

in latter days, as in ancient times, they are the victims rather than the instigators of persecution.

THE CACHE SENSATION.

Quite a furore has been raised in certain quarters of late because of events at Church meetings, some of them of more or less importance to the parties immediately concerned. One of note is the recent publication of alleged proceedings at Logan. It is reported that in that city a private meeting of Church local officials was held, at which a few of the general officers were present—probably less than a score of persons altogether; and that certain matters were discussed there, in a way warranting a double-headed sensational expose and a great mass of wise editorial comment in a paper in this city. Without presuming to say whether the report furnished is in all particulars true or not—for the reason which is given below—we beg to suggest, in view of the many misstatements of a similar character which have appeared and have been disproved recently, that those who read the sensation will do well to give the matter sober second thought before allowing themselves to be specially distressed by it. The News can declare with confidence that in all these reports wherever there is an attempt to show that there is any political bearing or effect intended by the events narrated, the report to that extent is untrue, and the base motives underlying it ought to be so plain as to render it unworthy of belief.

As to this Cache incident, if the opening statements of the report of it are true, there is but very little that needs to be said. Granting the former, we assert that the proceedings of a private Church meeting, a quorum meetings to speak, are neither the business of the newspapers nor of the public. Such meetings are convened for the purpose of laying before a certain chosen body of men certain views or subjects in their Church capacity. If the matters so presented are of sufficient concern and should properly be brought before the public, they come up in open meeting, where not only all members of the Church, but generally non-members also, may be present. Until such presentation they are deemed confidential—are so regarded by honorable men and respected as such by honorable newspapers. If men at times forget the obligations and proprieties usually considered incumbent upon them under such circumstances, there is no reason why others, unless with hostile and not very honorable motives, should follow their example. Those who desire to discredit and injure the parties concerned, or who want to create dissension, misunderstanding and distrust, while all the time crying for peace and harmony and good will, will lose no opportunity—even to the extent of eavesdropping or listening to tale-bearers—to accomplish their purpose. We submit, however, that the real motives in the case ought not to be so clumsily concealed; and we submit further, without passing at all upon the accuracy of the report or the speeches

alleged to have been made, that the proceedings of a High Council meeting in Logan or anywhere else, since they concern only those present and could not be construed as applying to or being intended for the general public, are a proper subject of discussion neither by the public nor by the purveyors of news, the press.

SCANDINAVIANS IN AMERICA.

The Atlantic Monthly for May contains an interesting article on the Scandinavian contingent to the population of the United States. The author shows that of the now living eleven and a half million descendants of the ancient Northmen, more than one-fifth, or 2,500,000 reside on this side of the ocean. There are few provinces in either Sweden, Denmark or Norway that contain as many Scandinavians as Minnesota, where there are 375,000. Wisconsin and Illinois have each 200,000, and Iowa, Nebraska and the two Dakotas have large contingents, while the remainder are found in Utah, California and Washington, or in the large manufacturing centers of the East.

The immigration commenced as early as 1624, when Gustavus Adolphus planned the colonization on the banks of the Delaware. This was undertaken, not as a commercial speculation, but as "a blessing to the common man," a home for a "free people." From 1638 to 1655 the flag of the foreigners floated over the colony. Their friendly relations with the Indians prevented massacre and wars; they had placed the church and the fort side by side, acquired homes and obtained prosperity. In 1664 the colony became a part of New York. Of the descendants of these first settlers, Hon. Thomas F. Bayard wrote:

I make bold to say that no better stock has been contributed (in proportion to its numbers) toward giving a solid basis to society under republican forms than these hardy, honest, industrious, law-abiding, God-fearing Swedish settlers on the banks of the Christiana in Delaware. While I have never heard of a very rich man among them, I have never heard of a pauper. I cannot recall the name of a statesman or distinguished law-giver among them, nor of a rogue nor a felon.

The story of this century's immigration from the north is but a repetition on a larger scale of this first colonization. The motive with the incomers has always been a betterment of their material conditions. The forerunners of the later immigration were some Norwegians who came in the twenties and thirties, poor but neither paupers nor criminals. From these and others that followed in their wake wonderful stories were sent to the "old country" of the opportunities of the "new world" and these attracted thousands.

Concerning the political influence of these settlers, the author of the article in the Atlantic points out that their taste for building homes seems to be stronger than their desire to appear on the political arena. In Minnesota, although a fourth part of the population, they have rarely had more than one-sixth of the members of the legislature. In early days

they naturally joined the Republican party, because of their antipathy to slavery, but toward the close of the decade 1880-90, their allegiance to this party was somewhat shaken, and the division politically is going along the same line as among the native born Americans. The Populists have twice elected a Norwegian to Congress from the Seventh Minnesota district. The article closes with a high tribute to the moral character of the Scandinavian contingent.

It is undoubtedly correct to say that few immigrants are from the first better prepared for a popular government than those coming from the lands of the ancient vikings. A democratic form of government is natural to the Northmen. They have experience in elections and other republican institutions. They may not furnish great leaders, but they will generally be found in the front of the rank and file, faithful to those in whom they have confidence.

THE VOICE OF REASON.

If the speakers and publicists who profess such confidence in the sincerity and integrity of the Mormon people would but prove this confidence by ceasing to conjure up and shiver lances against spectres, they and all the rest of us would be happier and better. In the first place, whether they express their real sentiments or not, they have every reason for the confidence they talk about. No mistake was made when the pledges of the Mormons were given, none was made when they were accepted, and none will be made in expecting that these pledges be fulfilled. They have been fulfilled, in every case we believe; they will be just as consistently lived up to in the future. Of course individuals may express sentiments and take a course which political or other opponents may criticize, perhaps justly. But speaking of the Mormons as a people, we challenge the world to bring forth the first particle of evidence that they have been untrue to their promises or that they expect to be.

If they have made any error at all, it is, as we regard it, in being too literal in the fulfillment of that which their former opponents have required of them. In no other community, we venture to say, have bitter enemies of a recent day been so promptly forgiven and so generously rewarded with office and honor within the gift of the people as has been witnessed here. Nothing that could be exacted as a proof that past conditions were buried, has failed on the part of this long-suffering and charitable but maligned people. In politics they have stood by their party colors and candidates with unswerving fidelity, and their votes have elevated to office some men whom they had no reason to love or respect. In almost every election district in this State they have been truer than those with whom they have joined. If we wanted to go into particulars we could fill a column with figures showing that in nearly every case it is the non-Mormon candidates who have run ahead of their ticket, and the Mormon candidates who have run behind; where there are exceptions it can be traced in each case to