

States has attained unparalleled greatness. This country, so high up toward the towering summit of individual liberty with all the privileges involved therein, cannot but reach a helping hand to those who endeavor to follow the same road, be they on Cuba, in Armeula, or elsewhere. Our moral support is due them lest they should fall by the wayside and perish by the hands of purring tyranny. Their battles for independence is a repetition in some measure of our own early history, and the heroes of today are the kindred of those who formerly sacrificed all on the altar of freedom.

The Cuban patriots ask for no armed interference in their behalf. They only desire the moral support of the United States and are prepared to carry their contest with Spain to a conclusion. If their cause is just, as it seems to be, they deserve to win that independence for which they have taken up arms.

GOV. WAITE AND MORMONISM.

David H. Waite, once the famous governor of Colorado, is reported as having said a sensible thing about the Mormons. Hardie, an ex-member of the British Parliament, delivered a lecture to the socialists in Denver. The ex-governor was in the audience. The radical speaker denounced American politics, declaring that there was not a scintilla of honesty in American or British politics. Ex-Governor Waite, at the close of the address, rose for the defense of populism. He delivered a heavy blow at socialism at the same time, and in the course of his remarks said:

Again, he [Hardie] declares that socialism is Christianity applied. He wants the hungry fed, the naked clothed, the shoeless shod. Is that all he wants? Then let him go to Utah, for the Mormon Church does all this. If ever I joined a church it would be that one.

We do not know whether the ex-governor has studied the Mormon problem and arrived at the conclusion he so forcibly stated or whether it was one of those brilliant thoughts that sometimes flash through the intellect; but in either case, it is emphatically true. Mormonism is God's solution of all the vexed problems to which socialism and similarisms owe their origin and with which they struggle in vain. Just because Mormonism is Christianity applied, it points the way to happiness both here and hereafter to every member of the human family.

THE BASIS OF LIBERTY.

A recent number of the New York Mail and Express contains a well-written article the purpose of which is to emphasize the truth that Christianity is the basis of liberty, a fact that claims the consideration of all who, directly or indirectly, are responsible for the maintenance and development of a country's institutions. To lose sight of it in the various assemblies where the affairs of nations are decided is as perilous as to steer along a dangerous coast without the guiding rays of the lighthouses.

Babylon was once a mighty power,

"the glory of kingdoms," "the praise of the whole earth." With swift strides it rose from insignificance to a position of supremacy in civilization, in wealth and influence; yet it fell as if scattered by the hands of supernatural agents. The capital, once renowned for its wonders in architecture and other evidences of human genius, became literally "a lair of wild beasts and a place of stagnant waters," in which condition it practically remains up to the present time.

In the same way, the pyramids of Egypt are crumbling to dust mingling with the sand of the desert, and the civilization of which they are monuments is wiped out from the pages of history. Greece is no more except in the ruins and monuments that still testify to her former glory, and Rome that once ruled the world has been scattered to the four winds like the fragments of the image the Babylonian ruler saw in his dream. The same fate met the nations on this continent of whose existence and marvelous achievements science is just becoming cognizant.

To the important question, why has all this glory been trampled in the dust? the writer in the *Mail and Express* replies: "Simply because all these splendid and mighty political powers depended upon the supremacy of mental and material greatness divorced from pure religion for their strength and success."

This tells the whole secret. They gradually abandoned the path that was illuminated by the light of revelation from God and consequently drifted away until lost in the darkness of error and unbelief. Iron was mixed with clay, divine truth with frail human wisdom, and the result was destructive.

There is a twofold reason why the progress of a nation necessarily depends on its preservation of a pure religion. It is only by revelation that man knows anything about his origin, the reason for his existence on earth and his future destiny. The very grouping together of individuals into families and nations is for the purpose of educating man into a higher life. What else is the end to be obtained by social affiliations, law, authorities and governments that link individuals together? It follows, that from the moment a people disregards religious truth and endeavors to deny man's relationship and obligations to his God, its dissolution is inevitable. Suppose a school, no matter how excellent, would undertake to instill into the minds of its students that filial relationship is a delusion, a conception only of infancy, and that the aims and purposes of education are confined within the halls of the seat of learning, in fact, that existence itself ceases beyond the school term, how long could that establishment exist? If nations, in an equally absurd manner, drift into a condition of forgetfulness of their very purpose, surely they must be overthrown and give room for others.

Besides, it is only by the adherence religious truth that morality can be preserved. France has taught the world what the substitution of the "goddess of reason" for God can lead to—the results of the doctrines of Voltaire and Rousseau, a lesson at which the student of history still shudders.

Without true religion the maintenance of pure morals is impossible, and without the latter individual liberty and national independence must perish, because it carries with it the germs of dissolution.

The ancient nations long ago buried in oblivion were not deficient in patriotism, in genius, in wealth. Still, they went down, and the warning they send to us is that the perpetuity of civilization and the blessings we enjoy depends upon a recognition of those truths that God has revealed for the guidance of His children.

DERELICTS.

The noun derelict as commonly used means the bulk or remains of a dismantled ship, deserted by the passengers and crew, the helpless sport of winds and waves, without steam or sails to drive her forward on any fixed course, or helmman to guide her toward any port. A peculiarity of such craft is that they invariably get into currents which mark the paths of commerce and are consequently a menace to all legitimate navigation; for while rocks and reefs and shoals and sandbars can be ascertained and regularly marked upon the charts which seafaring folk study, and may therefore be avoided by intelligent seamanship, the derelict has no permanence of abode; no fixity of purpose, and may be alike encountered in the deepest waters or the most tortuous road, in the broad blaze of day or in the stillest watches of the night. So grave is the peril which such wrecks convey that more than once they have been a matter of international discussion—cruisers and torpedo boats have been suggested for continuous warfare from all commercial nations against the destructive wayfarers, and each week's maritime news gives the latest known particulars as to the description, number and whereabouts of these sand-baggers of the high seas.

But there are derelicts of the land as well as of the main—obstructions to progress and a constant peril to their aforesaid associates. They are met with in the walks of business, where their present condition is not alone the result of misfortune—for misfortune with most deserving craft would either mean complete wreck or early rescue and repair—but is more frequently the effect of bad management and devious ways and practices. They are perpetually crossing and disturbing the educational, religious and social channels; and, perhaps more frequently than anywhere else they drift into the sea of politics, which in its calmest aspects is treacherous and tempestuous enough for those who away it, without any of the additional dangers that come from unknown shoals and from deadly but unexpected obstacles.

Against this class of derelicts we sound a note of warning. Utah is about to put on the habilliments of a new and sovereign State. Her first ventures will be of course beset with many difficulties—many of them not of her making, but all of them combining to put to the test her seaworthiness and the skill of her navigators. We suggest a pilot fleet armed and authorized to blow all derelicts out of the