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SALT LAKE CITY, - JULY 13, 1900.

LET US REASON TOGETHER.

Advantage is being taken of the very general objection to public debts and the bonding system, to prejudice the taxpayers of this city against the measure now proposed, to secure a greater supply and a better distribution of water. If the statements and queries of the opposition are examined, in the light of reason and of the facts, their weakness will become at once apparent.

There are three projects already entered into which cannot now be abandoned. There are others which, if thrown aside will complicate affairs injuriously, and render incomplete the purpose in view of the whole plan.

First, is the improvement in the distributing system. This is under contract. It must be completed by September 1st. The contract for the pipes and laying calls for \$68,000. The special committee, in their address, place the expense at \$75,000. Practical minds will readily concede that there are expenses connected with all public works, in addition to the bare sum specified in the contract, and in this case there is much to be done with the "dead ends" and other changes connected with the contract work, that call for the full amount named by the engineer. The necessity of these improvements is acknowledged and the fact that they are in actual progress cannot be disputed. That they must be paid for goes without saying.

Second, is the reservoir, which is also under way and will soon be completed. July 15th, is the contract time. If there is any delay there is a forfeit clause to meet it. As soon as it is done it can be filled in twenty-four hours if necessary. It can be brought then into immediate use. The cost is \$30,000. It matters not whether any of that sum has been borrowed and paid or not. That has nothing to do with the question of its necessity, and it is clear that the money must be raised to meet the debt.

Third, are the water rights in Parley's canyon. They have been bargained for. Some of them are now available and the water will be immediately turned into the system. The others will be used, if purchased, in time to aid materially in the water supply at the season when most needed. The cost is placed at \$60,000. About \$15,000 has already been appropriated for that purpose, but the whole sum will be met by the proceeds of the bonds. It is for the purpose specified in the call for the election.

The utilization of the water in the Jordan and Salt Lake City canal can commence at once, and be continued until complete for this season. The plans of the engineer are perfected, there is some piping ready to be laid for a beginning, and the whole system may be finished by degrees at a cost of \$40,000. This will gradually relieve, partly, the shortage approaching in the water for the home system, and thus accomplish its purpose fully when most needed. It cannot be established without the issuance of the proposed bonds. It is a practical scheme demanded by many taxpayers, who hate to see available water running to waste, especially in a time of great scarcity.

The lowering and straightening of the channel to bring in more water from Utah lake, is a scheme that offers the greatest probable advantages of anything that has been suggested in that line. It ought not to be confounded with the plan for raising Utah lake to a higher level and its use as a national reservoir. The dredging is a present measure, the other a future possibility. The \$30,000 proposed to be expended for this purpose will be sufficient, if the expected union is effected with the canal companies that will be mutually benefited by the improvement. They will each, doubtless, be glad to do their part. It will command a great volume of water. It will furnish something definite on which to base a trade for the waters of Big Cottonwood. The money for this must come largely from the bonds, or not at all, and the claims of the city to this water will be endangered if the work is abandoned.

The artesian water in Liberty Park may prove to be available, and the cost not too great for its value. That will be thoroughly tested. If it can be brought into use in time to do any good—the projectors of the plan presented to the Council put the time at four months, and the expense at \$50,000, as may be seen on record—and if it will be of sufficient relief to warrant the expenditure, steps will be taken at once to utilize it for the public benefit. But nothing can be done about it if the bonds are not sanctioned.

Now let us see whether the rash assertions made by persons who have not fairly investigated the matter are well founded: Improved distributing system \$75,000; reservoir \$30,000; Parley's canyon rights \$60,000; sprinkling system \$40,000; that will leave but \$35,000 towards the dredging, or the artesian plan, to make up the full \$200,000. But suppose we deduct the difference between \$68,000, the bare sum of the

new pipe contract, from the engineer's estimate of all the work to be done in that matter—\$75,000, that will only give \$7,000, which, if added to the \$35,000 balance, would make \$42,000 towards the dredging or the artesian water scheme. Even if we take the \$15,000 already expended on Parley's canyon rights, it would leave but \$27,000 towards the lowering of the Jordan channel, or the utilization of the Liberty Park wells, or both. It will require some appropriations out of the general funds, to carry on the absolutely essential plans for the city's water supply, in addition to the amount to be raised by bonds.

