

safety of legations and all foreigners lawfully in the country. Ribot, the French Minister, and Lord Salisbury, the English Minister, are both agreed and earnest on this point.

### EDUCATION AMONG THE "MORMONS."

THE erection of a fine structure in Mill Creek ward as a Church Seminary, is a mark of the enterprise of the people in that district and of the interest which is being taken by the Latter-day Saints in educational interests. It has been built since last July. The site is excellent. It commands a view of the greater part of Salt Lake county, and is in a quiet spot with nothing to disturb the pupils in their studies. The land was a free gift from the Boam estate, and consists of ten acres of good soil.

The building is of brick, two stories high, plainly but tactfully designed and conveniently arranged with class rooms in both departments. It was built by the Saints of South Cottonwood, Union, Mill Creek, Big Cottonwood, East Mill Creek and Granite wards, and under the supervision of Brother James R. Miller of Mill Creek, to whose energy and push its rapid completion is largely due.

It will be used for the Central Seminary, a Church academy, under the Board of Education of the Salt Lake Stake, where pupils advanced from the District Schools may receive higher education and that religious training which is so necessary. That a scattered agricultural community, in addition to paying the taxes levied for the public schools, have erected this structure at a cost of \$9,000 and will further pay for the tuition of their children in a sufficient amount to remunerate competent preceptors, is a demonstration that such a people are not the "barbarians" which the "Mormons" are pictured to be by their detractors.

The scene that was presented on Monday at the dedication of the building, if it could have been witnessed by the world, would have been an object lesson in "Mormon" civilization. Intelligence, order, devotion, culture, were exhibited to a marked degree. The building itself, the musical exercises, the personal appearance of parents and children, all gave evidence of progress most encouraging to lovers of humanity. The Mill Creek brass band, composed of fine looking young men dressed in handsome uniform, with a splendid banner, the handiwork of Mill Creek young ladies, and executing rich music in artistic style, was worthy of special notice in this connection.

The Seminary Choir, too, so well trained, was an accompanying indication of culture and refinement.

Many of the older people of that district never had the advantages of more than a common education, but that they appreciate the value of higher tuition and of that religious teaching which is essential to true progress, is placed beyond doubt by the erection of this worthy institution.

More are needed in this county, and should be established as fast as practicable throughout the land of Zion. The steps that have been taken are praiseworthy, the cause of education is moving onward, and the advancement it will make will soon force the world to change its judgment concerning the intelligence and progress of the "Mormon" people.

### EASTERN WAR SPECKS.

THE most recent among the pointers indicative of the status of the eastern question are the correspondence and editorial comments which lately appeared in the *London Standard*, and the remark of the German Emperor with regard to the Russian loan. The statements of the *Standard* might be regarded as belonging to the alarmist order. But they embody a significant fact—that Russia has been pressing forward in her conquests in the direction of Asia for the last fifty years, and in the pursuit of national aggrandizement she has reached the outposts of British India. This we lately pointed out by defining the location of Pamir, where the Cossacks have raised the Russian national emblem. That region, now the scene of Muscovite military operations, is situated on the northwest line of India.

If the Czar's occupation of that tract remains undisputed, nobody who understands the Russian policy of push and encroachment can reasonably believe that he will limit his movements to that quarter. His motto, transmitted from a line of predecessors, is advance, there being no retreat except it be brought about by compulsion. This is why the *Standard* correspondent is anxious that the sword of England be unsheathed in Asia.

With respect to the statement of the Emperor William about the Russian loan, it indicates that he is in possession of information as to the character of the lately formed military agreement entered into between France and Russia. He asserted that German bankers could do as they pleased, but that the success of the loan negotiations meant war with Fatherland. As a matter of course, no kind of a war in which

France might engage would satisfy that country unless Germany should be a principal on the other side. In fact, neither one of them could engage in a war of any magnitude without the other being a participant, as an opponent. The logic of this statement is clear. The one whose forces were engaged would, when the opportune moment arrived, become an easy prey to the forces of the particular nation of the two whose hands were free.

A significant incident pointing to proposed interference, in certain eventualities, by France in connection with the eastern question was the late arrest of a French spy within Austrian territory. It looks as if, in the event of a war between England and Russia, Germany should interfere in combination with the first named power, France would step in on the other side.

If Emperor William is correct in his estimate of the consequences of the consummation of the loan, then the peace of Europe depends on the success of the Czar in procuring the sinews of war. If this be the case, the preservation of a pacific condition could best be maintained for the time being by the pursuit of a policy that will defeat the success of the efforts of the Russian Emperor to obtain money. William very bluntly indicates that such is his view. Consequently he, in substance, tells the bankers of his country that they can do as they please regarding the Russian loan, but if they furnish the Czar with the money he wants they are enemies to their country. In that way he tells the financiers that they can do as they like on the subject, but that, at the same time, if they choose to furnish the Czar with the money, they put a knife into the hands of an enemy with which to cut the throats of their countrymen, and that the consequences would not be agreeable to those who thus acted contrary to the interests of Fatherland. The German bankers will surely not assume so grave a responsibility.

### HERBERT SPENCER AND STATE SOCIALISM.

ABOUT two weeks ago, a correspondent of the New York *World* interviewed Herbert Spencer at the Athenæum Club in London. The subject of the interview was, in the main, "the future of America." Mr. Spencer stated that a clear reaction seems to be setting in against individual liberty, while, at the same time, there is a strong tendency to State Socialism. And this latter, the philosopher claims, is but the stepping stone to a military despotism.