

un"holly" wireworkers of the "Liberal" faction, a great many fellows without families will shortly be seen on the streets, at work, or loafing by day and "burgling" by night, and furnishing strength to the faction that fights with just such an army. Let every honest citizen keep a sharp look out, and not be backward in coming forward with reliable information when it is necessary.

THE RAINMAKERS IN WYOMING.

THE people of Cheyenne have raised a popular subscription to bring Frank Melbourne to Wyoming to experiment at rain making. He and his outfit are expected to arrive there today to begin operations. In view of the encouraging reports from the recent government experiments in Texas, the test in Wyoming is creating a good deal of interest. The experimenter professes to have had a long experience in the business he has undertaken, and demonstrates his self confidence by performing his experimental work without price, save the mere expenses of his trips. With the trial so near at hand prophecies of failure would say the least be in bad taste. But to show with what assurance these "rain-compellers" are forcing their apparently fanciful notions to a decisive test, it is well enough to know what the scientific people think about it. The *San Francisco Chronicle* has been interviewing the leading scientists of the coast on the subject.

Prof. Price says flatly that the idea of compelling rain to descend is nonsense. He declares that if the concussion produced by the explosions which are used did condense the aqueous vapor as presumed, and cause the formation of the actual moisture in the air it would evaporate again before it could reach the ground, especially in the arid regions where the surface is dry and hot.

Professor Finley of the United States signal service says with the same positiveness that the efforts of the rain makers will fail, and brings forward in testimony the fact that they have been working at their scheme for over forty years, and no practical results have followed.

Professor Davidson and others who were consulted are equally positive in their predictions of failure.

We confess there is something that looks highly visionary to an every-day person in the idea of usurping the functions of nature on so prodigious a scale. To wring from 250,000 surface miles of air the moisture locked up in its molecules seems to the unscientific almost as ponderous

and mystical an undertaking as to assume control of the law of gravitation and swing the earth into another orbit. Already an enterprising "syndicate" has begun a scheme to open a communication with the planet Mars. The quality of audacity that would attempt this might be found trying its hand with almost anything you please.

CROPS OF THE TWO CONTINENTS.

IN view of the splendid harvest estimates that are being turned in from American farms it is rather astonishing that the other continent should be in trouble over its grain harvests. While America has experienced such enormous gains in its wheat and corn product, Europe finds itself behind in an amount that is appalling other nations besides Russia.

The *New York World* has been gathering statistics on the question, and reports that, according to the present outlook, Europe will need this winter for her regular wants all of 300,000,000 bushels more than its farms will supply.

Take for instance the rye crop of Russian Poland. Last year it was 676,000,000 bushels. This year it will not exceed 450,000,000. Germany alone has been taking regularly nearly 50,000,000 of the rye product of Russia, this year it is reported to be at least 150,000,000 bushels below the wants of home consumers. Germany has besides been importing annually twenty to twenty-five million bushels of wheat. This year she will need thirty-five millions. Italy is better off. She has been importing about 20,000,000 bushels. This year on account of an excessively large crop of maize she will not need more than 12,000,000. But France is in as bad a fix as Germany, or even more. She will require an import of nearly 100,000,000 bushels. Belgium and Holland are also in a fix.

This is not a pleasing situation but it might have been worse, had America shared in the depression. As it is the privilege of supplying the shortage will be transferred to a considerable extent at least from Russia and India to America, bringing to the farmers of the new world an immense raise in the profits of their toil.

"MORMON TENDENCIES."

THE Toledo, Ohio, *Bee* of August 19th, contains an account of the alleged licentious doings of a resident in the southern part of Napoleon township in that State. It is said that he has a large farm, on one part of which he has a house where lives his wife, and on another part a place where he keeps

a paramour who has several illegitimate children. The people are very much incensed over this state of affairs, and want the grand jury to take up the case.

The *Bee* calls this person "A Henry County Mormon," and in speaking of his social relations says he has "Mormon tendencies." The editor is very much mistaken. That mode of life is not a "Mormon" custom, nor does the bold farmer of Napoleon exhibit "Mormon tendencies." It is rather one of the ways of the world, only there is less craft and concealment in it than is common.

When "Mormonism" permitted the practice of polygamy, men who entered into it married the women with whom they consorted, believing it was right and considering each wife to be all that the name implies. Many of the men who were loudest in their outcries against that system lived after the fashion of the Ohio farmer, or worse, except that they kept their illicit relations as much as possible in the dark.

It was difficult to make such persons understand the motives that prompted the "Mormons" in their plural family relations. They naturally judged the "Mormons" by themselves. They could not comprehend the higher sentiments and purposes that governed sincere men in that matter, and therefore supposed they were led only by passion and moved, like themselves, on the low plane of sensual indulgence.

But no man who is licentious can be properly called a "Mormon" or be truly said to have "Mormon" tendencies. For, self-control, personal chastity, temperance in all things, and strict regard for purity of thought and action are essential to genuine "Mormonism." It is a fact, demonstrated in numerous instances, that unchastity is the most potent cause of apostasy from the "Mormon" Church. The spirit of that Church and the spirit of lust are at enmity. They cannot long abide together. One or the other must be overcome and thrust out.

We do not wish to be understood as intimating that all persons who have seceded from the "Mormon" faith have transgressed the laws of purity. Some have become neglectful of duty; others have allowed themselves to be engrossed in worldly affairs; many have become offended with their associates on personal matters, and from a variety of causes people have grown dissatisfied. But we do say that when a member of the Church transgresses the laws of chastity and does not truly repent and forsake that sin, apostasy is inevitable, and a very large number of those who have lost the light and are now groping in spiritual darkness, fell