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#### WILD ACTION BY WILD MEN.

According to the dispatches, the Presbyterian general assembly, at Des Moines, Iowa, adopted some resolutions offered by S. E. Wishard, D. D., of Utah, which appeared in the Deseret News of Friday evening. They are to be presented to the United States Senate in the form of a petition for the removal of Reed Smoot as Senator from Utah. It appears that the asdemonstration" accompanied the action of the body, composed of professed Christian ministers.

It is not surprising that the religfous functionaries who went into convulsions at Des Moines became so wildly excited over their desire to interfere with matters of civil government, for it is not the first time that they have dabbled in affairs of state, while loudly declaiming against the "Mormons," on the ground that they were doing the same thing. Nor is it remarkable that S. E. Wishard, of mendacious fame, appeared as the author of the falsehood embodied in the decument accepted "without a dissentient voice or vote," which is to be sent to the President and Senate of the United States.

There is not one statement in the entire set of pretended facts that is not a wilful falsehood, known to be such by S. E. Wishard, if not to all his as- "Mormon" eranks and persistent presociates. They place themselves on record as bearing false witness against a Church and a people who do not agree with them in their religious the. ories and fantasies. The first preamble states that:

"Whereas, the Mormon hierarchy claims the right and authority to make constitutions, presidents and kings, also asserts that there is no lawful or authorized government but the government of the Mormon Priesthood."

The authorized declarations of the authoritties of the Church are in direct opposition to the foregoing. There is nothing in the written standar is of civil authority. S. E. Wishard knows this just as well as we do. Yet he persists in his career of malignant falsehood, and induces others to join him in their endorsement. The next preamble is like the first. It says:

"Whereas its teachers, claiming inspiration, declare that the govern-ment of the United States and all other governments must be uprooted."

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, commonly called the "Mormon" Church, declares that the government of the United States is founded upon a constitution inspired of God for the protection of all its people in the exercise of civil and religious liberty. The teachers of the Church believe and testify that it is the duty and privilege of the Saints to bear off that constitution intact, when it is assailed by treasonable hands and to save it from the foes of freedom when the time of danger to it comes. S. E. Wishard knows that also to be true. The spirit of it imbues the souls of the members of this Church, and it has been exhibited in their readiness. to respond to the country's call whenever made, and their desire to become fully identified with this nation as citizens, enjoying rights and privileges and bearing duties and responsibilities In common with their fellow men,

The petition asking for the removal of Senator Smoot is based on the falsehoods contained in the preambles. Every Senator who has read the evidence before the committee of investigation Into the case of Senator Smoot, will be able to see the rank falsehood of the declaration; of the Presbyterian general assembly. That body has placed itself in an infamous light before the world, in attacking a religious body whose tenets the Presbyterlan prelates are unable to controvert. The animus displayed is palpable to every wellinformed observer, and indicates the presence of the old diabolism which fed the flames and inspired the tortures inflicted upon alleged heretics in the dark

S. E. Wishard, D.D., and persons of his ilk, will quote isolated and garbled extracts in support of his misrepresentations from the writings of "Mormon" authors, which, taken apart from the body of their arguments, might be construct so as to bolster up his monstrous assertions and deductions. If we were to adopt the same tactics in reference to the writings of old-time Presbyterian preachers on hell fire for non-elect infants, the everlasting agohies of the damned, the implacable vengeance and wrath of the Presbyterian god, and the frantic and violent doctrines and sentiments which could he called from the works of leading lights in that religious body, we could throw into the shade all the pickedout expressions and isolated sentences with which 8, E. Wishard regales his audiences, when he foams and fulminutes his distortions of "Mermon"

doctrine. But that does not matter. The Presbyterian general assembly has no right to dabble in the political affairs of the State of Utah. Much less has it the right to interfere with the a United States Senator before the committee sitting on his case has made fairness toward a citizen under investigation. The falsehood of its assertions is balanced by the impudence of its effort to influence a purely political body, and its action should be viewed by rational people with equal deriston and contempt.

