

not among those who imagine that the climatic changes which have occurred in our Territory since the date of its settlement are due to the cultivation of the soil and the increase of vegetation. In view of the comparatively small area of cultivated land which there is in our Territory and the wonderful difference between the rainfall now and thirty-seven years ago, the idea of this accounting for the change is preposterous. We prefer to believe in a special providence in favor of the Saints. At the same time we are fully of the opinion that a great influence is exerted over the atmosphere by vegetation and especially by forests.

Mr. F. K. Carey has lately been contributing a series of articles to the *Chicago Current* on "The Uses of Forests," which contain some good ideas that he has collated from various sources upon the subject, some of which we will quote:

"Trees are heated and cooled by radiation, but very slowly, and hence the daily maximum and minimum of temperature they register occurs some hours after the same phases of temperature in the atmosphere. But tree radiation is not confined to a thin stratum of air; it is widely diffused, and hence the conserving influences of forests upon climate, making the nights warmer and the days cooler. So, too, evaporation from tree-sprayed soils is slow; the trees take up the moisture of damp soil, and hence it is that forests absolutely diminish the evaporation, and increase the humidity of climates within their influence. When rain falls upon unprotected soil it more speedily runs off to the drainage streams. But if tree-protected, the process is slow, and a part of the moisture is taken up by the roots and leaves, and thus percolates through the soil, and is dispersed into the atmosphere again. It is settled then that trees increase the humidity of the atmosphere, and the least cultured will therefore see how it is that tree growth so immediately affects climate, and how it is that large areas devoid of forests are subject to the extremes of great heat and cold, great precipitation of rain and excessive droughts. Most rivers and springs rise in forests, and as these latter preserve moisture in the soil they are important factors in the integrity of streams and springs. In a region theretofore rainless, Egypt by grove planting near the mouth of the Suez Canal has occasioned plentiful rains. The deforestation of the mountains so affected the Oder and the Elbe, that navigators of those streams were forced to put on boats of very light draught. On Ascension Island a large spring was dried up by land clearings, but restored by foresting. Forests lessen the liability of freshets upon rivers, most of which have their sources in forested mountains, and pass through woodlands in some of their reaches. The forests retaining moisture in the soil feed the rivers gradually, and prevent sudden demands upon them for water-carriage. They retain the snows also, and prevent sudden thaws, and thus avert disaster to rivers. Trees make a soil friable, and better able to retain moisture, and better able to distribute it. Without the forest the soil is liable to harden and resist penetration by rain, and hence deforested river sections experience rapid and dangerous rises in the streams.

"In Switzerland the Government has very successfully experimented in forest growing as a means to reduce the fury and destructiveness of mountain torrents. George P. Marsh records that in France the result of planting 190,000 acres in trees, and the sodding of many acres, was the conversion of formidable torrents in many hundred ravines into tractable channels, while the soil has acquired such stability, that the violent rains of 1868, elsewhere so destructive, produced no damage in that district. Forests serve still other uses, one of which is to check the progress of air currents, and thus impede great wind storms and lessen the force of hurricanes and cyclones. They modify also the effects of cold blasts, that so materially add to the frigidity of the atmosphere.

"Trees afford, again, protection from malarial assaults. The case of the reclamation of the Pontine marshes from miasmatic influences, by tree planting, will be remembered. Finally, as forests serve us as timber supplies, it is the height of folly to work their destruction beyond their power of recuperation. They clothe landscapes with the greatest charm and are conservators of art tastes, and this is no small consideration in the scheme of a high civilization, though cited among the last reasons for forest preservation."

RELIGIOUS SECEDERS.

THE Rev. Francis George Widdows, an ex-monk, has lately been delivering lectures against Roman Catholicism in Liverpool, and drawing large and enthusiastic audiences. At one of these lectures the Rev. Mr. Butler presided. He remarked that their Roman Catholic friends always said that when a person left the Church of Rome, they were villains and were immoral and all that sort of thing, but if a Protestant went over to Rome he was a saint; so that it depended upon the nest in which they were hatched. If Protestants made saints, so much for Protestantism, and if the Roman Catholic Church made villains, and he could not see how it

could make anything else, that went against the place where they were hatched. He held that Jesus Christ was the biggest Protestant that ever lived. He was not ashamed of being called by that name.

