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SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 6, 1906.

THE SCHOOL ELECTION.

The result of the school election in this city on Wednesday was a triumph for true American principles, and a notice to conspirators that the citizens who own the schools and pay for their maintenance are not prepared to turn them over to men who propose to use them for partisan purposes and the continuation of strife. There was only one issue. The question was whether the schools were to be kept out of the seething maelstrom of anti-Mormonism, or not, and the citizens decided that they must not be jeopardized.

Special notice should be taken of the fact that for months the conspirators have told the public that the schools are degenerating, that priestly control hangs over them as a black pall, and that it was necessary to rescue them from the clutches of so-called "hierarchs." The falsely so-called American ticket was put in the field, it was said, for the salvation of the schools that were threatened with ruin. The citizens have by their vote for members of the board of education stamped all these allegations as falsehoods. The voters, who know that there are no "hierarchs" here, and that no priestly control over the public schools has ever been attempted; that the management of educational affairs has been satisfactory in every respect, say by their vote that they are not to be imposed upon by such miserable appeals to human passions, but that they can think and act for themselves. "You cannot fool all the people all the time."

The schools of this city are the pride of the citizenry. Progress is always possible, and there will be progress. If the will of the people is considered, there will be no religious test for the position of teachers, or janitors, or any other employees. There will be no discrimination between applicants for positions, on account of political affiliations, unless views dangerous to true American principles are held, against which the plastic minds of the children must be protected. There will be no graft in connection with the expenditure of money, if the will of the people is considered. For the vote means that the people want the best obtainable schools, conducted in the interest of education and not for the benefit of ambitious politicians.

The allegation that the result of the vote was due to "Mormon" activity and non-Mormon apathy, is on a par with the misstatements that so frequently emanate from the same source. The fact is that "Mormons" and non-Mormons united in voting for non-partisan schools and honest management. The so-called Americans did all in their power to win. That credit is due them. But they could not win on their platform, because the majority of the citizens, without regard to creed, are against their un-American principles and methods.

AS TO MOTIVES.

"The organ of the Mormon Church is constantly disparaging the motives which actuate the men and women of Utah who demand the enforcement of the law, the keeping of the pledge made to the nation, and the due observance of the plain letter and spirit of the constitution of this commonwealth."

This complaint is from the chief anti-Mormon organ.

We have shown by irrefutable testimony that the pledge-breakers are those, and only those, who have sought to inspire persecution against the Latter-day Saints because some of them still maintain their families, as it was understood might be done without harm to anybody, as long as new unlawful marriage contracts were not entered into with the sanction of the Church. We have proved that it is the leaders of the present crusade and, not the "Mormons" who are guilty of perfidy. We will not recur to that question at present. But the imputation that we are disparaging the motives of anti-Mormons may call for a few remarks.

And first let us say, that there are many good men and women in the world who join the anti-Mormon crusades, because they honestly believe that by so doing they perform a great service to their fellowmen. Their motives are as pure as were those of the poor old soul who came dragging with a bundle of faggots to add to the pile on which Huss met death in the flames. Then there are others who have about the same motive that actuated the ancient Athenians in his vote against Aristides.

The anecdote is familiar. The Athenians had the right of ostracizing any citizen. On a certain day each citizen deposited in a designated place a potsherd or oyster shell on which was written the name of some person he wished banished. If as many as 6,000 such votes were cast against any man, he was required to leave Athens. It is related of Aristides "the Just," that at the time the popular decree of banishment was thus pronounced against him, an illiterate Athenian approached him in the market place, requesting that he write upon a piece of broken pottery the name "Aristides." The great man did so, and when he asked what Aristides had ever done to deserve banishment, the answer was: "Nothing. But I am tired of hearing him called 'Aristides the Just.'"

Some, we say, have no more reason for their antagonism to the Church than this illiterate Athenian had for his hostility to Aristides. They are simply tired of hearing anybody called Latter-

day Saints, and so they want them ostracized. We have never pronounced judgment upon the motives of any of these excellent men and women. We may feel sorry for their ignorance upon the subject of "Mormonism," but we recognize the right of "holy simplicity" to that sublime patience and forbearance that were shown by an Aristides and a Huss. But, are the instigators of the crusade entitled to the same consideration? Are we not justified in questioning the purity of their motives? Are we not compelled almost to brand them as pretenders and hypocrites, when they pose as champions of virtue, and patriots? Who are they? In what spring of purity have their robes been made white, that they can take a place on the judgment seat?

But, not to engage in personalities, let us ask: Why did not the crusade commence until the Church Authorities had refused to lend their influence to the furtherance of certain political aspirations? What has happened since then to justify such an outburst of hatred? Absolutely nothing. That fact proves what the low, selfish, despicable motives of the instigators of the crusade is, and they cannot get away from it. If the Church Authorities had yielded to the temptation and given them the ecclesiastical influence they demanded, there would have been no crusade at this time. But they did their duty as American citizens believing in the separate functions of church and state, and are persecuted for it. What further testimony is needed as to motives?

