

ter. They deserve all the severe treatment they can get, because they invite just that sort of business, and ought to have it. What the prosecuting officer should do when such an individual applies and tells his story, is to have him promptly arrested and vigorously prosecuted for the crime of which his very complaint proves him to have been guilty; and everybody should know just what a contemptible sort of fellow he is. Then public interest would be subserved, and there would be less of such cases.

It need not be understood, however, that there is any justification for official lethargy in enforcing the law against keepers and habitués of gambling and other vile dens. Useless prosecutions to gratify the personal desires of individuals who are themselves guilty of crime are the ones objected to. Officers of the law should obey its mandates. It is notorious that in all large cities there is slack enforcement of the statute against certain classes of criminals, except in a periodical way that is virtually a licensing of the offenders and is in itself a violation of the spirit of the law.

Regarding those persons who come to town from the outer districts, and who break over restraints of honor and virtue by debasing practices, the people among whom they reside owe it to themselves to debar such reprobates from their society. They should be denied the companionship of decent people as a necessary defense against the contaminating influence they wield. So far as the Latter-day Saints are concerned, if there should be such an unfortunate occurrence as that any of the individuals referred to have membership in the Church, they should be promptly dealt with. It is proper to exercise charity; but it is not charitable to encourage vice by shielding those who revel in it. Justice and charity to the good and the pure, the upright and the honest, and to the Church, demand that the law of the Lord be administered to the line, and that the Saints withdraw all fellowship from such unworthy characters.

THAT UNEASY FEELING.

The regularity with which the leading London newspapers give out items suggesting that the time is close at hand when European interference will be invoked in the Japan-Chinese war, is an indication of the uneasy feeling which prevails in England and throughout Europe as to future probabilities in national conflicts. At one time there is a declaration that French interests in eastern Asia have been so disregarded that that nation must maintain her honor by force of arms; then that the war has gone on so far that Britain must interpose to stop it lest her eastern possessions are made to suffer; and now it is announced that Russia has a pretext for interference in the alleged killing, by Chinese, of some Russians employed on the Trans-Siberian railway.

While it is not very likely that either

of these suggested causes will result in any decided movement by a European power at present, yet they are possibilities in the way of producing trouble, and the attention given them tells how prevalent is the feeling, particularly in the newspaper field in Europe, that war is not very far away. The idea is vague, yet the impression is deep, and the political and military situation is being closely studied. While the emperor of Germany is declaring his advocacy of peace, his preparations for war are well known, and in common with others he realizes that Germany's old antagonist is in a more warlike mood than for a long time past. The knife of the assassin Santo opened the way for this condition. Carnot was pre-eminently conservative as the head of the French republic. He never made a move in public policy without seeking to carefully study the situation in all its phases. Casimir-Perier, however, is a different sort of a man, as shown in his recent declaration that France is now prepared to assert her right to be acknowledged as the leading nation of Europe. Perier is immensely wealthy, and has the confidence of the French business element; he has fighting blood in him, and this pleases the military, who have nothing to do but perform garrison duty and dream of conquest; and above all the new president is anxious to demonstrate his capacity as a ruler, to show the world that France is now too strong to play the role of suppliant, and to replace his nation in the position held before the war of 1870. For this purpose the republic has piled in its vaults more gold than ever before, and has its army and navy on a perfect war footing.

What is true of France in preparation is also true of the other European powers. Military leaders in Britain are always telling the people of the insufficiency of the army and navy, in order to arouse enthusiasm for a more perfect armament. The Germans adopt means to the same end, and Russia is piling up munitions of war almost beyond limit. The other nations occupy a secondary place, but there is the general anticipation of war, as well as the general dread of its consequences. And whether war is at hand or not, there is general misery in the uneasy feeling at present.

This condition has existed for several years, with but slightly varying phases. Its constant pressure is a cause whose effects cannot be avoided. Those effects must be manifest ere long in a breaking under the strain somewhere. Either national endurance at the state of unrest will be exhausted, and a sudden conflict of nations will be precipitated upon Europe; or the people, overburdened by the pressure now upon them and constantly increasing, will inaugurate a revolution whose extent the continent of Europe has never known before. To one of these ends the uneasy feeling in Europe seems to be leading steadily and surely. The hearts of nations there, and of men, are failing them at the prospect of that which is coming. But come it certainly will unless there is what seems now improbable, a relief of the extreme tension felt in international affairs. There is no need for alarmist fears, but the cold calcula-

tions of cause and effect portray impending disaster.

INDIAN HEREDITARY TRAITS.

There has been a horrible murder in California. Mrs. Platt, teacher in the Indian school on the Pichango reservation in Riverside county, declined to comply with the demands of a Pichango Indian for money to pay his railway fare to and from a place he wanted to visit. That night she was killed in her home, oak wood piled around her, the building fired and her body cremated. The first thing the neighbors knew of it was when her 10-year-old niece, who had barely escaped from the burning building, gave the alarm. The circumstances are such as to justify the claim that the dastardly deed was the work of one or more Indians.

Upon this condition of affairs the San Francisco *Chronicle* makes a general assault upon the Indian race, and does it in truly barbarous style. Speaking of the Pichangos, it says that while "as a rule the natives are harmless and peaceable, none the less are they Indians, and possessed of the hereditary traits which make them as dangerous as a sleeping rattlesnake." It then goes on to assert that "it is no exaggeration to say that all the education that can be bestowed upon the American Indian, as a class, will not breed out of him his innate cruelty, lust and savagery, and that sooner or later his hereditary traits will assert themselves at the expense of those who have labored for years to make him something better than he is capable of becoming."

The barbarism of the assault made can be determined on our cotemporary's own statement that as a rule those Indians are harmless and peaceable. Why, then, should an exception to this rule be seized upon as a pretext to accuse the whole race of possessing "hereditary traits which make them as dangerous as a sleeping rattlesnake," unless it be through the innate cruelty and savagery of the accuser himself that the suggestion is made? Because the evidently malicious assault upon the Indian race is made by a white man, would it be proper to say that it is the breaking out of hereditary traits in the Caucasian race "which make them as dangerous as a sleeping rattlesnake?" And when it comes to crimes of the truly horrible character of the one referred to, how often are they discounted by white men! Not only are there awful crimes committed by Caucasians on some slight or fancied provocation, or even on no provocation at all; but there are several instances of recent date on record in the West where men have been housed, and fed, and clothed, and have rewarded their benefactors by deeds of almost similar detail to the Pichango reservation atrocity. Not only was the motive of revenge absent, but the sense of gratitude would have precluded the commission of such a deed even by the ordinary wild Indian, or by any except the most depraved wretches among white men. Yet to take these instances and charge them to the hereditary