure of the capital by a powerful armed body of Southern conspirators and the danger of Lincoln's assassination. Even an outline of the stupendous events which have filled up the eventful twelve years which have followed that portentous morning of dangers, fears and suspicions need not here be given to enable the reader to mark the bright and encouraging contrast afforded in our report of the brilliant second inauguration of President Grant. It marks, we repeat, the completion of our great revolution of equal rights, and the universal recognition by all the people of all the States that on the broad and strong foundations of universal liberty the equal rights of all men and of all the States are established under the sovereign and all-embracing nationality of the United States.

But now, when the danger and immediate consequences of civil war are passed, and a great political and social revolution has been effected, it will be well to make a pause for breathing time and reflection. The continued whirl of stupendous events during the last twelve years has kept the public mind on a stretch, and has afforded little time to reflect upon the tendency of the revolution or upon the shoals and breakers that may be ahead. With the enfranchisement of four millions of slaves and the immediate concession to them of full political privileges we have enlarged the area of individual freedom to an extent and more suddenly than was ever known before, at least among a people ignorant and unprepared for such a change. We have assumed that the right of freedom, suffrage and equal-

ity was inherent, irrespective of race, color or previous condition, and have traced to the common sense of the enfranchised, uneducated and unprepared as they were, or to Providence, to carry the Republic through the ordeal. It was believed by many and hoped by all that, whatever inconvenience might arise at first from hastily conceding political privileges to the blacks, the very exercise of the suffrage would educate these people in public matters as well as elevate them. It is but fair to say that the result has not much disappointed expectation. The negroes generally have behaved very well so far, and had it not been for the miserable scoundrels and unprincipled carpet-baggers in the South, there would have been little or no trouble in that section of the country. The danger that besets the Republic springs from pushing the revolution too far. The government, with the view of protecting individual citizens in their rights, and particularly the newly enfranchised blacks, has gone beyond the limits of safety. The rights of the States have been invaded to a dangerous extent. We have a striking example of this in the case of Louisiana. The federal authority has actually overturned a State government and arbitrarily set aside the will of the people as expressed at the ballot box. And if one State government can be thus overthrown others may be on the same pretext. It is time, then, as was said before, that the people of the United States began to consider well the necessity of stopping the revolution and of returning to those conservative principles which secure local self-government, as well as defend individual rights. It is more necessary now to prevent the undue encroachments of federal power than to impose restrictions upon the States. The old extreme State rights dogma is dead and buried. There is no more danger to be apprehended from that. The danger now is in federal usurpation.

Utilized Sewage.

The advent of Spring warns us to give early heed to theory for a clean city. Whether "cleanliness be next to godliness" or not, no question of municipal reform should come home with greater power to the public conscience than that which so vitally affects every citizen. Unfortunately and fatally for thousands the science of municipal purification is almost unknown, and the art, if it ever existed, is one of the lost arts. The various questions which interest the public health have, however, been investigated *seriatim* by earnest and sagacious men, and if their conclusions had been acted upon systematically our great centres of population would have been spared many an epidemic. To the honor of modern science it may be said a great provision against street and sewage poison has been devised and successfully applied, so that "Out of this stinny, danger, we pluck this flower, safety."

We allude, of course, to the chemical treatment of sewage and its utilization for agricultural purposes. Nothing is better demonstrated by all metropolitan experience than the impossibility of preserving the public health so long as countless streams of filth are allowed to ooze into the adjoining rivers or the bay, whose waters either exhale their pestilence or are imbibed by neighboring cities. Geologic experiments show convincingly that in the neighborhood of London the lowest permeable strata and the deep-seated artesian springs are polluted by the foul and penetrating deposits from the surface. Only last December the power of rivers to transport their corrupt and offensive matter was startlingly illustrated, when on the coast of Tohago (apparently from the flooded delta of the Orinoco) a saltless and fetid tide was precipitated, as is not unfrequently the case in the flood seasons of that river.