These sentiments were indicative of bigotry in the man who uttered them, the assumption that the Catholic Church is necessarily a villain factory was more than uncharitable.

It is beyond dispute that apostates from the Catholic Church are far more furious against the organization from which they secede than persons who leave the Protestant faith are against the bodies to which they formerly belonged. This is not an evidence of the Catholic faith being more erroneous than the Protestant, but, viewed from a Bible standpoint, the contrary would be the more reasonable inference. The greater the light attained, when it is departed from the more dense the subsequent darkness and the more bitter the hostility. This is, as remarked by a correspondence in this issue, strikingly manifested in cases of apostasy from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The bitterness in some instances appears to amount to a species of insanity, and the person allowing himself to be possessed of this inordinate feeling becomes an object of pity.

Some men can withdraw from the Church, probably never having progressed to any great degree in an understanding of its genius and principles, and proceed on the even tenor of their way, without exhausting and prostrating their energies in a fruitless endeavor to demolish it. Such individuals frequently feel kindly to the religious community from which they have withdrawn, and are generally respected. But those who make themselves conspicuous by their intense hostility are generally viewed with distrust by all classes, without exception. Indeed, this is the case with apostates of that class from any organization. If they were to be viewed as acting upon conscientious conviction, it would necessarily lay their judgment open to question in ever having become connected with an association which they appear by their subsequent course to believe to be deserving only of utter detestation. A man may change his views without being liable to the suspicion of possessing poor judgment. It is sometimes an evidence of enlightenment. But when he keeps kicking with impotent and malicious rage at what he formerly sustained, nobody wants to put implicit confidence in him. Frequently the more progress he has made in the cause he forsakes, the more unreasonable and vicious will be his opposition, the light having been turned into darkness.

THE ANTI-"MORMON" SHOW BUSINESS.

THE anti-"Mormon" show business does not appear to be a paying speculation for any length of time. Miss Kate Field is in Washington. She delivered herself of her "Mormon Monster" at the Capital recently, but her production was received with marked frigidity. One can imagine the chagrin of the fierce little creature at the treatment she received, as her lecture failed to create the smallest popular ripple. She did not get more than a homœopathic dose of newspaper notoriety, for which she is ever most eager. The only journal that noticed her lecture at all was the *Washington Post*, which passed her by with only a seven-line squib. Poor Catherine! She is evidently on the wane.

Clarence Horace Montgomery y Agramonte has hit upon his appropriate occupation—Itinerant showman. He is traveling over the country with an alleged lecture on "Mormonism," illustrating it with stereopticon views. At last accounts he was heard of in Missouri, exhibiting to large houses filled with vacant benches.

A newspaper clipping sent us by a friend states that he carries with him recommendations from Governor Eli H. Murray and other Utah Federal officials. These he exhibits where he thinks they will do the most good, thus sustaining himself after the same fashion as patent nostrums are bolstered, warranted to contain no mercury or other poisonous mineral substances. He is a genuine vegetable preparation, principally hemlock and henbane, guaranteed by Utah Federal officials to cure any tendencies in the popular mind to entertain correct and consistent ideas in regard to the "Mormon religion, from which he is an apostate.

Clarence Horace Montgomery y Agramonte is a gr at believer in documentary certificates and recommendations. He has a pocket full of them presumed to have been obtained from people residing in Chicago and other places. These evidences of his exemplary character are quite necessary. The procuring of these certificates was a happy thought. They occasionally stand in the same relation to character as money sometimes does to brains—they form a more or less acceptable substitute. Men whose conduct furnishes clear proof of uprightness seldom resort to them. In cases of that kind they are deemed superfluities.

It may be that the anti-"Mormon" lecture of Clarence Horace Montgomery y Agramonte is spiced with considerable variety, but there is a possibility of its being further seasoned by the introduction of a few police court,

baconallian land rough and tumble scenes in which he cut a conspicuous figure. This would doubtless increase the public prominence which he seems to seek.

If he has not already done so he might also have those certificates of good conduct given by Governor Murray and other Utah Federal officials, and men of Chicago thrown up on canvass by the stereopticon. The fact of his being a good and true man should be specially enlarged upon. It is absolutely necessary.

A GLOOMY FUTURE FOR BRITAIN.

THE European situation regarding the Eastern question remains unchanged. England is still involved in unparalleled complications. The general aspect appears to vary with great rapidity. At one time murky war-clouds overshadow her, and within the next hour perhaps a diplomatic breeze appears to sweep the horizon almost clear.

