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## RIGHTS TO BE DEFENDED.

A correspondent at St. George writes to us in very complimentary terms volcing the sentiments of folks in the South over the vindication by the Deseret News of the rights of the people, and our championship of truth and liberty against official encroachments and assumptions. He remarks further:

Another outrage akin to this should also be squelched, namely: The brow-beating of defendants and witnesses in beating of detendants and witnesses in our courts of justice. It has been my lot as juryman and spectator to liston to most unmerciful abuse of defendants and witnesses, of either side, by wordy

and witnesses, of either side, by wordy attorneys because the former could not be induced to make statements favor-ing the latter's side of the case. Believing with you that "prisoners" have rights" the trampling upon which ought not for an instant to be allowed, should not the rights of our fellows he ought not for an instant to be allowed, should not the rights of our fellows be assiduously guarded who are presum-ably innocent or against whom no crime is alleged, but who, by reason of their deep respect for order of the court, are speechless in the face of conadstonless, cowardly vituperation? foundationless, cowardly vituperation? To say the least, all courts, sitting in the majesty of their callings, should check any attack or approach of vilification. By this course juries would be more likely to remain unbiased—and so render their verdict. Then, accompanying the sentence a few wisely chosen words may not be inadmissible. JOSEPH ORTON.

We endorse the comments of our correspondent. We have had frequent occasion to call attention to the abuse he refers to. It appears to us that a court having proper appreciation of its own dignity would stop the outpourings of wrath, frequently exhibited in the shape of personal vilification of defendants, and also in the badgering of witnesses. The latter are required to tell "the whole truth." but attorneys often seem determined to prevent their Shylocks. The government of India doing so and are permitted to baffle and ought to do that, and make the usurers bewilder inexperienced witnesses, until they are incapable of telling anything straight, and then they are blamed in no choice language for their confusion and nervousness. It ought not to be permitted. The defamation of character sometimes heard, when a prosecutor is endeavoring to paint an accused criminal in the most lurid colors at his command, is shameful and cowardly, because the victim of such treatment cannot retaliate in any way or do anything for self-protection. Another court abuse is the recrimina. tion resorted to occasionally by opposing counsel. It is a disgrace not only to those who engage in it, but to the court that tolerates it. For the sake of the respect that should be shown to the judicial department of our governmental affairs, all that kind of thing should be suppressed, and practicing at torneys be taught that they cannot indulge in such breaches of good manhere and common courtesy, with the impunity and license that are now allowed. "Order in the cou't!"

firm hand. In so far as it aims at not, American citizens in Turkey will forming public opinion, it should, first | have no protection for the future. The of all, be concerned about truth, pure | Russian, German, British and French and simple. All other considerations flags will be respected, while the Stars should be secondary. As things now are, truth itself is in danger of being | those who have a right to fly it to the regarded as a stranger, the object of meekery and ridicule among a crowd ple is involved, but nothing of peculiar that does not recognize her fair form | interest to European nutions. and features.

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

The clergymen in various parts of the ountry are appealing to the benevolent citizens of the United States for aid for the famine-stricken people of India. It is calculated that 35 will save a family of three from starvation until the next crop is gathered. If the 200,-00 churches in this country would contribute on an average \$100 each, that would be sufficient to relieve twelve million human beings from the pangs of hunger, and tide them over until the harvest time.

The awful spectacle presented to the world in the Indian famine, is one which Christian charity most certainly would like to blot out from the page of history, as far as this can be done or an abundance of good deeds. The magnitude of the disaster is simply appalling. If reports are not exaggerated, more than eighty million people are involved. Hundreds die every day of hunger, and others of pest, the usual attendant of the destroyer on the pale horse of death. Whatever is to be done must be done without delay, Probably the United States is about the only country at present, wealthy enough to make the assistance count. Great Britain is spending millions in Africa, which might have gone to India. The stricken people must look to this country for bread, and they will not do so in vain.

There is one feature of the situation that should call for special attention. It is commonly reported that there is food enough in India to keep the people from starvation, but this food is stored up, and the owners do not give it out except upon the receipt of the money value for it. In other worlds, they calmly permit millions of their countryman to suffer and die, and expect foreign nations to furnish the coin with which to unlock the granaries. If this is true, it seems that the government should take the matter in hand and compel the heartless owners of grain to give it up. The time for foreign nations to until the purse strings would be

when the food supply of the country had been exhausted. As long as there is plenty in the country, it should be used to save life, no matter who claims to be the owner.

