

THE NATIONAL ANTI-"MORMON" LEAGUE.

The following from the Cleveland Leader will give our readers some additional insight into the character and designs of the secret society for the suppression of "Mormonism" recently organized in Cleveland, Ohio:

Another meeting of those interested in the movement to establish a society for the suppression of polygamy was held last evening at the rooms of the organization in Superior street. The Committee on Constitution submitted a report, which embodied a list of laws for the government of the organization. They recommended that the society be called "The National League for the suppression of Polygamy." The recommendation was heartily approved and the name unanimously adopted.

The rules reported by the committee were in substance as follows:

That the League be composed of twenty members, who shall have absolute control of the policy and work of the organization; that fund of \$25,000 be guaranteed for the purpose of forming leagues in all the cities and large towns of the State; that the proceedings of the League be secret, except such parts as will be beneficial to the organization and a source of enlightenment to the public; that a "Reserve Legion" be formed, to consist of citizens of all religions and nationalities, irrespective of political beliefs, to assist in carrying out the purposes of the League when the proper time shall have presented itself; that the members of the Legion shall be honorary members of the League, but shall not be permitted to participate in the proceedings of the League, nor asked to subscribe money for any cause whatsoever.

That leagues be established in every city and town in the State, and that practical endeavors be made to obliterate polygamy, and to prevent Mormon elders from traveling about the country for the purpose of spreading the doctrine of their debasing creed.

The election of officers preceded the adoption of the constitution. President, Vice-President, Secretary, Disbursing Treasurer, Receiving Treasurer, Auditor, Sentinel and Executive Committee. All the officials are well known citizens. Letters were read from gentlemen in Cincinnati, Columbus, Toledo, Dayton and Sandusky, expressing pleasure in the step taken, and pledging the assistance of the writers.

It was decided to have some arrangements made by which the public could communicate with the league, as valuable suggestions would undoubtedly be secured thereby. While the members of the organization at present deem it best to withhold their names from the press for obvious reasons, a number of them are known to the Leader. The President is a gentleman of large experience, and is prominent in professional circles. The other officers are equally well known, some of them being leading business men. The nature of their work makes it necessarily secret to a certain extent, and for the time being they propose to work quietly but diligently.

As we remarked in treating upon the subject previously, it is somewhat singular that this movement, which is evidently destined to become national, as its name would imply, should have its origin in Ohio. It was not only in that state that the Prophet Joseph Smith received a revelation pointing to the organization of secret agencies of that character, but there also it was (in the Kirtland Temple) that he received the fulness of the keys of authority of the Priesthood in relation to the establishment and operation of the Kingdom of God on the earth. Satan, who is the father of the works of darkness, has selected the same region as the head-center of his secret fight with the powers of heaven.

We look upon the movement as essentially religious, and to preserve the unanimity of the organization all religious and political differences are to be sunk, or swallowed up in the attainment of the object in view. The operations are to be done in darkness, for the same reason that the wicked always seek to hide their counsels from the Lord—because "their deeds are evil." They are necessarily of such a character that would bring the perpetrators under the unmiti-

gated contempt and abhorrence of all good people everywhere.

As we before predicted, such societies, formed in unison with a strong popular sentiment, are necessarily propagative, and branches of the League are to be established in every city and town of the State. We were also right in prognosticating that one of the objects would be to prevent the Elders from traveling or delivering the Gospel message to the people. This means, so far as the society shall have power, the expulsion of the brethren from the State.

Judging from the congratulatory letters received and inquiries and suggestions made from various parts of the country, that other States will soon follow suit, and perhaps the secret combination will spread all over the country until it proves a complete network, for so it is predicted in the direct prophecies of Joseph Smith and the predictions of the Book of "Mormon."

Such movements necessarily resort to the most extreme measures. Step by step they are led by the power of the Prince of Darkness, until their hearts are filled to overflowing with the gall of bitterness and the spirit of murder. Let the nation beware. It should take warning at once and suppress an organization instituted for illegal, cold-blooded and barbarous purposes. If it is suffered to spread over the land, the sword of the justice of the Almighty will descend upon the nation and cries of woe shall ascend from one end of the land to the other, for the voice of Omnipotence hath spoken it.