We believe the opinion justifiable that the Czar of Russia has made up his mind upon certain points in relation to the Afghan frontier question from which he will not recede. He purposes seizing certain advantages in regard to the "Key of India." It is not quite clear what the result will be, but it will be one of two things. In all probability humiliating and dangerous concessions on the part of England, or war to the death. The way matters are shaping seems to justify this opinion.

There are several reasons that would prompt the Czar to take decisive aggressive steps toward Russia's traditional foe. He understands that England's hands are practically tied. Or at least she has but one to let loose on Russia, the Soudan difficulty providing ample employment for the other. That African question is more knotty and formidable than is supposed by those who have given it merely casual consideration. But for it the armies of Russia would probably not be massing and moving southeastward to the Afghan frontier, menacing the vital interests of England.

English statesmen see the imminent danger with which Great Britain is threatened, and are seeking by concessions that will lead to new perplexities, to secure the friendship of some of the other powers, notably that of Germany. Bismarck's friendly sentiments are confined within the limits of the German Empire, which he is anxious to see, before his eyes close in death, mistress of Europe. This ambition necessarily causes him to be jealous of the proud position so long retained by England. If that country should be embroiled in deadly strife and weakened by warfare his feelings would probably not be hurt, and while he appears to be coldly working to avoid that result the undercurrent of his course may be calculated to lead to it. Viewed from any standpoint the outlook is far from cheerful, being fraught with impending danger not only to Great Britain and other countries immediately connected with prominent complications, but to the peace of the whole world.

Looking at the condition of the world from the position of a Latter-day Saint, we may well consider whether or not it is entering upon another stage of fulfillment of the "Revelation and prophecy on war," given through the Prophet Joseph Smith, December 25, 1832, which predicted the struggle of the Rebellion between the Northern and Southern States, and the final involving in fearful warfare of all nations. If this stage of the verification of that prophecy is about to be reached, then it may be expected that "The nation of Great Britain shall call upon other nations, in order to defend themselves against other nations." The prediction states in effect that such a situation will finally have the effect of involving "all nations" in warfare.

In relation to the future of Great Britain, it will doubtless be interesting to many of the Latter-day Saints to peruse a prophecy on that subject by the late Apostle Orson Pratt. He was, in many respects, a most remarkable man, possessing unusual mental powers, combined with phenomenal industry in the pursuit of knowledge, causing him not only to be an able expounder of the Scriptures, but a ripe scientific scholar, being a discoverer in mathematics and astronomy. He also possessed a strong spiritual nature, and notwithstanding the advanced nature of his mental attainments, he was as humble as a child, while the simplicity of his character was most refreshing.

On November 4th, 1836, a Revelation directed to Orson Pratt by name, was received through Joseph Smith, in which the following passage occurs:

"Wherefore, lift up your voice and spare not, for the Lord God hath spoken; therefore prophesy, and it shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost."

On October 24th, 1857, on the eve of his departure from Liverpool for home, after having proclaimed the Gospel with much power and great success in the British Isles, he exercised his prophetic gift as follows, as published in the *Millennial Star* of the date named:

A PROPHECIAL WARNING TO THE INHABITANTS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Expecting soon to leave Great Britain and return to our mountain home in

the Territory of Utah, we feel it a duty to leave with the inhabitants of this country a solemn warning, concerning those things which will soon befall them; and to point out their only way of escape. Being called and sent of God, we humbly and in a most respectful manner, say to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, and to all the lords, nobles, rulers, authorities and inhabitants in the United Kingdom of Great Britain, that God Almighty, in this nineteenth century, has set up His latter-day kingdom upon the earth, as predicted by His ancient Prophets and Apostles. Angels have been sent forth from heaven, by whom power and authority have been conferred upon many, not only to set up and organize the kingdom, but to minister in all things pertaining to the same. These inspired messengers have been sent, by the commandment of God, to nearly every nation under heaven, and have testified in humility and meekness, but yet with great boldness, that the great and terrible day of the Lord is at hand, and that the preparatory kingdom is established in the heights of the mountains on the great Western Hemisphere. The kingdoms of the world have waxed old; and, because of wickedness, they are destined to be speedily broken to pieces; but the Kingdom of God will endure forever. It is destined to increase in strength, power and dominion, and to bear rule over all the earth. Those nations and kingdoms which will not unite themselves with the Kingdom of God, and become one with it, honoring its laws and institutions, will utterly perish, and no place will be found for them. In view of these things, we humbly, as a servant of the Most High God, entreat all the people of these countries to repent; and in the name of the Lord we exhort you to put away the evils and abominations in your midst, and seek the Lord and His Kingdom, and you shall be forgiven, and your transgressions shall be blotted out, and you shall become a great and mighty branch of that universal theocracy which is to fill the whole earth, and thenceforth be governed by its laws.

