

depraved race, wholly incorrigible, and utterly unyielding to the influence of morality and civilization?

Four hundred years is a long time to wait for a nation to repent; and if, at the end of such an extended probation, it is found to have sunk deeper into wickedness and filth than when that probation began, it may well be asked if wisdom and justice do not demand that its perpetuity shall cease.

The two verses quoted from Samuel do not purport to give all of the reasons why the Lord had determined upon the destruction of the Amalekites; but they do contain a plain intimation that the wickedness of that race dated back at least four hundred years. Only a summary of the reasons why the Lord sent the deluge, and why He rained down fire upon the cities of the plain, are to be found in the Bible. But if the whole truth were known it would be understood that the doomed races had sunk so low in wickedness, and had so long resisted every appeal of repentance that the justice, wisdom and holiness of God all combined to demand their extinction from the earth, that it might no longer be corrupted by their presence and abominations.

According to the prophetic Scriptures, the Lord will yet use, for the purification of this earth, means similar to those He resorted to in ancient times, viz., the destruction of wicked nations.

A BAD RECOMMENDATION.

IN HIS report to the Secretary of the Interior, Governor Wolfley, of Arizona, makes a recommendation in reference to the "Mormon" portion of the population of that Territory. He follows suit of the Utah Commission, and takes a position inimical to the most honest, industrious and loyal part of the commonwealth in which he holds an official post.

As a matter of course his recommendation is exceedingly unrepugnant. The Territorial Legislature enacted an anti-"Mormon" test oath law, similar to the one now existing in Idaho. This statute was tried and found wanting in all the elements of decency, common sense, justice and constitutionality. The result was, that a better view of the situation brought repentance, and that condition superinduced a desire to make amends for past wrongs perpetrated. These healthful tendencies culminated in the repeal by the Legislature

of the obnoxious and oppressive test oath law. Now the Governor wishes Congress to set aside the repealing statute and let the original one which it wiped out stand as if it had never been interfered with. To comply with such a recommendation would be, in effect, for Congress to follow suit of the Idaho and former Arizona solons and enact a statute of a class prohibited by the Constitution.

It appears from the general statement of the Governor on this subject that the basis of his suggestion is that the "Mormons" are presumed to possess the balance of power between the two political parties. For this horrible offense against the party who may possibly not get their votes, a large class of upright citizens ought to be disfranchised. This is indeed a most reprehensible doctrine, and one of which its advocate ought to be heartily ashamed.

SAMOAN AFFAIRS UNSETTLED.

ACCORDING to late associated press dispatches, there is still a possibility that the labors of the Berlin conference on Samoan affairs may come to naught, though it is much to be hoped that such may not be the case. It is stated that Germany will object to Mataafa as king, though he is the undoubted choice of the Samoan people. Upon this subject the *San Francisco Chronicle* of the 18th says editorially:

The Berlin correspondent of the New York *Herald* is very positive that should the election of Mataafa as king of the Samoans be confirmed, Germany will protest, with the firm conviction that England will back her protest. Still, newspaper correspondents have been known to be mistaken, and a little reflection will probably convince Americans that Germany deems herself well out of the Samoan difficulty, and will not be anxious to get back into it again.

After the deportation of Malietoa the Germans undertook to set up a puppet of their own, Tamasese, as the ruler of Samoa. Mataafa, a relative of Malietoa, and a member of the kingly family, was the, undoubtedly, choice of the Samoan people, and had not Germany interfered and attempted to thrust Tamasese upon the people by force, there would have been no trouble, or, at least, no bloodshed. As matters turned out, after the United States intervened, Germany restored Malietoa and he resumed his leadership. Now he has abdicated and has indicated Mataafa as his choice to succeed him. What business, then, has Germany to protest? The understanding is that the treaty negotiated at Berlin secured the autonomy of Samoa, and if this be the case Germany has nothing whatever to do with the choice of a king by the Samoans.

So far as Great Britain is concerned, the probability of her supporting a protest made by Germany in this matter is infinitesimally slight. England knows very well

that Germany will not go to war with the United States over Samoa, and especially where the only possible occasion of war is the election of Mataafa by the Samoans themselves, and so she will maintain a strictly neutral position. She certainly will not run the risk of embroiling herself with the United States for the sake of upholding Germany in what is really such an unimportant matter as the election of a leader in Samoa. The Samoan kingdom is now the ward of the three nations, the United States, Great Britain and Germany, and the question of kingship has become one of secondary importance.

Another dispatch says that it is believed Bismarck will follow out his policy of conciliation, and this seems much more probable than the idea of his protesting against the election of Mataafa. The treaty cannot be ratified until Congress meets, and, in the interim, it is safe to say that the great chancellor will be much more interested in the movements of Russia than in the election of a King of Samoa, and that the building of railroads from Moscow to the western frontier of Russia will worry him a great deal more than Mataafa succeeding Malietoa.

A DECIDED CONTRAST.

WE take Governor Francis F. Warren, of our neighboring Territory of Wyoming, to be not only a gentleman possessing a keen appreciation of justice, but also of a considerable degree of originality. It is an indication of ordinary mental cast and caliber to join, without regard to justice or truth, in a common clamor, especially when it takes the shape of a popular howl, against any class toward whom the snaps and snarls of the unthinking and undiscriminating multitude are turned. To take an independent position under such circumstances, and stand by the light of indisputable facts, treating the shrieking of the rabble as the whistling of the wind, requires some degree of moral courage. The Chief Magistrate of Wyoming gives evidence of being a man capable of taking that stand; therefore we are attracted toward him with a feeling of respect.

But why speak thus concerning the Governor of Wyoming? It is as much what he has not done as what he has performed that draws forth these comments. Quite a large proportion of the population of the Territory in question are Latter-day Saints, commonly designated "Mormons." Governor Warren, in making his late annual report to the government, had a good word to say for his people. What he did do in connection with that report was to class the whole population as one. He did not make "flesh of one class and fish of another," but spoke of them as an entirety. Had he been governed in the matter by example and popular clamor, and if