The fact is simply this that the lower classes are taken advantage of by the money lenders and usurers and when hard times come, they are in the hands of that class of people, and then foreigners are expected to step in and save them from the clutches of the

and Stripes will be no protection to breeze, in that region. A great princi-

# A RUSSIAN REFORM.

Russia is progressing, slowly but surely, in the direction of western civilization. One evidence of this is the abolition by the government of transportation to Siberia as a penalty for political offenders. From now on, that terrible stain on Russian administration of justice will be blotted out, and a more rational and humane form of treatment of the victims of Russian law will be inaugurated. It is estimated that during this century 700,000 persons,

of all ages and both sexes, have been deported to that country. The measure now contemplated is not induced wholly by humanitarian considerations though, no doubt, the present emperor takes a lively interest in everything that may bring his people closer to European civilization. The fact is that Siberia has for a long time been the Eldorado to which Russlans of an enterprising disposition have voluntarily migrated. Siberla has received immigrants to the number of 10,000 a year for many years. It is no longer an isolated desert with nothing but a frozen ground, stained with the blood and tears of victims of despotism-as it was represented to be in s great number of works of fiction. The Siberian ratiroad, which is nearly completed, will still further open the country to the world. Russia can no longer profitably retain it as a penal colony. It was made so, for the purpose of populating it; but this purpose will be gained by the means employed by civil-

ization, in a natural way. Siberia has an area of 5,333,333 square miles, and is watered by several beautiful rivers. The total area of agricultural land is estimated at about 20,000 | prophecy; "When this war in the square miles. The government is parcelling out the land through which the railroad runs. The new settlers are

devoting themselves to cattle raising, but in time they are expected to devote themselves to wheat growing. The forests of Siberia are said to cover an area of \$0,000 square miles. Concerning the mineral resources, figures are given which seem to show that that country is destined to become one of the wealthlest of the world. Lead, silver, copper and gold are found in the Aral mountains and other ranges. In the Kusnetz region, there are extensive coal fields. Eastern Siberia is rich in silver, copper, iron,

coal and graphite, while the gold fields of eastern Siberia are known to be particularly promising. Elsewhere, coal and naphtha have been developed, while the coast line of eastern Siberia has yielded good results to the gold

washers. Russia could not afford to keep

tion that it needs the support of a claim must be sottled in some way. If adopted, then there is a probability that Mr. Clark will find himself in the same situation as Mr. Quay, so far as the present Senate is concerned.

> One of the greatest curiosities of recent jurisprudence is the fact that in Massachusetts new trials have been granted in two cases because jurors accepted drinks from counsel for the defence after their verdict. Jurymen may be expected to be total abstainers while on duty, but what law requires them to sign the pledge forever?

It is announced from Honolulu that the Kanakas are going to have a native Hawailan political party. They would accure better treatment by affillation with the great national parties, where the influence of their vote would be felt and sought for to a reasonable extent, than in a place where combination would follow to shut them out altogether.

An official of the German foreign office knocks Senator Lodge's oration flat by the formidable declaration that American politicians are "paepatlicher als der papat selbst," or in other words, 'more popist than the pope himself." Whether this conclusion was an echo from higher regions is not stated, but Senator Lodge will late recover from the rebuke administered,

Now Australian federation is Imperliled, so news from Australia says, By the way, the policy of Mr. Chamberlain, Britain's secretary of state for the colonles, precipitated the war in South Africa; it also brought the trouble in Jamaica, where there would be an uprising against the British only the Jamalcans are too few to stand the ghost of a chance of success; and now it is his polley that is charged with defeating the Australian federation scheme. If Mr. Chamberlain has made any real success in British colonial administration, it ought to be marked up to his credit soon.

J. C. Hartzell, a Methodist bishop whose field is South Africa, in a lecture in Chicago last night, made this Transvaal is over, and it will be over soon, there will be peace in all the land. Germany, France and England will get together and settle their disagreements, while America stands the umpire of the world." A good many people will be very much surprised if Dr. Hartzell does not prove a false prophet in his prediction regarding Germany, France and England settling, and America as umpire; to say nothing of his claim of peace in all the land in an age for which the Bible foretells wars and rumors of war.

While no definite figures are obtainable as to the deaths from cholera in India, it is certain the number reaches into the tens of thousands, and possibly to a higher scale. The dispatches today give illustrations of the terrible mortality by saying that at Gujerat camp "many thousands have perished;" at Godhra camp there have been "thousands of victims." and that in the sam division of territory where these places are located no fewer than forty-five famine camps have been attacked. This statement does not include any report from the other divisions where the pestilence rages, but is sufficient to more than justify the telegraphed assertion that the loss of life is appalling.



