

opponents the advantage of having all the logic on their side, inasmuch as it is indubitable that a government deriving all its powers from the governed occupies a different position to the governments established during the patriarchal and Mosaic dispensations.

The reasoning is further weakened by the fact that a code patterned according to the ancient law would require the death penalty also for idolatry, for fortune-telling or divination, for falsely claiming divine authority, for image worship, blasphemy, Sabbath breaking, cursing or smiting parents and for theft of men. The same code that justly fixes a death penalty for murder and incest includes in the list of capital offenses the crimes here enumerated—a fact that hardly can be ignored in a biblical discussion of the subject.

The whole question should not be very intricate. The duty of the State is to defend the life and property of its citizens in the most effective way. But it should be done with impartiality and without the legal jugglery with justice that too often is exhibited in criminal courts. One-sided execution of law, however severe, cannot but result in increase of crime.

ORDER IN PREACHING.

In the Gospel plan the Lord has provided a perfect order for preaching, as for all other works in His Church. There is nothing left to be haphazard or uncertain. The preaching of the Gospel is done according to a well-defined order, from which no servant of the Lord may depart. To accomplish the work, the Almighty has given the authority of His Priesthood, and every man is to act within the calling of the Priesthood conferred upon him. The fact of a man being ordained a Priest, an Elder, or a Seventy, does not authorize him to go about preaching when, where and how he will, but he must act in accord with the instructions of those whose duty it is to direct his labors in the ministry.

Thus it is that missionaries are called to go abroad. And in this foreign missionary labor they are generally instructed to preach only the first principles of the Gospel, since an understanding of these is essential to a comprehension of the advanced doctrines, and the foreign missionary work is of a preliminary character. Hence such missionaries are directed not to make a rule of preaching upon advanced doctrines which, while clear enough to themselves, are in some degree mysterious to those who do not comprehend properly the foundation of the first principles. And if a missionary were to disregard the instruction of the several authorities in this respect his preaching would be a violation of his calling instead of in harmony therewith, and he could not be expected to enjoy the Spirit, because of his disobedience. For illustration: the Seventy are called to preach the Gospel in the world under the direction of the Twelve, not contrary to that direction in any respect.

The same general principle prevails among the organization of the Saints. No Elder is authorized to go about indiscriminately and engage in preach-

ing. If he has opportunity, and he is capable and it is proper that he should embrace the opportunity, there is no difficulty in securing the direction of the authority that has jurisdiction. If an Elder should disregard the proper order, then his act of preaching is a violation of his calling under the Priesthood he has received. The presiding authority in the Church, in Stakes, and in wards, is not without meaning, either on this point or others, and the Elder who disregards it is not honoring his Priesthood. The Apostle Paul asks "How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" The Elders are sent to preach the Gospel, to do it according to the commandments of the Lord. And if an Elder should go without being sent by the authority which has jurisdiction over him in that respect, he is disregarding the order of the Priesthood and cannot expect the inspiration of the Spirit to guide him in what he says and does. It is well to preserve the proper order in all things.

PRESIDENT CANNON'S BIRTHDAY.

Today, January 11, is the anniversary of the birth of President George Q. Cannon, and the event is being quietly celebrated by a gathering of the family this afternoon at the Cannon home. The occasion is one on which not only the people of these mountain vales, but the Latter-day Saints everywhere, as well as very many not numbered with the Church, will feel to felicitate Brother Cannon, and sincerely wish him many more years of usefulness and happiness among the people. President Cannon's whole life has been one of energetic, earnest endeavor to bless his fellowman, to maintain and establish truth, righteousness and peace upon the earth. In early life his lot was cast with the people who settled Utah, and he came to this valley the year the Pioneers reached here. During the now almost rounded-out half century since his arrival in Utah he has taken a prominent part in all that pertained to the welfare of the people in this region of country, and still is preserved in his active labors. For itself and for the body of the people who have been associated with President Cannon directly or indirectly, and who esteem and love him for the force, the zeal, the integrity, and the gentleness and kindness that have characterized a career of marked usefulness, the NEWS extends heartiest wishes to him for many years yet of health, prosperity and happiness, and that the blessings of God will continue to abide with him in the holy calling of a devoted Apostle of Jesus in the latter-day dispensation of the Gospel.

AT THE HOLY SEPULCHER.

According to a dispatch one of the annual scandals has again occurred at the so-called church of the holy sepulcher at Jerusalem. This edifice is open to the Roman, Greek and Armenian branches of the Catholic faith, and there at the various festivals perform their rites there. Their in-

terests, however, often conflict, or the crowds inflamed by fanaticism give vent to their passions. Deadly struggles ensue, and on the ground that is supposed to be sacred, brother sheds the blood of brother. So common are these scenes that hundreds flock to the church, at certain festivals, just to witness the combats. With indescribable contempt the Mohammedan soldiers, charged with the duty of keeping order among the Christian worshippers, view the quarrelsome crowd and interfere at times, completing the plot of pndemonium. It appears that a few days ago the scene was repeated, but whether any one was killed in the melee, as sometimes happens, was not known at the time the dispatch was sent.

These scenes of barbarism, so often recurring, at the supposed tomb of our Savior, illustrate very well the conditions that prevailed in the Christian world at the time of the conquest of Asia Minor and eastern Europe by the Mohammedan hordes, and furnish also a reason why these countries have remained so long under this rule. From ecclesiastical history it is known that the Christians in the centuries preceding the Mohammedan conquest were so far from being what they professed to be that they, on the contrary, were morally far below their conquerors. Some of the church councils, where one would naturally suppose the best and noblest of the age had met together, were little better than gatherings of a mob. Gregory of Nazianzus, one of the early fathers, speaks of them as assemblies of "cranes and geese." Intrigue, resort to condemnation and even violence marked the meetings, and when the representatives were such, what were the common people? At the third general council at Ephesus, both factions met accompanied by slaves and sailors, peasants and the lowest class of the people, men and women, all prepared for violence. The two parties fought in the streets, and the leaders had to be placed under arrest. It is the same spirit that still manifests itself in those countries, demonstrating the utter failure of a religion that does not penetrate to the heart but lives only in outward forms and ceremonies, to lift mankind from a condition of degradation to one of which the Master was the pattern. Sacred places, sacred images and gorgeous ceremonies, even when implicitly believed in, cannot change the savage nature of men and women into one resembling the original image of the Creator. It takes the living eternal truth applied by the divine Spirit to do that. This is a lesson taught by the ever recurring scandals at the very place where it is supposed our Lord once rested in the grave.

GOVERNOR WELLS'S MESSAGE.

The message of Governor Heber M. Wells, submitted to the Legislature today, is a clear, concise, able document, presenting a valuable and interesting summary of State affairs and making timely recommendations as to needed legislation. In its finances the State is shown to be in much better shape than was thought possible, when the burdens of