

## EDITORIALS.

## SOWING DISEASE.

THE spread of contagious diseases is often remarkable, and the means of their communication frequently beyond the ken of the closest observer. But there is a method of scattering the seeds of suffering and death which is very prevalent, and can be easily stopped. Furthermore, it ought to be stopped, and those who continue it after being told of its consequences will deserve the severest punishment.

Children afflicted with whooping cough and other diseases highly contagious, are taken out for an airing, and the mothers, nurses, or persons in charge, make calls on families where the little ones are caressed and petted and kissed by other children, the disease is communicated by contact, or generally by inhaling the breath of the afflicted, and thus a previously healthy and happy home is frequently invaded by the destroyer, and sorrow and mourning take the place of gladness and peace.

It would seem that words of caution on this subject would be unnecessary to people with common reflection. But it is a fact that many individuals appear to act in these important matters as though ordinary sense and judgment had no place within their brains. All persons, young or old, afflicted with any contagious disease should be kept as far as possible from contact with the healthy, and the carelessness of those who, in the manner we have described, carry misery and death into the households of their friends, is little less than criminal and very nearly unpardonable.

## THE DANGER TO BE FEARED.

LORD BEACONSFIELD in a speech delivered at Aylesbury some time ago, declared that in attempting to conduct the government of this world, new elements had to be dealt with which were unknown to the statesmen of preceding times. Said he:

"There are the secret societies, an element which you must take into consideration, which at the last moment may baffle all your arrangements, which have agents everywhere, which have reckless agents, which countenance assassination, and which, if necessary, could produce a massacre."

The meaning of the words of the British Premier was not then understood. Perhaps even now its full significance does not dawn upon the minds of the rulers of the nations. But it will be found as time rolls, on that the sagacious Hebrew looked beneath the surface of national affairs, and discerned the force destined to work the overthrow of mighty empires and split republics and other constitutional governments in twain.

Secret societies have accomplished much in the past towards the revolutions that have convulsed the world, but we believe their future effects will prove of far greater magnitude. The Nihilistic movement in Russia causes fear to seize the chief men of the Empire, and there is no doubt that a similar society is gradually drawing together the disaffected elements of European States, and that in this lies the great danger that threatens them all.

The New York Herald of the 31st ult., has a long account of a scheme concocted in Germany, towards the close of the Franco-Prussian war, for a universal republic in Europe. It was only frustrated by the impossibility at that time to obtain a sufficient quantity of the right kind of arms. The gentleman who gave the particulars to the Herald correspondent, lost the chance to make half a million of money as agent in the transaction for the purchase of 200,000 breach-loaders. The rifles were wanted in less than ninety days from the date of the order, and could not be ob-

tained because the market had been emptied by the demands of the war. The money was ready for their purchase and the parties who applied for the arms, as was satisfactorily proven, had a balance for this purpose at the bank of the Vienna branch of the Rothschilds, to the amount of \$3,500,000. At a secret meeting in that city the American gentleman received the following explanation of the object of the conspirators.

"The successful issue of the Franco-Prussian war can have only one result. Prussia and all the German States will be welded into a Teutonic Empire. The few liberties which the people now possess will be taken away. Therefore this empire must never be! A plan is perfected for a revolt against the future! The opponents of monarchy, whose organizations are known by a hundred names, are to-day united and the hour has come to strike. A universal republic will be proclaimed throughout Germany on the basis of that declared in France. The chances of success? Wholly in our favor. A few weeks will find the armies of Germany close under the fortifications of Paris, leaving the Fatherland almost free from soldiers. Half the Prussian army would refuse to fight against the republic, and the same is true of the Bavarians, Saxons and Wurttembergers. They would return to Berlin as allies instead of enemies. I need only say that we are sure of our men. We are not destitute of aid from without. Even the Church is with us: The Pope sees the wave of republicanism that is sweeping over Europe and is ready to float with it. A vast sum of money is in the hands of a central committee. It has grown slowly and has been accumulated for many purposes, but it will now all be applied for the freedom of the Fatherland."

"We must have the arms in less than ninety days. We have been balked by the sudden removal of 100,000 rifles from Berlin, 50,000 from Frankfurt and as many more from Leipzig and Munich. These weapons were expected to possess ourselves of when the hour came to act. Delay, after a certain period, means ruin for us."

"Paris, under ordinary circumstances, can stand only a brief siege, and then King William's victorious army will roll back upon Germany, and we shall be helpless. But, I tell you, we can find means to prolong the absence of the army and keep it around the French capital! When Paris falls, if we are not ready, we shall appeal to 'Red.' 'Red' will work. It has only to raise the cry 'vive la Commune!' to set Paris aglow, and the German headquarters is fixed at Versailles for the winter!"

The agent went to England, used the cable extravagantly, and tried every means at his command, but failed to obtain the arms, and so the plot exploded!

We cite this to show how secret combinations have been at work in continental Europe. They are increasing in influence and extent to-day. And while they are operating against the time-honored institutions of the Old World, the Great American Republic is undermined by similar agencies.

