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CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-first Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday, April 5, at 10 a, m.

> LORENZO SNOW, GEORGE Q. CANNON, JOSEPH F. SMITH, First Presidency.

MONTHLY FAST.

As the general conference of the Church will be in session on the first Sunday in April, the monthly fast which would otherwise be held on that day, will be observed on the last Sunday in March and the fast meetings be held on that day, March 31, 1901.

LORENZO SNOW. GEORGE Q. CANNON, JOSEPH F. SMITH, First Presidency.

WHERE IS THE RUIN?

A great deal has been said, lately, by newspapers, legislators, preachers and less prominent people, about the terrible results of the agitation over the election of Hon. B. H. Roberts to Congress, and his final rejection by the House of Representatives. To hear these folks talk, one who is not acquainted with the facts would imagine that fell disaster, if not irreparable ruin, had resulted from that episode in Utah affairs.

Is it true that because of it, "every financial Interest in the State suffered?" that "every industrial enterprise was retarded?" that "the 'Mormon' Church was injured?" that "the liberties of the people were endangered?" All that, and more too, is said to have been caused by the election to Congress of a man eminently qualified for the position, but whose marital relations were not orthodox, and who therefore became the target for the shafts of the truly good and eminently moral after the fashion of this pure and virtuous

But where is the financial firm that was wrecked, the industrial enterprise that was stopped, the individual whose freedom was placed in jeopardy, through the "mistake" made by the party that nominated the candidate, and the citizens who voted to sustain that nomination? We have not learned of any such disasters and do not believe they can be pointed out. They were predicted, it is true, and they are spoken of now as terrible effects of a shocking cause, but they exist only in the minds and mouths of excited peo-

As to the great injury done to the Church, of what does it consist? It advertised the Church nearly all over the world. It aroused public sentiment to fever heat against the Church, but that was neither new nor injurious. It caused a great deal of misrepresentation and abuse, but that had been endured periodically for half a century. It closed some doors against "Mordozen where one was shut. People were led to investigate the truth because of the falsehoods disseminated by the opponents of the Church. The almost universal testimony of the Elders in the field has been, that the furore opened their way admirably.

What harm came of the agitation? What good is there in inertia? Who is afraid of a noise? Who cares for the rumbling of stage thunder, or even of the crash of disturbed elements? They do not hurt or injure. He who dreads popular clamor and is prevented from doing right by threats of alarm, is a coward and a weakling. "Be not afraid of your enemies," was the voice of the Eternal God to the Latter-day Saints many years ago. It is the living word trumpet in the ears of every man and woman, when tumult rages and the enemy imagines a vain thing.

In these remarks we are not arguing pro or con on the question of the propriety or wisdom of the Roberts election. That is another matter, on which there may possibly be divided opinion. What we do say is, that the "Mormon" people ought not to be scared by the prognostications of their enemies, nor the timidity of their professed friends. They should hold to the right, as God gives them light to see it, and should close their ears to the clamors of their foes. They should also have sufficient discernment to perceive the sophistry of their confirmed maligners. and put no trust in the counsels of their pretended friends, whose lips burn with falsehood while they simulate commiseration, and whose faces bear the brand of hypocrisy while they make a smiling show of desire for "Mormon"

AT IT AGAIN.

welfare.

Readers of the Descret News will remember that some of the falsehoods circulated concerning Utah affairs, by Dr. G. E. Wishard, were exposed in this person a letter which he desired pub- door of commerce kept open to free

ished, that contained no direct denial of the facts nor explanation of his conduct, but merely some impudent insinuations and sneers, characteristic of the writer. The impression he attempted to create, however, was that he had not been correctly reported by the newspapers that published his remarks.

We now have before us the New York Mail and Express of March 8, which contains an editorial devoted to a review of an article by Mr. Wishard, that appeared in the "Herald and Presby-The Mail and Express says:

"He eltes as a significant fact that the leading officials of the State—the Governor, treasurer, secretary of state, auditor and superintendent of public instruction—are all Mormons. The entire machinery of administration is under Mormon control.

