

said anything about it. The whole concern was founded on a fallacy, it procured its funds by misrepresentation and baseless calumny, and we predicted its failure from the beginning.

The *Utica Herald* is so angry, because "Gentile sheltering homes, however attractive or well protected, can wean very few Mormon women away from their religion," that it wants "a relentless execution of the law." And it closes a silly article on this subject with these Christian remarks about the Church: "It cannot be wooed from its idols; it must be stamped out and ground to pieces in dust." Well, we have heard just such talk as that for the last forty years. And our experience is, that the institutions and the men who have for their chief object the grinding to pieces of the "Mormon" Church, have invariably gone down to the dust, while "Mormonism" abides, unshaken, indivisible and with prospects of perpetual life and glorious victory.

#### THE YEAR 1889.

It is a time-honored custom among newspapers and individuals to cast a retrospective glance, on the last day of the year, over the events which it has witnessed. Often a catalogue of them is made, and people think when they form or read such a catalogue, they have performed a sort of duty required by their consciences, in having specially noted the leading occurrences of the year. It is the duty of every person having the intelligence and opportunity to do so, to impress upon the memory the notable events of current history, and the conscience of an enlightened and cultivated man will impel him to do this.

The duty of the individual in regard to this matter is not done, however, when the catalogue has been made or memorized. He should further exert his mind in an effort to comprehend the significance of the events noted, and their probable effect upon future history. Especially is it the duty of the Latter-day Saints to do this. If the occurrences of the year now closing are studied from this standpoint, it will be found to rank among the most important of the Christian Era.

Group the developments upon Continental Europe, consider them well, and the conviction is unavoidable that they will lead to mighty upheavals in the near future. The repeated attempts on the Czar's life indicate

the internal condition of Russia. The successful overtures the latter has made to Austria, from which it is a foregone conclusion that the great Triple Alliance between Italy, Germany and Austria cannot long continue, mean the removal of the conditions that have preserved the semblance of peace among the Great Powers for the last ten years.

In England the *Times*-Parnell case gave the cause of home rule a tremendous impetus; and now Scotland, Wales and India, as well as Ireland, are demanding local government. The recent London scandals have shaken English society as it has not been shaken for a generation; and the prediction is freely and soberly made that their result will be the establishment of a republic at the termination of Victoria's reign. It is difficult to grasp the full significance of European events that have occurred in 1889, but we are aided in the task by comparing them with similar developments in history, a process which renders it easier to comprehend their import, and to forecast their probable effects. It is a notable circumstance that the last days of the year have witnessed the sufferings, from an epidemic, of hundreds of thousands if not millions of human beings, on the European continent.

The western world has not the facilities for learning in detail what is taking place in Asia, but we know that phenomenal events, rarely equaled in the history of the past, have transpired there, within the year. Japan suddenly transformed itself by adopting a constitution, and thus, in its form of government, became more Anglo-Saxon than Oriental. In China one river destroyed, within the space of a few days, five million human lives; and floods, destroying many thousands, have occurred repeatedly in that country this year.

The abolition of the empire in Brazil removes from the western world the institution of monarchy; and the unsettled question whether Brazil will have a republic or anarchy may remain undetermined for some time. The action of the Spanish-American republics in sending representatives on a tour through the United States is significant, as is the attempt to form a confederation of the states of Central America.

In our own country there have occurred this year developments worthy of deep consideration. Among these may be mentioned the Cronin case, from which alone it is

apparent that the spirit of secret combination and murder is widespread in this land. The return of the Republican party to power early in the year has turned popular thought in the direction of financial science to a remarkable degree, and the consequence, as already indicated, will be great changes in the nation's fiscal policy. The concentration of wealth and the spirit of combination among workers, are significant features of the year. The race question in the South has grown very much in gravity this year, while the Johnstown calamity, and the Seattle, Lynn and Boston fires are among the historic disasters our country has suffered. The creation of four new States in one year signalizes the year in a special manner.

By the people of Utah the closing year will ever be held a memorable one. In the early part of it was laid before the supreme tribunal of their country the question whether or not they could be robbed of their property in a Church capacity, and near its close was placed before the same judgment seat, the question whether they could be robbed of civil and political rights, in an individual capacity, because of their religious belief. With these two questions will be determined the future status of the Latter-day Saints in respect to their country and the rest of mankind. If they shall be decided in favor of the Saints, the latter will be recognized as having rights which others must respect; but if adversely, the effect will be to cast out the Saints, civilly and politically, as well as socially and religiously, and to place them in the extraordinary position of being the only citizens of this Republic who are denied the privilege of being a part of it, of having the protection of its Constitution and laws, and participating in its governmental affairs.

The notable events that have occurred during the year, in which the Saints are specially interested, are too numerous to be even named within the limits of the present article. The progress of the work in Asia and the Holy Land, the translation of the Book of Mormon into the Jewish and Maori languages, the conversion of large numbers of Lamanites in New Zealand and elsewhere, the political developments in Utah which alone would require a long chapter to describe, and last but not least, the day of fasting and prayer by which the birth of Joseph the Seer