#### TIME THEY SHOULD GO.

of the daily press that anyone, however unsophisticated, who has ordinary refugee who was recently offim- the public. flammed" out of \$362 and who complained because the police did not get his money back for him. By his own admission he entered into a scheme to cheat a supposed fellow-sufferer from the San Francisco calamity, but who present accusing American missionturned out to be a co-conspirator in the laries of causing the insurrection in bunco business and aided in fleecing the refugee,

"victims" to the arts of professional swindlers. They are simply beat at their own game. While expecting to make gain out of the supposed "innosembly went wild over this movement | cent" their eyes are blinded by cupidity | government as well, and "scenes of greatest excitement and | and they fall into the trap which they helped to lay for another. They deserve all they get, or lose, and for very shame should be 10th to appeal to the police for help. Notwithstanding this, however, it is the business and duty of the police to capture. if possible, those bunco plotters who prey upon strangers and ply their nefarious trade with apparent impunity. A little more diligence on the part of the officers and a desire to break up the business would, in our opinion, result in the capture and punishment of the culprits and rid this city of their presence and peculations. The chief would gain laurels by instituting a persistent and determined crusade against the bunco steerers and "flim-flammers." It is time that they were rooted out.

### A MOULDY CHESNUT.

Every now and again one of the antivaricators repeats the falsehood, often refuted, that the "Mormon" Church entered into a compact with the United States government so that Statehood might be secured on certain conditions, One of these, it is alleged, was that "No more political control should ever again be exercised over the rank and file of the Church."

The idlocy of the notion that any kind of a "compact" would or could be made by the United States government with a church, ought to be perceived by the crankiest of those anti-"Mormon" lunatics. But they keep the Church that justifies the Presby- right on with their vain repetiterian assertion. Every revelation to tions, no matter how silly they appear the Church and adopted as such by in the eyes of thinking people. There that body, proclaims the doctrine of is not a word of truth in the story that obedience to "the powers that be" and | the President of the "Mormon" Church submission to kings, presidents, rulers | at any time stated that "political conand magistrates and all persons in trol" should "no more" or "never its members, or anything to that effect. Nothing can be found on record which can be viewed as an admission from a "Mormon" President that such control had ever been exercised over "the rank and file" or by whatever designation may be used concerning the "Mormon" people.

A representative of the Sait Lake Times once waited upon the President of the "Mormon Church" at a time when political affairs were under discussion in this city, and replies were made to a number of questions. One of them was as to the desire and intention of the leaders of the Church to direct, control or dominate the politics of Church members. He was assured that they had no such disposition or purpose, but that the members of the Church would be as they had ever been, perfectly free in the exercise of their political rights and privileges. That is the position that has been taken always, both before and since that

It is possible that the fulminator of the nonsense we here pay brief attention to may, through long usage, have come to believe the truth of his own fabrication. Be that as it may, it is entirely and stupidly false, and in uttering it he simply proclaims his own arrant folly and perversity. The decayed "chestnut" ought to be burned

### A NOTABLE CASE.

The case of Senator Burton of Kansas, which the Committee on Privileges and Elections is to consider with a view to making a report on the status of the Senator, is notable. The conviction is said to be the first under the statute under which it was secured. By the decision of the highest court in the land, the Kansas Senator has been declared guilty of acting as paid attorney for a business concern that was thought to be violating the rules of the postoffice department.

According to the evidence, he accept-

ed a position as general counsel of a St. Louis corporation, whose operations were under the scrutiny of the postal authorities. As counsel he exerted his influence to prevent the issuance of a fraud order against the company. In April, 1904, he was sentenced to imprisonment and a heavy fine. An appeal was taken and the decision reversed on the ground that the money received was not paid in St. Louis and hence the offense was without the jurisdiction of the district court. On April 13, 1905, the Federal grand jury reindicted him on five counts. The first three specified that Senator Burton made an agreement to accept \$2,500 to look after the interests of the company. Count No. 4 charged that he received \$2,500 as a fee, and No. 5 that he received an additional fee of \$500. A motion was made by the defence to quash the indictments but the court on Nov. 23 overruled the motion and the Senator was forced to defend himself. On Nov. 25, Burton was found guilty on all the counts against hlm. Attorneys for the defence then composition of the United States f n. | again appealed to the Supreme Court, ate. Its attempt to page judgment ton which has just decided against them.

