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ENGLAND'S COMING PERIL.

Scarcely a day has passed for weeks without bringing us news over the wires about the movements of the Fenians. According to the accounts which we have received, considerable alarm is felt in many places in England respecting them. The wide-spread nature of their organization, as seen in the breaking out of trouble in wholly unexpected quarters, and the mystery in which all their movements are shrouded, produce a feeling of general and well-founded alarm in the government and people. Were the nature of their organization and movements thoroughly known, they would not be much feared. But they operate in secret, and a few bold men, scattered through the various towns of the kingdom, are capable of exciting very great alarm in all quarters. The danger is greatly magnified by the fears of the people. The operations of the Fenians show what an amount of mischief can be done by secret organizations, in the midst of a powerful empire. Though in many respects contemptible, and in our opinion utterly inadequate to achieve the ostensible object of the organization, namely, the redemption of Ireland, still the Fenians are successful in stirring the British empire to its very heart, and a feeling of uneasiness and dread has seized its rulers.

As near as we can learn, it is the intention of the British government to wield the full power of the law against those of the Fenians actually caught in treasonable transactions, and at the same time pursue a kind and conciliatory policy towards the people of Ireland, and endeavor to ameliorate their condition. This is the best course the government can take under the circumstances. It would have been every way better if the wrongs of Ireland, and the oppressions under which she has groaned, had received attention years ago. The sufferings and discontent of the people have afforded excellent opportunities to professional agitators to practice their vocation, and they have not failed to avail themselves of them.

The dispatches to-day state that an English paper—the *Sunday Observer*—asserts that the government is acting with a full knowledge of the secret plans of the Fenians, and that the alarm which they have caused is subsiding. This is not the first time that such statements have been made by the English papers. It is their policy to lessen the public alarm on the subject, and to have the idea go out that the government has all the necessary information about this organization in its possession. England need not delude herself with the idea that she can bring such difficulties to a speedy termination. Crushing out these insurrectionary movements is like stamping out fire; while it is being extinguished in one place, it is apt to break out in another. If Fenianism should be broken up, and its adherents destroyed, insurrections and trouble will likely crop out in other forms and under other names.

In connection with these troubles in England, the call which has been made upon the people of this Territory to make donations of means to send for their poor co-religionists in England, possesses great significance. If sufficient means can be raised, not one Latter-day Saint who wishes to come will be left in England, and the British mission, so far as that island is concerned, will cease to be. The Elders, for a time at least, will be relieved from the responsibility of preaching to the English nation. Such a withdrawal of the Elders and Saints would be portentous of evil to England and her people. For upwards of 30 years missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have gone to Great Britain in an almost unbroken column. They have borne a faithful testimony to the inhabitants of that island. The nation is to-day without excuse for its rejection of

the message sent unto it. The consequences of neglecting this warning must come upon the government and people.

England, as well as every other nation which has a full and fair opportunity of hearing and obeying the truth, cannot escape from the consequences of her own acts. The United States have had their troubles; and while in the midst of them the English thought that Republican institutions were on their trial. They proclaimed them a failure, and pointed with exulting pride to the stability and prosperity of their own government. But now troubles are thickening around them. The insurrectionary movements of the Fenians; the growing power and increasing demands of the ultra liberal party for further concessions; with other causes, threaten trouble to Britain which her wisest statesmen will find it difficult, if not impossible, to avert.

HEAVY POSTAL TAXATION.

Besides the points in the postal law, to which we called attention in Monday's issue, there are some others which ought to be known. Upon examining this subject one is struck with surprise that such provisions, so manifestly unjust, should ever have been passed as a law by Congress. Its glaring injustice to the people residing west of the Kansas line and east of the California line is so apparent that the Committee of Congress to whom it was referred should have, immediately and emphatically, pronounced against it. If Utah were the only Territory which suffered from this unfair law, we would not be so much surprised. Doubtless, despite to Utah had some influence in passing the law; but the injustice has fallen heavily upon other Territories as well as upon this.

