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CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

Tuesday, September 20, 1892.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-third Semi-annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock on Thursday morning, October 6th, 1892.

The officers and members of the Church generally are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the conference.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
First Presidency.

DR. ILIFF'S PREDICAMENT.

THE *Herald* of Sunday, September 17th, exposed one of the most flagrant instances of plagiarism on record. The gentleman whose deceptive conduct was exhibited is the Rev. Dr. Iliff. He delivered, on the 21st of last March, in the Salt Lake Theatre, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Y. M. C. A. of this city, an address which was notable for its excellence. At the conclusion of its delivery the manuscript was handed to a reporter of the Salt Lake *Tribune*, in which journal it was published in full. Nearly the whole of the address was taken from a book containing "Lectures and addresses delivered by the Rev. Thomas Guard, D. D."

The effect of the delivery of this published material by Dr. Iliff and its publication in a newspaper was to place him before the community as a brilliant and intellectual pulpit orator, which he really is not. A person who enjoys that distinction cannot maintain it by the use of other men's brains, a resource of that nature indicating that he himself does not possess them.

The *Tribune*, while admitting that a newspaper with such facts before it as were in possession of the *Herald*, was justified in making the exposure, but it also attempts to make an explanation in behalf of Dr. Iliff. The substance of the apology is that the Rev. gentleman was given such brief notice that he would be expected to deliver the address that he did not have time to prepare one; that he informed the audience that he would have to draw largely from the ideas of others; that after the publication of the borrowed address in the *Tribune* as original, the Doctor called the clergymen together and explained the matter to them.

Unfortunately there does not appear to be anyone who listened to the address who heard Dr. Iliff explain that he had drawn largely from other people's ideas. If he had made the statement even that would not be a sufficient excuse for such wholesale plagiarism as was perpetrated by him on the occasion. It appears also that he did not explain the matter to his fellow clergymen immediately after the publication in the *Tribune*. The address was delivered in March, and he made no mention of the subject to his brethren until the present month. The cause of his finally taking this step was on account of exposure being imminent, he having been informed that the article which appeared in the *Herald* of last Sunday, had been offered for publication. But even if he had confided in his brother clergymen, what had that to do with the deception of the people at large by the publication of Mr. Guard's lecture as the product of the brains of Dr. Iliff? The public were allowed to believe that the address was original and to slumber in vain belief in the Doctor's intellectual brilliancy. The excuse that he did not have sufficient time to prepare an address of his own seems remarkable—he was notified the day before delivery was required. He seems to have had plenty of time to copy, in writing, from Mr. Guard.

In scanning the matter which Dr. Iliff took from Mr. Guard, one notable feature connected with its use by the former leads strong evidence of plagiaristic intent. We refer to slight verbal alterations at the beginning and ending of paragraphs. This manipulation shows an evident purpose to avoid giving credit to the source from which the quotations were made. This point applies also to the effort made by the plagiarist to make Dr. Guard's language and ideas conform to the occasion upon which they were used by Dr. Iliff.

It is clear enough that Dr. Iliff has been seeking to build up a professional and institutional reputation on other people's brains. The expose to which he has been subjected is not surprising. Men let things escape them that are kept by which their callous can be ameliorated. This gentleman, evidently for the purpose of posing as a patriot, in one of a series of anti-"Mormon" meetings, instituted to stuff the members of the G. A. R., on their way to encampment at San Francisco, stated, in a speech, that he placed the cross under the national flag. However, we probably would not have treated at all upon the subject of the terrible exposure to which he is now subjected, had it not been for the flimsy excuse he has made in attempting to cover up the flagrant plagiarism of which he has clearly been guilty. If nothing of that kind had been attempted, and a frank acknowledgment been made, charity would have stepped in and suggested that the subject be allowed to slide past, so far as we were concerned.

HOW IT CAME ABOUT.