To oppose the bonds is therefore to stand in the way of necessary improvements of a permanent character, that will be of immediate as well as future benefit and which were demanded by the people and expected of the present city council. They cannot be effected except by means of the proposed bonds or a heavy, special water tax. It is for the people to say which they will choose.

It is manifestly unfair to charge that a "threat" has been made by the city authorities, that if the bonds are voted down a heavy tax will be imposed. They wish to avoid the necessity of levying a special tax. No matter how much partisan spirit may be used to put this matter in an improper light, nor how the figures may be juggled to mislead the public, the fact remains that water improvements to which the council was pledged have been undertaken, and they cannot be paid for except by bonds or a special tax. The latter would be a heavy burden on the poor, and the council asks for authority to relieve the property-owners and also to make the necessary improvements permanent.

Is it not a fact that some of the partisan opponents of the majority of the council want to defeat the bond proposition, and so force them into levying a heavy tax so that they will become unpopular with the masses, and thus a party advantage will be gained? And seeing that members of the council who are in the minority favor the bonds as well as the majority, will not the petty partisan desire fail of fruition?

Partisan prejudice, leave partisan politics out of this question of public necessity, look at the situation with the clear light of reason and a perception of the real facts, and who cannot see that the issuance of bonds in this emergency is the only fair and sufficient method to meet it, and save the city from drouth and the taxpayers from present, heavy burdens that would prove too grievous to be borne?

GRAVE NEWS FROM AFRICA

After a long period of comparative quiet in the South African campaign, active hostilities seem to have been resumed. And the news from the seat of war is rather startling, in view of the prevalent impression that Boer resistance had been broken, and that the war was practically over with the British occupation of Pretoria. Now, Lord Roberts reports severe reverses in the immediate vicinity of the Transvaal capital, and it appears that General Botha has succeeded in getting a considerable army.

The news has caused much anxiety in London, where it was thought South Africa had been pacified to the extent that a number of the British troops would be available for China. It is now but too apparent that bodies of Boers are operating in both republics, and that the work of subjugation may be of longer duration than the earlier brilliant successes indicated.

The explanation of the present situation is to be found in the fact that there is much opposition to annexation among the Dutch burghers of the two countries. The Afrikaners are diligently at work for their cause. Even the women are organizing, raising their protests against annexation, and the treatment of the Dutch, who fought the invaders, as rebels. Among the ladies active in this agitation is Mrs. Oliver Schreiner, a sister of the late premier of Cape Colony, who openly denounces the British policy and declares that "if the republics are annexed and the Afrikaners are oppressed peace will be impossible." Among the methods adopted by the Afrikaners is the boycott of British firms in Cape Colony, and the formation of large Dutch companies for the purpose of carrying on the trade of the country.

The war has now raged for over nine months. The British have lost, by various causes, in the neighborhood of 60,000 men, a number probably equal to the entire fighting force of the Boers. Lord Roberts now has over 200,000 men at his command, and the final outcome of the war cannot be doubtful, unless there is an altogether unexpected turn in the tide of events. But it now looks as if the end of the war may be farther off than supposed a few days ago. And in the meantime, what may happen in other parts of the world, only the future can tell.

Lord Roberts' dispatch concerning the latest happenings conveys intelligence of a grave nature, and as it is surmised that there is more to be told, attention will be riveted for the next few days on the African dispatches.

THE IDEAL AND THE REAL

It is customary to speak about the Chinese people as "barbarians," and when many of their acts are considered the epithet seems none too harsh. It is a fact, though, that many of the principles taught by their ancient philosophers are pure enough and lofty enough, to be classed with the teachings of the Great Nazarene. In China, as elsewhere in the world, it is not for lack of knowledge that the people are bad; it is because the knowledge they have, is not applied to the practical affairs of life.

A writer in the Forum points out that the students of Chinese literature often are surprised at the lofty ideals they have expressed there: The sages of China have taught the people that man is made for virtue, and that this is the real distinction between man and animals. "When men fail to be virtuous, they cease to be men."

