

of Mormon missionaries than it found in some of them. It evidently had heard so much in praise of these workers that it had been led to expect too much in this direction, and had not duly considered the fact that none of them have ever had any training that was primarily intended to make pulpit orators of them.

The Brooklyn Eagle has shown a very fair spirit towards Mormon missionaries for two or three years, which fact is doubtless due, in part at least, to the efforts of Elder Samuel W. Richards, who, while presiding over the Eastern States mission in 1895, had interviews with members of its staff and furnished a number of articles for its columns, relating to Mormonism. In its issue of the 5th inst. the Eagle gives what is probably a fairly accurate account of an interview with Elder A. J. Kessler, now presiding over that mission, in which is described the work done by Mormon missionaries in it during the year 1897. The conference was also spoken of by Elder Kessler, who is quoted as saying:

"It was not the purpose of this conference of ours to lead people away from their homes to a strange state, such as Utah would be to them. We want to strengthen the faith right here in the East, by making as many converts as we can, and then being able to rely on their aid to build up the religion, each in his own circle."

The change in the attitude of the press in relation to the Mormon people and their religion, which has taken place since the Temple in this city was dedicated, in April, 1893, a short five years, is certainly remarkable. While few papers actually advocate Mormonism, hundreds show a willingness to give its friends fair play. The Mormons, so long the victims of misrepresentation, can appreciate this change on the part of the press.

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT'S CRIME.

It is apparently the fault of no one except the perpetrator, but the fact that a man engaged in burglary should be able to slay the owner of the premises, on being detected in the crime, and then escape without the slightest scrap of evidence remaining behind him—save that of the murder itself, of course—is a most deplorable misfortune. It is such a misfortune as almost beclouds the bloody deed itself, because while the murderer is not known and his identity not even suspected, there will certainly be suspicion placed upon some few who may be entirely guiltless of the offense or any offense against the laws, and the fact that it is possible for such a thing to occur right in the heart of the city is a direct encouragement to the criminal classes who are and for some time past have been preying upon the people hereabout; add to this the shocking character of the tragedy and the present hopelessness in regard to making an example of the perpetrator, and we have the condition of things above set out—a great misfortune.

Perhaps this city is no worse off in regard to unknown but numerous outlaws of different degrees of desperateness and varying characteristics than many others, but it is a fact that we have our full share as the metropolitan world goes, and it may be considerably more. This place, for a good while, has been a rallying point for the roughs, toughs and vagabonds who have left or been expelled from other places in this region, all of whom will experience a feeling of more or less encouragement over Wednesday morning's horror, and as previously suggested, they will be emboldened and become even more oppressive and numerous than before.

All this time the question arises—

What can be done? If the latest murder were an isolated case, one whose very infrequency alone made it so appalling, it would be a vastly different matter. But it is not so. Scarcely a moon wanes during the year but its darkened shadows accompany a deed of like hue in the midst of a people bent upon preserving order and maintaining the law, and as in the case of other grave perils, something in the way of unusual measures should be adopted. If the substantial increase of the constabulary be the thing that is needful in the emergency, let us have it by all means. It is far better that the people pay more officers than that they become involuntary officers themselves.

#### UTAH AND HAWAII.

For two reasons the people of Utah feel a lively interest in the Hawaiian question, but these two reasons tend to create conflicting sympathies. 1. The beet sugar industry is developing rapidly in Utah and promises soon to become a source of great revenue to the farmers in different parts of the State, and the fear exists that the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States would result in injury to this great industry, through competition with the cheap native product, made from cane; hence a sentiment of opposition to making the islands a part of the Union. 2. Several thousand of the natives of the islands are of the same religious faith as are the majority of the people of Utah, hence a desire on the part of the latter to see extended over the little mid-ocean republic, the liberty and protection guaranteed by the American Constitution.