It is evident, therefore, that the protection of humanity consists only in arresting and confining the pollution and passing it through some alembic, in which its chemical constitution is changed and rendered innocuous. The practical and extensive experiments in the treatment and utilization of sewage, garbage, offal and all kinds of fecal matter satisfy the most sceptical that this is possible, and the residuum, rightly employed, is an invaluable fertilizer to the soil. The researches of such eminent microscopists and naturalists as Pasteur and Thomson reveal the fact that the decaying vegetable and animal matter lying in our streets and gutters is the prey of invisible little scavengers, and that when these microscopic fungi are at their dainty meals putrefaction is rapid, and often sulphuretted hydrogen and other gases make it doubly offensive. The British Association reports on this subject take the ground that when the sewage has been properly filtered and strained, so that the dissolved and suspended substances are left behind, the liquid that escapes may be allowed to enter the rivers without producing any deleterious effects such as accompany the original sewage itself. These able and authoritative reports have further shown that light, porous, gravelly and even sandy soils, when treated with the residual sewage, furnish crops of unwonted richness, and that meadows watered with the liquid will prolifically. The sewage farms at Tunbridge Wells, Croydon, Cheltenham, Bloxwich and other English towns have, since 1870, clearly settled the value and utility of such irrigation and fertilizing. The apprehension at first entertained in England that sewage-grown grass would expose cattle fed upon it to parasitic life has long been dispelled by the dissection of animals fattened upon it. In fact, it is distinctly observable that, so far from multiplying insect forms in the sewage-irrigated land, the new process destroys them; while, in addition to this strong recommendation, we have the almost unanimous reports of eminent London engineers that "the process of defeating the sewage of London by means of lime can be effected with advantage and perfect safety, and the discharge of the clear sewage water into the Thames will not be a source of danger or discomfort to the public." The disposition of the masses of hitherto useless and deadly filth-poisons from our great cities is already made a source of revenue which would help to balance the heavy expenditure for street-cleaning. The estimates for the value of sewage from a city of one hundred thousand inhabitants vary from one hundred thousand dollars to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and in that or a higher proportion for larger populations.

To bring the case nearer home, in Chicago, where the aggregate blood of animals slaughtered last year was nearly two and a quarter million gallons, and the offal was over twenty-one thousand tons, the process of manufacturing fertilizers from the matter has been successful and remunerative in the highest degree to the company which enjoys a monopoly of the business. In Baltimore, as the Assistant Health Commissioner's late report indicates, the experiments have been crowned with unexpected success, and this officer states that he anticipates making at least twenty thousand tons of fertilizing poultice, which, at the moderate price of ten dollars a ton, will yield the city "a revenue of two hundred thousand dollars annually, to say nothing of some thirty thousand dollars' worth of fine, strong compost, which will result from the vegetable offal, sifted ash and fine street manure." Boston expends about a third of a million of dollars annually for street-cleaning and removing garbage, with but little return from its sale. New York spends nearly a million and a quarter in street-cleaning, with no revenue from the sale of her filth and sewage. If this were economically manufactured and honestly put into market the profits to the Corporation would be enormous, as the Herald has previously shown, probably exceeding three millions of dollars.

It is probable, nay certain, that if such a system was carried out the mortality of the metropolis would be almost immediately diminished. There would be a premium for the thorough cleansing of the streets and avenues, which the public would be zealous in securing, and the slums of the city—which bear a striking resemblance to the "Black Town" of Calcutta—would be half redeemed from disease and pestilence. At that Indian city, since the sewage works have been established in the southern portions (in 1870) the mortality from cholera, fevers and dysentery has been reduced by nearly one half, and the plague stigma has been removed from the capital of the East.

The metropolitan cities of the world are the receptacles and users of the products of the rural soil, and a sound physical economy demands that when these products have been used they should be restored to the soil whence they came, to enter into new vegetable combinations. New York ought to be the first to introduce this benign system of sewage utilization into her municipal machinery.

Our Imports from Germany.

