

EDITORIALS.

RUSSIA AND GERMANY.

Russia's hand has been plainly visible in the manipulation of internal European affairs for a long time, and for a much longer time she has had her eyes turned with a hungry gaze toward the Bosphorus. To obtain an unobstructed path to a secure footing on the shore washed on the north by either the Black Sea, Marmora or the Mediterranean, and thus furnish the colossal empire with an uninterrupted outlet and inlet, has been the dream of the Muscovite for generations past, and he is so much nearer the realization of his hopes now than at any previous time, that if the past correctly prefigures the future, unassailed Russian stations at several points on the shores named, and still further absorptions to follow, can only be prevented by the interposition of Providence.

Some years ago, when a large number of Christians were massacred by a lot of Turkish fanatics in Bulgaria, Russia conceived the plan of proclaiming itself a semi-protectorate over the Christian population there, and for the ostensible purpose of punishing the Turks and securing a guarantee for the Christians' safety thereafter, ordered its armies, which were already conveniently posted, to cross the frontier, thus presenting to the world the anomalous spectacle of a semi-barbarous horde suppressing semi-barbarians in the alleged interest of a cause which both had oppressed and neither ever before thought of defending. It was simply an opportunity, an excuse by taking advantage of which the Czar's outposts were practically advanced a long way southward. The bloody, vindictive and expensive war of conquest and the crushing terms to the vanquished as the conditions of peace, are already well known to the general reader, and this was a great point in an uncompleted colossal programme gained. Recently, Russia's assumption of authority and aggressive attitude in Roumelia and Bulgaria have so excited the attention of the other Powers that Kings on their thrones and legislators in their chambers are watching their gigantic neighbor with ill-concealed anxiety, recognizing the startling fact that Russia is much more easily kept out than put out of any place in which she once gains a footing. The abdication and detention of a ruler until such a system should be adopted and such men selected as were suitable to the Czar, was one of the most audacious coups d'état ever attempted by any nation; and the sway which is now being held over two principalities just north of the Balkans by an alien foe, is the more marvelous when it provokes nothing but mild protests from other sources.

Russia and Germany combined could convert the whole of Europe into a grand chess-board, upon which to make moves as they chose; hence it is not good policy for either to permit the other to acquire so much as to preponderate in power and advantages. They are both traditional territory grabbers, and both are reaching out to the south; the former commenced with Schleswig-Holstein on the north followed by the unification of all the Teutonic States, and closing—so far—with the wrenching of Alsace-Lorraine from France and taking them back to the German fold. Russia needs nothing further north, but wants everything south. This is the only respect in which the two peoples run parallel; in Germany education is the rule, in Russia it is the exception; the religion of one is of the intellectual type, of the other it is semi-Pagan; one is a limited, the other an absolute monarchy, a despotism in fact. Together they would be invincible as against the world, and neither seems unwilling for such an alliance if the details can be agreed upon.

INCONGRUITY OF CONDUCT.

The editor of the Peoria (Ill.) Journal is an entertaining and original writer. He introduces in a series of brief articles in each issue of his paper a mixture of humor, pathos and philosophy that renders them attractive to an unusual degree. The productions of his pen stamp him as the possessor of quick mental grasp and keen perceptions, and, though he is evidently not aware of it, place him on a par with some journalists who have attained considerable celebrity as philosophical humorists. We take the liberty of introducing one of his paragraphs which has a direct local application. The force of its allusion appears to have escaped the appreciation of a good many people in this quarter of the country:

