

savage enemy to that of friend and citizen of the United States. The policy has succeeded so well, according to General Schofield, that there has been no serious indication of a hostile disposition manifested by any of the Indian tribes since this policy was inaugurated.

We are inclined to think the young men among the aborigines might be in better business than idling away their time in army barracks, strutting on the drill ground, or picking up the vices and follies too often characteristic of soldier life. That under proper management, with the right kind of example and much patience they can be taught the arts of peace, such as husbandry and particularly stock-raising, the people of this Territory have thoroughly proved. It is perhaps too much to expect that the government would all at once undertake so humanitarian a plan for their civilization; so the step above alluded to—training them as soldiers—may be only commended as a short one in a worthy direction. It is surely better to have the Indians handling guns for pleasure and pay than to have them in front of the muzzles as victims. Besides, as the army does so very little fighting, we are not sure but its restraints are likely to make of the Indian troops the most peaceful and least warlike of all races.

THE TOBACCO EVIL.

Reference was made in the NEWS last week to the pernicious habit of cigarette smoking that is becoming so prevalent among the youth in Utah. From this it need not be understood that it is a general custom among the sons of Latter-day Saints, or that even a majority of them are affected by it. On the contrary, there is a large proportion who rigidly refrain from the injurious habit, though it cannot be denied that it has far too many victims.

It is not alone in Utah or in the United States that the serious danger caused by the rapid increase of tobacco smoking among young boys is apparent. In Great Britain there is an anti-narcotic league which numbers among its members some of the most influential men of the nation, and which is making a vigorous warfare against the evil. This league is "proceeding upon the basis that the 'rapid spread of smoking amongst boys, by the serious and far-reaching evils, physical, mental and moral, to which the habit gives rise, threatens to become a national danger of the gravest character unless prompt and effectual means are taken for its suppression,'" and is urging that not only should religious and educational institutions direct their efforts against the practice but that laws should be passed "prohibiting sale under the age of eighteen years from smoking, and rendering it illegal to sell, give or furnish tobacco in any form to children under that age."

In response to a call of the league, public meetings have been held, the following being among the resolutions which were adopted at those gatherings:

"That in view of the serious moral and physical injuries resulting from smoking, especially by boys, and of the recent

alarming increase of this blighting habit, this meeting earnestly implores all parents, ministers, and Sunday school teachers to do their utmost to save the boys by discountenancing and abstaining from the practice.

"That as boys are tempted to smoke in imitation of men, and in ignorance of the injurious and enslaving tendencies of the habit, this meeting earnestly beseeches the school boards and all teachers of private schools to safeguard the coming generation by including in their health-teaching special instruction on the real nature and results of the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other narcotics, as distinguished from those of foods."

The further resolutions ask for a prohibitive law such as has been referred to and pledge to the anti-narcotic league support in carrying out its purposes.

There is no doubt of the baneful effects of tobacco-smoking. These are apparent to all thoughtful observers. The moral and intellectual faculties are blunted by the habit, and through its continuance the usually polite and affable gentleman often becomes rude and choleric. This latter phase is daily exhibited in public places, where the smoker who ordinarily would scorn a suggestion of annoying people by impolite conduct or words will rudely fill the atmosphere with fumes that are offensive and nauseating to women and children and those who do not smoke; yet if he is requested to assist his reply is an insolent stare or an insulting remark.

But the effort to suppress juvenile smoking is directed against more than a mere violation of social etiquette. It is aimed at an unmitigated evil which is undermining the very foundations of national strength and intellectual development. The practice, now so prevalent among the youth of civilized countries, has produced incontrovertible testimony that the coming generation is more inclined to criminality than the one which preceded it; and that among the most potent causes for this is the consumption of tobacco in smoking and chewing. The use of narcotics and stimulants is stupefying it not destroying the conscience of those addicted to it, and is causing a deterioration in those mental and physical powers which are necessary for the maintenance and perpetuity of civilized nations.

While tobacco-smoking was indulged in to only a moderate degree, these effects were not generally noticed, though scientific and medical men raised a warning voice against the peril which was imminent. But now that the pernicious habit has fastened its deadening grip upon the masses the magnitude of the danger becomes apparent, and those who are not already being swept along by the current are putting forth their energies to stem the tide of popular retrogression. In the present situation, however, it is doubtful whether the momentum already acquired is not so great that these efforts will prove futile, and that humanity must pass through another dark epoch of disease and pestilence before there is deliverance from the terrible evil. If such highly commendable attempts in civilized nations as those of the anti-narcotic league referred to are to prove successful, they must receive more gen-

eral support from those who hold the reins of government than they do today. Much may be accomplished by the education of the young, but to cope with the existing condition of things it is necessary to aid the moral forces by the strong arm of legal enactment against those who lead the juvenile portion of the community to indulgence in the evil habit, as well as against those who instruct them to engage in any other vice or crime.

With the Latter-day Saints it is somewhat different than with other communities. The former have definite, positive counsel from the Lord, given by revelation in this day on the subject, and when this is applied with the religious force and conviction of which the Saints have shown themselves capable in other matters, they would soon be beyond the evils which arise from the use of narcotics and stimulants. The Word of Wisdom was revealed in March, 1833, for the temporal salvation of the Saints. Of tobacco the Lord said it was not good for internal use by man. Like all other vegetables, it was created for a purpose, but that purpose is not inhalation in the form of smoke or assimilation into the body by chewing; it is "an herb for bruises and all sick cattle," and if confined to its proper sphere is beneficial. Its wrongful use is inhibited among the Saints, and if they would escape the horrors of pestilence they will pay heed to the warning that has been given them, and will train their children to follow in their footsteps for safety, now and hereafter.

SHALL CLEVELAND BE ASSASSINATED

"Had Grover Cleveland occupied the place of Mayor Harrison when the assassin's bullet struck him, the whole West would have rejoiced."

This beautiful sentiment was quoted at the theater on Thursday evening, as the utterance of a presumably honorable resident of this city. The thought sounds so familiar that none will doubt for a moment the genuineness of the report. We have seen or heard it in some form or another so often and under such a variety of conditions, that has it not been so utterly infernal, its later repetitions might have passed unheeded. We believe the thought originated in a blatherskite weekly issued in a country district of Colorado. At least that was our first acquaintance with it. Our last was the one already mentioned.

It will always be a matter of wonderment how such a diabolical thought could be entertained for an instant by a person of experience and education, leaving conscience entirely out of the question. Without waiting to discuss the infamous cowardice of such a method of accomplishing one's purposes, common sense alone ought to suggest to the blustering knaves to whom this cut-throat notion has had a pleasant sound, that assassination is not a practicable attachment to a people's government. The principle is not a new one by any means. Not only savagery, but civilization, is well acquainted with this method of controlling the state; and according to the best advice,