We publish to-day in a letter from a Berlin correspondent an interesting table gathered from the reports of the American consulates in Germany, showing the value of our imports from that Empire during the past year. From it we learn that there has been a gain in the values of the articles shipped, from that of 1871, amounting to four million dollars, or more than twelve per cent. By far the largest portion comes from Prussia, which sent fourteen million dollars, Saxony ten millions, and the Hanse Towns six and a half millions, the balance being contributed from Bavaria, Baden and Wurtemberg. Cotton hosiery appears as the most valuable article in this list of our drafts upon German industry. Woolen cloths are next in amount. Hardware, ribbons, trimmings, toys, musical instruments, books, furs, glass and earthen ware, hops, leather and wines enter prominently into the account. In this exhibit we see that Germany, recovering from the diversion of her forces from industrial pursuits consequent upon a state of war, is rapidly enlarging her exports to this country, and this increase may be taken as an indication of proportionate growth in her industrial production. As a supplier of our wants she is far behind France, all Germany selling in goods to the value of thirty-seven millions, while Paris alone exceeded that sum by more than a million. Should no warlike disturbance interfere, it is reasonable to anticipate that our trade with the Empire of Kaiser William will continue rapidly augmenting. There is one item whose movement is not alluded to in these figures. Our most valuable importation from Germany is citizens. Though the imperial government is loath to spare them they still continue to find their way hither in search of juster payment for labor and less exacting demands for military and other governmental services than obtains in the land of their birth. While we have broad tracts of virgin soil yet unstolen by the land-grabbing corporations, we shall continue to esteem the stream of emigrants which Germany sends us as more desirable than all her other products, and welcome them as we do all who come from the crowded populations of Europe to work out in free America the problem of a government by the free expression of an intelligent and self-respecting people, without the aid of rulers by virtue of birth or right divine.

Rapid Transit in the Legislature.

Discussion in the Assembly upon the Pneumatic Underground Railway bill shows that the representatives of the rural districts are willing to allow New York city the advantages of rapid transit so soon as our citizens can settle which of the many plans they approve. Every day's life in the city illustrates the urgency of our necessity for some swift and sure means of locomotion in, above, below or between our streets. This city wastes months of time each year in the stupid effort to effect by the old-fashioned horse motive power those quick changes of place demanded by the habits of this steam age. We do not harness up the colt or put a saddle on the pony when we start for Boston or Baltimore. Why should we still use dray teams to convey us from the City Hall to Harlem? If Manhattan Island is to continue to furnish the homes, and not merely the warehouses, shops, offices or factories of her citizens, we must at once adopt some faster conveyances than stages, which are obliged to pass through side streets to escape crowded Broadway, and horse cars, liable to be stopped on the track by the hour at a time, when we are most anxious to be prompt. Our engineers suggest plans enough. Let us put some one of them on trial at once. Failure in any one of them would not be fatal to our hopes. By experiment alone can the merits and faults of a proposed improvement be ascertained. "From the Battery to Westchester in thirty minutes" is not an unreasonable demand. No longer time ought to be required between any two points in the city. To make this proposition a fact should be the aim of our enterprising capitalists. It is possible and will pay.

The Projects and Troubles of the Spanish Republic.

The discussion of the bill for the dissolution of the National Assembly and the election and convocation of the constituent Cortes proceeds, according to our latest despatches from Madrid, with considerable anxiety of success to the project of the government. After a long and animated, but by no means violent debate, the Assembly, on Saturday, by a vote of 186 to 19, decided to take the bill into consideration, which doubtless means that it will ultimately pass into law, with, perhaps, some amendments on minor details. This is a triumph for Señor Figueras and his republican Ministry, and is highly creditable to the patriotism of the radical majority in the Assembly. The President of the Chamber descended from his chair and made a manly speech, in which he said that he should not oppose the governmental determination to dissolve the Assembly. It would thus seem that the project of an appeal to the people will be carried out. With the weight which the logic of events must bring to the side of the Republic, we may hope that the Ministry will be enabled to meet the law-giving power with a working majority in sympathy with it. The radicals who represent the shade of liberalism that was typified in the revolution of 1868 and what followed in the interregnum, and whose support of Amadeus was so lukewarm, except the Republic too much in the spirit that nothing better is available to be counted on as reliable supporters of those republican measures which alone will give Spain a permanent democratic government.

