

to sign this agreement, which is nothing more than a confirmation of the pledges given in 1874, which never have been kept, and even this small concession on the part of the sultan was rendered useless as a rebuke to Turkish misrule, by the proclamation of the government that it was not intended for the benefit of the Christian subjects but as an attempt at reform of the government of the empire generally.

Information is now leaking out that these unsatisfactory results are due to jealousy between England and her associates in the matter. Salisbury had to choose between an open rupture between Great Britain and the other countries, or the acceptance of their proposition to let the sultan down easy. England's premier accepted the latter alternative. The Armenian question, therefore, as formerly has been pointed out by the NEWS, is as unsettled as ever, but after the acceptance by the sultan of the terms dictated, the great European powers no longer need to pretend to act in concert in the matter; their mission is temporarily concluded and each country is in a position to act on its own account in the new entanglements that seem about to ensue.

In this there are dangers for the peace of Europe. A correspondent from Constantinople to the New York Times says every London newspaper man in the sultan's capital predicts that there is to be a revolution in Turkey. Some time the Ottoman empire must cave in, owing to the flood of corruption that has been undermining its foundations for centuries. When this happens Europe will be forced to meet on the ruins, and it is hardly conceivable that an amicable agreement can be reached as to the plans of reconstruction.

PATRONIZE HOME TALENT.

People who proclaim in words their support of home industries must adorn themselves with the jewel of consistency if they would be regarded as earnest in their professions. To do this, the patronage of home talent in preference to that of an equal grade on the outside is vitally important. It is evidence of a high order of patriotism for a people to sustain local industries, and to hold home products in greater esteem for patronage than they do imports; and in view of past experience and teaching, with present and prospective conditions, every resident of Utah ought to be an individual example of this patriotism.

The support of home industries cannot be properly confined to the strictly utilitarian products of home labor, but to be consistent with principle reaches to the ornamental as well. In this regard it may be suggested that advance in civilization is indicated largely by the aid and attention given to the fine arts. In one of these, for illustration, the people of Utah have taken a long stride forward: owing to circumstances, music has received great encouragement in our midst, and today no people occupy a higher plane generally in the maintenance of the divine art than do the dwellers in these mountain vales.

Another direction in which it would

be highly gratifying to be able to make a similar comment, but which facts compel to be stated as a painful opposite, is the encouragement given to artists of the brush and palette. In the art exhibitions held here it has been shown conclusively that Utah has rich talent, and produces paintings of the highest class at a range of prices as low or even lower than is asked elsewhere. Yet candor compels us to say, much as we regret it, that many men of means among us have not given to the local talent that patronage which even financial wisdom on their own part would suggest as profitable; they purchase for the ornamentation of their homes the work of foreign artists in many cases inferior to and at a higher price than the productions of the home painter; while such a thing as patronizing local talent in this respect for the purpose of encouragement is a comparatively rare occurrence.

The existing situation in this regard, therefore, should call for some deep thought and a change of procedure in various quarters. Numbers of Utah young men with high artistic ability have managed to scrape together by hard labor enough means to enable them to attend foreign places of instruction, and have selected the best art schools in the world in which to secure tuition. There, in competition with master minds from every civilized nation, the Utah boys have competed successfully, attaining distinction in the very home of art. Then they have returned to their mountain abode, dearer to them than any other spot because of its associations; but in too great degree they have met with a cold reception for the product of their brains and hands. They have seen, and now do see, the patronage which legitimately might on their own go to the hands of strangers who offer nothing better, to say the least, and who have no ties that bind them closely to the people here. So marked is this feature that some of our Utah artists have seriously thought of leaving elsewhere, in communities where their talent would receive appreciation and encouragement, and where as honest toilers in a noble calling they could keep the wolf of starvation from their doors. This is the painful condition, briefly stated. It suggests that people of means, and those who buy pictures for their homes, ought to give to local talent their prompt attention and preference. It is a discredit to the people here that Utah artists have to go begging as it were for patronage while foreigners of no greater worth find ready sale for their works; and it would be a disgrace to the community if any of our local artists should be compelled by the lack of patriotism in their fellow-citizens for home industry, to seek deserved appreciation and encouragement elsewhere.

JUDGE SMITH'S ILLNESS.

The news from Ogden Saturday concerning Judge Harvey W. Smith will bring deep regret to very many people who have in their hearts a warm place for the member of the Supreme bench of Utah who has presided in the Fourth district court. Attorney P. L. Wil-

liams, H. P. Henderson and J. G. Sutherland were summoned by telephone this morning to repair to Ogden at the earliest possible moment, as Judge Smith had expressed his desire to consult with them. To this request was appended the information that the judge was in a very critical state of health, and the culminating point might be reached by tonight or possibly might be deferred a few days. There was not time after the receipt of the message for the three gentlemen named to catch the morning train north, so they took the 1:30 p.m. train.

Only a few months ago, many who looked upon Judge Smith in his apparently strong and hearty condition would have thought he had a long lease upon life, as far as the ordinary workings of nature are concerned. But a great change has come, and for some time he has been a sufferer. Weakness of the heart has developed to a dangerous condition which is critical, to say the least. Sometimes during his illness he has felt better than at others, but no permanent improvement has been shown recently. Hoping that a journey east would benefit him, he visited his old home in Kentucky, returning a few days ago, in no better state of health.

There is no occasion for giving the case a gloomy aspect at present, for there is hope while life remains that the vital spark may be again fanned to a vigorous flame. Hence, while the judge's intimate friends are prepared for the worst they hope for the best. In this hope they will find a sympathetic response in the community on behalf of one who, in his profession as an attorney and during his later career on the bench, has shown himself to be possessed of more than the common measure of legal learning, quick comprehension of the law, and of courage and ability in the positions he has been called to occupy in the judicial department of the government.

SCIENCE AND HIGHER CRITICISM.

It was noted incidentally in these columns a few days ago that infidelity is on the retreat, the tendency being to approach the position held by believers in religious truth. The same observation may be made as to what is known as higher criticism. When its principles at first were announced, it very loudly clamored for recognition as the very quintessence of theological science. Those who could not follow its leaps and bounds were termed ignoramus and denied all claim to scholarship. It is now quite evident, however, that the brief day of this rationalistic school of theology is waning. The fatal tendency of it is becoming clearer as its arguments are followed out to their ultimate conclusions.

One of the prominent scholars who recently have changed attitude on this question is Professor A. H. Sayce. In the Contemporary Review he explains and defends his present position. He says he must reject a criticism which sets out with preconceived ideas and assumptions and which treats imperfect evidence