But if you will not, as a nation, repent, and unite yourselves with God's Kingdom, then the days are near at hand, when the righteous shall be gathered out of your midst; and woe unto you when that day shall come, for it shall be a day of vengeance upon the British nation; and your armies shall perish, your maritime forces shall cease, your cities shall be ravaged, burned and made desolate, and your strongholds shall be thrown down; the poor shall rise against the rich, and their storehouses and their fine mansions shall be pillaged, their merchandise and their gold, and their silver, and their rich treasures, shall be plundered; then shall the lords, and the nobles, and the merchants of the land, and all in high places be brought down, and shall sit in the dust, and howl for the miseries that shall be upon them; and they that trade by sea shall lament and mourn; for their traffic shall cease. And thus shall the Lord Almighty visit you, because of your great wickedness in rejecting His servants and His kingdom; and if you continue to harden your hearts, your remnants which shall be left, shall be consumed as the dry stubble before the devouring flame, and all the land be cleansed by the fire of the Lord, that the filthiness thereof may no more come up before him. Your armies in India have already been smitten with a sore judgment, because they cast out the Lord's servants who were sent to warn them, and to prophesy to them; they were rejected by your missionaries and your officers; and being without purse or scrip, they "had not where to lay their heads." But they were faithful in delivering their warning message, until the Lord called them out of their midst, that He might execute speedy judgment, and show to all nations that His servants cannot be rejected with impunity. Let Great Britain take warning and not follow the wicked examples of the Europeans in India. Your fastings and your prayers will be a solemn mockery before God, if you receive not the message He has sent. Though you appoint days of fasting and humiliation before the Lord, yet He will not hear you nor answer your petitions, so long as you receive not His Kingdom, and treat His servants with scorn. He will mock at your calamities and multiply them upon you, until you are wasted away, as chaff by the whirlwind of the mountain.

Let the reader compare the foregoing with the threatening aspect—internal and external—of the affairs of the British nation, and infer whether or not they harmonize, so far as events have developed.

THE OBNOXIOUS BUNN.

This indicates the estimates placed upon Governor Bunn and certain newspapers by the Democratic Central Committee of Boise County, Idaho:

IDAHO CITY Boise County, I. T., March 3d, 1885.

At a special meeting of the Democratic Central Committee of Boise County, Idaho Territory, held at Idaho City on March 3d, 1885, the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

WHEREAS, The Idaho Statesman and Salt Lake Tribune have published editorial articles taken from the Idaho World, a newspaper published in Boise County, Idaho Territory, sustaining the conduct of Wm. M. Bunn, Governor of this Territory, in his disgraceful, unscrupulous and corrupt

course during the recent session of our legislature, and have published such articles as emanating from a democratic paper. Therefore be it

Resolved, That in the name and in behalf of the democratic party of Boise county, Idaho Territory, we utterly repudiate the articles in question as in any manner reflecting the sentiments or feelings of the democracy of this county, or of any portion thereof. That we utterly repudiate the statement that the Idaho World is now, ever has been, or ever claimed to be, a democratic paper under its present management; and its endorsement of Governor Bunn is totally at variance with the sentiments of the Boise County democracy.

Resolved, That it is well known to the conductors of the Idaho Statesman and Salt Lake Tribune that the Idaho World is not a democratic paper, and their publication stating it to be a democratic paper was known to them to be false, and was done to mislead the incoming administration as to the true character and standing of Governor Bunn with the people of Idaho.

Ordered, That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to Hon. John Hailey, our Delegate in Congress; and that the same be published in the Idaho Democrat, with a request that all democratic papers in the Territory copy the same.

STEPHEN DEMPSEY, Chairman.
JAMES MORIARTY, Sec'y.

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