The friends of annexation insist that the beet sugar industry would not be at all injured by making the Hawaiian republic a part of this country. They make a very plausible showing to the effect that the sugar industry has been developed almost if not quite to its limit on the islands, that it can never compete with the beet sugar interests of this country more closely than it is doing now, and that the present relations of reciprocity between the American and Hawaiian republics, under which the sugar of the latter is admitted free of duty by the former, has precisely the same effect upon the price of sugar that annexation would. In other words, it is claimed that annexation would make no change whatever in the American sugar market.

It is insisted that the reasonableness of this claim is apparent. Hawaiian sugar is now being admitted into all American ports free of duty, and no more than this could be done were the islands a part of the Union. But the beet sugar interest of Utah need have little fear of competition from Hawaii until it is able to supply at least the home demand, for up to that point it is tolerably certain to be a safe and profitable investment. The cost of transportation is a great protection to it. An intelligent gentleman who is prominently identified with the beet sugar business in this State, and who was formerly pronounced in his opposition to annexation because he believed it would injure that business, has investigated the subject thoroughly with the result that he has completely reversed his position.

It is desirable to maintain reciprocity, because under it Hawaii furnishes a necessary market for American products; but such reciprocal relations as would be of most advantage to this country commercially almost amount to a protectorate, and may at any time have to be defended by force of arms, thus involving the United States in a war in which the islands would be the scene of action and their inhabitants and property destroyed. The

danger of war which exists under reciprocity would disappear with annexation, for no nation would molest the islands if they were a part of the American Union. Were this country to cancel its reciprocity treaty with them, and abandon all idea of annexing them, ten days would not elapse before England, Germany, Japan and Russia would all be making a rush for them, and the first army of occupation that could be landed would try to hold them against all comers. The islands would be deluged by blood, by internal conflict and by war, and their people and property would be destroyed.

Such is the almost unanimous opinion of members of the Senate committee on foreign affairs; and it has been given out on the most unquestionable authority that Japanese statesmen have admitted that if the United States had not become interested in the Hawaiian question last spring by the presentation to the Senate of the annexation treaty, Japan would have seized the islands. Japanese to the number of about 20,000 are now working there as coolies, but they are all trained soldiers, ready for their country's call.

There are many men in Utah who have lived among the Hawaiians and who love them for their simple honesty, kindness of heart and other virtues. Many of these citizens of Utah would be glad to see the native kingdom restored, and the islanders living under their own government. But all such hopes seem impossible of fruition. Foreigners are in control of the commerce and industries of the country, and the natives are in a comparatively helpless condition; and the love for them which any citizen of this State may feel should, under the circumstances, give rise to a desire to see them given a government which, next to their own, is most desirable for them, that of the United States.

When the people of Utah come to weigh carefully all the arguments relating to the annexation of Hawaii, the "News" is of opinion that they will favor the proposition. There are strong reasons for the fear that, unless Hawaii is annexed to this country, it will sooner or later be the scene of a war that can only result in the slaughter of thousands of its inhabitants, including many Latter-day Saints.

#### A REPORT ON ARMENIA.

The investigation in Asia Minor by the New York Herald commission, sent there for the purpose of ascertaining the cause of the massacres of Armenians, throw some light on a subject which hitherto has remained rather obscure. The Turks, as a rule, are not a ferocious race reveling in carnage without provocation. On the contrary, they are conservative, easy-going and even tolerant, as long as their supremacy is not called in question, or their religion not assailed. Why did the sultan let the barbarous Kurds loose upon the defenseless Christians as so many hungry wolves? The reply given at Constantinople was, that the Armenians were in revolt. But this explanation did not seem satisfactory. There are at most two millions and a half Armenians, nearly entirely without arms and without an opportunity of obtaining any; could they reasonably be supposed to be in revolt against sixteen million Turks, well equipped for war and supported by the armed powers of Europe?

These questions Dr. George H. Hepworth answers. He says the so-called Hundschaqists, a class of well educated Armenians with revolutionary tendencies, were at the bottom of the mischief. But they number only a few hundred, at most a thousand, throughout all Armenia, and they would not have dared to defy the Turkish govern-