

to the Protestant sects. Cardinal Gibbons had the generosity, however, to denounce the prevalent vice of the nation which he called consecutive polygamy—the divorcing of one wife in order to marry another. He defined this brutal phase of society as immeasurably worse in his estimation than "Mormon polygamy." Now that there will be in the modern revival of Catholicism, numbers of ecclesiastical councils in this as well as other countries, it will be interesting to observe whether or not the Catholic Church will resume the toleration toward the "Mormon" Church which characterized its course up to the last two or three years. Since the issuance of the manifesto by President Wilford Woodruff and its adoption by the general assembly of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the feature to which Cardinal Gibbons and the Baltimore ecclesiastical council excepted has been removed. Hence there remains not the shadow of a basis for any future assault from the Catholic Church. Should any such action be taken it would simply make it clear that it arose from the existence among Catholic authorities of the spirit of religious intolerance.

The Catholic ecclesiastical power is seeking and obtaining increased prestige, and it is significant that the American continent should be its most active field. This is especially so in the Republic of the United States, where, owing to the power it is capable of exercising in the field of politics, it is making strong headway. In this nation votes have a magical potency.

DESTINY OF THE JEWS.

AN INSCRUTABLE Providence is operating to bring to pass that which has been predicted by inspiration relative to the Jewish race, in the latter times. The press dispatches announce that a ukase has recently been issued by the Czar, applicable to Jewish workmen in Russian cities, which prohibits them from residing outside of the Jewish quarters. To such as own property, two years is given in which to dispose of it, or to make necessary arrangements for removing to the prescribed district. Those who do not own property outside the Jewish quarters, must remove there within one year.

The Czar thus virtually imprisons the Jews of Russian cities, and they must submit or migrate. And whither shall they go? In England the working classes would oppose their advent determinedly. The same may be said of most if not all the other European countries, and of the United States.

No considerable influx of Jewish working people would be admitted within the confines of any of these nations without manifestations of hostility on the part of the populace.

But the condition of the millions of Jews in Russia is becoming more and more unbearable, and no method of escape from it appears practicable, except migration. As this situation becomes intensified in Russia, the aspect of affairs in Palestine becomes more and more inviting to the children of its former possessors. In that land they may find a home, and be free from the oppression that is heaped upon them in such empires as Russia.

The freer civilized nations will probably help the oppressed millions of Jews to thus solve their own problem, this being a part of the predicted programme connected with their return.

WESTERN STATES COMMERCIAL CONGRESS.

A CONGRESS of a rather peculiar character is now being held at Kansas City. It is officially denominated the Western States Commercial Congress. Sixteen Western States and Territories and eight Southern States are represented. The Congress was called to order by Senator Kelly, of Kansas, who was subsequently elected chairman. In his speech of acceptance of the latter honor, he attributed the depressed condition of agriculture to a lack of the circulating medium. His plan of relief is the free coinage of silver and the raising of silver money to a gold standard.

Governor Francis, of Missouri, made a speech pregnant with suggestions for the political observer. He said the holding of this congress marked a new era in the internal industry of the country; that heretofore all Federal legislation was in the interest of the Eastern States; that the West was discriminated against and a protective tariff imposed on it, for the benefit of New England. He also said that the West wanted free trade with the world, and the Mississippi River connected with Lake Michigan.

A letter of regret for being unable to attend, was read, from President Harrison. In it he alludes to the necessity of an enlarged market for farm produce, and suggests the idea of building up a home market. He also alludes to the currency and says "that any dollar, paper or coin, issued by the United States must be made and kept in its commercial use as good as any other dollar." This sentence forms the key to his whole financial policy and to the policy of his administration.

J. M. Rusk, the Secretary of Agriculture, also forwarded a letter of regret which was read. He suggested making farming interests the basis of discussion, for the simple reason that all national prosperity depended on agriculture.

Charles Francis Adams in his letter stated there was already too much tampering in the way of legislation with internal affairs. The currency he thinks is too much tinkered with. Combinations and trusts if left alone by government would do no harm. To government interference he attributes all the political and commercial evils of the past twenty-five years.

H. H. Thurber, of New York, in a similar letter, says that trusts were beneficial to producer and consumer alike.

The chairman, Mr. Kelly, as also Governor Francis, of Missouri, remarked that Federal legislation was heretofore entirely in the interest of New England and Pennsylvania. Doubtless the belief prevails in the West and South that such is the case. Governor Francis says that in the early history of the country the present dissatisfaction would result in revolution. In our day, he thinks that deliberation and discussion will accomplish what would have required arms to effect in the past. But he seems to think that the step just taken is not preliminary to revolution. According to the utterances made there, it is.

The New England States are not represented in that Congress. They are regarded in the same light that the Washington revolutionists viewed Great Britain. The West, it is said, is enslaved and taxed for the benefit of the East. This is a serious charge.

President Harrison and Grover Cleveland stand almost on a common platform in relation to financial issues. No letter has been read at the Congress from Cleveland, but his views are well known. Harrison ought to be classed as a Western man, but his views are not in harmony with the prevailing sentiment of the Congress. Ohio and Indiana are represented, but to what extent these States will endorse free silver and free trade is not clear. In the past they opposed both.

The present commercial Congress in Kansas City suggests the question whether old party lines are not likely to be effaced. Is the next campaign to be a sectional one, with free silver and free trade only ostensible issues? Is this the entering wedge which is likely to divide the United States into several sovereign empires? If not, the present commercial Congress in Kansas City is guilty of a foul libel on the Congress of Washington, when it says the latter is merely the protector and paternalist of New England.