

cussing it, however, what has it to do with the public schools?" It has absolutely nothing to do with them, and the speaker did not have them in his mind when he thus spoke. He did not dream that his words would be construed as a reference to them, favorable or otherwise. The suggestion that the anniversary was intended as a blow at the high school has not a scintilla of foundation in fact, sense or reason. The allusion to the "old fight" is silly to the extent of being absolutely maudlin; but it is not so easy to characterize the gall with which the "taunts" of the "Desert News" are referred to in an article which is as replete with offensive expressions as is the Tribune's editorial now being candidly discussed, when it better deserves silent contempt.

But to conclusively dispose of the subject: Elder Roberts was seen to-day by a representative of the "News," and he most emphatically disclaimed the import placed upon his remarks by the Tribune, calling attention to the fact that the Herald had given them exactly the opposite construction so far as his position in reference to free higher education was concerned. Elder Roberts held that the spiritual part of man's nature ought not to be neglected while his intellect is being trained and developed, and that the theoretical claims of science ought not to be conceded at the expense of revealed truth. This was the position he took in his address, and the one he has always maintained; but he maintains it as a religionist, and does not permit his theological views to lessen his interest in our public school system. There is not, indeed, the slightest incompatibility.

"I am an enthusiastic believer in and admirer of the splendid school system we have in this city," he said, "including the high school, which I am most emphatically in favor of maintaining. I am unalterably opposed to any backward step in respect to our school system, and I would regard as such the abolition of the high school. You may say this for me, and say it hard," he added, with a warmth that settled all doubt as to where he stood in reference to free higher education and the public school system. He referred to his course in the constitutional convention by way of further proof of his friendliness to the public schools, including high schools in cities large enough to have them.

The "News" half suspects that the Tribune's editorial was a stratagem designed to call forth a definition of Elder Roberts' true position on the school and high school questions, thinking to base thereon, a guess or two. If so, our cotemporary has achieved its purpose and is welcome to all the resulting advantage. One thing is evident: No division on religious lines can be effected in reference to the high school question, for Mormons and Gentiles are alike divided among themselves respecting it, and no man can tell how the people of the city stand in relation to it until some clearer expression than has yet been had from them shall be made.

#### FAITH CURES.

According to English newspapers, two laboring men recently were convicted of manslaughter for refusing to call in medical aid for their sick children. In both cases the little patients died. One of the defendants made the following statement:

"In the Epistle of St. James it is said that if we are afflicted we should pray, and if merry we should sing, and if sick we should call in the elders of the church, who should pray and anoint with oil in the name of the

Lord. I have seen in numerous cases deliverances which God has wrought among his people. I can only say with Job: 'The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.'"

The judge asked the prisoners whether for the future they would comply with the law and provide medical attendance in case of sickness, but both declined to make any pledge to that effect. The judge said he would have to pass a sentence of imprisonment upon them, but when the hour set for sentence came, he dismissed them with a lecture regarding their duties to provide the services of a doctor for the members of their families. Probably the judge felt justified in liberating these men, whose conscience did not permit them to ask doctors to stay the hand of death.

The case deserves notice as an indication that a more tolerant spirit is beginning to be manifested toward the various modern methods of fighting disease. Only a few years ago the idea of ignoring the pills and drugs of the authorized physicians and substituting faith, prayer and anointing with oil was considered dangerous fanaticism. And the adherents of homeopathy and the eclectic school shared a similar fate. At present people are beginning to look more kindly not only upon these methods, but on Christian science, "mind cures" and similar irregular modes of healing. The true reason of this is undoubtedly a growing conviction that medical science used to claim a good deal more than was warranted by the results obtained, and also a number of truly miraculous cures effected apparently only by "faith." Evidence of this kind will not down. However, if at present medical science and "faith cures" seem to be antagonists to the extent that those who believe in the latter out of conscientious scruples must refuse to have anything to do with the former, or that the devotees of science must prosecute the faith healers, this antagonism depends chiefly on misunderstanding. A broader knowledge of natural laws will in time bring about a reconciliation. Faith does not exclude the use of any remedy proposed by genuine science and tested by experience. Faith is practical in its character even when it operates on lines not yet thoroughly understood by science.

#### PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S CUBAN POLICY.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Times-Herald writes as follows under date of the 14th inst.:

"There is no crisis in the relations between Spain and the United States, and there is not likely to be one for a long time to come. In the end the policy of President McKinley is pretty sure to prevail, and this policy means simply the virtual emancipation of Cuba from Spanish rule through the operation of natural forces, without war.

"The President's message, to be sent to Congress three weeks hence, will deal fully with the Cuban question, and will give ample evidence that substantial progress has already been made in putting in force the policy which the President adopted last summer after a most thorough consideration of the whole Cuban subject. It will be a peaceful message, and it will relieve all apprehension of any immediate tension between the two nations. It will by means of the correspondence which has passed between Washington and Madrid show the world that the United States has a distinct policy concerning Cuba, and that the Spanish government is gradually conforming itself to

that policy and giving tacit promise of compliance in the future.

"No one should permit his mind to become confused as to the facts. Let it be remembered that the policy of President McKinley is a solution of the Cuban problem without war. Bear in mind, too, the conditions with which the situation is surrounded:

"1. The insurgents are and are likely to remain unconquered.

"2. They will not accept autonomy till that autonomy be made full and complete, amounting virtually to independence under the guarantee of the United States.

"3. The United States will not ask the insurgents to accept any makeshift home rule scheme.

"4. Spain grows weaker in spirit and financial resources with every passing day, and the war in Cuba becomes less and less popular in the mother country.

"5. Constantly the influence of the United States, added to these natural causes, is in the direction of a solution of the problem that is compatible with the dignity and the pride of Spain.

"6. With these as the conditions, how long is it going to be before Spain herself will realize the hopelessness of further efforts to treat Cuba as a mere vassal?"

The correspondent further forecasts that the message will show that, under the polite and friendly but firm pressure this government has exerted on Spain, much good has already been accomplished, embracing the removal of Weyler, the revocation of the inhuman reconcentrado order, the starting of agriculture and commerce, better treatment of American citizens by the Spanish in Cuba, and the offer by Spain to the Cubans of autonomy. He asserts that President McKinley will gradually insist that Spain go further and further to meet and treat with the insurgents, and continues:

"It is not unreasonable to believe that the day will come when Spain, wearied of war, wearied of sacrifice, weary of bankruptcy, weary of the hopeless struggle against natural causes, will be found ready to give Cuba what in the very nature of things in this day and generation Cuba must have—complete and perfect autonomy, amounting to virtual independence, probably with the United States as guarantor of financial obligations."

The correspondent further says that there is nothing for President McKinley to do at present "except to preserve the professed attitude of the United States as a friendly power, knowing its dignity and strength, and willing to await the outcome of Spain's new policy in Cuba." Very likely the Times-Herald writer has outlined with substantial correctness the policy of the administration, and if he has this country generally will endorse it as a sensible one, characterized by dignity, statesmanship and a due regard for international law.

If the efforts of the state board of trade terminate successfully California will be represented at the Paris Exposition in 1900 by an exhibit that will attract the attention of the world. For some weeks the active members of the board have been quietly at work arranging to arouse interest throughout the state, and already primary plans are being evolved that promise a satisfactory exhibition at the French capital of what can be done in all lines in California. It is the intention to carry on the plans that will be formulated on a large scale. A bid for about 15,000 square feet of space will be made, but as that is the amount allotted to the entire United States it is thought that some trouble will be experienced in obtaining all that is desired.