

A DAY OF DANGER.

This tragedy enacted within a few miles of Ogden the other day was of a startling character. Had either or both of the parties been of a more amiable disposition or reputation the thrill of sorrow which the affair created in the community would have been so intense as it was. Both were, however, of unimpeachable respectability.

It is a sad circumstance that one so young as William Bybee should be cut off by an act of violence, while he was yet, so to speak, upon the threshold of life. He was nearly all of his prospects in front of him and but few in the rear of him. It is perhaps sadder still that his taking off should have been the act of a man like Mark Hall, who, doubtless, in his calm moments, would rather have died than done it. Those who know him would imagine that he is about the last man on earth that would, under almost any circumstances, have taken the life of a fellow being. He has been a good citizen, a good collector and disseminator, and the possessor of good, sound every-day sense and judgment.

While the relatives of the deceased have the sympathy of the community, there is also a degree of sorrow that Mr. Hall should be in the terrible situation in which he finds himself.

Perhaps many people have noted, as we have done, the abnormality of full condition of the mortal atmosphere compared to the mild, bright days formerly prevalent. As with the elements in the midst of which we dwell, now and then unexpected changes appear. When all seems calm, sudden storms arise, rush through and leave a trail of death. It is the serenity of the community roughly disturbed every now and then by developments of an unlooked for character. Indeed such is the prevailing genius of affairs all over the earth, and compared to what we are, we are not far from the prevalent sinister spirit of the times.

It looks as if this subject might open up a theme for interesting psychological reflection. It is beginning to be admitted that the constitution of man has been so constructed by the Creator that he is not entirely dependent upon his five senses as a channel through which to receive impressions and communications. In other words, that there is a higher or spiritual sense that has not been considered by the strictly secular school of philosophy. It is claimed to be the medium by which man is enabled to discern the Maker and communicate with him. That the fact of such communication exists we have not the slightest vestige of a doubt, but to define the spiritual condition would be a difficult if not impossible task. If its existence is granted and man is influenced by its operations when in harmony with them, there must be an antipodal force acting in opposition to it. If this be so, when men are off their guard, placing themselves in a position to speak with the spirit of a band of evil spirits, which urge the commission of evil acts, then they are in danger of committing deeds the performance of which fills them with horror in their calmer and better moments. The sudden vanishing from a high moral plane to participation in acts that belong to the lowest grade of human performances, is probably susceptible of explanation upon this basis.

In any event there are numerous lessons presented that ought to be of sufficient potency to cause thoughtful Latter-day Saints to reflect upon the situation and fortify themselves against any fitful gust of passion or inclination that might lead them to the commission of acts that would produce their destruction. To walk in the Spirit of Truth and righteousness is the great bulwark of safety. Not to be carried away by any personal idiosyncrasy that has a dangerous tendency should be a constant aim. The man who lives in a constant state of peace, who lives through his agency to govern himself and not permit his stronger propensities to control him. None this modifying influence every man is in danger of making a wreck of his life. An individual who has some very strong predilection and fails to govern it in righteousness is in constant peril. The past and present are strewn with striking examples of this fact all along the line.

In this regard some men are in the position of one who mounts a wild, powerful, untrained horse, which runs away with him, and finally throws him off, leaving the life out of him. The animal should be tamed and held in check, sub to the will of the rider; then all is well. It matters not whether the horse be a strong desire to accumulate wealth, a strong and passionate nature, a disposition to grasp and execute, or any other of those peculiar characteristics which have frequently brought sorrow to the possessor, and misery to others; it should not govern but be under control. If this latter is not the case, the sinister powers that lead men to acts that are not only unprofitable but positively destructive are given opportunities to operate which the self-governed man under the spirit of the Gospel does not afford them. The guard should never be taken off. The bit should be strong and the stout bridle held in a firm, unrelaxing hand.

According to the faith of the Saints, this is a time when things are being shaken, and the disturbing process is likely to increase and present a series of unlooked-for phases. It is the duty of every man to look carefully to his own condition, and seek with anyhanded tenacity the truth of the Gospel, exercising a supreme and unflinching trust in Him who is at the helm. The Lord will do the balance.

The lamentable incident named at the opening of this article has led to these reflections, although it is but one instance of a multitude in point.

The reason for this is obvious. He has not exhibited by his methods a disposition that would lead a person to believe he would like to see people sawed into fragments because they happened to differ widely from him on religious subjects. Even the "Mormons" have not been abused by him, while he has occasionally said a good word regarding their kindly and hospitable qualities, appreciating and acknowledging courtesies he has received at their hands.

While Dr. Hall was very well liked in matters of opinion, he has been among those who have esteemed him as a good deal of a man, the possessor of a heart of goodly proportions. The Methodist Church might look around among their adherents a good while before finding a man who knows any better than the Doctor how to deport himself while conducting his labors.