"In spite of the present cloud of difficulties under which the Saints of Salt Lake groan, they are determined to be cheerful and to enjoy themselves even on the edge of the penitentiary. United States District Attorney Dickson swoops down upon them ever and anon and fishes up a Saint here and there, caught by the gill or fin, and on the aforesaid Saint refusing to cleave unto one wife he lands him in the aforesaid penitentiary whence he is not released 'on his own recognizance.' As we said before, one would naturally think that this would fill the profession of Sainthood so full of gloom that it would weigh heavily upon all hearts, and that there would be little mirth, but plenty of hanging harps upon willow trees and weeping. And yet there seems to be a disposition to smile, even upon the pillory. We have just received a copy of the DESERET NEWS, the organ of the Saints. In it was a small yellow handbill containing the announcement that 'the Careless Opera company will open the season at the Salt Lake Theatre with Pinafore.' Here is a commendable spirit to be jovial under adverse circumstances that 'Mark Tapscott' would have rejoiced to see. How the audience will enjoy the summons of 'Sir Joseph Porter' to take 'Ralph' to 'a duaggon' cell" and how they will sigh to hear 'Buttercup' convey the information that no telephone is connected with his future abode. The fact that the younger portion of the Saints can enjoy 'Pinafore' while the older heads are suffering for the cause shows that life is much the same everywhere and that as the Indian said, 'It is easy to see the white man now.' There is no trait that is so commendable in other's as to be persecuted for the truth's sake. The unhappy Saints who are hiding from the authorities or are breaking stones in the penitentiaries do not look upon it in that light."

Should the approaching winter be as prolific in its line of amusements as the last summer, and they be as extensively patronized, then it may be indeed concluded that a pleasure-seeking wave has struck this section and overwhelmed a large proportion of the community. The season just expired has in that particular been without a parallel. (This fact is all the more notable on account of its being so incongruous with the ordeal through which the Church is passing. The ability of the young to indulge in jubilation while so many are plunged in trouble does not tell the story. If the unusual exuberance were confined to youthful circles the peculiar manifestation would be largely pardonable, as they must have outlets for the natural fullness of animal spirits. Modified and sensible amusement is essential to their health and well-being. But older heads have been to no small degree carried away by the same disposition to hunt after ephemeral pleasures.

This spirit of recreative indulgence is—speaking from a religious standpoint—born of thoughtlessness and a lack of appreciation of the nature of the latter-day work. The Saints are a good people, but too many of them are disposed to be easily given to frivolity, of which the times does not admit. The disposition to light-mindedness under existing conditions is the antipodes of the injunction of Jesus, who counseled his disciples to be sympathetic, manifesting that sentiment by weeping with those that mourn. If this divine precept were obeyed, there would be a wide curtailment of the rush for pleasure.

As the season is approaching for the operation of educational helps in the shape of improvement societies, etc., the instruction imparted in them should be largely directed toward giving the people a correct understanding of the nature of the work of the Lord, its present situation and bearings and prospective probabilities. In order to cure a public folly it is essential to open the windows of the popular mind and let in the light. When people at a distance are able to note with unanswerable correctness the incongruous conduct of portions of the community, surely it is time for those who indulge in it to pay some attention to the subject themselves. The Pinafore business cuts no figure in the matter, although it was caught at by the Peoria editor. Looking at the whole question, it exhibits one of the most remarkable exhibitions of light-mindedness under extraordinary circumstances that could be imagined, being utterly discordant with the profession of the Saints.

DOES PROHIBITION PROHIBIT?

We notice that in some places where the liquor traffic is prohibited by municipal ordinance, efforts are being made to introduce the license system. It is claimed that prohibition does not prohibit and therefore it is better to regulate the business than to allow it to exist surreptitiously. The argument is that as it cannot be suppressed it ought to be recognized and controlled. The opponents of prohibition frequently point to its alleged failure in Maine. It is claimed that liquor is extensively smuggled into that State, and that while it is consumed in large quantities no revenue is derived from its sale, and therefore the treasury suffers loss while temperance makes no gain. Careful examination into the facts does not fully bear out this assertion, and a glance below the surface of the argument shows that it is not commendable for its depth.

Neal Dow, the champion of the Maine method maintains his old position, and though accused of making admissions fatal to his theory and conflicting with former statements, declares that prohibition does prohibit in Maine, and that the law, though evaded in some instances, is "as well executed as any other of our statutes."