They further held that the tendency of the human heart is to goodness, as the tendency of water is to flow downward. They illustrate this reasoning by saying that water may be forced up-

ward, but that is not its tendency; in like manner men may be driven to evil, but it is not according to their nature. "The mountain clothes itself with forests and verdure, but axmen come from the neighboring city and cut down the trees; fresh shoots spring up from the living roots, but the cattle browse them down until the mountain is bald and desolate, and men say it is the nature of the mountain to be bald and desolate. Not so; its condition is the result of violence to its nature. Thus man's nature seeks to clothe itself with virtue, but it is assailed by external evils, till finally the recuperative powers of the heart become paralyzed, and we look upon the evil man and say it is his nature to be evil. Not so; his true nature has been overcome by the evil that is alien to it. "The end of learning is to recover the lost heart," which is the "child-heart" that all men have in common."

Confucius, the article in the Forum continues, describes the ideal condition of the human family as realized "when the prince acquires himself as prince, the minister as minister, the father as father, and the son as son"; that is, when men in every rank in society discharge faithfully the duties belonging to their place. The law of heaven is the law of right, the law of duty, and wisdom consists in correctly applying this law in the relations of life.

In China, as everywhere, the common people have failed to grasp the ideal thus depicted by the sages. It is as difficult, if not more so, to perceive moral beauties, as it is to appreciate to the fullest extent, the beauties of harmony, of form, of color. This is a gift belonging to the few. And the result is everywhere that the great multitude but imperfectly are influenced in their lives by the most lofty sentiments of their teachers. And thus it happens that the Chinese people, notwithstanding their well sounding essays on virtue, remain in bondage to passions. Public men, as a rule, serve themselves and not their fellowmen. "In general the hard and selfish rule of parents begets a formal and selfish service in children. Falsehood and duplicity take the place of truthfulness and candor, and unloving authority is met by unloving obedience."

Human nature is human nature everywhere. Without divine aid it cannot even realize the ideals placed before it as moral patterns. The Ethiopian may read the highly poetic compositions of Isaiah, but unless Philip is there to explain its meaning and apply its doctrines, the book must remain sealed to him. Hence the necessity on earth of a Church, a sanctuary in which the divine light shines day and night, as from the sacred candlestick in the ancient Temple. Without it the world will remain in the dark.

IN LOVE WITH UNCLE SAM.

The San Francisco Call publishes a special dispatch from Washington in which it is alleged that there is in Switzerland a growing sentiment in favor of annexation to the United States.

A report is said to have been received by the State department from Consul Guenther in Frankfurt to that effect. The cause is said to be due to the protective tariffs of European countries, on account of which leading Swiss statesmen are looking about with a view to forming close relations with some other government.

A Swiss newspaper, the Allgemeine Schweizer Zeitung, is quoted as follows:

"In spite of the dark sides which are also found there the United States is full of the air of freedom. Switzerland would lose nothing if she should become a State of the United States of America. It is a well known fact that several States of the American Union are much more independent than several cantons of Switzerland, and our country by such an alliance would sacrifice none of her liberties. All she would have to do would be to send her representation to Washington. Economically and politically, she would gain everything."

The paragraph is of some importance as showing the good opinion of this country and its institutions, entertained by the freest and most progressive people on the European continent, but of an actual union between the States of North America and the cantons in the European Alps, there can be no serious question at present. In due time, the principles upon which the United States government is founded will, like the little stone in the ancient vision, roll on and smite every image upon its feet, crushing them and scattering them, but this process is yet in its beginning.

It is perfectly natural, however, for the far-seeing statesmen of the little republic to look about for some strong friend and protector. Every sign indicates that the large powers of Europe are bent upon the overthrow of the smaller states. Years ago the German kaiser indicated that Switzerland ought to belong to the German Bund, on the ground that its free institutions permitted the agitators of all the world to gather there and plot against the monarchies. That a union with the North American States would be preferable, from a Swiss point of view, need no argument. But the idea is impractical.

The United States is naturally in sympathy with the nations of the earth that uphold popular government against the encroachment of autocrats and tyrants, and as long as she adheres to her traditional policy, she may be in a position to render the cause of humanity great services. The power and the wealth at the command of our government now, enables and entitles it to aid others, as it has aided the late Spanish colonies—if not by the same means, so with others not less effective.

