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**AN IMPORTANT MATTER.**

It will be remembered by many of our readers that some time ago Senator Wolcott of Colorado introduced a bill in Congress, providing for another Circuit of the United States to be known as the "Tenth Circuit," to include Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho and Montana. It is to be hoped that this measure will receive early consideration at the next session of Congress, to commence in December. There are many reasons why it should become a law.

All these Western States which we have named are now included in the eighth circuit, with the States of Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

It is not difficult to see at a glance that the business extending over such a wide area of country is too great for one circuit, that it must necessarily cause great delay in the hearing and determination of cases, and consequent expense and annoyance to litigants and the retarding of justice.

It is also evident that the people of this region are put to great inconvenience, to say nothing else, by the distance now to be traveled in order to present a case before that court, amounting to at least 1,500 miles, the court being held either in St. Louis or St. Paul. This amounts almost to an outrage on counsel and their clients.

The kind of cases likely to be carried to the circuit court from this part of the country is peculiar to the intermountain region. Therefore judges who are not only versed in the law that relates to general affairs, but also familiar with the circumstances and conditions existing here, should hear and decide the causes that spring within those surroundings. Mining and irrigation questions are among the most prominent subjects of litigation, and a knowledge of the special conditions existing in relation to them in the West is absolutely necessary to the administration of justice.

In the organization of a new judicial circuit, it should be provided that every alternate term of the Court of Appeals should be held in Salt Lake City, and in view of the large amount of business that will surely come before the court, it is necessary that not less than three circuit judges shall constitute that court.

We are of the opinion that a concerted effort should be made, not only by the bar but by leading firms and citizens of these parts, to bring this important matter before the attention of the United States Senate, at least as soon as immediately after the holidays if not before. The bill presented by Senator Wolcott will answer the purpose in view, if the provisions last named in this article are embodied therein. We direct attention to this matter just now, so that all who are interested in it may take such steps as will be necessary to obtain early action from Congress.

**PUTTING CHILDREN IN PAWS.**

The action taken by so many religious organizations and individuals in the religious-political crusade against the "Mormons" is beginning to arouse thoughtful and intelligent people and papers to reflections upon the condition of society in the various States of the Union. As the Deseret News has already admitted, widespread depravity elsewhere is no excuse for immorality in Utah. We repeat this, because when comparisons have heretofore been made between conditions in this State and in other parts of the country, sophistical opponents have endeavored to make it appear that we were condoning wrongs here because of evils somewhere else.

That is not the position we take. But we do say that the well intentioned men and women who are afflicted with the present mania against the "Mormons" might be somewhat relieved of that affliction, if they would open their eyes to what is going on close to home instead of straining their vision to catch a glimpse of the bugaboo which they have been told threatens them and their homes in distant Utah.

In the Evening News of Wednesday, we copied some official statements from the New York World concerning affairs in the almshouses of New Jersey. We now clip from the same paper some further statements, which ought to be interesting to the framers of resolutions concerning the alleged marital improprieties of one man from Utah. The World says:

Following the exposure of immorality and shocking abuses in New Jersey almshouses, as told in yesterday's World, Mrs. Emily E. Williamson, whose report as secretary of the State board of children's guardians to Gov. Voorhees first revealed the condition of things, last night made additional disclosures regarding the almshouses. Numerous parents, she declared, had "pawed their offspring" in the almshouses of the State, to mingle with and be brought up as paupers. Parents or legal guardians, she said, and railroaded children to these institutions, in many cases through the collusion of officials, to be relieved of the care and expense of rearing them.

Mrs. Williamson cited the case of a prosperous Jersey City barber who had

sent his five children, ranging in age from two to ten years, to the Snake Hill almshouse to be reared. He was abundantly able to care for them, but through official collusion had been able to have them cared for by the taxpayers of Hudson county.

In the course of the investigation it was discovered that the majority of children illegally in the almshouses were there through political pull. Others were there through the neglect of the freeholders to hunt up their parents or relatives.

Another case in the Snake Hill almshouse was that of a blacksmith, of Flushing, L. I., who earned \$16 a week. He succeeded in placing his two little sons among the paupers while still a resident of Hudson county, and then sent his children back to him.

As a result of the preliminary investigation 145 children have been rescued from the almshouses and returned to their relatives. The wardens were re-maintenance of each child. Mrs. Williamson said that good homes could be found for every child in the almshouses for \$1.50 per week.

Among the "pawed" children it was found that, owing to the failure to educate them, 80 per cent could neither read nor write. It was further ascertained that the mortality was greater than among children cared for by their relatives.

It is surprising how parents would sacrifice their children to the life of the almshouse rather than feed them themselves," said Mrs. Williamson. "Many mothers seemed glad to get rid of their children. They did not consider that they had surrendered all claim to them, but had merely placed them in pawn."

These exposures only exhibit slightly one phase of the disorders that prevail in Christendom. There are others, too terrible to depict and too degrading to explain in a family newspaper. They are simply signs on the exterior of that which is seething underneath. Yet they escape the notice of those who live in their immediate vicinity, but who are aroused to virtuous indignation over the supposed condition of affairs out in the Rocky Mountains.