His arraignment of the Republicans for not enacting "such additional pains as would render the liquor trade unprofitable and uncomfortable to those who should persist in it," and his citation of figures showing the evasions of the law, have been quoted as evidence that the law is a failure. But he claims, nevertheless, that the law has been a great success, for it has suppressed every distillery and brewery in the State, and though it is true that the liquor traffic in Maine has not been reduced in twenty years, yet the reduction secured in the previous fifteen years was brought to a low point and has been retained though not increased up to the present time. He says: "Thus prohibition in Maine has been profitable in dollars—taking a broad view of its effects—although it may appear to have lost something in immediate revenue that might have accrued from licenses. But the great and important gain is in the moral effects. Liquor dealing and liquor drinking are under the ban. They are not legalized. They are not made respectable by law. If unprincipled men pander for money to depraved appetites, they do so at a risk which is proportioned to the faithful execution of the law. If the liquor consumption is materially diminished by prohibition the benefit to the public is in the same ratio. For it cannot be denied that crime increases with the consumption of intoxicants, and that the tide of misery rises as the flood of liquor flows."

The plea that prohibition does not prohibit because some persons peddle intoxicants in spite of ordinances against the traffic, appears very shallow when investigated. Should the law against larceny be repealed because some men steal? Should burglary be licensed because houses are broken into in defiance of the law? Because there are assassins notwithstanding the statutes against murder ought the jurisprudence of centuries to be changed? Where is there an enactment that is completely effectual? Neal Dow's assertion that the prohibition law is as well executed as any of the statutes in Maine, contains the gist of the answer to the objection that prohibition does not prohibit. If no law should be passed that cannot be perfectly enforced, if ordinances that are not held entirely inviolate should be repealed, then every statute and municipal regulation would have to be abolished and universal license become the rule. If prohibition can be made as successful as any other law, or even approximately so, it cannot be fairly assailed on the ground that it is not effectual.

Our position on this point has been several times defined. In those cities of our Territory where prohibition is permitted by charter, and where the population is sufficiently large to warrant it, the liquor traffic can be and ought to be prevented or suppressed. In places where this is not possible, whether by defect of charter or other circumstances of an overpowering character, high license should be maintained to regulate the business as well as possible, keep out low resorts, and establish such restrictions as will keep the traffic within bounds and produce revenue, to pay for the extra police service required by reason of the disturbances of public order which the evil trade occasions. This endorsement of high license is only because prohibition under the present condition of our local laws and their administration, and of the mixed population of our larger cities, is in some places impracticable. It argues nothing against the general principle of prohibition. In purely "Mormon" towns and villages, intoxicants should not be and, as a rule, are not purchasable. The world would be better without them. Even considering the cravings and appetites of so many bibulants, if no more liquor was manufactured on earth, the sum of human happiness would be immensely increased.

The demon of drink is the champion of Satan's army. He will count more victims than any other devil in the whole cohort of seducing spirits. All the crimes in the catalogue and most of the diseases that have dragged down to death so many millions of the human family may be found on the list of his agencies and triumphs. The blue blazes of alcohol are like the fires of the lowest hell, and its fumes are the vapors of the infernal pit. The spirit that inebriates has its uses, but they are not for human beverages. Let prohibition have a fair chance and it will prohibit.

BEGINNING AT THE WRONG END.

We did not propose making further allusion to the Industrial Home project for the present. A public reception, tendered last night, to Mrs. Angie F. Newman, the originator of the scheme, has caused us to change that intention.

The enterprise is being introduced with a flourish of trumpets. All this pomp and noise sounds to those for whose benefit the institution is said to be intended very much like the performance of a lively tune at a funeral. It is scarcely consistent to believe that it could be otherwise than discordant with the feelings of the mourners. Still we have no disposition to detract

from the credit due those who are connected with the affair, notwithstanding that, having gone up like a rocket, it is likely to come down like a stick.