By secret combinations the former governments of this continent were overthrown, and the sacred history of their downfall foreshadows the troubles that are to arise from the same causes in our own times. The Book of Mormon gives an epitome of the history of two peoples, the Jaredites and the Nephites, who were thus brought to destruction. The Book of Ether gives an account of the colonizing of North America shortly after the building of the Tower of Babel, and speaks of the secret combination with oaths and signs and passwords, which had been handed down from times of old, which led to the shedding of blood, the destruction of rulers, and finally the annihilation of the colony. We have only space for a few extracts.

"And Akish did administer unto them the oaths which were given by them of old, who also sought power, which had been handed down from Cain, who was a murderer from the beginning. And they were kept up by the devil to administer these oaths unto the people to keep them in darkness, to help such as sought power, to gain power, and to murder and to plunder, and to lie, and to commit all manner of wickedness and whoredoms."

\* \* \* And it came to pass

that they formed a secret combination, even as they of old; which combination is most abominable and wicked in the sight of God; for the Lord worketh not in secret combinations neither doth he will that man above all should shed blood, but in all things hath forbidden it, from the beginning of man." Book of Mormon, page 530.

The account of the origin of this secret and evil order is given in the Writings of Moses, to be found in the Pearl of Great Price, from which we extract the following:

"And Satan said unto Cain, Swear unto me by thy throat, and if thou tell it thou shalt die; and swear thy brethren by their heads, and by the living God, that they tell it not; for if they tell it they shall surely die; and this that thy father may not know it, and this day I will deliver thy brother Abel into thine hands. And Satan swear unto Cain that he would do according to his commands. And all these things were done in secret. And Cain saith, Truly I am Mahan, the master of this great secret, that I may murder and get gain."

"And Lamech said unto his wives, Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice, ye wives of Lamech hearken unto my speech; for I have slain a man to my wounding and a young to my hurt. If Cain shall be avenged seven fold, truly Lamech shall be seventy and seven fold; for Lamech having entered into a covenant with Satan, after the manner of Cain, wherein he became Master Mahan, master of that great secret, which was administered unto Cain by Satan, and Irad, the son of Enoch, having known the secret, began to reveal it to the sons of Adam, wherefore Lamech, being angry, slew him, not like unto Cain, his brother Abel, for the sake of getting gain, but he slew him for the oath's sake." Pp. 11-12.

With the destruction of the Jaredites this secret combination was also destroyed. But in the days of the Judges among the Nephites it again made its appearance. Pahoran, the Chief Judge, was murdered as he sat upon the judgment seat, by one Kishkumen, who organized a band for his own protection, and to carry out his designs. In this band was a man called Gadianton, "who was exceedingly expert in many words, and also in his craft to carry on the secret work of murder and robbery, therefore he became the leader of the band of Kishkumen," he administered the same kind of oaths and signs to his followers, and thereafter the combination was known as the Gadianton order.

"And it came to pass that they did have their signs, yea, their secret signs and their secret words; and this that they might distinguish a brother who had entered into the covenant, that whatsoever wickedness his brother should do he should not be injured by his brother."

"Now, behold, it is these secret oaths and covenants which Alma commanded his son should not go forth unto the world, lest they should be the means of bringing down the people into destruction. \* \* \* Behold, they were put into the heart of Gadianton by that same being who did plot with Cain. \* \* \* And behold he doth carry on his works of darkness and secret murder and doth hand down their plots, and their oaths, and their covenants, and their plans of awful wickedness, from generation to generation, according as he can get hold upon the hearts of the children of men." Book of Mormon p. p. 405-6.

It is a noticeable fact in the history of the Nephites, that whenever they departed from the Lord, became rich and lifted up in pride, that this secret order was revived, till in the two hundred and sixtieth year after the coming of Christ, "It came to pass that the wicked part of the people began again to build up the secret oaths and combinations of Gadianton." This resulted in the downfall of the nation as in the case of the Jaredites, and the extinction of the Nephites as the dominant power on the continent.

Now, Moroni, the Nephite prophet, before sealing up and depositing the records from which the Book of Mormon has been translated, uttered the following warning to the people now forming the United States:

"And whatsoever nation shall uphold such secret combinations, to get power and gain, until they shall spread over the nation, behold, they shall be destroyed, for the Lord will not suffer that the blood of his saints which shall be shed by them shall always cry unto him from the ground for vengeance upon them."

O ye Gentiles, it is wisdom in God that these things should be shown unto you, that thereby ye may repent of your sins and suffer not that these murderous combinations shall get above you, which are built up to get power and gain and the work of destruction come upon you. \* \* \* 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." \* \* \* For it cometh to pass that whoso buildeth it up seeketh to overthrow the freedom of all lands, nations and countries.—Book of Mormon, p. 531.