### EVIL EXAGGERATIONS.

The Cleveland Plain Dealer says about a notorious case of "yellow journalism," to which public attention has been called lately:

"It is a great pity that so many good stories are spoiled by exaggeration. Not only is the immediate item wrecked, but the effects are far reaching. For instance, there is the recent wedding of Banker Benedict's daughter in that little Connecticut shore town. The big New York dailles seemed to agree that the expenditures in connection with the ceremony were stunningly great. In fact, they fixed the amount at about \$250,000. The truth is, the wedding didn't cost \$10,000 all told. Then there was the bride's trousseau. A cool \$100,-009 was set aside in the minds of these extravagant journalists for that. It cost less than \$2,500, and we are as-It cost less than \$2,000, and we are as-sured at the same time that huge trousseaus are vulgar. Then there was a check from the indulgent father for \$1,000,000-ail the papers agreed on that. But, really, there wasn't any check at all."

Such exaggerations, not to say wilful mistatements of facts, are defended on the ground that the public expect something extraordinary in the line of news.

Popular appetite, it is alleged, is so corrupt that the truth, plain and unspiced, is unpalatable. Hence it must be cut up, garnished and served according to taste.

The mischief done by the journalism that deliberately falsifies, in order to make large sales, is incalculable. People who generally feed, mentally on cheap fletion, soon become averae to history and blography, unable to enjoy the presentation of facts. A similar effect is produced by the journalism. that aims at color instead of substance. Those that take life as depicted in the glare of footlights for a reality, will be sadiy disappointed when called upon to face life as it is; but not more so than those who form their opinions, and govern their actions in accordance with

the distorted, highly colored representations of journals that deal in sensationalism and flourish on prejudice and the baser qualities of human nature, like poisonous fungi on marshy ground.

Mr. Sheldon may not have succeeded in steadying the ark of journalism, but damage to property belonging to Amerihe certainly was correct in his conten. | con citizens is a different matter. That

give up some of the prey. A better arrangement of the government of the country-on the plan of Joseph, for instance-would spare the world the harrowing spectacle of famine recurring at intervals in a country that ought

## to be a paradise. MISSING MILLIONS.

It has been reported recently that about \$400,000,000 in gold is missing, or rather that it cannot be accounted for satisfactorily. Some have thought full extent. that the amount is simply stored away in old stockings and odd corners, and that it would be forthcoming, were it called for under certain circumstances. The probability, however, is that the Hall, sum missing is not nearly as large as supposed. The calculations may, or may not, be strictly correct. They are based upon the assumption that in the seventies there were \$120,000,000 in gold coin distributed throughout the country. To that sum has since been added the total gold coinage, less an estimated consumption of coined gold in the arts, and the recorded imports of gold, less the exports. And the result-

ing total to date is as given above. An effort is now about to be made to ascertain what proportion of the gold is used in the arts, but it is not probable that this will result in the discovery of the whereabouts of the \$400,000 .-000. The most plausible solution of the difficulty is that suggested by Prof. Faulkner, that vast amounts of gold have left the country unrecorded, in the pockets of outgoing travelers and returning immigrants.

Treasury officials seem confident of being able to trace the missing dollars, and to account for them, and, perhaps, they can. It is a mystery where all the ancient treasures of which history bears record have gone to. Countries once wealthy in gold, silver, and precious stones have become poor as Lazarus. Where the valuables are no one appears to know. Writers of fiction have conveniently disposed of them in the form of "buried treasures."

# NOT IN THE EASTERN QUESTION The misunderstanding in Europe of

questions in which the United States is interested is inexcusable, when the facilities for obtaining news across the ocean are considered. The Spectator, referring to our little

controversy with Turkey, says: "The dispute excites a curious amount

of interest on the continent, where diplomatists point to it as evidence that America since the Spanish war has begun to interfere in European politics. She will interfere, we may be sure of that, as she becomes great, but the con-tinent forgets that fifty years ago America threatened Austria with war America threatened Austria with war for seizing refugees protected by the American flag. There would have been war indeed but that Nicholas I asked Austria to yield rather than introduce 'an unknown factor into the public life of Furnes'." of Europe.

The Spectator, rather than to represent this country as being on the verge of Interfering in European politics, ought to remind the diplomatists that to collect an honest debt in Europe is no meddling with European politics, What is known in Europe as the

"eastern question" is no possible concern of the United States, but the collection of \$100,000 due on account of

richest and most promising territory reserved for criminals. The reform was a natural consequence of the policy of connecting the Baltic with the Pacific, at a cost of \$500,000,000. The next reform ought to be one inviting all the world to take advantage of the new country, as freely as did the United States, when the banner of liberty was unfurled, an ensign to all nations. In no other way can the immense resources of Siberia be utilized, to their

The Mothers' Congress will be in session tonight, and also tomorrow morning and afternoon in the Assembly

The Irish leaders say that Lord Salisbury's late speech show him to be merely a politician. As if the Irish caders ever thought him to be anything clse.

