

This act demonstrates that the question is being closely watched in England. And it is more than probable, should McKinley be elected Governor of Ohio, that British capital and skill would to a large extent be transplanted on American soil. The free silver men should consider this phase of the issue.

TWO VIEWS OF THE MCKINLEY LAW

The Philadelphia *Press* commenting on the effects of the McKinley bill in Europe says:

"In England wages are being reduced in all branches of trade affected by the McKinley law. The same thing is taking place on the continent. At Chemnitz, Germany, for instance, large reductions have been made in the pay of the employees in the hosiery industry."

Of course the *Press* argues that this depression in Europe means activity in the United States. The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* in reply says:

"One of two things is certain to result from the condition so exultingly described by the high tariff Republican paper. Either the reduction of wages and cheapening of quality will enable the foreign manufacturer to sell his goods at the same rate as before, notwithstanding the higher duties in which case no advantage will accrue to the American manufacturer, workman or consumer from the increased 'protection,' and the foreign workman will be unnecessarily made to suffer; or, the foreign manufacturer will be driven out of the market and into idleness, in which case the American manufacturer will be relieved from foreign competition and can exact higher prices, whilst the American workman under competition with imported labor will have to take lower wages, and the American consumer will be left wholly without protection and must pay whatever is asked. It does not seem to us there is much to rejoice over in either case."

NOT AN "ELDER."

A SHORT time ago the leading New York papers noticed a letter from Mr. Charles Ellis of this city published in the *Post* and protesting against the questioning of "Mormon" immigrants as to their belief. Those papers referred to Mr. Ellis as a "Mormon Elder" which was rather funny as the gentleman is what is popularly known as a "freethinker," though why an agnostic should be considered more of a freethinker than a believer in the Bible is we fail to discover. In explanation we find the following in the New York *Post* of August 19th:

Editor Evening Post:

"Sir.—My note to you concerning the action of New York port authorities in their effort to make Mormon immigrants swear that they were not Mormons, as a condition of landing in the United States, has been the occasion of general comment in the New York press. Much to my surprise, the papers have named the writer of that note as 'a Mormon Elder.' It would not be a matter calling for correction, were it not that my protest taken as the action of 'a Mormon Elder' is robbed of its weight. In fact, the Mor-

mons have long since settled upon the custom of making no 'kick' against such things. It is only because I am not a Mormon, but an American lover of fair-play and equal protection for all sects that I made my protest against what seemed to me a most arbitrary and unjustifiable action of the officers in the matter referred to.

"I have been in Utah two years and a half; have been much about the Territory and among the Mormon people; have not been in their employ an hour; have not been solicited by them to write or speak in their behalf; have had excellent opportunity to study their customs and conditions, and I beg to assure you that in my opinion the Mormons of Utah are going into polygamy as little as are the Roman Catholics of New York. Aside from that one feature of their faith, all who have any knowledge of them admit that they are exemplary people.

"Such being the case, and the immigration officers in New York knowing of the action of the Mormons on polygamous marriage and their avowal that they would henceforth obey the laws, it becomes clear that those officers are exhibiting a Pecksniffian concern for national morals when they undertake to keep out Mormon immigrants. I do not know if any Mormons are living in polygamy in Europe, but I do know that if there are any such there they could not practice their polygamy in Utah if they were permitted to land. A Mormon's word is his bond. When the Mormon Church, 200,000 strong, said it would obey the laws against polygamy, that settled it. Traders testify that the Mormons are the best people in the West for customers. They keep their promises. If any gray-headed polygamist of the old time ever violates this promise, it is done in the same manner as the ordinary 'Christian' violates his marriage vow. The young people want no polygamy, and where there is no market, product is useless. I hope, therefore, that the immigration gentlemen in the port of New York, will either compel all sectarians to abjure their faith or let the Mormons pass. In saying this I speak no prejudice in favor of the Mormons, and can safely say that I would ask the same fair play for any other sect, if it were possible to find officers rude enough and crude enough to repeat so un-American a blunder.

"Will the papers that have so generously styled me 'a Mormon Elder' have the kindness to make the correction, and write me down as an American who believes that the American Government, when administered as the Constitution warrants, is the best in the world; and among its glories is its guaranty of freedom of conscience."

Respectfully,

CHARLES ELLIS.

SALT LAKE, August 12.

REPUBLICANISM ABROAD.

THE evidences are accumulating that France and the Pope have made a bargain, and that one of the stipulations involves the republicanizing of Italy. It is certain that the Pope and the heads of France are in very close confidence and that the heads of Italy are feeling anything but pleasant about it. It is positively stated that within the past twelve months the Vatican has become a sort of head quarters for the European republican boom, and that this revolution in the politics of the Romish church began to manifest itself not at the Italian establishment, as might

naturally be expected, but among the bishops of France, and when the world at large were looking for the Pope to raise a roar about it, he did nothing of the kind, but on the contrary tacitly announced himself in hearty sympathy with the revolutionary doctrine.

The Vatican just now is in a bad strait for money and France though in debt up to her neck and with no immediate prospect of relief, is yet said to be assisting the Pope substantially in his finances. This may be the key to the situation. But it is no matter about that. The Vatican seems to have unequivocally gone republican, and it is fairly certain that Italy has charged France with being officiously concerned in it.

In consequence of this there is liable to be trouble between these governments. Of all the European powers Italy seems just now to have the greatest need of wisdom of a high order in her government councils. Whereas if she possesses any at all, it is so shadowed by what may be properly designated Rudiulism, that it is more than useless. Its efforts to be heard only tend to urge the pious shallowpates in power to more overt foolery than their naturally feeble energies would lead them to.

In the meantime the Republicanizing of Italy is only a small part of the conflict. There is a clashing of war preparations on every side of her. Republicanism seems now to be a small factor of the agitation. But should violence be resorted to, before it ceases, republicanism will be found to have been the principle in the conflict.

It is true that Republican principles in Europe have been making such astonishing advances as to almost disconcert at times the powers upon the thrones. If the Emperor of Germany has, indeed, as reported, quite lost his wits, it would be no stretch of the imagination to charge the affliction to republicanism. In England it has taken practical possession. In Spain and Portugal the overthrow of imperialism would not be a surprise any day. Austria could not hold herself together twelve months without the patronage of other nations, who themselves are in almost as precarious a fix. The "Triple Alliance" forsooth might be a combination against Russian encroachment, but it savors mightily of an entrenchment against the advance of republicanism.

But that will make no difference. Freedom does not always require the forfeit of blood for past grievances. It has in one instance taken peaceable possession, exacting nothing but the total and eternal retirement of heredit-