It was this kind of secret order which plotted and accomplished the murder of Joseph and Hyrum, the prophet and patriarch of the latter-day dispensation. It slew Abraham Lincoln. It determined but failed to effect the death of the Emperor William. It brought terror and wrought destruction in the riots at Pittsburgh. Its spirit is abroad in the earth. It is the breath of the life of the Commune. It will spread woe and destruction. It was encouraged instead of stamped upon by the Government, when the Saints were driven from Missouri and Illinois, and when the blood of the Seer smoked up from the soil at Carthage. Therefore it will move through the land and prompt the vicious to combine against law and authority, and the fate of this proud nation, unless it heeds the warning of the prophet Moroni, is foreshadowed in the doom of the Jaredites and the downfall of the Nephites.

Secret combinations form the great danger of the times, and are to be feared and fought in the Young Republic of the Western World, as well as in the decaying Monarchies of the Eastern Hemisphere.

## THE WOMAN QUESTION IN UTAH.

THE National Woman's Suffrage Association held a convention at Rochester, New York, on the 18th and 19th of last month, to commemorate the Thirtieth Anniversary of the movement. Full particulars are published in the *National Citizen and Ballot Box* for August.

We notice that the Resident Congressional Committee, an office created for the purpose of watching Congress on the Utah question, was abolished and the work relegated to the Executive Committee. This is quite right, and we have confidence that the influence used heretofore by the ladies of the association under the Resident Congressional Committee, will still be exercised against any interference with woman suffrage in Utah by the regular Executive Committee.

At the meeting a number of letters were read from different parts of the country, among which were two Utah letters; one from Mrs. Emmeline B. Wells, editor of the *Woman's Exponent*, of this city, and one from a lady residing at Frisco. Portions of both are published in the *Ballot Box*. The annexed is from Mrs. Wells.

The proposition to enfranchise the women of Utah came from Congressman Julian, of Indiana; he had an idea this would place polygamy (as it is termed) out of the theological cast and give it a purely sociologic solution; and the Legislature of Utah promptly accepted the proposition, and a bill giving suffrage to women, passed the Senatorial Legislature without a dissenting vote, and was approved by His Excellency Gov. Mann, Feb. 2, 1870.

Our women, as well as men who are not native born, take out naturalization papers, and a great many own land and other property in their own right, and pay taxes on it.

I have always noticed that re-

sponsibilities have a tendency to develop character, and women having the franchise, if they possess even ordinary capabilities, will certainly seek to know more of laws and governments, and inform themselves generally with regard to the political condition of the nation."

The *Ballot Box* has this to say concerning the *Exponent*:

"We find the *Woman's Exponent* one of the most interesting of our exchanges. It gives many facts regarding the industries of the Mormon women, which we shall have occasion in the near future to refer to. The cause of woman, 'irrespective of sect or creed,' is our cause, and we work for woman's most complete enfranchisement from tyranny of whatever nature, political, moral, religious, industrial, educational. Injustice, oppression and wrong to woman, is injustice, oppression and wrong to every human being on the face of the globe, and as far as in us lies we shall battle this wrong while we have life."

The letter from Frisco contains the following:

"Notwithstanding the nominal fact that, by the territorial law women here are entitled to the exercise of the elective franchise, 'Woman Suffrage,' as contemplated by association does not exist in Utah, at least as far as the Mormon women are concerned, who constitute by far the larger portion of the woman voting population. In exercising the franchise the Mormon women make no claim to do so in assertion of any independent right which they possess as women to consider political questions for themselves. On the contrary they avail themselves of the ballot to express the contrary opinion—namely the right of men holding their priesthood to decide all political questions, and to require of them as women unquestionable compliance therewith."

The lady who wrote the above may have spoken truly in regard to those of her sex with whom she associates, but it certainly is not correct in relation to a large number of the women citizens of Utah. There are, no doubt, many women in this Territory who take little or interest in political questions. Cannot the same be said concerning a large number of men? But the idea that women 'avail themselves of the ballot' only to show that they have no rights of their own, is simply ridiculous, and its absurdity is so palpable that the statement needs no refutation. What is there to hinder a woman voter in Utah from casting her ballot for any ticket, or person whom she chooses to place upon it? Nothing whatever. She stands exactly in the same position in that respect as a male voter.

But it may be said the 'Mormon' vote, male and female, is generally almost unanimous. Granting that, where is the proof that individual choice is excluded? The objection holds good equally with the male as with the female vote. But some people cannot perceive any independence in union. Do not men and women unite in marriage freely and voluntarily? Do not democrats often agree to centre upon a platform or support a set of candidates, sinking individual proclivities and preferences in view of harmony and the good of their party? And is it not so sometimes with republicans? If this is true why may not 'Mormons,' male and female, act in the same manner with similar motives and for a similar object, without being accused of serfdom and leaving political questions for others to decide?

Independence is not necessarily antagonism. Harmony is not necessarily servility. But some people seem to imagine that freedom involves perpetual fighting, that thought means discord, and that the essence of political liberty is opposition. The very reverse of all this is the true position. People should endeavor to arrive at the truth in principle and the best course in policy. When they do they see alike and are ready to act in concert. Division and strife are proof positive that somebody is wrong. And there is just as much independence in voluntarily yielding to the views of the majority as in stirring up strife, and quite as much political liberty in producing the strength that grows out of union as in fomenting discord and bringing forth weakness.

It is a great mistake to suppose that the women of Utah take no in-