There is a great deal more to the same effect. The purpose of the writer is to make it appear, that "polygamy" is practiced in Utah under "this dominant administrative processes by Mormon influence," and that therefore "polygamy goes unpunished." This is all of a piece with the statements attributed to him by the papers that reported his | things. public speeches. He was alleged to have asserted that no one but a "Mormon" could be elected to a public office. The spirit of it all is misrepresentation, with the object of deceiving the public as to affairs in this State. It is virtually faise witness against his neighbors. It is often said that "half a truth is

a whole lie." In mentioning the religious status of a few public officials in Utals, the maligner omitted to state the facts, that the Supreme court judges are all non-"Mormons" and most of the district court judges are in the same category. He failed to tell how many legislators are also non-"Mormons." He said not a word about the "Gentile" Mayor and some members of the Salt Lake City Council. Certainly not. The half or fractional part of the truth served his purpose, better than 'the whole truth and nothing but the

This person Wishard and others of his cloth, are endeavoring to keep up the belief in the public mind that plural marriages are still entered into in this State, notwithstanding the provision in the State Constitution, and the stringent statute of the State, forbidding them and imposing severe penalties on violators of the law. In doing this he knows that he is fostering and advocating falsehood. He knows that he cannot establish a solitary case of polygamy, as defined in congressional and Utah legislation since this State en-

tered the Union. He says, according to the Mail and Express: "In Arizona and New Mexico polygamy is extensively practiced." Whatever he may desire to convey by that expression, he knows he is misrepresenting the facts. No case of 'polygamy" can be cited as occurring in either of those Territories, which are still under the national administration and the operations of the Federal laws, and cannot be said to be "under the dominant administrative processes of

Mormon influence." What this malignant individual says in Utah amounts to less than nothing. Nobody heeds seriously a word he He has enjoyed "Mormon" hospitality and received "Mormon" courtesies, for which he makes just such returns as persons of his calibre may be expected to bestow. In other parts of the country, where he is not known, his stories suited to the public taste, and coming from a "Reverend" source, may have some credence. We merely men tion him and his efforts that folks at home may understand what he is doing, in spite of his smug and smiling pretences of friendship and amity. We wouldn't harm a hair of his head, or stop a syllable from his pious lips; but we think he is the kind of being to "let severely alone."

CHINA APPEALS FOR AID.

China, it seems, has appealed to the United States for aid in her present troubles, but the nature of the appeal is not known

The situation is, briefly stated, this, that while the other powers have been busy figuring on adequate punishment for Chinese high officials, and a suitable indemnity in cash, Russia has quietly dispatched hundreds, perhaps thousands of Chinese citizens and helped mon" missionaries, but it opened a herself to an indemnity, in the shape of control over Manchuria, and China perceives that there is danger of the other powers following this precedent, which would mean a dismemberment of the empire. Hence her appeal to the United States and perhaps to other powers for interference in her behalf. No doubt, the concessions Russia has obtained, have been granted with the understanding that that country should protect China against the aggression of the other powers. But as this is not forthcoming, the Chinese government has found it necessary to look elsewhere for

help against the embraces of the bear. The appeal will avail but little, though. Neither the United States nor Great Britain are enough interested in the matter, to fight Russia. The Rustoday. It should sound like a vibrant sian armles are in Manchurla to stay. Turkey might as well appeal to the world for help against British occupation of Egypt. Diplomatic protests now are of no avail, and of an armed interference there can be no question. German papers report that Russian flags are seen everywhere in that province, and that Russian officials refer to it as Russian territory. The annexation has virtually taken place, while the negotiations for a concerted mode of action

have been pending. Of more consequence is, perhaps, the war spirit manifested in Japan at London dispatches say present. that the Japanese government has given orders for the concentration of the navy and the speedy completion of new war ships. Japan has long been preparing for a brush with Russia, and it is thought possible that the day is near, On the other hand, it is suggested that Japan is merely preparing herself for the grab of her share of Chinese territory, probably Corea, whenever the general breakup shall occur. And this view seems to be the most consistent with what is known

of the Chinese program. The people of this country have all along taken the view that Chinese inpaper, and that this brought from that fegrity should be preserved, and the

competition, but no one country is influential enough to stem the tide that seems to have set in from the west over Asia's eastern shores. Asiatic hordes once inundated Europe, leaving desolation in their path. History now seems reversed. European hordes are invading Asia, and the scenes that preceded what is known as the dark ages have, according to all accounts, been re-enacted, and the drama is not yet ended.

DON'T DO IT AGAIN.

Our attention has been directed by an esteemed correspondent in this city, to a comparatively small matter which may be attended by a great evil. We are informed that at some of our ward entertainments, which are usually arranged for most worthy purposes as well as for amusement and recreation, imitations have been given which, while perhaps very funny and productive of great merriment, are to be deprecated for two reasons; first, they tend to hurt the feelings of worthy people, and second, they trend upon sacred

The objectionable practice is the giving of imitations of the dialect, verbal errors and grotesque manners of aged persons of foreign birth, in bearing testimony at public meetings. The peculiar mistakes in language made by people of a foreign land when struggling with the difficulties of the English tongue, may be very humorous to some of their hearers, but when the speaker is endeavoring to testify to Gospel experiences, and give evidence of the mercles of Divine Providence, such blunders of speech ought to be sanctified by the spirit of the witness. and be sacred from public ridicule and mimicry.

