

elements are producing, everywhere, discontent, and they may at any moment precipitate war even against the will of the government. For a government not to be strong enough to oppose the passions of the people and the endeavors of parties, constitutes a permanent danger of war. When the war that, for the past decade, has hung like Democles' sword over our heads, at last breaks out, its duration no one will be able to foresee. It might be a seven years' war, or even a thirty years' war. Woe to him who sets it in motion."

These words from such a man as Von Moltke, couched to be one of the greatest military strategists of any age, have a deep significance. It is true that cabinets have ceased to inaugurate war. Had this not been so, the strains to which the relations of different countries of Europe with each other have been subjected during the last few years, could not have been endured without war. So perfect has European diplomacy become that, in the face of causes imminently provocative of a conflagration, it has been, for many years past, able to bring influences and offsets to bear in the proper quarters, which have had the effect to prevent open ruptures.

The danger which threatens Europe today is not that some ambitious potentate or minister, or some scheming cabinet, will precipitate a war. The peril in the face of which crown-wearers are trembling, is the most appalling that can menace any government. It consists in the disposition, not to say determination, of the people to rise with one accord and suddenly relegate to the domain of the past, existing social and political systems.

Von Moltke knows that the fear of or reverence for the army has been the security of thrones in all ages, and the only means which even his sagacity can suggest, to keep the people down and the ruling classes where they are, is to put as many of the former in the army as possible. The moral effect of military discipline on the recruits will strongly tend to impress them with the necessity of maintaining law and order, and to counteract socialistic ideas and influences. This policy will make the army so much the stronger, and consequently more awe-inspiring. Again, the masses will feel more reluctant to precipitate a conflict between themselves and the soldiery, which will embrace so many of their fathers, brothers and sons.

The last three sentences quoted from Von Moltke read like a dismal prophecy, the fulfilment of which is assumed to be sure and near. He seems to regard as inevitable the

breaking out of a war, under conditions which insure its long continuance and sweeping destructiveness; but how long it will last, or how near it will come to consuming Europe, he is entirely unable to surmise, so extensive will it be, according to the signs of the times as he reads them. The fulfilment of the predictions by Joseph the Seer, uttered by inspiration, in relation to modern wars, can now be plainly foreseen, as the time for verification approaches.

#### A LETTER FROM MICHIGAN.

WE are in receipt of a letter, designed for publication, and written by Edward T. Couch of Bay Springs, Charlevoix County, Michigan, May 6th. The writer states the position of the "Josephite" organization in regard to the Church in Utah, and criticises it. He next discusses some prominent doctrinal features of the faith of the Saints in Zion, adducing Scriptural proof and logical arguments in support of the same.

He then reviews some of the prophecies put forth by Joseph the Seer, and treats them with considerable intelligence and ability, and in a manner which indicates that he has closely studied them. His presentation of the passages which relate to the work of redemption among the Lamanites is quite interesting.

While there is much in the letter to which valid objection could not be made, some of its features render it unsuited to our columns. We have no contest to wage with the "Josephites," nor any desire to return in kind the efforts they have made in relation to the Saints in Utah.

#### PATRIOTIC INDICATION.

ON Thursday morning (May the 16th), in the columns of a local contemporary, a somewhat lengthy interview between a reporter and ex-Warden Amos appears. The burden of it is intended to show the reasons for the resignation of the prison official. The chief cause of grievance on the part of Captain Amos against the Marshal appears to have been, according to the statement of the former, that a man named Stark, claimed to be disloyal, was retained as guard at the penitentiary. Here is one of the chief evidences of Stark's disloyalty, according to Captain Amos, as stated in the interview:

"After the Liberal victory in Salt Lake City, Stark, who exulted very much over the victory, got a Liberal badge, which as you know was a little American flag with a carpet bag on it. He put off the flag and wore the carpet bag."

"Here the reporter interrupted him and asked him how he knew Stark out of the flag."

"He said he knew it simply because he wore the carpet bag; the flag was missing. 'I reported that fact,' he continued, 'to Captain Parsons, at which he made no remark.'"

One can understand why, for appearance sake, the "Liberal" party, not wishing to back down from a blunder made at the beginning of the campaign preceding the February election, should adhere till the close of the contest to its emblem; the carpet bag—the insignia of official corruption—over the stars and stripes. That poor Mr. Amos or any other man should, however, in cold blood, take a declination to amalgamate the gripsack with the stars and stripes as an indication of disloyalty is just too funny for anything. The emblem of official voracity is bad enough in itself, but when combined with the flag of the nation, the latter is forced downward into very bad company.

#### THE NEW EDMUNDS BILL.

THE introduction by Senator Edmunds of the bill which is elsewhere described in this issue, may be taken as an indication that the disfranchisement measure may not pass. The monstrous character of the latter, the enormity of the injustice which it would work, and the violence of its clashing with many vital principles of the American system of government, have become so apparent during the time it has been under discussion in Congress, and by the press and public, that a strong probability of the retreat of its champions has arisen.

The Struble bill is unspeakably bad, but it is scarcely any worse than the latest one fathered by Senator Edmunds, but in reality the work of a small clique of Utah conspirators. What the Struble bill aims to do in brazen defiance of the Constitution, and every scruple of right or justice, this new concoction seeks to accomplish by indirection. It makes all county and Territorial officers appointive. True, in the telegraphic synopsis of the bill which appears in another column, sheriffs and coroners are not named, but they probably appear in the text, as the evident object is to place the county governments completely in the hands of the appointing power.