We almost shudder when we contemplate what has been foretold regarding the deeds of these combinations and their consequences. The Prophet Moroni, speaking on the subject said: "For the Lord will not suffer that the blood of His Saints, which shall be shed by them shall always cry unto Him from the ground for vengeance upon them and yet he will not avenge them not." (Book of Mormon page 588)

In the 28th chapter of the 2nd Book of Nephi, that prophet gives a vivid picture of the existing condition of the people, religiously and otherwise, and expresses the situation regarding the secret works of many which shall teach after this manner, false and vain and foolish doctrines, and shall be puffed up in their hearts, and shall seek deep to hide their counsels from the Lord; and their works shall be in the dark. And the blood of the Saints shall cry from the ground against them."

We have looked upon the remarkable multiplication of secret societies, whose objects are the securing for themselves of power and plunder, not stopping short of murder most foul in seeking the attainment of these objects, as fulfilling the predictions of the Book of Mormon. But it has only now developed that this secret revolutionary agent is about to be directed against the Saints, and it only needs that the blood of some of the people of God be spilled by this means to culminate the horrible iniquity.

But should this secret abomination spread over the country, shooting out its branches from the Ohio Nucleus, and an underhanded course—only resorted to by the basest cowards—be inaugurated to prevent the Elders from declaring that God has again spoken from heaven, it is the country's look out for the consequences. When there is a total rejection of the message we presume the Elders will be ready to relinquish their God-given labor, but they will continue to cry repentance to this generation until He who is at the helm of this work shall say "it is enough," which He will assuredly do if the people do not turn a sharp corner and seek the righteousness of the Kingdom of God.

The work which the Almighty has established will never cease its progress, and those who imagine they can stop its development had better undertake to chain a thunderbolt with a cotton thread, as an easier undertaking.

UTAH EASTERN RAILROAD.

About a month ago a party of gentlemen interested in the U. P. R. R., passed over the Utah Eastern road. This incident gave rise to a general rumor that the first named

company were about to take steps to gain possession of the Eastern line.

The capital stock of the company was 7,000 shares of \$100 each. Four thousand of these were pooled in the hands of three trustees—L. W. Hardy, J. R. Winder and F. Auerbach. The trustees were to sell this stock, which was to be held in trust for the purchasers for fifteen years. It was provided that all of said stock not disposed of by November 1st, 1881, was to revert to the company. This period was extended from time to time until the present year. The trustees were unable to sell more than 1,093 shares, the balance of the 4,000 reverting to the company, as agreed.

In the construction of the road Mr. J. B. Hagin, of California, advanced considerable sums of money, and in the settlement with him he received 2,400 shares of the company's stock, which gave him control of the road. At the annual stockholders' meeting, held yesterday, a gentleman representing the Union Pacific appeared with a proxy from Mr. Hagin, giving the authority to vote his stock. This gave the U. P. the controlling vote, they elected the officers, and virtually or rather actually took possession.

The road was not sold out by the trustees and others locally interested. Those gentlemen were placed in a position that rendered them helpless. At the meeting they voted their stock manfully, but as a matter of course, being in the minority it was not even a forlorn hope. It was a sort of "eight to seven" contest on a small scale. But their efforts were directed to securing the retention of the property in the hands of the people to the last. We regret that they were not successful, as the anxiety of a mammoth monopoly to gain possession of the road is a strong evidence that, held by hands more disinterested it would have proved a great popular benefit. The change will doubtless stifle some of the local industries that have been looking hopefully to this road as an outlet. It was inaugurated in the interest of the people at large and for their benefit, there having been no ulterior motive in its inception, and but for the event consummated yesterday, would have been confined in accordance

LAW ON POLYGAMY.

THE VIEWS OF A MORMON EDITOR ON THE GREAT QUESTION.

Mr. Charles W. Penrose, editor of the DESERET NEWS, of Salt Lake, arrived in Denver yesterday on a tour of recreation which will embrace besides Denver, Santa Fe and the country across New Mexico, Arizona and California to San Francisco, returning to Salt Lake over the Central Pacific. He is accompanied by Mr. O. R. Savage, photographer of Salt Lake, who is engaged in taking photographic sketches of scenery along the route above mapped out. The gentlemen came over the Rio Grande route and are enthusiastic over the scenery which that road traverses between the two cities. Mr. Penrose's paper is the organ of the Mormon Church, and that gentleman is therefore qualified to speak upon the question, the solution of which is growing more and more in public thought and discussion from day to day.