The intention of thoughtless young men who indulge in these imitations may be all right, and when given in private might to some extent be harmless. But they ought not to be displayed in public, and we hope in future they will not be brought forward, to offend the sensitive and lessen the respect that ought to be paid to sincerity and devotion.

THE SLAVERY PROBLEM.

Is it the irony of fate that brings to light, these days, the startling slavery conditions discovered in some parts of the South, at the same time a certain class of newspapers exultantly tell the world in general, and Utah in particular, that that "relic of barbarism" was wiped out of existence over thirty years ago? It looks that way. Recent investigations in Anderson

county, South Carolina, proved that negroes under contract as laborers, were being herded with convicts, Guards were placed over them, ball and chain attached to their feet, and they were locked up over night and Sundays. Some had been beaten unmercifully. Negroes were caught and made to work in fetters. One negro was transferred for a cash consideration to a planter by a man who had arrested the poor wretch on a charge of stealing corn Apparently, there was no warrant in this case. Still another instance, even supposed to be an escaped convict, was held in a camp until he signed a contract, when he was put to work under the shotgun of a guard. The grand jury found that "free laborers" had been fired on and repeatedly whipped. Such facts have been brought to light during the last few weeks in one locality, and the presumption is that the condition is much more general than commonly suspected. And yet there is no effort at branding the people of the entire South, or any single State in that section, as lawbreakers. Legislation for the virtual disfranchisement of one race has been severely criticized and individual acts have been condemned by the interpreters of public opinion, but on the whole the country has shown a disposition to give the Southern States considerable latitude in the arrangement of their internal affairs and the final disposition of a problem, the difficulties of which are admitted, and which time alone can

That is the correct way of handling such questions. Agitators who, either for political or selfish reasons, continue their nefarious work of stirring up strife are those who prevent the solu-. tion of all problems in which the public are interested. The water that is left alone will gradually become clear, but continued agitation keeps it muddy, As for the South Carolina slavery case, the State authorities are commended for the fearlessness with which they have declared their competency to deal with the matter and the sentiment seems general that Federal interference in unnecessary.

There are more tempests in the Utah teapot than in any other teapot in the

"Do just what your enemies want" would be a very wise course for an

army, wouldn't it? Any city or town desiring a public library should forward its application to Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

Is it to be understood that to knuckle down when your foe raises a club, is the perpetual policy of freemen?

A Chicago contemporary says that smallpox is quite modern. It is not only quite modern; it is right up-to-

Gunner Morgan, notwithstanding much provocation, continues to remain silent. Morgan has some of the elements of greatness in him. There is friction between the powers

at Pekin. Let there be but enough of it and soon it will burst out in flame. And then there would, in a sense, be a light of Asia. Isn't it funny to see preachers who are working like beavers to procure a

gamy, pretending they are afraid it will The London Evening Standard thinks It a good time to attack Monroeism. So it is, just as good as any other. But what would be the use? The Monroe

constitutional amendment against poly-

doctrine is invulnerable. If it takes two years to get a treaty canal rejected by the Senate and the British government, how many years will it take to build the canal?

State Senator Evans has achieved fame and is also having it thrust upon him. There is nothing like fame to keep a man up. The Senator is Abel to stand any amount of it.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is guarding his budget secret like a Spartan youth holding a fox while it gnaws away his vitals. The fox killed the Spartan youth. Will the secret kill Sir Michael?

A Manchester, N. H., firm has just placed an order with the Oklahoma and Kansas Produce Dealers' association for 28,800,000 eggs. Small wonder that Oklahoma and Kar s are crowing over such an order.

Col. Roosevelt is said to be as much at home in the vice presidential chair presiding over the Senate as in the heart of the Rockles hunting mountain lions. All of which goes to show that he is cosmopolitan.

A few years ago a gentleman of this city petitioned the city council for permission to hunt mountain lions within the city limits, and much fun was made of it by the eastern press. But a few days ago and a wolf was slain in Boston. So Salt Lake and Boston are even

Thirty years ago Bulwer Lytton wrote "The Coming Race" in which the position of men and women were reversed. The coming race seems to have arrived. In a recent lecture Prof. John Dewey of the University of Chicago said that girls make good carpenters and that boys make good cooks. Now bring on the automatons.

