

past dispels such hopes; modern as well as ancient history bears witness that neither life nor property is regarded by these organizations when wrought up to the pitch of determination in gaining their ends; whether it be the violence of a strike, the secret assassin or incendiary, or other invasion of human rights, the lesson taught is the same: If there would safety in governments or peace in society, every such secret combination with ambitions in the direction of power or wealth must be uprooted. They are in their very genius opposed to the independence of individuals, the freedom of the people in a governmental capacity, and the righteousness and development of men and women in the field of religion.

The very existence of "secret combinations to get power and gain" is ominous of evil. The nation which encourages them or permits them to increase under its fostering care nurtures an enemy that will encompass national dissolution. The Lord has said that "whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations, to get power and gain, until they spread over the nation, behold they shall be destroyed," and His word will not return to Him unfulfilled. Centuries ago the voice of prophecy uttered a warning to the people of today to be aware of these combinations because of the development in them of a tendency for evil, and to the Gentile nations of the present age the Lord sends admonition to "suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain, and the work, yea, even the work of destruction come upon you, yea, even the sword of the justice of the eternal God shall fall upon you, to your overthrow and destruction, if ye shall suffer these things to be; wherefore the Lord commandeth you, when ye shall see these things come among you, that ye shall awake to a sense of your awful situation, because of this secret combination which shall be among you, or ye be unto it, because of the blood of them who have been slain; for they cry from the dust for vengeance upon it, and also upon those who build it up."

It is a measure of self-preservation for the Saints to keep themselves apart from all these secret societies and combinations. Whosoever buildeth them up, whether he may fully realize it or not, "seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations and countries." The mission of the Latter-day Saints is not in harmony with such a proceeding. The obligations resting upon all who retain membership in the Church are very strict in this regard; instead of overthrowing the freedom of men, their calling is to seek the blessings of liberty for every nation—to labor that oppression and evil may be done away, and "that the time may come that Satan may have no power upon the hearts of the children of men, but that they may be persuaded to do good continually, that they may come unto the fountain of all righteousness and be saved."

#### HIS OLD OFFICE.

The NEWS notices among the appointments of the Governor and Legislative Assembly the name of Bishop

John R. Winder as president of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society; and it takes occasion to say that there is perfect safety in voicing the assurance that the people of the Territory will heartily endorse this appointment. As we remember it Bishop Winder was a director of the institution from its organization, and president of it for many years up to 1890. During all this time he has been one of its most prominent supporters, and his long experience in and knowledge of the country and its requirements eminently qualify him to fill the position.

In this same connection it will not be inopportune to remark that the Governor's appointments to Territorial offices and his selections of men to fill the various Territorial boards, will meet with general approval. He has shown conspicuous fairness to the different sections of the Territory, and in the fitness of his appointees he has given admirable evidence of his interest in the welfare of the institutions affected.

#### A DESERTED CITY IN MEXICO.

The *Anglo-American*, published at the City of Mexico, in its issue of the 4th of March quotes from an exchange an account of the recent discovery of a beautiful deserted city, by an English mining man, M. W. Cresworth, who had just arrived at Mapimi, Mexico, from a long overland journey through the Sierra Madre mountains. Mr. Cresworth started from Culican, near the Pacific coast, in the state of Sinaloa; and he came upon the deserted city about eighty miles west of Lake Colorado, in the very recesses of the Sierra Madre range, where it occupies a basin ten miles long by eight miles wide, the basin being surrounded by perpendicular cliffs on all sides, rising to a height of hundreds of feet. The only entrance to the city is through a deep canyon thirty feet wide. Mr. Cresworth says he stumbled into the secret entrance by accident. The buildings, he says, are constructed of blocks of red stone resembling granite. The business blocks are two and three stories in height, and are different in architectural design from the structures built by the Aztecs and Spaniards. The streets are narrow, but are laid out in regular order. In the city is a small park, which is overgrown with rare flowers and tropical vegetation. He found many strange ornaments, but little of value.

It is probable that this same discovery is the one alluded to in a late issue of the *New York Sun*, only that in the latter paper the traveler is described as a citizen of the United States. The *Sun* points out that the incident tallies curiously with a local Mexican tradition of a long-lost and long-forgotten city in that locality. Adjoining the state of Sinaloa on the south is the state of Jalisco, and of this state Guadalajara is the capital. Living in the mountains of Jalisco, part of the same great Sierra Madre or "Mother Range" that extends through Sinaloa and thence northward, are the Southern Yaquis, a brown-haired people with light eyes and almost fair complexions.

Guadalajara is the only civilized town that these Yaquis visit, and the *Sun* says it has long been believed there that the Yaqui fastnesses of the Sierra Madre range conceal not only rich mines of silver, but as well the lost city of the Aztec race. No one has hitherto pierced the mountain wilderness, because the naked Yaquis have an effective system of passive resistance that has hitherto successfully closed the sole line of approach. It is improbable, however, that the southern Yaquis would have the objection to an intelligent expedition undertaken for exploration and research that they would to a swaggering horde bent on conquest; and the Mexican paper partially promises a full and exact description of the interesting "find" in the near future.

#### THE LEGISLATURE.

While party organs laud or condemn the late Legislature, individually and collectively, the NEWS, from its non-partisan standpoint, will discharge the duty of informing the people of the Territory what kind of a body it really was, and will suggest how it may be improved upon when another general election shall come around. From first to last it was an intensely partisan Assembly. From the moment that it opened until the gavel fell for the last time, in token of final adjournment, each branch was an almost continuous scene of party wrangle. Partisanship rather than statesmanship has characterized the session to a marked degree.

There were some men in the Assembly who possess great talent, and would be valuable in such a body were their abilities directed to disinterested efforts in behalf of the public welfare. There were others whose caliber, or rather lack of it, occasioned constant surprise that they should ever have landed in the Legislature. Greatness continues to be thrust upon individuals who were not born to it, and could never have attained it but for the thrusting process.

Elsewhere in this issue appears a condensed review of the more important bills that were introduced, and failed or passed. From this record it will appear that some good work, and but little if any that is likely to prove really bad, was accomplished. Determined efforts were made, however, to secure the passage of certain measures which, had they become law, would have resulted in incalculable damage to the Territory. Reference is here made to the financial legislation that was attempted. In this connection a curious test of statesmanship was presented to the legislators, that applied to them individually, and, in our opinion, was a fair measure of their caliber. Would they vote to correct a patent injustice in the present tax laws, and at the same time increase the public revenue, or would they rise to a higher and broader view of the situation, and, for the sake of the vast benefits to be gained by a stable and conservative policy, bear with any minor injustice which that policy might involve? The concentrated influence of business men and financiers and of a territorial press that was practically united upon this ques-