Governor West was among the speakers last night, and the sentiments expressed by him did honor to his heart, which is evidently kindly. Among his expressions was this: "Nothing appeals to the human heart like a suffering woman or child." By parity of reasoning the heart to which such objects of commiseration does not appeal must be inhuman. Of such is the merciless District Attorney. In answer to a pathetic word picture of the sufferings of the tender sex and little ones caused by the strained and remorseless prosecutions of the heads of families for unlawful cohabitation, Mr. Dickson retorted in a manner peculiar to himself. He asserted that those women had themselves to blame. They knew the plural wife relationship was a felony when they engaged in it. The entire tenor of his reply to the statements of Mr. Rawlins was, in substance: serve them right.

Yet those tender victims of the malevolent administration of a disruptive statute were innocent of any offense against the law. Their fact in entering the marital relationship was both morally and legally guiltless. How much does sniffling and helpless innocence appeal to such a nature as his? Such sentiments as inspire him, judging from his conduct and expressions, are inhuman and disgraceful. That such a man should occupy the position of public prosecutor, and be allowed to transform the office into that of persecutor is a damning discredit to the administration.

Is there a genuine philanthropist who takes in the situation of affairs here, and appreciates the amount of suffering entailed upon women and children by the crusade against the Saints? Does he desire to alleviate the afflictions of the distressed? If there is, it appears to us that his efforts will be directed towards checking the manufacture of misery rather than wasting energy in attempts to alleviate it after it is evolved. It is a shame that this great government should, through a few of its officers, be transformed into a factory for the production of human distress. Genuine and intellectually directed effort would endeavor, so far as practicable, to dispense with such institutions as the Industrial Home. Those who seek to alleviate suffering by such institutions (without attempting to stem the tide of its production) are in the position of a physician who allows disease to make ghastly inroads upon the physique of his patient and then applies nostrums in the form of a cure almost as disastrous as the complaint. Proper and intelligent endeavor would be to give such an institution as the Alleged Home as little necessity for existence as possible.

The question arises as to the feasibility of such philanthropic effort. For the sake of argument the position of one who wishes to see polygamy abolished may be safely reasoned from in support of the practicability of curtailing the production of suffering without diminishing the prospect of the attainment of the primary end.

Here comes a case in point: James I. Steele, aged somewhere about seventy years, was before the Third District Court this morning to receive sentence for unlawful cohabitation. He had given the officers no trouble, having straightforwardly acknowledged his marital relationships. This fact was represented to Chief Justice Zane—a mission judge—both by Mr. Varian, the attorney for the prosecution, and Mr. Moyle, for the defense. The representation was made in the hope that the judge would be merciful. Their efforts were of no avail. The Court drove the veteran into a corner to compel him to "promise to obey the law as construed by the Courts." He could not conscientiously make the covenant, which he believed to amount to a repudiation of his wives. He had married his plural wife in 1864 and had lived with both since that time. His case was a segregated one, the indictment containing two counts. On each of these counts he received the full penalty of the law—six months' imprisonment and a fine of \$300 and costs.

This is a sample case. Can any one tell how much that proceeding will tend to the solution of the question of polygamy? Here was a man who never broke any law. He entered into the plural relationship eight years before there was any statute against polygamy, consequently the step was innocent when taken. Then comes a law in 1882—twenty-eight years afterwards—the vindictive administration of which holds his status to be criminal, robs him of his liberty and property while in the sunset of life and plunges his wives and children into grief and distress. How much will this instance of "man's inhumanity to man" tend to wipe out plural marriage or solve the "Mormon" problem? It does not cause James I. Steele to change his convictions. Neither does it impress any right-thinking person with the righteousness of the cause that oppresses him. Its effect is opposite to that which is claimed to be desired.