Senator was considered a transgressor a report, is not only un-Christian but | of the law which prohibits a member un-American, and contrary to common of the legislative department of the government using his ability or influence in actions against the government. He should have refused to act for the concern referred to and sent its agent to a lawyer not a member of Congress. Failure to observe the law brought trouble upon him. But is he, then, the only one who has sinned in this manner? The practice of securing the aid of members of the national Legisla-The oft-repeated bunco trick seems to ture for all kinds of schemes is said be still frequently played upon tourists to be quite general. Since it is wrong in with success. It is strange to readers one instance it is wrong in all and should be stamped out entirely. And state legislatures need looking after, sense, can be victimized in the manner as well as Congress. It is claimed that adopted by certain crooks in this and the senatorship in one state is worth other cities which has been so often ex- to those who know how, all the way posed. It will be found on inquiry, from \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year. The however, that in most instances the vie- common eftizen may not be aware of tim was himself a party to a plan to haw it is done, but he does know that victimize somebody else. This was the 17 legislators are for sale, their work case with the alleged Sun Francisco will not be for the best interests of

#### THE TROUBLE IN NATAL.

Some of the English papers are at Natal. The Americans, it is said, ica h the natives to be independent and t We have no sympathy with such govern themselves, and to this American principle it is due, they say, that the Africans have risen in revolt. From independence in church affairs they have learned to yearn for political self-

The defenders of the American practice point out the injustice of the policy according to which a native must never be taught that he can have authority to manage his own thurch, but must be made to understand that a white man is always over him, and that he can have no religious authority save as it is delegated to him by a white man. It needs no argument to prove that this policy of keeping the natives in abject subjection is wrong. If the proclamation of the rights of man causes insurrection, let it come,

The remote origin of the trouble may possibly be found in ecclesiastical conditions, but the immediate cause is said to be the levying of taxes. The government, it is said, has passed a poll tax of il upon all native males of full age. Their theory is that these natives, as long as they are represented in the government should pay a poll tax. This the natives have resented and the recent riots and the slaying of certain police officers have been the result of an attempt to enforce this tax. This is the more probable account of the revolt,

#### NOTHING NEW.

In these days of agitation for "equal rights' of women, it may be of interest to recall the fact that that question, so far from being new, is as old as his-

According to translations made of cunciform tablets relating to life in ancient Babylon, women were in every respect the social and political equals of men, whether they were married or unmarried. They could enter into partnership, buy or sell, lend or borrow, stand security, appear in court, just as the men could. Children were educated together. The only legal recognition of distinction in sex, we are told, was in the infliction of a heavier penalty upon a wife than upon a husband for the violation of marriage covenants. But she did not complain of this law, the scientists say. "She acquiesced in what may be called her psychological position without demur and without The further back we go and the deep-

er we delve into the annals of history, the clearer it becomes that the idea that man started as a monkey and gradually climbed up to his present height of civilization, must be modified Civilizations have come and gone and again appeared, as far back as human knowledge can find its way. Questions that agitate the world today have been debated and answered, and forgotten, who knows how many times? It is known that the ancient Babylonians had trials by jury, compulsory education, postal service, companies formed for business purposes, and, for aught we know, they may have had trusts to grapple with. "There is nothing new under the sun." A better understanding of antiquity is very much needed. The old civilizations were not crowded out because of lack of education, or as a result of intellectual stagnation. The causes of Weakness were entirely moral, and that is the great lesson which antiquity offers to our age.

# GARDENS ON SHIPS.

The latest luxury added to ocean travel is a tropical palm garden. A New York paper says the Kalser in Augusta Victoria has a unique feature in the form of an enclosure decorated with palms and ferns, and redolent with the scent of flowers. In this paradisic apartment there are seats for a hundred passengers, who may look out upon the wide, blue ocean, while seated in a tropical forest. Overhead is a rounded glass cupola, resting on carved pillars. Flower-covered trellises adorn the walls and the skylight is likewise covered with the same decoration. Our contemporary further describes

the marvels of this floating garden: "On entering this garden are to be seen in opposite corners two grottoes, modeled after those at Versailles, Swans held by children are spouting water into marble shells. Inviting and comfortable wicker chairs and sofas are all about the room. Silk pillows are placed here and there. In the after-noon coffee and tea are served in this The carpets are made o' Persian ial. Flowers fill the baskets and the trellised cases are distribut about the room. The background green palms portrays a garden landscape with castles and fountains. At night a brilliant and attractive illumination is obtained by side lights and from the large chandelier in the center of the room. In the grottoes the slowof these lights.