Apart from the Carlists in the field, who are estimated at from ten thousand to twelve thousand men, one of the greatest difficulties in the way of the Ministry is the division among republicans themselves as to whether the government shall be centralized or federal. The partisans of either scheme are already known as Federalists or Unitarians. The former are composed generally of the advanced republicans in the great towns, and their plan is to model the Spanish Republic on the American. The Unitarians count in their ranks the more moderate republicans, some of the present ministry and a class who appeal to the sentimentality of a powerful, homogeneous nation, a large army and navy and the old Spanish dream of a *Conquistador* mission among the nations. The federalists propose cheap government, local laws on the fashion of our States, and the relegation of great armies to the past, in which they wrought such misery for Spain. They further hope by the division into federal States to make the chances of a reactionary coup less likely to be successful. It is a cause which the centralized imperial governments of Europe would combat with energy, because of the lesson it would give their conscripted and highly-taxed subjects. In one point of view alone would it be to their interest, namely, in that it would tend to be still less formidable as a fighting power out of its boundaries than it has been. Considering Spain's long feebleness for mischief in this way, we can foresee that federalism in Spain will meet with a great deal of inauspicious if not open opposition from without. The report, therefore, that the Federal Republic had been proclaimed at Barcelona, well known as possessing a strong and sturdy republican majority, is of great importance at present. President Figueras has hurried from the capital to that city and may probably have sufficient influence to control the federalists from precipitating matters. If uncontrolled the movement in Barcelona will interfere seriously with the project of the Ministry of an appeal to the country through the elections. It brings the matter, however, so strongly forward that it will in any case enter at once into the conditions on which votes will be cast if the elections are reached in accordance with the ministerial purpose. The difficulties surrounding the position are very grave, yet we sincerely hope that the good fortune of a bloodless victory, which came to the Republic in the beginning, will be long continued.

The Conservancy of the Forests.

The grave economic question of conserving forests has recently, in several parts of Europe, been made the subject of interesting and instructive experiments. It used to be the boast of modern civilization that in its march over the globe it had conquered Nature and subdued the primeval forests which she had planted for the highest and most beneficent ends. Science is beginning to explode this conceit, and is rendering a great service to mankind by exposing its fallacy. It is impossible to glance over the climatic history of the Old World or the New without discovering that marked changes have taken place, even within the period of authentic annals. There are now no such climates in Central Europe as were described, with no exaggerated pen, by the writers and warriors who chronicled the march of the old Roman armies. Since the close of the eighteenth century we read of no such spectacle as the freezing over of the Baltic, the Zuyder Zee, the Hellespont and the Black seas, which, at various times previously, had been covered with solid bridges of ice. And, if we may credit the keen and cautious testimony of such observant historians of American colonial climate as Volney, Rush, Samuel Williams and Mr. Jefferson, there can be little doubt that in the last century the country east of the Alleghanies has undergone a decided physical deterioration.

The denudation of the soil has long since attracted the serious concern and stimulated the stringent legislation of nearly every country in Europe. Not long since experiments were made in Germany which demonstrated the fact that the oak tree discharges from its leaves an amount of evaporation more than eight times, as great as the rainfall over the area of soil which it shades. As this excess of water must be drawn up by the roots of the oak from great depths, the inference is that trees prevent the drying of the climate by restoring to the air the moisture which would be borne in destructive torrents to the ocean. In the French department of the Hautes Alpes (where the ravages of the axe threatened to spoil the land of its harvests), the compulsory covering of the denuded and barren tracts with fresh turf and vegetation is found to render them retentive of the rain, and has restored their pristine verdure, while the streams have become less turbid and violent, and the bridges less frequently swept off.

