

gotten that with some of the most boastful of Utah papers there have been "grand drawings" for pianos, waggons, watches, gold-headed canes and what not, a chance being given to each paid-up subscriber, and the prizes being obtained by the papers for advertising which could not otherwise have been secured from the thrifty firms whose wares were thus taken off their hands. We are not aware that the practice in any case led to an inquiry as to its legality; it probably being held that no one was seriously robbed by it, since those who didn't get a prize got at least the paper, which must have been worth something. We hope that in the present instance the authorities in Idaho will also take a lenient view and let the *Foxt* off on its promise not to do anything of the kind again. It is not good journalism, nor good business management. It is a humiliation to the paper, a confession that the paper itself is not worth the price asked for it, a poor attempt to eke out full value by an appeal to simple-minded cupidity. This must be so, for every sane person knows that neither piano or organ or sewing machine dealers, nor newspaper proprietors, are giving away something for nothing—they are getting their money out of the business somehow. We therefore take issue with the circular's opinion that a favorable decision of the case "will be of great importance to the country newspaper." Of much greater importance to every newspaper is it to so conduct itself that it feels the consciousness of its own dignity and worth, and the assurance that in its subscription price and advertising rates no patron is charged one cent more than actual value to him. Whatever is more than this cometh of evil.

WILLIAM IS DEFEATED.

The dispatches as far as received at this writing indicate the defeat of the government in the elections for the German parliament. It is not shown or foreshadowed that the minority in which the supporters of the emperor's military policy will find themselves when the organization takes place will be considerable or even decisive; indeed, so far as may be determined from present advices, it is possible that the prime minister may be able to effect a majority combination favorable to the army bill out of the many parties represented in the reichstag.

Just what tactics William will resort to next no one knows, perhaps not even himself. He is confronted by a confusing not to say humiliating condition of things in the fatherland. His ancestry, his instincts, his training and his surroundings have all conspired to look upon himself as an absolute ruler, one against whose plainly defined and expressed will not even the imaginary constitution itself could stand for an instant. On his former trial of strength with the people's representatives he was brought face to face for the first time with a rude and angering reversal. It was in the nature of a painful awakening from a dream of undisturbed dominion, of continued empire. For the first time in his life he was

made to realize that the rule instituted before the century was born that the consent of the governed is a factor of government not to be entirely overlooked, had not paled upon the world but had taken root, grown and spread to all lands, his own included. It was also a note of warning to him that while he may have stood still in the midst of the mighty yet tranquil revolution that has been going steadily on, his subjects have advanced with it and beyond him. It may not threaten his throne because everything truly progressive comes by easy and regular stages, and the German movement has not yet reached that point. As to how soon it may reach it, or whether it reaches it all in the present emperor's day, depends largely upon himself we should say. If he accepts the inevitable and chokes down the cholera which his irascible nature must cause to rise as he contemplates the peaceful yet powerful way of the "common people," he may never be disturbed in his regal repose for even an instant; and if he would inaugurate a war upon himself rather than upon Russia or France and beat down and drive out those qualities which keep him aloof from and on stilted relations with the loyal commoners who constitute his nation's bulwark in war and its sustaining power in peace, he might pass into history as the best loved monarch of all Germany since the time of Frederick the Great.

LUTHERAN BIGOTRY.

If a dispatch from Rock Island, Ill., is to be relied on, the Swedish Lutherans assembled in synod have paid attention to the Mormons to the extent of asking a representative of the Swedish church to use his influence in preventing our missionaries from laboring in Sweden. This sounds plausible enough to any one who is acquainted with that denomination. The request is in full accordance with the spirit of bigotry and intolerance for which many of its clergymen are noted.

The established church of Sweden used to lay claim to being "the only true" one, and many of its followers considered all outsiders as hopelessly lost. The chief executive of the state has always been the supreme bishop of the church, in virtue of his position in the state, and the clergymen have never disdained to appeal to the civil authorities for aid against heretics, whenever they saw fit to do so. They have been persecutors to the full extent of their power, showing themselves unworthy of the name of Protestant Christians.

Ignorant clergymen who have not seen much of the world but are formed, or rather misformed, during a rigid course of university training, so as to fit, like oysters in the shells, in the narrow clerical uniform, may be excused for entertaining medieval ideas and notions concerning the rights of others to think and to speak. At least their position is easily accounted for. But men who live in this country and have tasted the sweet fruits of liberty, enjoying and seeing others enjoy the freedom that is only beginning to dawn over the old countries, cannot be ex-

cused when they join in the clamor of a bigoted rabble for the aid of the state in smothering religious thought. Is it the fault of their denomination that they can make no advance in the direction of religious liberty?

The history of the Swedish church in the last decades ought to teach them the absolute futility of trying to stop the progress of religious ideas by force. It is still in fresh remembrance how years ago through the influence of silk-robed priests a few poor women were banished from Sweden because they had embraced Roman doctrines. A gentleman afterwards met the same fate because he joined the Baptists. But what was the result? The clergymen had only succeeded in making the country the laughing stock of Europe. Foreign sects invaded the country and the authorities had to choose between repealing the barbarous law or engaging in the banishment business wholesale. The former alternative was selected. But still the priests had the power to persecute, and they did so. The Baptists were particularly hunted like wolves. In many places the prisons were filled with them, though they were guilty of no other crime than "heresy." Priests in company with deputy marshals, the former armed with the ritual and the latter with axes, went round the country hunting for infants who had not been sprinkled. Doors were broken open and the children rudely torn from their mothers' arms to be "baptized." The parents were fined and, in case of poverty, robbed of their furniture to pay the fines. It is not fifty years since all this transpired. But what was the result? Today the Baptists number over 38,000 in that country (not including the children), and thousands of other dissenters fill their houses of worship from Haparanda to Ystad, while the churches of the persecuting clergymen in many instances are empty.

These facts ought, it seems to us, to teach the Lutherans in this country that an appeal to force against what they consider heresy is the very last thing for them to attempt. If they are afraid of any kind of "ism," let them meet it with argument. Let intelligence encounter intelligence. So shall the truth prevail, and to find truth, no matter from what source it comes, ought to be the object of all.

AS TO PENSIONS.

The probability that the pension roll may be printed and distributed among the principal libraries of the country seems to carry some dismay to certain parties who are not reluctant to accept a pension but are ashamed to let the fact be known that they are accepting it. This is a modesty that can be easily understood and that ordinarily ought to be appreciated. Yet in the interest of the public service, in the real interest, indeed, of those who are honestly entitled to the nation's bounty, and whom every lover of country wishes to see generously rewarded, it may be necessary to disregard this modesty and let the facts be made known. There ought not to be, and there is not, the least disgrace to