

harmony with better-favored nations which it accuses of defrauding it of its rights and wounding it in its sacred interests."

How beautiful that would be from any standpoint, even of the gentleman who penned that memorial or the convention which adopted it! It had not conceived the idea of a composite American nation of one language and one blood, but instead of that the disintegrating idea of many nations arrayed against one another and represented by people from abroad, appointed from foreign lands, who cannot speak our language, but appointed here because they speak the foreign tongue, appointed here for the purpose of perpetuating it through the first and second generations.

Again he says:

"Moreover, this question affects the interests of the countries from which the emigration takes place."

This, to my mind, is the most important part of the document:

"Moreover, this question affects the interests of the countries from which the emigration takes place. Through their emigrants the nations are acquiring in the great republic an influence and an importance of which they will one day be able to make great profit. These nations are so well aware of this that they are doing everything in their power to have those of their nationalities settled in the United States develop and strengthen themselves in every respect. The time has come when governments can no longer remain indifferent to this grave and important question. For example, it is a matter of no consequence to England, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Canada, Hungary, Spain, and other governments that they number in a youthful country, and one full of prospects, millions of fellow-citizens, forming part of the nation and taking an active part in industry, commerce, politics, social life and public affairs? It must not be lost sight of that the American nation, the people of the United States, is not a people of one race only, but of all races, of all nationalities. Every race, every nationality may take its place in the sunlight. Precisely owing to this fact and because religion is the corner-stone and the keystone of every social fabric, the nations have an immense interest in their emigrants being represented in the episcopate in the United States by bishops of their own."

There was never, Mr. President, a more infamous attempt to prostitute religious power to political purposes than the one proposed in that memorial. This man is no inconsiderable man. He moves with no inconsiderable allies. He is, or was, a member of the Prussian Diet. It is stated that Herr Von Schloezer, the German representative at Rome, is in hearty accord with him and supported this memorial; that Austrian families of high rank, moving in noble and royal circles, were interested in the scheme. With men less wise than the present Pontiff very serious consequences might have ensued.

I have not gone out of my way to bring this subject here. It forces itself upon the attention in the present connection, and it so far dwarfs by contrast the dangers to be apprehended from China, that I could not refrain from doing it.

Get out your rearing coops and clean them thoroughly; any that are not good and wholesome burn.

## THE DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER.

ALL the reports that have reached us concerning the meetings held on Sunday, the day of thanksgiving and prayer, are of the most encouraging character. The Latter-day Saints attended in great numbers. Overflowing congregations assembled fasting, the spirit of humility, forgiveness, praise and testimony was abundantly manifest, and the liberality displayed gave assurance that all the means needed for the completion of the Salt Lake Temple will be forthcoming in due season.

The hand of the Lord in bringing about present joyful conditions was duly recognized, and His answers to the prayers of His people, offered up at the former day of general fasting and humiliation, were gratefully acknowledged. A delightful spirit was everywhere experienced, and young and old were united in expressing their pleasure at participating in its enjoyment.

There was no ostentatious display of large gifts by the wealthy, but their handsome offerings were made quietly, so as not to disconcert their poorer brethren and sisters, and, so far as we can learn, the donations were, as a rule, suitable to the circumstances of the donors, though many of the comparatively indigent manifested a generosity that is highly commendable considering their limited means.

The result of the day's services will, we are sure, prove to be very gratifying. The disposition to aid in finishing the House of the Lord was pleasant to behold, and will bring forth blessing and prosperity. But more than that, the humility, devotion, faith and union manifested, foretell a rich increase in spiritual influence and progress that will redound to the strength and prosperity of the Church, the growth of the Saints toward the standard of perfection, and the praise and glory of God.

## BEHIND THE TIMES.

A BOSTON paper has an alleged Salt Lake correspondent who signs his, her or its name "Mordantt." The letters of this writer are made up of anti-"Mormon" gossip—just such yarns as may be heard in the loafing-room of a third-rate hotel—and gleaned from the odds and ends with which a ephemerical local publication fills up vacant spaces and pieces out unfinished columns. It is surprising that, at this late date in the century, any journal with pretensions to progress would publish such miserable stuff as "special correspondence."

We do not propose to reply to any of the stories told by "Mordantt," or to the misrepresentations of "Mormon" belief which are made in the letter. They are too absurd for serious treatment. The paper in which they appear makes some comments, however, which we will reproduce. It says:

"People who possess a tender regard for the Mormons of Utah which they do not want dispelled should not read 'Mordantt's' Utah letter which appears in another column. One-half of it is sufficient to cause cold chills to chase one another up and down the back of the

most ardent eastern admirer of the sect. Taken in its entirety it is a regular course of anti-Mormon treatment with a six weeks' story in a convalescent hospital thrown in."

"People who possess a tender regard" for the truth, and who know anything of the "Mormon" people and their faith, would be likely to have "cold chills run up and down their back" at the falsehood and malice of "Mordantt," and the complicity in his turpitude of the Boston paper that publishes such an effusion. "Taken in its entirety it is a regular course of anti-Mormon treatment," which consists of one shred of fact in a large mass of fiction, compounded with bigotry, saturated in malice, steeped in concentrated bitterness and flavored with a faint touch of alleged humor.

The article is headed "Mormon Traitors," in allusion to a story in the letter, stolen from the local sheet referred to, about "Mormons" at the capstone ceremonies "wanting to get out of sight of the American flag." As the American flag was unfurled by the "Mormons" themselves at those ceremonies, and the platforms on which the Presidency, Apostles and Elders were seated were draped with the Stars and Stripes, the consistency of this plagiarism of "Mordantt" ought to be appreciated even by the sleepy paper that publishes it with "cold chills" comments.

That style of correspondence belongs to the ignorant past. Too many people have visited Utah and told what they have seen to permit such dead and gone gossip as "Mordantt" to gull the reading and thinking public. Boston papers should seek for facts on the "Mormon" question if they want to meet the present public demand. Stale anti-"Mormon" slanders are away behind the times.

## ESTRAY LAW DIFFICULTIES.

WE have received the following letter of inquiry from a justice of the peace in the south:

"Will you please answer the following questions in regard to the new estray law, in the next issue of the DESERET NEWS for the benefit of myself and others who are similarly situated.

"1. Is the constable obliged to receive animals from any one who takes them up for damages whether the animals will pay for expenses or not?

"2. What kind of a complaint shall the file before the justice of the peace? He cannot allege that they have damaged his property when others have turned them over to him.

"3. In cases where the marks and brands on the animals cannot be found in the brand sheets and as a consequence no one knows whom the animals belong to, how are the officers going to proceed? (the law is silent). Who shall be made defendant and how shall the summons be served, if by publication, who shall be summoned and what shall the summons contain and how long must it be published. Is there any general law providing for these things?

"4. In cases where animals are taken up and the owner is not known and cannot be found and the animals have to be kept a long time before they can be disposed of (while summons is being advertised), and the sum realized from the sale of them is not sufficient to pay the cost of the proceedings and the expense of feeding, where is