THE sensation created by the exposure of Dr. Iliff's great plagiarism last causes considerable interest to be attached to any information as to who were the persons who worked it up. We have learned that this part of the subject shows that so far as relates to the brethren of the M. E. Presbytery, the millennium is still a considerable distance away. All is not peaceful within the ranks of the local clergy of that denomination. The Small-Hill fight is still within the local memory. The plagiarism scandal is a development of another fight among clerics.

A few days ago a Methodist minister was hunting all over town for a copy of the Salt Lake *Tribune* containing the address alleged to be Dr. Iliff's. He sent several men to the office of that paper, at different times during the day, to procure it, but failed. He called at this office in the hope that it could be got here. We could not accommodate him. He succeeded in borrowing it elsewhere. The gentleman who borrowed it did so with the understanding that it should be returned. Another M. E. minister—not the one who was hunting for the paper—put a sum of money into the hands of a hotel manager as security for the return of the particular copy of the *Tribune* in question.

Although these circumstances indicate a conspiracy to overthrow Dr. Iliff, but that does not relieve him from the unenviable position in which the expose places him. It looks as if some of the Doctor's clerical associates were imbued with an unchristian grudge against him, or that one or the other of them is animated with a desire to possess his ecclesiastical shoes. The publication this morning, in the *Herald*, of the details connected with the meeting of the Methodist clergymen held to consider the subject of Dr. Iliff's wholesale draft of language and ideas from Mr. Guard's address, confirms the nature of the plot. That report must have been supplied by someone who was present. No credit is due the conspirators, as their motives were evidently selfish and sinister.

AN INSUFFERABLE NUISANCE.

WE would like to write something strong on the subject of the sewer manhole opposite the west gate of the Tribune office premises. We may as well speak mildly on this theme, however, as there is not sufficient strength in the whole English vocabulary to equal that of the horrible stench emitted from the opening in question. The sewer gas which escapes from it has been growing gradually more dense and noisome for over a week, until it has reached a point when the atmosphere in the immediate vicinity is insufferable. It is a standing invitation to an outbreak of cholera, and a disgrace to the municipal government. We have been compelled several times to direct official attention to this unbearable nuisance, but all the relief obtained is an irregular flushing of the sewer with hydrant water at wide intervals. It is time somebody's official head dropped into the basket.

THE SOUVENIR COINS.

THE managers of the World's Fair sought an appropriation of $5,000,000 during the last session of Congress. This was refused, but a gift of 5,000,000 souvenir half-dollars was given on condition that the Fair be closed on Sundays. These souvenir coins will be made from unearmarked subsidiary coin now in the treasury. A large number of the proposed souvenirs have been contracted for at one dollar each. And it is supposed that the whole amount can easily be sold by the World's Fair managers at that price, thus realizing the full extent of the original appropriation asked for.

The souvenir half dollars, unlike medals of the commemorative order, will be legal tender at their face value, the same as the ordinary half dollars. There are now $14,000,000 of unearmarked subsidiary coin in the Treasury. From these will be minted the souvenir half dollars, and given to the World's Fair without expense, the government paying for the coinage. Before they are turned over the Fair managers must stipulate in writing that the gates must not be opened on the Sabbath day.

PARTY GOVERNMENT ON TRIAL.

GOLDWIN SMITH, formerly professor of history at Oxford University, England, now of Canada, has an article in *The Nineteenth Century* entitled, "The Contest for the Presidency" in the United States. It is a philosophical disquisition of American politics, with incidental allusion to Canadian and British politics.

The professor does not indorse the frequency of elections in the United States, and the quadrennial contest for the Presidency he likens to a periodical civil war. The system of elections-betting in this country he does not approve, because it awakens questions for partisan purposes which had better be left at rest. This state of affairs can not always go on without a crash. Burning lava placed below the people when freedom by party strife are rent, sooner or later, to produce disastrous results. Party leaders can hardly be a wind for the moonshine coalitions they occupy. However willing they may be to serve the interests of public morality, yet they must make that desire secondary to the moonshine section of the party to which they belong.