Sea serpent stories this season have been supplanted by tales of the Chinese dragon.

An Order of Eagles has been started in our city. The initiation fee is, presumably, ten dollars.

Spain will send no war vessels to China. Dewey and Schley sent them to the bottom of the sea for her.

More American provisions are being sent abroad than ever before. Uncle Samuel can not only feed the hungry, he can clothe the poor.

The capture of a squadron of the Scotch Guards at Nital's Nek would indicate that the Boer trouble has been scotched and not killed.

Possibly Prince Tuan has gone insane, but the whole embryo seems to have followed suit, judging by the actions of the people.

The Boston Herald says: "It is punctantly asked, What shall it profit William J. Bryan if he gains 10 to 1 and loses New York?" The presidency, possibly.

When officially notified of his nomination President McKinley did not say he accepted it, while Governor Roosevelt did. But on the other hand the President did not say he wouldn't.

It is said there is lack of concert of action among the allied forces in China. It is regrettable but it is not unnatural. In this as in all other cases where two ride upon one horse one must ride behind.

Prominent men throughout the country are giving their reasons for supporting one or other of the presidential tickets. When analyzed their reasons generally resolve themselves into the well known woman's reason: "Because."

What with their explanations and procrastination, the Chinese officials seem to be making preparations to charge the European lamb down the stream with muddying the water above the Celestial wolf. It is a very pretty game but in this instance it will not work.

The Chinese appear to have better field artillery than the allied forces; and they are serving it exceedingly well. Selling the Celestials the most improved modern arms and teaching them how to use them is proving to have been a very expensive way to build up trade.

Another story of a kidnapping comes to the surface. These stories have been more or less rife of late and if there is any foundation for them they should be hunted down. There is no more serious offense than that of child stealing, while it is perhaps the most distressing of all. If any one is guilty of kidnapping children no pains should be spared to apprehend them.

A contributor to Leslie's Weekly, in describing Mr. Bryan's personal appearance, observes that he is growing old perceptibly. He says:

"It is the verdict of those who have but occasionally seen Mr. Bryan during the past four years that he has aged greatly. When he was nominated in 1896 he was but 36 years old, and possessed a virility and vigor that made him a man of mark in any circle. There was an alertness of eye, a mobility of mouth, a smoothness of feature, an absence of the lines that denote care, and mental and physical strain, and a musical ring to the voice. Today his eye is stern, the mouth, in repose, is tightly closed, and there is a metallic sound, faint but yet distinct, in his voice. There is a fulness under the eyes, and about them little 'crow's feet.' Two well-marked lines diverge to right and left from the nostrils, and there is a deep indentation in the chin where before were the merest outlines of a dimple."

THE CHINESE TROUBLE.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.
The remark that one province of China can muster as many able-bodied men as Germany, is of interest in connection with the kaiser's recent speech calling for vengeance for the murder of Von Ketteler, the German minister of Peking. It is of import, also, to those who have thus far failed to realize the magnitude of the task ahead of the comparatively small force that set out to relieve the foreign residents in the Chinese capital.

Boston Transcript.
The allies are very slow in improving the advantage that came to them by the relief of Tien Tsin. Their movements may be due to the difficulties inherent in all combinations made up of men of different nationalities acting under a loose general agreement. The question of leadership, always a difficult one under such circumstances, is particularly so when the Powers working together are jealous of one another as is the case at present.

Boston Herald.
China is not Christian, and does not profess to be. The United States is Christian, yet we have allowed some shameful massacres of foreigners by rioters within our borders, of Chinese at Seattle, of Italians in New Orleans. We settled for them, much cheaper than we should have been able to do if the suffering nations had been world powers.

San Francisco Chronicle.
Somewhere in Peking there is an authority which is directing the outrages of these savages, and if it be not the imperial authority, it is one superior to that, and as responsible. This authority, whatever it is, it is the mission of the civilized world to seek and master and to exact from it stern retribution for its unspeakable crimes.

