

meeting of the Legislature on that day and then have remained away.

If a Mormon authority had denounced the State as trampling on a religious command and being liable to a deprivation of the Divine blessing therefor, and had advised State officials to stay away from a post of duty in order to block the State machinery, there would have been a clear case of an attempt of church to dominate state; but it was not a Mormon who did this act. Whatever view the Mormons took of that proceeding, there was no criticism of the legislators in a way that attempted to control them; and we doubt not that, if the legislators themselves had a hearing, they perhaps might be able to make a fair showing of justification, in the circumstances in which they were placed the last constitutional day of the session, under the rule enunciated by the One who declared that "It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day." In this business of religious denominations, and some other influences that should not be permitted to rule in state affairs, being "in the saddle," we opine that there is a good deal of shouting "stop thief!" on the part of persons not altogether honest themselves. Some people ought to take the hint in the old adage that "they who live in glass houses should not throw stones."

A CRISIS IN CUBAN AFFAIRS.

The latest advices from the scene of war in Cuba clearly prove that the insurgents, whether recognized as belligerents or not, are engaged in real, earnest war, if ever a national rising for independence can rightly be so termed. And the success following their arms is remarkable, when everything is considered. Only recently Santa Clara and Pinar del Rio were taken and laid in ashes, and then Maceo attacked the Spanish forces at Luchuz and forced them to retreat. An important battle is expected this week, one which may be decisive as to the fate of Cuba. It seems to be the intention of the insurgent generals to break through the Spanish line that protects Havana, and if successful in this attempt, the Spanish government, it is said, is willing to admit that General Weyler's campaign is a failure.

It is also stated that the Spanish authorities are prepared for such an emergency. They have, it seems, perfected a plan of home rule for the colonies and will presumably offer the Cubans this as an equivalent for their sacrifices in this and former struggles.

It is plain that this position of Spain, so different from that formerly held, is virtually admitting at least the partial victory of the Cuban cause. Whether the promised reforms are far-reaching enough to meet the demands of the people remains to be seen. If not, the probability is that the war will be continued. In this country there is an almost universal desire for the re-establishment of peace on the beautiful island, but there is also a hope that this may be reached without depriving the people of the fruits of the war, which now seem almost within reach. Promises of reform under similar conditions have been made before and broken. Neither

Cubans, nor those whose duty it may be to mediate in the interest of peace, can forget this. The only real service that can be rendered Cuba now is to aid her to a government under which another war against oppression is impossible, whatever means must be adopted to accomplish that end.

NOT FULLY COMPREHENDED.

In the recent immigration congress at Boise, Idaho, B. P. Shawhan, president of the Plymouth colony in the Payette valley, Idaho, gave a most interesting address on the "Work of Colonization." In the course of his remarks he said:

Passing on to Utah we find a most striking example of successful colonization in the works of Brigham Young and his followers. They found a country even more desolate than the site chosen for Greeley, but a soil and climate somewhat similar to our own. When we consider that those people arrived in Utah with practically no money, or knowledge of irrigation methods, and without the slightest indication of what the country might produce, we can but marvel at their success. Statistics furnished by the Church authorities show that there has been received a gross annual income of \$1,347.25 for each farmer's family, or \$482.25 above the cost of living, for a period of 50 years, on 10,000 irrigated farms. Not only have they prospered to a marked degree, but from the collection of the modest tithes upon the profits was amassed a Church wealth which is the wonder of modern times.

It is not the force of religious superstition, as many suppose, that has bound these people together in harmonious action, but the very plan of the colonies has made it possible for them to enjoy social pleasures which are out of the reach of our ordinary American farmer. They had their colony village in which each received a small lot, where they raised a greater part of the provisions for home use, and in the surrounding district they had their small farms upon which they raised the surplus for market. They combined the advantages of town and rural life, and enjoyed the privileges of both. They had their debating clubs, theatricals and dances, in which all joined, even to the Bishop. When new settlers arrived provision was made for an instructor to teach them how to prosper.

The correctness of the principle upon which this industrial system is founded is amply proved by their prosperity. It should be the corner stone in the foundation of colonization work in that part of Idaho where the highest returns may be had from intensive cultivation upon small irrigated farms.

Mr. Shawhan recognized the advantages of the Mormon plan of colonization, and we fully appreciate his kindly references thereto. We also feel it a duty to point out that he makes the same mistake others have made in the premises, showing that he with them has failed to comprehend Mormon colonization and the key note to its success. He says "it is not the force of religious superstition" which has bound the Mormons together in harmonious action. We will pass over the point that the word superstition is wholly inapplicable to the practical religion of the Mormons, and will inform our friend and those in a similar state of misinformation that it is the force of the Mormon religion, and nothing else, that has bound the Latter-

day Saints together in harmonious action. It is the life of their plan of colonization; it causes them to combine in their social pleasures "even to the Bishop," for they are united in their religious aims; it is the secret, if secret it has been, of Mormon success in Utah and elsewhere.

As the mechanic understands better how to perform his work than one who has had no training but is merely a casual observer, so the Latter-day Saints know by what means their colonization has succeeded better than do those who are merely onlookers. They did all the work that fell to man. Hence they can speak with authority on this matter. Some people who see a modern printing press at work might conclude that all there is in publishing a newspaper is running the paper into one end of the machine with the necessary appliances and taking it out complete at the other. But the conclusion would be wrong; a vital part of the task is in the brain power expended before the printer places a type in position. So it is with Mormon colonization; the religious force is that which held them together and impelled in determined and intelligent unity of action; and without it they would have had no colonization plan for others to praise and to try and imitate.

BEEF SUGAR MANUFACTURE.

Just now there is little being said in Utah about beet sugar manufacture; the farmers are busy at the work of preparing for a crop, and the factory management anticipates a run this season which has not been equalled in the past. By dint of vigorous effort, the beet sugar business in Utah is working its way toward success; although there are a few steps yet to take ere this is achieved financially for all investors. In the meantime, Coloradans have been watching affairs here and with the beet sugar factories in California and Nebraska; and the sentiment in the southwestern part of the Centennial state is being worked up to a point where it is highly probable that a beet sugar factory will soon be one of the industries in that section of Colorado. Nebraska and California, particularly the latter, are also urging new investments in that line.

That there is yet a vast field for these enterprises in the United States is readily suggested by the fact of the immense importations of the saccharine product into this country. The suggestion is further emphasized by the knowledge that Germany, with a less population than the United States is so far ahead of this country in the number of its beet sugar factories that it will take us many years to catch up under the most favorable circumstances. For instance, official data show that in Germany during the season of 1894-95 there were 405 factories working and the total weight of roots sliced was 14,521,000 tons and the average yield per acre 13.2 tons. The total area devoted to beets was 1,105,400 acres. The average factory worked 36,000 tons per campaign. The working season averaged ninety-nine days. The total raw sugar extracted was 12.17 per cent of the weight of the beets,