"What of the Mormon Church in the East which disavows polygamy?"

"You mean the Smithites?" They are not a part of the Mormon church, but are an entirely separate and distinct organization. They designate themselves as the 'Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints.' The nucleus for this organization was made up of former members of the Mormon church who were excommunicated for various offenses against the church discipline. That church as it now exists is made up of those excommunicated members and the new accretions which they have since gathered by missionary work and otherwise. After organizing their church they prevailed upon Joseph Smith, son of the original founder of the Mormon church, to become the head of their new creation. There are a few points of similarity in the doctrinal foundation of that church and ours, but in nearly all features they are entirely different. They have no polygamy in connection with their church."

"What will be the effect of the efforts of the anti-polygamy societies in the east?"

"I saw in the Tribune dispatches that an anti-polygamy society at Cleveland has been advocating a constitutional amendment for the suppression of polygamy. Even if they should succeed it will have no effect at all. Polygamy is not a civil matter. It is a religious feature, and is entirely within the church. There has never been a Territorial law passed with regard to it, and there is no allusion made to it in the Territorial statutes. A State constitution was drawn up some time ago, and in it no allusion was made to polygamy. Laws cannot affect it."

"Has the completion of the Rio Grande road benefited Salt Lake?"

"Vastly. The Rio Grande road is a little giant, and has been a great help to our city and Territory. We have reaped many benefits since it has been a carrier to us."

THE FREIGHT RATE OUT.

"How has the recent out affected you?"

"In many ways it has been an advantage. The merchants especially, have been benefitted. In the main, however, it is not desirable. It is an injury to our farmers, and agriculture is the main stay of Utah. We have considerable mining development, but agriculture is our main support. Under the present out, wheat can be brought to Utah at prices below that at which our farmers can afford to sell, and they are thus being injured. The out still continues, but I understand an effort is soon to be made to restore the former rates."

Mr. Penrose will spend a day or two in Denver and will proceed from here to New Mexico over the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe road. —Denver Tribune.

DEMISE OF ELDER D. P. KIMBALL.

THE announcement of the death of Elder David P. Kimball, at his home at St. David, Arizona, is almost startling in its suddenness. It is doubtful whether any of his numerous relatives and friends in this part of the country were aware of his illness.

He attended the late General Conference, and stayed around this region several weeks, visiting his old acquaintances, who gave him a most cordial and affectionate welcome after a separation, by distance, of about six years. He was, when he left here for the south, evidently in prime health, and expressed himself as feeling in excellent condition. He stated several times in our hearing that he purposed devoting the remainder of his days—little thinking they were so near a termination—to helping to build up the work of God on the earth, and doubtless this devotional sentiment remained with him to the end.

The event is but another instance of the slender hold men have upon life. It is but a burnt thread, liable to break with the slightest breath.

Our acquaintance with the deceased was first formed in Great Britain, in 1865, when he was engaged in bearing testimony to the truth of the restoration of the fulness of the Gospel through Joseph the Prophet. He was an energetic missionary, never failing to proclaim the message he was sent to bear, at every opportunity.

Brother Kimball was of a kind, genial and generous disposition. Like all other mortals, he had a share of the weakness of humanity, and struggled to surmount it, but there was never any wilful disposition to depart from the strict line of commendable deportment. His sunny humor was proverbial, and made his companionship generally most acceptable to all classes among whom he mingled, and we know that he had the excellent characteristic which caused him never to forget, nor cease to appreciate a kindness bestowed on him. He has gone to his rest in a frame of mind that will entitle him to mingle with those who have been valiant in testimony and continue, in the other life, to forward the interests of the work on which he had so ardently set his heart in this sphere of mortality.

A banker in Newark, N. J., shot and killed a burglar who was making himself comfortable in the banker's house. The burglars generally shoot and kill the bankers, but the banker in the present case has varied the monotony.

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CHAPTER II.

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