Mafeking has been relieved, after more than seven months' slege, and the starving there is at an end. Col-Baden-Powell is now the hero of the hour for his heroic and skilful defense.

#### Gen. Woodford says Spain Is greatly blessed in the loss of Cuba and the Philippines. The Spaniards doubtless look at the suggestion much as did

the man who had his arm shot off; it was a blessing it wasn't his head. The Methodist conference at Chicago is making a bigger scramble over checsing a bishop than a national poli-

tical convention usually does over its candidate for President of the United States. Lord Roberts reports the capture of several high Boer officers, and a further

advance toward Pretoria. It is not surprising on his shewing that the English people now think the end of the South African war is near.

An increase of 30 per cent in the as+ sessed valuation of real estate no doubt is "pleasing to public officials," as a contemporary states, but the pleasure is not likely to be shared by the one who has to meet an increase in taxes. A London dispatch says that at

Lourenzo Marques, the end of the war is anticipated by May 24. That is only a week off, and, as has been the case many time in the present war, Lourenzo Marques' anticipations probably are

### much farther off. The St. Louis strike seems to assume

larger dimensions, instead of nearing the end. Strikes are costly experiments, and in many instances inflict much harm on persons who are not directly involved in the controversy. They should not be indulged in, except when no other recourse is open.

The New York Mail and Express thinks that Senator Clark is rising in fame as the most conspicuous beneficiary of senatorial courtesy that Washington has ever known. The tenderness with which he has been treated in spite of a unanimous report in favor of his expulsion, is at once pathetic and mysterious, says that paper.

The Montana senatorial case spens a long way from settlement yet, since the

## SALISBURY'S SPEECH. Buffalo Express.

England has suffered an alarming reaction from the liberalism of Bright and Gladstone when this speech can be insidered as representing the dominat ing tendency of English public thought

Wheeling Register. It is passing strange, however, that Salisbury should deliberately strive to set Ireland by the ears in a time of danger. A fear of war with a great power should logically have brought bout just the contrary course.

#### New York World.

One of Gladstone's favorite maxima was, "Be just and fear not." Salis-bury's England is not just and there-fore fears. Universal military service is the spectre which the policy of the high hand and the strong arm has raised at every English fireside.

Pittsburg Dispatch. Thus in one moment the premier of the English cabinet tears down the structure of good will erected by the mod queen's pains to recognize the oyalty and patriotism of the Irish troops, and gives the lie to the declara-tions of his colonial secretary and other officials who have repeatedly asserted the independence of the Transvaal.

#### Detroit Tribune.

The visit of the queen to Ireland and The visit of the queen to Ireland and the enthusiastic praise of the British for Irish bravery on the field of battle have probably stirred anew hopes of home rule, and it was to head off any attempt to secure it that Lord Salls-bury calmly, coolly and some might say, cruelly, dashed their hopes to the ground by his decisive public utterance.

#### New York Post.

In any view of the case, it is an instructive exhibition of the innate ten-dencies of empire. Never was that ly-ing old fetich of Napoleon III's, "L'Empire c'est la paix," more clearly seet to be the charlatanry it is than today Empire means bayonets and conquest seen and perpetual strife over the division of and perpetual strife over the division of the spoil: struggles first to rob and then to retain: the fastening of a soldler on the back of every laborer. It makes the note and expectancy of civilization, not peace, but war,

#### Baltimore Sun.

The enthusiasm which the queen's visit is said to have inspired in Ire-land will scarcely survive this frank statement by Lord Salisbury. However gallantly the Irish soldiers may fight in South Africa, however loyal the people may be in the face of a war which the inajority of them condemn, neither the bravery of the Irish troops nor the loyalty of the Irish people will be re-warded with any further political concession. Ireland will, as long as the British imperialists are in power, remain a conquered province, an un willing member of a union for which the majority of the people of the Emer ald Isle have no love. The queen migh at use have stayed in England for all practical purposes if Lord Salisbury's tongue were to be unlossed so soon after her visit to her "loyal Irish sub-

## Boston Transcript.

Lord Salisbury's speech to the Prim-rose league, with its trust-not-for-free-dom-to-the-Franks-tone, was not the speech of a frightened man, but the speech of a shrewd man taking advantsenate committee proposes to push its report. If the committee resolution, declaring there was no election, is institut is like that of France in 1870,