There are large quantities of valuable magazines, periodicals, lithographs, chromos and other articles, that are sent by the Overland Mail, which never reach their destination in Montana and Washington, and even Oregon, because the senders, probably ignorant of the unjust law in question, fail to pay letter postage on the articles they mail. If they were to send them by the Isthmus mails to Washington and Oregon, they would only cost, if miscellaneous mail matter, two cents, or if books, four cents for each four ounces. Quite a difference between that rate and the rate charged per Overland Mail—ninety-six cents per pound! Hundreds of dollars' worth of mail matter is now lying in the Post Office in this city which was mailed for the adjacent Territories, principally Montana, with insufficient postage. This will be sold here for the benefit of the Department. A quantity of mail matter which was detained for a similar cause, was sold a few weeks ago. One firm alone in Montana has paid within two months about three hundred and sixty dollars for postage on newspapers and periodicals. After paying this amount they changed their tactics, and had their parcels directed in another manner, hoping thereby to save the letter postage; but the law is inexorable. Their parcels were detained. The postage on them amounted to upwards of six hundred dollars. When sold for the benefit of the Department, the sum realized was not one-eighth of the amount due for the postage! This is an enormous tax on periodicals—nearly one thousand dollars in a few months—and is a very serious loss to news dealers. This case is only one out of hundreds.

The loss to this Territory since the passage of this law, can be counted by thousands of dollars. We have heard of large quantities of books, periodicals and other mail matter, which had been mailed for this Territory, being detained and sold in New York. This law falls oppressively upon our citizens. We are so isolated here, cut off from all communication with the East, excepting by mail, for half of the year, that we should be on an equality, so far as mail privileges are concerned, with the rest of the Union. But every person in the Territory who has depended on the mail for the transmission of books, periodicals, etc., has been disappointed. If they have received a book by that medium, it has generally cost more than its value for postage.

Under the provisions of the new Postal Convention, lately concluded between the United States and Great Britain, books can be sent by mail from this Territory to Great Britain or from Great Britain here, for six cents per four ounces or fraction of four ounces. Pamphlets and periodicals, when not exceeding two ounces in weight, cost two

cents each for postage; when over two ounces in weight, they, with other miscellaneous mail matter, cost four cents per four ounces or fraction of four ounces. A book weighing a pound can be received by mail from Great Britain by the pre-payment of twenty-four cents; other mail matter, to the same weight, can be received here from that country by the pre-payment of sixteen cents; but if a book, or other mail matter, weighing a pound, were to be sent from this city to Fort Bridger, a hundred and thirteen miles distant, or to Austin, three hundred and eighty-seven miles distant, or from either of those points to this city, a pre-payment of ninety-six cents would have to be made, or the article would never reach its destination! What can we say that can show up the inconsistency and odiousness of the obnoxious law that we referred to on Monday better than this!

SHEEP RAISING AND MACHINERY.

The introduction of machinery for the manufacture of woolen goods will have the effect to enhance the value of sheep and to make the raising of wool a more certain and profitable business than it has been in the past. Heretofore, the majority of sheep-owners have been careless about their flocks, and have not taken the pains which they should to keep them free from disease and to have them properly wintered. The reason assigned for this indifference is, that they have had no market for their wool; the demand has not been steady and reliable. Farmers have raised more than they could manufacture themselves by the ordinary spinning-wheel and loom. They who could spin and weave by hand, generally raised all the wool themselves which they could find time to make into cloth, and were but seldom under the necessity of buying. The consumption of wool, therefore, so long as its manufacture into yarn and cloth was confined to hand process, was very limited.

The importation of a woolen factory by President Young gave the first impulse to the growth of wool as a business. At that factory sheep-owners have been able to exchange their wool for the yarn and cloth. This has been an opening for the disposal of wool; for the yarn and cloth manufactured there find ready sale. If a man could not manufacture his wool at home, he could, by means of such an exchange, readily convert it into available means. But this factory could only take a small portion of the wool which was offered for exchange.

For years, but particularly of late, President Young has strenuously urged upon the people the importance of bringing machinery on from the East. He has pointed out the advantages which would accrue to the Territory, if we were in a position to manufacture our own woolen goods. This past season three lots of machinery have been imported. He, himself, imported a machine of three hundred and sixty spindles. This he sold to Messrs. Jno. Rowberry, Wm. Rydall and James Wrathall, of Tooele county, where they intend to erect it. Another of the same capacity has been brought on by Messrs. A. O. Smoot, Robt. T. Burton and John Sharp, who have built a good, substantial factory on Big Cañon Creek. Messrs. Alfred Randall, Wm. Neal and Philip Fugsley have imported another, in which Lorin Farr also is interested, and for which an excellent building has been erected on the Ogden river at Ogden City. These factories, if properly conducted, as we have every reason to believe they will be, must be of great value to the neighborhoods where they are located. Already in this city the cloth made at President Young's factory has proved a great benefit to the people. A handsome, durable class of goods is manufactured, which will compare favorably with goods of Eastern manufacture.