Then, if it is true that the persecutors are concerned about the law, why have they not proved this in the vindication of the laws and statutes relating to the regulation of various kinds of soul-destroying business that flourish almost without restraint? Why are saloons and amusement halls permitted to keep open in this city in violation of law? Why is vice of the unmentionable kind permitted to spread over business districts? How can persons responsible for such conditions dare to claim that their only desire is to make people obey the law? Do they not condemn themselves, by their silence in the face of the most flagrant law-breaking?

The real motives of the leaders of the anti-Mormon crusade was shown in an incident that is still in fresh memory. A married man took a young girl to a near by city to become a mother, and there the man passed himself off as a returned "Mormon" missionary. Someone informed the anti-Mormon sheet that a child had been born of a "Mormon" polygamous marriage. The letter was sent to a Presbyterian preacher, who took it to the sheriff and ordered him to arrest the "missionary" and his plural wife. The sheriff would not arrest them till he had sufficient evidence against them. The anti-Mormons then became busy, and finally they discovered, to their chagrin, that the culprit in this case was a Presbyterian, and a good anti-Mormon. The case was not telegraphed all over the country as an evidence that Presbyterians in Utah practice polygamy. In fact, it was dropped, except for a small fine that was imposed.

In view of such facts, are we not justified in "disparaging" the motives of the instigators and leaders of the anti-Mormon hosts? Their war is one for revenge. They are actuated by hatred. They have no other weapons than falsehood. In their virtuous attitudes they are only posing. All this they themselves have proved. Were they not actuated by the lowest of motives, there would be no strife in Utah. But they want strife. They do not want peace and harmony. But some time the "men and women of Utah" whom they have deceived, will have their eyes opened and leave them, and then there will be peace. There is no quarrel between the Latter-day Saints and other good citizens. The strife is all due to disappointed political ambition.

JAPANESE WAR TALK.

President Roosevelt, in his message to Congress, pays attention at some length to the Japanese question. That this is of more than ordinary importance may be judged from the fact that Consul General Miller of Yokohama is quoted as having predicted a war between this country and Japan.

The Japanese sentiment is reflected, possibly, in the following utterances which we find quoted in the current number of the Literary Digest. The Jiji, the spokesman of an influential class, says, in part:

"The ungracious utterances of newspapers and the malignant movement on the Pacific coast of America have been extremely disagreeable to us, yet considering our indebtedness to the American government, which extended to us its helping hand to guide us out of medievalism, we have refrained from uttering harsh words. But we can no longer keep silence, when our children are excluded from the public schools in an American municipality."

A contributor to an influential Tokyo paper is even more violent in his criticism. He remarks:

"There are many of our countrymen in San Francisco who have been assaulted and even maimed by the whites. Yet these unfortunate compatriots of ours have not been looked after by our consuls there, who are quite indifferent to such occurrences. I hope our authorities will wake up and be a little active. It is not always our business to crawl in so cowardly a manner. Fifty thousand souls are now sending out a fleet of warships to protect."

Still, it may be just as well to remember that Japan has a powerful navy within a short distance of the Philippines, and that their ships could reach Honolulu much sooner than the United States could send a defending force around Cape Horn to any threatened point in the Pacific. It should also be remembered that Japan is in the habit of attacking first and declaring war afterwards. It would be just as well to prepare for possibilities, no matter how remote. When we have a strong naval force in the Pacific, Japanese newspaper writers will probably feel less belligerent, and the chances of preserving the traditional friendship between the two countries will be more favorable.

Japan has an elaborate naval pro-

gram. Her newest ship, built by Japanese workmen in a Japanese ship yard, is a bigger ship than the British Dreadnought, recently launched. It may be necessary for the United States to take cognizance of Japan's shipbuilding and formulate its naval program accordingly.

With the opening of Lake Carnegie Princeton will be strictly in the swim.

California is willing to let the Japanese live and learn, but not in her public schools.

It must have been a good message and in correct form for the English papers have endorsed it.

Caruso doesn't seem to be able to save enough out of his salary to pay his fine; at least he hasn't paid it.

England is going to build a greater battleship than the Dreadnought, and the end is not yet. The more's the pity.

A Salt Lake man has just patented a fifth wheel. It will be odd if he doesn't patent a sixth wheel to even things up.

There is this to be said in favor of the spelling reforms—they have an object in life, a thing too many are without.

The office of British ambassador to the United States is hunting for a suitable man and up to date has not been very successful in finding him.

The London Standard says the American people have outgrown the Constitution. They have not and will not so long as they love liberty and constitutional government.

Interstate Commerce Commissioner Clark's investigation in Denver has developed one fact beyond dispute. It is that the Colorado Fuel and Iron company is a combination of the rich and the Welborn.