Such results can scarcely be attributed to any other cause than the partial replacement of the natural and necessary protection which Mother Earth demands, if we would have her remain healthy and prolific. It has been sometimes contended that scientific researches do not establish a climatic change in any part of the United States, for the past five decades, of more than three or four degrees of temperature, and that this is scarcely worth notice. But the figures of science, not unlike the solemn stones of the graveyard which once excited Sydney Smith's ready wit, are by no means unimpeachable. A difference in temperature of a single degree may make a great difference in the amount of water condensed from a passing vapor-laden wind upon our hill tops and valleys. It is carefully and minutely recorded by the great physicist, the late Sir John Herschel, that during his residence at the Cape of Good Hope he had often noticed, even in the rainy season, that while standing under the trees of Table Mountain the shower would be copious, a few hundred yards thence in the open space not a drop of rain was falling. If meteorologists could prove that the temperature of our climate has been modified by only two or three degrees (which they have no data to prove) of change, the argument would be of no weight against the alleged deterioration, since such a thermal modification extending over an immense territory would make an enormous aggregate. There can be no doubt that the country east of the Mississippi now suffers incalculably from the deforesting of a century. We have just seen that in mid-winter, after a heavy snow, a day or two of sunshine suffices to dissolve and dislodge the frozen mantle and send it gliding on its unimpeded way from the mountains to the river beds; there to form the most dangerous floods and ice gorges. In Summer, although swept by the broad equatorial current and the southwesterly winds—bearing just overhead the evaporation of the Gulf and the tropical Atlantic—the same section is sorely scorched by the sun, and its people, in the very sight of the sea, have almost to cry out with the "Ancient Mariner," "Water, water everywhere, and not a drop to drink."

In many parts of Europe strenuous efforts are being made to encourage the restoration of forests in districts which have been stripped of their timber, and legislation has been necessarily and extensively exercised. The conservation of American forests, from the very geography of the country, is more imperatively demanded than in the more moist sections of the Old World. The next Congress cannot spend a portion of its time better than taking proper action upon this grave subject of national importance.

Sermons, Sensible and Sensational.

The "sensational" enters a little more into the sermons which we present to-day than was the case a week ago. Two topics are now before the community demanding attention. One, the religious amendment to the constitution, by which sin is to be legislated out and holiness legislated into our land. To this topic Rev. Henry Powers devoted some time and thought yesterday. He gave a brief sketch of the association which purposed to accomplish this great work by suitable enactments of Congress and of the several States. It appears that the association has been nine years in existence; and, though originally started by Scotch and Irish Presbyterians, it now embraces eminent representatives of every denomination, business and professional calling. Its authors and supporters openly declare their object to be to enforce the sacredness of the Christian Sabbath, marriage and the reading of the Bible in the public schools, the suppression of blasphemy and licentiousness, the closing of public libraries on Sunday, and the setting aside of State legislation when it shall not be in harmony with their ideas. In short, as Mr. Powers showed from the quotations of the leaders of this party, it is a second "Know Nothing," or "Native American" party. And if it carries its point it will place under the ban every Israelite, Liberal Christian, atheist, Free Religionist, Secularist and Positivist among us, and will, furthermore, abrogate the third section of article 6 of the constitution, which forever prohibits religious tests as qualifications for office or trust under the United States. While Mr. Powers admitted that this proposed amendment might give us *Crédit Mobilier* Christians or subsidy Christians, instead of some of those who are now in office, he opposed it because it is anti-Christian, un-American and revolutionary.

The other topic which so greatly agitates the public mind at this time is the execution of the death penalty on murderers and as directed especially toward Foster. To this subject Mr. S. J. Stewart gave a little time and thought. He insisted on the Scripture requirement that "who sheddeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed," and sternly rebuked that "morbid, wishy-washy, lukewarm sentiment of society dribbling out its whimpering prayer, crammed with sentimental nonsense, for the life of the man who recently robbed it of one of its members." One week society cries out for vengeance and blood, and another it vents a poetic prayer in extenuation of crime. "The ruffian," said Mr. Stewart, "puts his hand into his pocket, takes out his pistol and shoots a citizen, and when he is convicted society puts its hand into its pocket, takes out its handkerchief and weeps. Poor creature! Its tenderness will banish its death." From his premise Mr. Stewart certainly drew a logical conclusion, namely—that "if an example is not made of some of these men the generation of the twentieth century will be an elegant gang of cutthroats and murderers."

On this topic, also, Mr. Frothingham discoursed, especially inculcating the idea that the sentiment of revenge should be put away from punishment. The prejudice against the death penalty, he said, is so strong and stubborn that it can be inflicted only against a vagabond who has no money to pay counsel, and no relatives to intercede for him. Mr. Frothingham thinks that "if Foster is released from his fate, there is no need of bringing a fellow creature to the gallows." But he is opposed to the death penalty for the reason, among others, that statistics prove that "where death is decreed crime is greater, and where death is not the penalty crime is less."