The gist of Professor Smith's article is to show that pure party government is now on trial in this country and in Great Britain, and that unless some way can be found out of it the next generation will find itself confronting serious problems as to the perpetuation of free and popular institutions.

IT LOOKS BAD FOR SIR EDWIN.

JOSEPH A. GOSSE, an Australian artist of repute, arrived in San Francisco from Japan recently. He was interviewed by a *Chronicle* reporter in relation to the charges made by the Rev. Mr. Diesbell against Sir Edwin Arnold, the poet and journalist. Mr. Gosse has been a resident of Tokio for the past fourteen months. Of Sir Edwin he says:

"While in Tokio the poet resided at the Rokei Imperial, but the residents of the hotel could not successfully compete with the charms of the Japanese dancing girls, and the consequence was that he spent his days, and nights, too, in chasing fleeting Mr. Gosse has been a resident of Tokio for the past fourteen months. Of Sir Edwin he says:

"While in Tokio the poet resided at the Rokei Imperial, but the residents of the hotel could not successfully compete with the charms of the Japanese dancing girls, and the consequence was that he spent his days, and nights, too, in chasing fleeting. His prominent position, his age and the fact that he had a family, made the unexpected violation of propriety doubly distasteful. He was speedily informed, in the best English and American families, and had it not been for his prestige as a writer of the glories of Japan, even the natives would have ostracized him. The charges made by Rev. Mr. Diesbell are not overdrawn and he can substantiate them by the evidence of a hundred people of good repute living in Tokio."

ANOTHER CARDINAL DEAD.

SHOULD an election for Pope take place in the near future England would be unrepresented in the College of Cardinals. Cardinal Howard, a few days ago, followed his brethren Manning and Newman. Unlike the two latter, he was not a convert from another faith, nor was he distinguished in church affairs. However, he was a trusted and devoted servant of the Pope and of the church for some time in Rome.

Cardinal Howard was born in Nottingham, England, in 1829. He was grandson of the younger brother of Bernard Edward 16th Duke of Norfolk. In youth he was an officer of Her Majesty's Second Life Guards. At the age of twenty-six he became a priest, and consecrated himself entirely to the service of the Pope. He was made archbishop in 1872, and cardinal in 1877. In 1879 he was given charge of the English college in Rome. He excelled as an Arabic, American and Russian scholar. He was troubled during the past few years with a brain affection, but the immediate cause of his death was pneumonia, contracted in Brighton, England, where he died.

WHERE DOES THE GOLD GO TO?

WHAT becomes of the gold? This is a question which an exchange puts and at the same time attempts to reply to it. Since the discovery of the metal in California to the present time the United States has produced $1,500,000,000 in gold. These are the figures of the Superintendent of the Mint. According to his report the total amount in coin and bars, on December 31st, 1891, in the United States was $666,505,211. This latter amount was known to be in the country in the shape of coin and bars in the mint, in the treasury and in possession of banks. Gold exports to the amount of $57,000,000 can be accounted for, and so can $5,500,000 turned into plate, jewelry, gold leaf, dentists' fills and so on. But all the only aggregates about $742,000,000, which subtracted from $1,500,000,000 leaves over $1,100,000,000 unaccounted for. Trade returns between the United States and Europe from 1845 to 1891 inclusive, show an excess of exports from Europe to this country over exports from here to Europe of $173,000,000. This sum, it is supposed, was paid in gold, but still about $700,000,000 remain unaccounted for. How much is held as a hoard by thrifty persons who are their own bankers can never be accurately ascertained. Vast quantities of gold have been buried and, perhaps, lost forever. Some has been stuck in the seas with lost vessels and so on. But still the interesting problem comes up, what becomes of the gold? In round figures the United States produced up to the present nineteen hundred millions of dollars in gold. She has now in her banks, mints and treasuries, only about seven hundred millions. For plate and jewelry she used about four millions, and paid four hundred and seventy-three millions for foreign goods. That leaves about so much gold unaccounted for as there is now known to be in the form of bullion and currency in the country.

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