

worked at its inner development, building railroads and increasing its manufactures and industries. In the event of a declaration of war the military power of Germany would increase 127 per cent, that of France 118 per cent, and that of Russia 164 per cent.

Monteculli's truthful saying, sometimes attributed to Napoleon I, that the three requisites for war were money, money, money, is doubtless a great consideration in holding all the nations back, because it is certain that the future war will cost more than any previous one. No nation ought to be more sensible of this than Germany, for its people are not wealthy but industrious and frugal, and upon them descends more directly the blows inflicted by war or living in a constant state of preparation therefor. Power is oftentimes like money—the more of it that is used, the less there is on hand. Perhaps William never thought of this.

ALLEGED MEDICAL EXCLUSIVENESS.

A friend hands in, with the request that it be published, a statement to the effect that the Supreme court of the United States has rendered a decision throwing open all professions to all comers, and declaring unconstitutional any restriction imposed by legislation which deprives a man from earning a living in any honest manner. This decision of course strikes at the "medical tyrants" who in nearly every state in the Union "have succeeded in bulldozing the legislatures into the belief that the people demand that the doctors who kill them off shall have a monopoly of the business."

A statement made by an M. D. in the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, of the 8th inst., says that "the medical profession has been accused of selfishness because of its efforts to secure state legislation calling for examining boards for both physicians and druggists, but the thinking public generally commend their action in this respect. Public opinion has been so well educated in this matter that there is only one state in the Union in which a man who has failed in every calling he has attempted can commence business as a physician or a druggist without an examination."

The practice of medicine is the most permeating and consequential of all the professions, and to permit the novice, the dabbler or the imperfectly equipped to engage in it without restraint is at once to foster and promote a serious menace. It is enough that the sick are considered at the mercy of the man of medicine without the slightest knowledge of what he does or why he does it; but to throw down the bars altogether and let Tom, Dick and Harry fall upon the helpless is more than any well-regulated community can stand. Yet it should be remembered all the while that a doctor, however skillful and accomplished, is not of necessity a healer; he observes a certain formula after having diagnosed the case, and the discipline is generally pretty strict—if it results favorably, well and good; if not, he has complied with the ethics of his calling and is not responsible, but of course the object is and all efforts are de-

signed toward a recovery if possible, if not, then to mitigate the situation as much as may be.

If it is true that all doctors are not healers, it is also true that all healers are not doctors. Those who apply mild remedies from vegetable sources and which if not effectual are at least not harmful, oftentimes score victories over pain and prostration when the more learned and skilled utterly fail. To rule out those who adopt nature's remedies, therefore, simply because they are strangers to technical terms and know nothing whatever of degrees and diplomas, would savor strongly of a disposition to uphold exclusiveness with tyranny; and the attempt to enforce it by statute would find but few supporters among the thinking and disinterested. There are provisions in our doctrine for the use of mild herbs along with the ministrations of the Church where the latter are unsufficient through the sufferer's want of faith, and those who want to adhere to this practice must not be denied. Neither must those who prefer more elaborate and scientific treatment nor those who will have nothing to do with doctors. Each individual should be left to his own choice so long as he is capable of choosing.

In all this no reflection is designed upon the medical fraternity or any part thereof; most if not all of them within our acquaintance are capable, reliable, upright men. In the domain of surgery, nothing that is previously said has any bearing. The surgeon cannot be too well educated or be in possession of too much of that capacity which comes of experience largely and of that indescribable quality which enables him to know what to do at a glance and how to proceed to do it without wasting words or time. It is a grand calling and should contain none but conscientious, high-minded men.

LEONARD SOBY IS DEAD.

A letter under date of June 19 has been received from W. F. Cogswell at Beverly, New Jersey, stating that Mr. Leonard Soby had just died at that place. The writer, who is a son-in-law of the deceased, and a relative of Dr. H. D. Cogswell, the well-known San Francisco millionaire, says: "I have searched in vain for papers, which I know are somewhere about, with a statement of his [Mr. Soby's] membership with the Latter-day Saints of Utah, and have been anxious to learn more of this generous-hearted society. I know he was also a subscriber to the *DESERT NEWS*."

The news of the aged veteran's death (he was born in 1810) is interesting to members of the Church from the fact that having become a member of the Church more than half a century ago, he has been, for the past seven years, the only living witness who heard read, before the High Council at Nauvoo, the revelation received through the Prophet Joseph Smith on celestial marriage, as it is published in the Doctrine and Covenants.

At the High Council meeting referred to the revelation was, at the solicitation of members of that body and with the sanction of the Prophet

and his brother, read by Patriarch Hyrum Smith. The members of the High Council were: Samuel Bent, William Huntington, Alpheus Cutler, Thomas Grover, Lewis D. Wilson, David Fullmer, Aaron Johnson, Newel Knight, Leonard Soby, James Allred, Henry G. Sherwood and Samuel H. Smith. There were several others present at the meeting. Leonard Soby was one who, at that time, refused to accept the revelation as true.

A few years ago a discussion of this subject arose, in which Elder L. O. Littlefield, now of Logan, took part. It was carried on through the papers, and in January, 1886, the *Ogden Herald* contained the following regarding the matter:

Our readers will remember that, in the correspondence which passed between Elder Littlefield and Joseph Smith of the reorganized church, some time since, Mr. Smith challenged Elder Littlefield to give the names of parties who were present and heard the revelation on celestial marriage read before the High Council at Nauvoo. Among the names given by Elder Littlefield was that of Leonard Soby. The prophet of the reorganized church knew where Mr. Soby resided, and instructed a member of his church in high standing to draw up an affidavit, stating that Mr. Soby was not present at such meeting, and never heard the revelation read.

"The affidavit was drawn up under the instructions of Joseph Smith, and Mr. Gurley, who was something of a lawyer, called on Mr. Soby at his home in Beverly, New Jersey, and requested him to sign it. The affidavit stated that Mr. Soby was present at the High Council meeting referred to, but did not hear the revelation read. When Mr. Gurley requested Mr. Soby to sign the document, Soby objected, saying he was present at the meeting, and did hear the revelation read, and could not sign an affidavit to the contrary. This considerably disconcerted his interlocutor, and Mr. Soby added: 'If you will draw up an affidavit setting forth that I was there and did hear the revelation read, I will sign it for you.' Mr. Gurley, however, did not want that kind of testimony, and retired rather crestfallen, but wiser, and has since apostatized from the reorganized church."

Mr. Soby, quite recently, had business in the state of Pennsylvania, and while there related the occurrence to a gentleman named Samuel Harrison.

Leonard Soby is about the only person now living who was present at the High Council meeting at which the revelation on celestial marriage was read. His home is at Beverly, New Jersey.

The attention of James S. Brooks, of San Bernardino, California, was called to the foregoing by its republication in the *DESERT NEWS*, and being curious to learn the facts from Mr. Soby himself, he took the necessary steps to do so. In a letter to the *News* he said: "I wrote to Mr. Soby myself informing him of the statement of the interview between himself and Mr. Gurley, as published in the *Ogden Herald*, asking him if it was correct, and below is a copy of the letter I received from him:

BEVERLY, N. J., Feb. 16, 1881.

James S. Brooks:

Dear Sir—Yours of 12th at hand, and would state the facts given in the *Herald* in regard to myself and Mr. Gurley are true. I was present at the High Council in Nauvoo when that revelation was read, and know it to be true, and I hope