Now that we have machinery in the country which, if kept running to its full capacity, will require heavy supplies of wool, greater attention and care should be bestowed upon sheep. Pains should be taken to improve the quality of wool produced, by the importation of better varieties than we have at present, and by judicious selection and crossing. We have as good a country for sheep as can be found anywhere in the same latitudes. Nothing is wanting but care to make our Territory famous for the fine quality of wool grown here. But good, healthy, strong wool can never be obtained from sheep that are enclosed in a filthy corral one-half of their time, or that are half-

starved. To yield good wool, suitable for manufacturing purposes, sheep should be kept in a thriving condition; then the wool is free from joints and is of strong fibre, and when manufactured, will make durable yarn and cloth. It is every way more profitable and satisfactory to have a good breed of sheep, to feed them well and to keep them free from disease, than it is to have poor, half-starved creatures, half-stripped of their wool by disease. For sheep to thrive they should not be herded too long on one range; but should be kept moving, under the charge of skillful shepherds, from one place to another. In the summer time no better range can be found than the most of our mountain sides afford. By keeping them there, they would not interfere with other stock. As winter approaches, they should be gradually driven South, their shepherds accompanying them with their conveyances and the conveniences for living at any point they may think best to rest at for awhile. The labor of herding sheep in this country can be reduced to a minimum by having good sheep dogs. A valuable breed of sheep dog was introduced into this country, at considerable expense, a few years ago, from Scotland. There are, doubtless, some of them still here. But if a pup of an intelligent breed be nursed by a ewe, he will prove a great help to the shepherd in watching over and taking care of his charge.

Our men of capital have stepped forward and invested largely in machinery. They have incurred heavy obligations. They have, so far, done their part. Now, it remains for our sheep-owners and farmers to do theirs. They should raise good wool and plenty of it; and then every household in the land can be supplied with woolen goods of our own manufacture.

OUR EXAMPLE TO WESTERN SETTLERS.

The *Cheyenne Argus*, in a late leading article advocating the cultivation of the soil, draws some comparisons between the work accomplished here with the difficulties which had to be encountered, and the facilities which offer in that region for success in agriculture. It says the only thing needed to make that place one of the richest agricultural districts of the entire inland plains is, a well conducted system of irrigation. The *Argus* says:

"About Salt Lake City the nature of the soil is for agricultural purposes far less favorable in appearance than that hereabouts, and the character of the natural productions of the soil is anything but prepossessing—consisting, in fact, of nothing but weeds and sage brush. Yet, in spite of the originally desert-like appearance of that country, the Mormons set to work with industry and perseverance, and by the judicious management of a stream no larger than Crow Creek, they have made their city one of the agricultural and horticultural wonders of the American Continent."

Cheyenne is called the "magic city." Its growth is perhaps unparalleled in the history of cities. And if such a policy as the *Argus* advocates is followed, its prosperity will be steady and continuous, and not of that fluctuating character which has marked many places of rapid growth on this continent. It has many great advantages. Its location at the foot of the Black Hills, where the rolling stock of the overland railroad will change; its central position with growing States and Territories around; and its proximity to extensive mining regions, place within its reach rare elements of sudden growth and prosperity.

But when the "Mormons" settled this region, they had no advantages of the kind. They could not hope to get rich by selling their surplus produce to miners in adjacent markets, as some silly scribblers have intimated, because there were no adjacent markets, nor any people to make them. There were no miners, for no mines had been "prospected" for or discovered, and no white men thought of inhabiting the present mining regions around what is now called Utah. There was no Pacific railroad talked of, much less in course of construction, for this western country was looked upon as, and named, the Great American Desert. Yet the "Mormons" came here, inexperienced in the soil, the water, the alkali and saleratus which abound here, and irrigation, by which alone crops could be raised. They rooted up the sage-brush, broke the soil, labored and persevered; and show a steadily growing prosperity, which no State or Territory in the nation that depends entirely on mining can show.