Efforts in the direction of abolishing such disgraceful scenes perpetrated in the name of the government would stop much of the suffering which some people appear to be so anxious to alleviate. In doing so they would not conflict with the government, but merely with the villainous perversions of a few men who officially misrepresent it.

THE NEW YORK MAYORALTY.

The New York City political caldron is simmering just now; soon it will bubble, then boil over with the heat of the election, after which, the flames being subdued by means of the element which they caused to rise, tranquillity may resume its wonted sway. Ordinarily, a municipal election is a matter of no consequence beyond the boundaries of the city wherein it occurs; but it is vastly otherwise in this case, for the factions have assumed a phase of politics somewhat new as to organized effort, and perhaps forming the nucleus of combinations hitherto unknown as active national factors. The workingmen, and a great many who call themselves such, but are in reality loafers and skulkers, have placed Henry George in nomination for the mayoralty at the nation's metropolis, and it is said that 50,000 voters have pledged themselves to cast their ballots for him. With that number secure, and the stragglers that can be picked up by the time the election occurs added to them, his victory would seem to be a fact settled in advance—that is, the contest would be stripped of its usual features and become merely the means by which a foreordained plan was registered. But it begins to look as though the supporters of George had reckoned without their host—as if, in their intense desire to establish a limited system of Communism on American soil, they have overshot the mark and shown their hands too early in the game. Capital and enterprise cannot be wiped out with an office, nor can intelligent thrift and industry be made satisfied with a division with idlers and brawlers. George himself, perhaps, seeks nothing of that kind, at least not to that extent; but he, like others, will be gauged by the society in which he is found; and whenever so good a man is placed before the public as a candidate for an important executive office, upon a platform whose supporters are mainly vague theorists, long-haired men of isms, short-haired women of uncertain years and no posterity, saloon loafers, lay mechanics, and the general lower grade of a community's population—no matter how respectable a portion of his following may be—capital is up in arms at once and sounds the alarm without delay. It is not then very particular with whom or what it acts, so long as the actual menace is overcome, and it has means peculiarly its own to work with.

George has publicly declared that wealth ought to be limited to \$500,000, on general principles, that doctrine can hardly be disputed for the reason that that amount is enough and as much as any ordinary being can use properly in the usual affairs of life and enjoy it fully; yet, how is he to be prevented from acquiring more if he can do so legitimately? There's the rub. Only by violence, in itself lawlessness and destruction, can such a thing be done; and if the millionaire's surplus millions or even thousands can be curtailed without his consent or the operation of law, the laborer's dollar and the working girl's shilling may be taken in the same way.

George is an author of wide and well-merited repute on such subjects as political economy and social equality. He is scholarly, able and rational—on paper; but most of his themes, by which society is to be made more equal and all conditions in life to become more harmonious, read to those who have property like dangerous air-castles for those who have not, stimulating the latter with the hope of climbing up the ladder of fortune without the expenditure of the necessary means or the proper effort. Hence, the capitalists will meet such a phalanx with a united front, and what they do not have they will be very apt to get. All questions of Democracy or Republicanism will, if necessary, be set aside in order to defeat even the appearance of the Socialist, Communist or leveler in high places.

YOUNG GIRLS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT.

Young girls should be careful what risks they incur in the effort to obtain profitable employment. In this city there is always a great demand for them for various positions. The local demand is considerable, and Idaho and Montana are continually sending to Salt Lake for servants. In the hotels and boarding houses of this city alone, some hundreds of young women find employment, a fact which is rather to be regretted than rejoiced over by their parents and friends. A servant girl in a hotel is subjected to the worst influences and the strongest temptations. The same is true, to a greater or less extent, of those employed in boarding houses. Not that the proprietors of such places are necessarily to blame; they can at best exercise but a limited control over the causes of the danger to which we allude.

There are several intelligence or employment offices in this city which do a considerable business in the way of finding situations for young women. It is not the present purpose to lay any charge against the persons engaged in this business, but we do warn young girls to be careful in seeking employment through them. The chances are that