

by public attention being directed to other exciting conditions. For the past nine days there has been an average of one case of actual or attempted suicide in Utah every forty-eight hours. This is most deplorable.

A person, in contemplating this ghastly social enormity, instinctively attempts to discover a cause. Even a cursory investigation renders one conclusion inevitable—that the multiplication of cases of self-murder is largely due to the growth of various phases of immorality. Intemperance and sexual sins are leading causes of this disposition. Some are, of course, insane when they commit the act, but even then, the cause of that condition is often traceable to one and sometimes both of the two besetments named. Drink and sexual crimes, whether separate or combined, unman the individual. The physical and mental effects are such as to frequently drive those who indulge in them to despair until they foolishly seek to end their sufferings in death.

Financial embarrassment and domestic troubles sometimes cause people to destroy themselves, thus showing that they lack the energy and courage necessary to meet with a stout heart the thorns and briars of mortal existence. Hence it is a mistaken idea that people who take their own lives are courageous. The rule runs the other way.

Physical and moral health are preventives against the spread of the suicidal mania. As these conditions decrease life will seem to a certain class of unfortunate people not worth living. They have no conception of the object of mortal existence, else they would never, in their sane moments at least, seek to cut it short, either slowly by the insidious inroads of sin or the swifter process of self-murder.

CONFISCATION CAUTERIZED.

WE PUBLISH in another part of this issue of the WEEKLY an article which appears in the *American Sentinel* under the title of "The New American Revolution," over the signature of A. T. J. It is worthy of careful reading. It shows an acquaintance with the subject of the attack upon the property of the "Mormon" Church which is quite uncommon. It states the questions involved fairly, and presents the law and the practice in relation to them correctly and with striking force. And we think the conclusions it arrives at are the logical and inevitable deductions of sound reasoning.

That the personal property in dispute, which is sought to be confiscated, belongs to the unincorporated body or

association known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or to its members, we believe would not have been denied, if it were not for the unpopular and unorthodox character of the creed commonly called "Mormon." And that is so greatly misunderstood that neither the people who decry it, nor the Judges who have been influenced by their clamors, can give a correct explanation of its principles.

The article to which we direct attention is valuable, not only as a strong legal argument in defense of justice and equity, but as an able exposition of true American republicanism. Call it Democratic, if you please. But it is not a party view of the subject. It is a broad, constitutional and rational disquisition, and sets forth the doctrine of sovereignty in its true light, unobscured by the clouds of political heresy which have gathered in recent times.

We thank the *American Sentinel* and A. T. J. for this valiant defence of an unpopular cause. The paper is a weekly magazine published in New York City, it is the organ of the "National Religious Liberty Association," and it places the following at the head of its editorial columns as a declaration of its principles:

"We believe in the religion taught by Jesus Christ.

"We believe in temperance, and regard the liquor traffic as a curse to society.

"We believe in supporting the civil government and submitting to its authority.

"We deny the right of any civil government to legislate on religious questions.

"We believe it is the right, and should be the privilege, of every man to worship according to the dictates of his own conscience.

"We also believe it to be our duty to use every lawful and honorable means to prevent religious legislation by the civil government; that we and our fellow-citizens may enjoy the inestimable blessings of both religions and civil liberty."

A MARVEL OF SCIENCE AND ART.

THE latest invention of Mr. Edison entitles him more than ever to the name of wizard. This new wonder of his is called the "kinetograph." He has been working on it for three years. He is now convinced that its basic principle is correct. In this machine the phonographic and photographic camera will work together. The picture of what passes before it will be copied as well as the sound. It will reproduce an opera, and also the performers, so that every muscle of their faces will be seen to move. This is done by taking a series of instantaneous photographs, so that the series in reality become one continued picture. The camera will take forty-six impressions in a

second. These are recorded on a long roll of gelatine paper, fastened to a spindle, which passes over a photographic lens. The process can be kept up for thirty minutes without pause, so 82,800 photographs can be taken every half hour. After this part is completed Mr. Edison says "the reproduction part of the phonograph will be adjusted, and by means of a calcium light, the whole effect can be reproduced at life size on a white curtain in front of the audience. The original scene will appear as true as life. The singers will be seen, and their movements and gestures will appear as if actually on the stage. The colors will not appear, but otherwise the opera will be seen and heard as it is at the theatres. Is not the ingenuity of man rapidly approaching the might of the Divine?"

THE LATEST POLITICAL MOVEMENT

THE action of the representatives of the People's Party in Salt Lake County at the meeting on Friday, May 29th, particulars of which are given in another part of this paper, is of great public importance. This county organization was the most influential because it had more members and contained a larger number of the leading men of the party than others. It is probable that they will be greatly influenced by its course.

The dissolution of a body that has existed for so many years and was intact up to the time when the resolution to disband was adopted, is something remarkable in political history. It was not because of any inherent weakness, or of any internal dissensions, or because any of its members dissented from the principles which it had declared as its platform, that the determination to dissolve it was reached. The friendly feelings which had bound its members together have not been ruptured, and the doctrines of liberty, equality and pure and economic government which it favored, have not been rejected.

But the chief reason for the maintenance of the party has been the close compact of Democrats and Republicans in a body called the "Liberal" party, having for its principal purpose the rule, by a small minority, of this Territory and its counties and cities, and the disfranchisement of all who would not yield to its demands. Some of the most influential of the "Liberals" having withdrawn from that faction, announcing their opposition to such aims and ends, and having organized as Democrats or Republicans, the People's Party of this county see no further need for their