Kansas City Star.
The American note also conveys in unmistakable language that this government will prevent the dismemberment of China. It further declares in favor of the doctrine of "China for the Chinese." Evidently the United States intends to insist on the maintenance of American and other treaties with the Chinese government, and on the so-called "open door" policy. Undoubtedly the position taken by the United States will tend to check the rapacity of the European powers in China, and at the same time, so far as such a result can be attained, it will tend to allay the uneasiness of the Chinese people.

Chicago Times-Herald.
Not only the mutual jealousies but the common rights and injuries of the States also really constitute the strongest bulwark of the empire from whose central government the several independent states are demanded. For if Germany were outraged alone, or Russia or Great Britain, territory might be held as security, provided there was a promise that the privileges enjoyed under existing treaties by the other powers would be respected. The single nation avenging its minister's murder would have paramount rights which all nations would be inclined to respect.

Chicago Chronicle.
We can do more, perhaps, than any other power to prevent the dismemberment and partition of the Chinese empire and to establish a government there under which all the powers will enjoy equal opportunities, while none will be able to monopolize any part. To this end we must make it perfectly clear that we have ourselves no design upon the integrity of the empire and that, while insisting upon equal opportunity, we seek nothing more. Will the administration rise to the opportunity?

Philadelphia Times.
The act of the president ordering the army and the navy to invade China, presents a very serious phase of imperialism. It is an absolute declaration of war by the executive without the



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authority or knowledge of Congress, and it is without excuse because it is not a necessity.

Washington Times.

The participation of an American contingent in the operations between Taku and Peking, and perhaps elsewhere, will make the United States a party to the general world movement, and to the settlement afterward. Ultimately, that settlement will take the form of a division of the empire, but presently there may be a falling out between the powers interested. We are one of them and will have to take sides. Denial of that proposition is impossible. We are in the game and will have to see it through. This may be uncomfortable for the administration in a presidential year, but it is the rock bottom truth.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The frontispiece of Harper's Weekly for July 7, is an exceptionally good portrait of Mr. Bryan. The Magazine contains articles on Bryanism, Governor Roosevelt, Mr. Platt, the Situation in China, and the Passion Play.—New York.

In The Magazine of Art for July there is the first installment of an exhaustive essay by Mr. M. H. Spielmann on the portraits of Geoffrey Chaucer. Under the heading of "Aesthetics of the Vestry," the magazine contains a protest against the new electric light standards in the West End. The following is an extract from the note: "It seems to be part of the creed of the majority of public bodies in this country that any concession to art is not merely an extravagance, but actually an admission of a principle that should be opposed in every possible way by all seriously minded and right-thinking people. Endless instances of this mental attitude could be quoted, instances which reflect unpleasantly enough upon the corporate intelligence of our vestries and county councils, and stamp the average man as a curious compound of ignorance and stupid prejudice. At this moment an illustration of the purveyed beliefs of our lesser officials may be studied in the London streets. The Vestry of St. Martin's has been erecting in its district a number of standards for electric lighting, and it has chosen a type of lamp-post that represents the very latest embodiment of all the stupidity and all the prejudice that have been the peculiar endowment of many generations of vestrymen. Nothing more hideous in its subject tastelessness has ever been in vogue upon long-suffering Londoners."—Cassell & Co., New York.

Messrs. Harper & Brothers announce that they have just published a new work by Archibald N. Colquhoun entitled "Overland to China." More than half of the volume is taken up with the author's travels in China, and the book is supplied with maps of the country.—Franklin Square, New York.

The July number of Harper's Magazine contains a short story entitled "Two and a Rose" by Alfred Ollivant, author of "Bob, Son of Battle"—New York.

Among the many interesting articles in the current number of Harper's Bazar, is one on Mrs. Aguinaldo, which gives a fine pen picture of that lady. Some space is devoted to "Sailing for Women," and to household topics.—New York.

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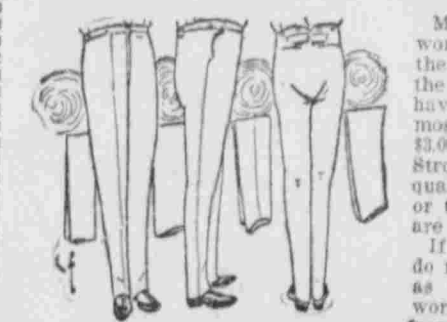
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