A noted German scholar claims that neither Shakespeare nor Bacon wrote the Shakespeare plays, but a son-in-law of Sir Philip Sidney. He probably wrote the same exercises illustrative of his father-in-law's "Defense of Poesie."

"The tide is now setting overwhelmingly toward the election of Lindley, as the shrewdest political observers of all personal preferences are free to state," says the Los Angeles Times. And he was upset and overwhelmed by the tide.

If there is a surplus of the San Francisco relief fund it is a good thing, for with the winter and rainy season coming on there will almost inevitably be much suffering among those who will have to continue camping in tents. The more funds there are to aid them, the better for humanity's sake.

The President says that we have as much to learn from the Japanese as they have from us. The very idea! All Americans will admit that the Japanese can learn from us, but where is the Simon-pure American, the President excepted, who will admit that Americans can learn from the Japanese? Perhaps we can if we will. Certainly it is worth a trial.

In Mack Twain's Autobiography Suez Twain's Autobiography where Suez says of her father: "He doesn't like to go to church at all, why I never understood, until just now, he told us the other day that he couldn't bear to hear anyone talk but himself, but that he could listen to himself talk for hours without getting tired, of course he said this in joke, but I've no doubt it was founded on truth."

Representative Slayden of Texas, Kan., has introduced a bill which provides that "on or before the 30th day of June, 1907, all enlisted men of the army who were negroes or of negro descent shall be discharged from the service of the United States and thereafter no negro or person of negro descent shall be enlisted or appointed in the army of the United States." No such measure could pass Congress, and shouldn't it if it could. A soldier's life is an uplifting for the negro, teaching him discipline and cheerful performance of duty, the very things in which the great mass of the negroes are lacking. If anything along this line is to be done it should rather be to enlist more negroes.

BISMARCK'S MYSTIC NUMBER.

London Chronicle. Bismarck, writes a correspondent in reference to our paragraph on superstitious held, with Pythagoras, that not thirteen but three was the great and perfect number. Bismarck's associations with three, were remarkable. He had served three masters. He had three names: Bismarck, Schomhausen and Lauenburg. The arms of his family are a clover leaf and three oak leaves. He was concerned in three wars and signed three treaties of peace. In the Franco-Prussian war he had three horses killed under him. He brought about the meeting of three emperors, and was responsible for the triple alliance. He had three children: his family motto was in Trinitate Robur (strength in trinity); and contemporary caricature pictured him with three heads on his head. There was the beginning, the middle and the end of Bismarck.

HIS ASHES UNDER A SUN-DIAL.

London Saturday Review. Mr. George Herring's remarkable career as turf commission agent, financier and philanthropist closes equally remarkably with the charities left by his will and the instructions as to the cremation and burial of his ashes, which are to be under a sun-dial at the "Haven," a charitable institution he established for aged people.

THE EARTH'S INTERIOR IRON.

London Telegraph. Frequent earthquakes of late have enormously increased scientific curiosity about the earth's interior. On this subject Sir Oliver Lodge observes in nature that "it has long been suspected that the earth is an iron planet, and now, through the work of Strutt and others, the evidence both for and against is intensifying. It is just worth noting, as a matter of simple arithmetic, that a core of metallic iron of density 7, covered with a crust of rock 350 miles thick, the density 5.5, together make up average terrestrial density 5.6, but recent evidence points to a crust much thinner than the above. It is to be hoped that the 'boring' proposals of the Hon. Charles Parsons will before long attract the attention they deserve."

JUST FOR FUN.

From Mr. Spurgeon's Notebook.

Mr. Spurgeon was a keen collector of mixed metaphors, finding a rich field in the correspondence that daily overwhelmed him. Two or three are given in the Cornhill. A lady closing a small contribution for his school wrote: "I hope this widow's mite may take root and spread its branches until it becomes a Hercules in your hands." The pulpit prayers of ambitious probationers added something to the great preacher's store. One prayed that "God's rod and staff may be ours while tossed on the sea of life, so that we may fight the good fight of faith, and in the end soar to rest." "We thank Thee for this spark of grace; water it, Lord," was the sententious, almost imperious, entreaty of another promising young man. Still another prayed: "Gird up the loins of our minds, that we may receive the latter rain." "As if we were barrels whose hoops were loose," was Mr. Spurgeon's laughing comment.—St. James Gazette.

Physician's Wife—I need a new evening dress.

Physician—All right, my dear, I'll look over my list and find some fellow who can afford an operation for appendicitis.—New York Press.

Boy (after watching old sportsman miss a couple of rockers)—Have you shot often, uncle?

Uncle—Yes, my boy, a great deal. At one time, in Africa, I used to live by my gun.

Boy (thoughtfully)—Did you? And is that why you're so thin?—Punch.

Lawyer (trying to get at the facts)—I am not interested in the length of time it took you to make the purchase. I want to know what the consideration was.

Witness—That's what I'm trying to tell you. There wasn't no consideration at all. Not a bit. I made him the offer on the spur of the moment.—Chicago Tribune.

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