

protest against. There is now no proposition before the Convention committee that looks to the confiscation of anybody's water rights; and it is a great waste of ammunition to be firing resolutions at game which is not in sight or even in existence.

Regarding state ownership of water, it may be stated that a declaration on that subject in the Constitution cannot change the fact. The ownership of water is in the state—the people. The right to the use of the water belongs to the appropriators, for the land on which it is used. The control of the distribution of water in accord with acquired rights vests in the state—the people. A proper understanding of this situation will cause the people not to object to their own exercise of inherent rights for the general welfare.

### HAIDING AMERICAN FEDERATION.

Giving Jonathan's nose a tweak seems to be a fad with which the European nations are bent on amusing themselves. They don't appear to be very particular how sharp the twitch is, either. Britain's action regarding Alaskan territory, and later her attitude in the Nicaraguan affair; the silent contempt with which Spain treats Secretary Gresham's demand for apology; and France's summary procedure with respect to ex-Consul Waller, all show that the European powers evince little disposition to treat the United States with that courtesy and consideration which they demand from this government and from each other. In one way, logically speaking, it may be said that recent political events in this nation have indicated that the mass of the people are not in harmony with the policy of the administration, and that therefore, as the people have administered a rebuke, foreign nations may treat the administration with contempt; for if a government is not respected at home it will not claim respect abroad. This line of reasoning, however, is too superficial for the existing situation, as European nations yet may find in their dealings with those who dwell on the American continent. Whatever may be the view taken by the American voter of party policy, his expression thereon is not to be construed as an act of contempt toward the government itself, least of all such as would justify any foreign power in arrogant and disdainful demeanor toward the United States.

It is an old saying that "pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall;" and it is not impossible that the hauteur displayed by European powers toward the chief nation on this continent may result disastrously to their colonial and other interests in America. To say that this end might be effected by any warlike procedure on the part of the United States would not be consistent with past experience or present indications; for if this government has displayed any special quality in its relations with other powers it has been that of a very large amount of patience and forbearance. At the same time it has exhibited a tendency to combine on all suitable occasions with other American peoples in antagonizing European domination upon this conti-

ment. This is the spirit of the Monroe doctrine; it is the source of sympathy given to Cuban patriots when any of these are in action; it is the sentiment of broad liberality which would see the whole of America controlled by the voice of her inhabitants, to the exclusion of foreign royal edicts. And the more disdainfully the United States is treated by Europeans with respect to matters that concern any part of the American continent, the more pronounced will be the sentiment and action in favor of solidifying the interests of the whole people, both in North and South America and the islands adjacent.

Whatever else may be the immediate outcome of the incidents which have prodded American national dignity of late, it may be concluded that they will hasten American federation in some form or other, to the exclusion of European interference on this side of the water. Five years ago Mr. Blaine, as secretary of state, made efforts for a pan-American union, but the time was not ripe. His was not the first suggestion in that direction, however, for a movement in that line has had strong advocates almost since the beginning of the century. It is being augmented by the later events, and the not far distant future may show that the European attitude towards America has contributed to effect a union by which Cuba, Canada, and other places now giving allegiance to Old World powers may recognize sovereignty in a federation of American republics. European contempt for and arrogance toward American nations or peoples of necessity tends to cement the latter for purposes of common defence.

### DEAF MUTE SUCCESS.

The education of deaf mutes has been attended with almost wonderful success in Utah, the results here showing even better than the reports give for other parts of the country. There has been ample return for the public outlay for institutions of learning for these physically unfortunate persons, and the good effects are so apparent in those who have been made beneficiaries as to afford the highest encouragement for continuing in the work. Many lives which otherwise would have been in some respects a burden to themselves and associates have been transformed into years of comfort and usefulness.

The number of deaf mutes in this community is not very large, therefore the question of what industrial training they should receive has not been difficult to settle. Shoemaking, cabinet work, wood-carving, baking, type-setting, and other trades are within their reach; and in some places book-keeping and assaying are added to the list. It may be that one of the vocations named must be abandoned in its present aspect—that of compositor. In fact it is now recommended by authorities on deaf mute education that as type-setting machines are coming into general use, deaf mutes be discouraged from entering into that trade, although it is one which presents few obstacles, as the faculty of seeing is the chief one called into action by a fairly educated person

in order to do the work properly. But even with the exclusion of type-setting from the branches which deaf mutes may enter, the progress of their education is such as to afford fresh opportunities in many new directions for their independence in earning a livelihood. The deaf mute education is a success that may yet lead into broader fields for ameliorating and improving the condition of the physically unfortunate.

### GRAVE CLERICAL ANXIETY.

The *Christian Statesman*, which announces an editor-in-chief with a prefix to and various initials after his name, and a whole list of editorial contributors, similarly decorated, and which seems to be published at Allegheny, Pa., is in great distress of mind over the steps that are being taken toward Utah statehood. In an editorial in the issue for March 16 the *Statesman* goes far out of its way to stimulate into something like tangibility the bugaboo of a "Mormon State." It quotes the opening part of the prayer offered by President George Q. Cannon when the Convention assembled, which prayer it pronounces "appropriate and Christian in tone;" but lest this should be deemed too great a compliment it offers a needless denial that President Cannon or Mormonism can be judged by the language of one or many prayers—as though anybody wanted to be judged in such a way. Then it gives in detail the "formidable army of determined people [Mormons] at the capital of Utah"—figures supplied by the latest statistical report of Salt Lake Stake. The menace of woman suffrage receives abundant comment, and then comes the kernel of the whole argument—anxiety as to what the Convention will do with the clause of the enabling act which provides that in the Constitution shall be an ordinance "for perfect toleration of religious sentiment, provided that polygamous or plural marriages are forever prohibited." That the Constitution cannot do enough on its part, or the people and the State enough on theirs, to remove the *Statesman's* dreadful concern in this matter, is, however, made clear by the following:

We shall still wait with deeper anxiety than ever to see what the State will do with its Constitution after the great end of admission to the Union has been fully accomplished. We have seen enough of Mormonism in Utah, and know on most reliable testimony enough more to predict with entire confidence that the Mormon problem will assume a more threatening aspect a hundred fold than ever before when the Territory once comes into the Union on an equal footing with the original states. \* \* \* And the defiant evil that might have been easily extirpated in the Territory will cost untold outlays of treasure and it may be of blood before it is overcome and rooted out of the State.

All of which is deserving of no further comment than that the reverend writer of these fearful prophecies must belong to one of two classes of personages: those who are so bigoted that they allow their hatred to warp their sight and sense, or those whom a die-