In the death of President W. F. Rigby, the community where he resided has lost a faithful friend and adviser, an enterprising citizen and a practical promotor of the public good. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has lost a devoted servant of God, whose whole soul was centered on its interests and triumph. We bid him farewell with profound regret.

"Whatever the particular reason was, it is a fact that, on Dec. 19, 1898, the examining committee [of the public library] in its report included among the list of books headed 'rejected.' Edward Noyes Wescott's book 'David Harum," says the Boston Herald. Yet there have been sold over five hundred thousand copies of this same David Harum. Another case of the stone that was rejected.

Jacksonville, Ills., is to have a new paper, to be called the "Lunatic Herald." The projecter, Gen. A. B. Lapeer, speaking of his enterprise, says: "I laim I have the best record as a firstclass lunatic in the State, so I know what I am talking about when I say there is a need for a paper for lunatics to be run by a reformed lunatic. I claim it is no disgrace to be a lunatic, for it takes a smart man to become one.' The general might save himself much trouble by declaring some paper already established the lunatics' official organ. There is an official organ published not a thousand miles from this office that would serve the general's purpose excellently well.

LEGISLATURE OF HAWAII,

San Francisco Chronicle. The first territorial legislature of Hawaii is something unique. The ma-jority of its members are native Haw-Many of them can speak the Hawailan language only. The debates are carried on both in English and the native tongue, and as the territorial act provides that the legislative proceedings shall be conducted in the former, ill speeches delivered in Hawaiian must e interpreted. The curious spectacle is thus presented in these debates of a native statesman addressing the house of which he is a member in his mother tongue and an official interpreter ren-dering his speech into English, all of which creates confusion and causes de

Chicago Record.

What shall be the official language of the legislature is the most conspicuous point at issue. The territorial act provides that all proceedings shall be con-ducted in the English language, but obstacles to the carrying out of this provision appeared from the start. The wo houses of the legislature contain numbers who are white, half white and half Hawalian, half Hawalian and half Chinese, and full native Hawalian. For many of these members the Hawalian language is the only tongue in which they can express themselves. Even the speaker of the lower house, of mixed Hawaiian and Chinese blood, has but slight command of English. The result of this condition is that all the debates and other proceedings have to be translated back and forth between the two languages, and the interpreters are kept

RUSSIA IN ASIA.

St. Paul Globe.

Anyone who looks at the map of Asia vill readily see how difficult it will be o prevent the growing importance of lussia in Manchurla, as the years go by. The Russian is an advancing peo-ple, the Chinese a decadent one. As American influence made itself all pow-erful finally in Texas before her admission to the Union, so Manchuria must sooner or later be thoroughly impregnated by Russian ways and Russian influences. It is really a Russian outpost. The Slav has left Siberia far in the rear n the process of natural territorial extension. What was two decades ago a national sewer for political disquiet, has since become a far eastern rallying point for Slav influence.

San Francisco Chronicle.

It seems settled that for the present Manchurla is to be administered by Chinese, virtually under Russian con-trol, with the approval of the powers. What "compensation," if any, the other powers will demand as an offset to this Russian advantage cannot be judged until we know the extent of their claims for indemnity and the nature of the measures which they will take to insure its prompt payment by China.

W. M. EVARTS.

Boston Transcript,

Mr. Evarts was one of the few re maining links between the old and the new schools of politicians, if he may be assed among them. I politician, if at all, est sense. He never his ambitions to get in the way of those general powers which he made so ser-viceable to his generation. They were subordinate and incidental. There was dways ground of which he was sure, to stand upon. He knew there was always room at the top, and it was there that he took his place. Though not demon-strative, especially in the lighter vein. there was a strong undercurrent of hu-mor and appreciation of humor in his nature which frequently flashed out the more brilliantly because unexpected. fixing the status of the Nicaraguan His life work was ended some time ago,

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New York Tribune.

Mr. Evarts' instincts and activities Mr. Evarts' instincts and activities were invariably on the side of good government, and he never lost his influence by losing his mental and moral balance. No irrational propaganda obtained his support, and least of all a prejudice masquerading as a principle. He moved through life serenely, gathering from year to year the rawards ering from year to year the rewards of high ambition. He was not solicitous to press a personal claim to preferment in the slightest degree when honors which might have been appropriately bestowed en him were assigned to others. His title to a secure place among the distinguished citizens and servants of his country is indis-

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