Babylonian historians have boasted of the "hanging gardens" of that once great and mighty city, but what were they compared to such a "floating garden" propelled across the expanse that separates continents? And what a marvelous development of ocean travel, from the time when it took months in uncomfortable tubs, to cross from shore to shore! It seems that there is really nothing left to devise for the comfort or safety of passengers, except | faith in which the two elements of the | course, they are merely absurd.

an infallible remedy against that "tired feeling" with which many are familiar and which remains a distinct recollection from the Atlantic. For what are palms and flowers, music and song, or the most exquisite luxuries of life to one who is the victim of mat de mer?

Ibsen is to have a state funeral. It is a fit recognition of his worth.

It seems kind of odd to go before the country on a Towne made issue.

Most men are inconsistent but few of them have the courage of their inconsistencies.

An Arkansas man tried to live on ice eream and died. But girls will take no warning from this.

Many would-be competitors of the Standard Oil company have nothing but "pipe" dreams in the end.

Not knowing whence it came, the Mo-Kittericks never thought of inquiring whether the money was tainted.

Miss Annie S. Peck proposes to climb the highest peak in the Peruvian Andes. It is a high and noble ambillion.

It is appropriate that the Panama canal bill should be made the unfinished business of the senate, the canal itself being in such an unfinished state.

If the water that is running to wasts

down the North Temple conduit were

reservoired, Salt Lake (Lty's water problem would be solved. Some day this fact will be realized by our city Professor Peabody of Harvard, who has just returned from Berlin, says

that the Kaiser is the strongest friend

of peace in Europe. If he is the friend

of peace, he certainly is the strongest in Europe. The way in which the High School cadets drilled and went through the manual of arms yesterday is a credit to themselves, their military instructors and the city. Truly the hope of the

If the cost of living at present is compared to the prices of necessity ten years ago, it will be found that a dollar now is actually worth only 75 cents as compared with the dollar of 1896, or 1897. To that extent wages have shrunk.

nation is in the public schools.

The plea that a workingman should be allowed an opportunity to attend church every Sunday was advanced by Chicago union teamsters as an argument in favor of a six-day week. If granted the opportunity would be im-

"In my opinion," says Dr. Van Dyke, the best way to learn to write good English is to read good English. Books of grammar and rhetoric are of comparatively little value." First among which, of course, he places the Book of

It takes time even to get a parliamentary harness to fit. The tugs may have to be shortened or let out, the same with the saddle and the back strap and collars do not have a perfect fit at first. The Czar and the douma will learn this after while, and when they do, things will go much better in Russia.

It is claimed that there are at present in Berlin 7,000 refugees from Russia. of whom 6,500 are Jews, and as they are practically without means there is serious danger of their becoming a burden to the community. The police authorities are said to be concerting measures in conjunction with Jewish philanthropists with the object of inducing the undesirable strangers to leave Germany for some other country. But where can they go, if they are entirely without means? . .

If figures are reliable, it takes the immense total of four billion gallons of fiquids annually to satisfy the thirst of the American people, and it all costs a billion and a half dollars. This pation spent in 1905 for cocoa something over \$8,000,000, for tea \$52,000,000, for coffee \$162,000,000, for wines, \$96,000,060, for whisky \$457,000,000 and for beer \$771,000,000. The quantities consumed are estimated to be in millions of gallons: Coffee 1,625, beer 1,538, tea 60, spirits and wine 135. The total consumption of these liquids was about 4,000,000,000 gallons, and the nation's drink bill over \$1,500,000,000,

The Pittsburg Gazette has discovered "a contented woman" in the person of Mrs. Abbie Perham, of Clinton, Ia. The lady is said to be 140 years old, and because she is perfectly happy and free from worry it is predicted that she will live many more years. "Aunt Abbie" has been visited by temperance advocates and suffragists, but they have not been able to convert her. To the latter she said: "Why should I want to vote when I have six sons who always vote the way I tell them to? Do any of you centrol as many votes as that?" The old lady is happy and contented, and 'that is, no doubt, the secret of her

## ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

New York Evening Post.