TWO REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES.

For a long time John Sherman, of Ohio, has openly sought the nomination of his party for President, and it has been generally expected that the Republicans of that State would do what they could for him. This expectation was verified on the 19th inst., when the Republican convention of Ohio, in session at Dayton, adopted a platform in which John Sherman is named for President, and the delegates to the national convention are directed to use all honorable means to secure his nomination. Ohio is a great State, and her united and enthusiastic support of Sherman adds materially to his chances of success.

But other powerful States have favored him. Among them is Indiana. On the same day when John Sherman was nominated in Ohio, the State convention of Republicans, sitting at Indianapolis, went solid for Gen. Harrison, and the delegates to the national convention are instructed to secure his nomination if possible. The fact that Indiana is a somewhat doubtful State, would seem to give General Harrison increased hope of being chosen by his party. His nomination by his State, it is supposed, would effectually dispose of Judge Greaham's chances.

It is reasonably certain that at least two other States, Iowa and New York, will put Republican presidential candidates in the field. The former do so on Allison, while Chauncy M. Dopey may confidently be expected to be put forth by the Empire State. Several other States may also name a man to take the Republican ticket.

John Sherman is a strong man. He is fifty-five years old, a lawyer by profession, and has had an experience in public life equalled by that of very few of the most prominent men in the nation. As the son of a wealthy farmer, he began his career as a legislator, and became a delegate to the National World Conventions of 1848 and 1852. In 1856 he became a member of the United States House of Representatives, in which body he served four successive terms. In March, 1861, he was elected to the Senate, and re-elected in 1866, and again in 1872. In March, 1877, he was taken from the Senate and made Secretary of the Treasury, retaining the office until March, 1881. He was elected to the Senate again in 1881, and was president of that body from Dec. 17, 1883 till Feb. 29, 1887, having been re-elected in 1885. His term in the Senate expired March 1, 1893.

John Sherman is cordially disliked in the South, and by southern politicians. He has never ceased to flout the bloody riot, nor has he regarded war issues as a thing to be hushed up. His nomination by the National Republican Convention would intensify the solidarity of the South, and would be strongly antagonized by the silver producing sections, on account of his fiscal policy.

General Benjamin Harrison, whom the Indiana Republicans have nominated, is not by any means as well known throughout the nation as is Sherman. He was not prominent among the Union commanders, as he was brevetted Major General only a few months before the war closed, though he entered the army in 1862 as a second lieutenant, and served till he was elected to the Senate in 1880. He did not succeed in particularly distinguishing himself, nor is he rated by the press of the country as a man of great ability. He may appear to his immediate neighbors in his own State, to be a man of towering strength and far-reaching influence; but to the rest of the Union he will have rather the appearance of a dark horse of uncertain qualities and mettle.

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Existing conditions justify the expectation that the main struggle for the Republican nomination will be between John Sherman and Chauncy M. Dopey, with Senator Allison of Iowa a close third.

TWO REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES.

For a long time John Sherman, of Ohio, has openly sought the nomination of his party for President, and it has been generally expected that the Republicans of that State would do what they could for him. This expectation was verified on the 19th inst., when the Republican convention of Ohio, in session at Dayton, adopted a platform in which John Sherman is named for President, and the delegates to the national convention are directed to use all honorable means to secure his nomination. Ohio is a great State, and her united and enthusiastic support of Sherman adds materially to his chances of success.

But other powerful States have favored him. Among them is Indiana. On the same day when John Sherman was nominated in Ohio, the State convention of Republicans, sitting at Indianapolis, went solid for Gen. Harrison, and the delegates to the national convention are instructed to secure his nomination if possible. The fact that Indiana is a somewhat doubtful State, would seem to give General Harrison increased hope of being chosen by his party. His nomination by his State, it is supposed, would effectually dispose of Judge Greaham's chances.

It is reasonably certain that at least two other States, Iowa and New York, will put Republican presidential candidates in the field. The former do so on Allison, while Chauncy M. Dopey may confidently be expected to be put forth by the Empire State. Several other States may also name a man to take the Republican ticket.

John Sherman is a strong man. He is fifty-five years old, a lawyer by profession, and has had an experience in public life equalled by that of very few of the most prominent men in the nation. As the son of a wealthy farmer, he began his career as a legislator, and became a delegate to the National World Conventions of 1848 and 1852. In 1856 he became a member of the United States House of Representatives, in which body he served four successive terms. In March, 1861, he was elected to the Senate, and re-elected in 1866, and again in 1872. In March, 1877, he was taken from the Senate and made Secretary of the Treasury, retaining the office until March, 1881. He was elected to the Senate again in 1881, and was president of that body from Dec. 17, 1883 till Feb. 29, 1887, having been re-elected in 1885. His term in the Senate expired March 1, 1893.

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