Heresy used to be regarded as a sin, and was thought to have its origin in human pride. In case of obduracy, the heretic was handed over to the civil authorities to be banished from the world by death." Later, he was considered to be none the less a sinner, but was the victim not the author of error. Accordingly, he was punished by excommunication. But at the present time a man who is put on trial for heresy occupies, in the popular esti-mation, the place of an accuser, and it is the church which is usually said to be on trial. There is still another and newer view: the attitude of a heretic is regarded as only a symptom of a tendency more profound than that of mere heterodoxy. With the disposition to subject religious experience to psychological analysis, the heretic has been put into the more extensive class of individualists who are opposed to collectivism, whether it be economical, moral, or ecclesiastical. The French sociologist M. de la Grasserie calls this moral and religious collectivism "socie-

Boston Transcript. Phillips Brooks once said: "The days of Augustine and Calvin are true today; but the Augustine or Calvin who is to know their truth is very different from what he was in the fifth century, from what he was in the sixcentury Therefore of

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GET READY FOR DECORATION DAY OPENING.



there is no fixity....Orthodoxy is a false crystallization which has forever to be broken and re-dissolved Or, to put the whole matter in his own graphic way, truth is not a deposit which a ship is carrying from shore to shore, but is rather a seed planted in

Millennial Star.

Spiritual growth is promoted only by the same plan of principle and applica-tion. Unless faith in the Gospel is ompleted in the works of compliance to its requirements, the circuit complete, there is no movement of the current, there is no movement of the current, therefore, no power, no prog-ress, no life. Many people daily with the truth. The Gospel appeals to them; their conscience tells them that it is true; but their wills are weak, and the prospects of a little suffering either of body or spirit make cowards of them. In time, soul callousness takes possession of them; they have eyes but see not, they have ears, but hear not, they have the power to act, but do not. Such are truly to be pitied, for their condemnation waits not for the last great judgment, but it is with their weakening souls dally.

Kansas City Star.

Through the fear of the powers of the air, through the reverence of tosymbols, humanity moved toward the worship of the God who inhabits eter-nity and in whom, pagan and Christian philosophies agree, we live and move and have our being. In their meaning to the people who created them and in to the people who created them and in the strange point of view of three thou-sand years ago must the significance of the idols be sought. From the standpoint of the electrical age, of

# JUST FOR FUN.

The Russian Easter. Washington Post.

"I was in Greece last Easter," said he traveling Washington girl. elebrate Easter very differently there, t is almost spectacular. "The strangest part of it all to me

was the Russian service. A young man who had been very nice to me asked me to go with him to the Russian church at night. I noticed that when ne asked me everybody around us

"I said, 'No. I don't want to go; I have been going to the churches all day. The mass of candles, the long standing-nobody in Greece ever sits down in churches, because there are no seats, you know-the smell of the incense have tired me out. want to go, I don't feel as if I could stand it.'

"He insisted, so I went. He had beer so very nice to me that I felt that I couldn't persist any more in refusing "When we started off to the Russian church I noticed again that everybody

laughed at us. This was why: "The Russian services are the strangyou ever saw. They sing and sing. Then some of the people rise and say. 'Christ is risen.' Then the others and 'Christ is risen.' Then the other swer: 'Christ is risen Indeed!'

"Then they all turn around and kiss the one next to them. young man turned deliberately around and kissed me, of course,
"And that was why they had laughed."

Making the Dirt Fly. An excellent plan would be to dig the Panama canal at Bar Harbor in sum-

Her Engagement Ring.

Mr. Goodthing-How does your sister like the engagement ring I gave her, Her Young Brother-Well, it's a lift tle too small; she has an awful hard time getting it off when the other fei-

recent pubs

Dr. J. D. Buck contributes to the June number of Tomorrow Magazine an a ticle entitled "Points of Progress. William Lloyd writes radically of "Ethics of Sex." Carlos Montegumathe talented Apache physician, makes keen criticism of Commissioner Leupp and the Indian bureau. "The History of Human Marriage" by Lida Parce Robinson completes its fifth serial number. There are many other features of interest.—2238 Calumet Ave.

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