And yet society here is comparatively free from the frightful evils that prevail in big "Christian" cities, and even if what has been alleged by the promoters of the crusade was true, it would not amount to a tiny puddle, compared with the floods of iniquity and social impurity that flow, all unheeded, around the very feet of folks who are shouting themselves hoarse over the danger to the American home, that threatens it by the presence of an alleged polygamist in the immaculate precincts of the American Congress!

**"CHURCH PARTISAN."**

The Deseret News is not responsible for the "confusion of mind" which afflicts a morning contemporary, so that it mixes up things in a general muddle. Neither is the "News" able to turn from error and evil, a mind that purposely misstates a subject and the position taken by an adversary for the purpose of muddling the public mind.

The Church for which the Deseret News speaks on Church questions, is charged with having nominated and elected the Congressman from Utah. The charge is false, but when the "News" offers proof of its untruth, the attempt is made to shut off this paper with the cry that the subject is political, and therefore is a party matter.

When the "News" assents to that proposition, so far as it relates to the nomination and election of the Representative, then a denial is entered and we are told it was a Church nomination and a Church election.

In any case the Deseret News is held up as "partisan." It doesn't matter much, for whatever a cloudy brain or a perverted soul may put forth as to this paper will not count with rational people, nor will it change, one iota, the course of the "News."

The latest collier against us is "Church partisan." That is an improvement on the elegant names which our contemporary has been in the habit of hurling at us, and on others from the same source today. The "News" is "Church partisan," if by that term is meant the advocacy of the doctrines, discipline and rights of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and its defense against the assaults of its foes, whether they proceed from religious, political or other sources. Does our contemporary "see the point?"

**IS IT PROPHECY?**

The expected has happened. Notice has been served on the donors to the Dewey home fund, that they are welcome to receive their money back, if they so desire. The almost brutal criticism to which the admiral has been subjected because of his unselfish act in placing the home in his wife's name, has caused this unpleasant epilogue to an otherwise charming idyl.

The admiral in a somewhat lengthy statement to the public explains that when he accepted the house, he thought it was a gift. He did not know that "there was a string to it." He further admits that he owes much to the American people, and ventures the suggestion that the people owe him something; but he is still independent. The people do not own him.

In this connection there is an almost prophetic ring to his words. He says: "The American people are not through with me yet." He explains that he did his duty, as he saw it, when he sailed into Manila bay, and that, should the country at any future time need him, his life and his sword will always be at the disposal of his countrymen. "The American people are not through with me yet." Admiral Dewey has proved himself to be remarkably clear-sighted. He has read correctly the signs of the times. Years ago he prepared himself for the work that became the crowning exploit of his life. Instinctively he started on the path that led to final glory. Is it possible that he now foresees that his naval career did not end with Manila? Are there to his trained perception indications of breakers ahead, through which the ship of state will need the best experience, judgment and skill? Idle questions! Perhaps so, but it can do no harm to remember that the victor of Manila has thought it necessary to remind the nation, that it is not yet through with him, and that his life and sword are at the command of his country.

Certain it is that the world is very much disturbed. Great Britain has a gigantic enterprise on hand in South Africa. Russia is reported to be

strengthening her forces on the border of Afghanistan on the highroad to India. It is stated that the Transcaspiian railway now terminates within a few miles from Herat, and that material and men are held in readiness to complete that road within three weeks. Under ordinary circumstances, that would be sufficient cause to demand explanations.

Then the Chinese problem is assuming a critical phase. This country is interested there, so is Germany, and Japan, not to mention China. Who knows but that after various efforts to untie the Gordian knot, the conviction will become general that it can be done only by a sharp cut with the sword of an Alexander, and who knows but that the time for such a catastrophe is near enough at hand for the great hero of the Spanish war to see it come to pass? "The American people are not through with me yet."

**TESTIMONY OF ARCHEOLOGY.**

An important discovery has been made in Egypt, in the district surrounding Heracleopolis, the treasure house of Egyptian archeologists. We find an account of it in the Literary Digest, copied from the Munich Allgemeine Zeitung.

The find consists of temple archives long hidden in the ruins of a sanctuary built by King Useresen II. They include letters and official documents of various kinds. Among the information thus conveyed is this; that in the sixteenth day of the eighth calendar month of the seventh year of King Useresen III, the early ascension of the dog star would take place. This astronomical statement is a clue to Egyptian chronology of those early ages. It forms a basis on which to calculate the beginning and end of the preceding era of Egyptian kings.

According to careful calculations it has been found that the common computations of archeologists relating to the historical period covered by a large part of the Pentateuch have been erroneous. Egyptologists have maintained that the settling of Israel in Egypt and the exodus took place long before the time indicated in the sacred narrative, and this has formed one of the grounds of objection to its historical accuracy. The archeologists, to be sure, have not agreed among themselves as to the exact date, one placing the period referred to as late as 2130 B. C., and another as early as 3315, and others selecting various dates between these two, but they have been unanimous in characterizing the Mosaic chronology as erroneous. Now this latest find is said to prove conclusively that the Biblical and Egyptian chronologies are in perfect accord, with a difference of only fifty years. The new calculations fix the beginning of the period between the years 1995 and 1993 B. C., and the Mosaic record is thereby vindicated.

The account in the Allgemeine Zeitung says that on these premises, the entire early history of Israel, including the period of the Patriarchs, assumes a quite natural place among the ups and downs of that age. From this readjustment of the Egyptian chronology it appears that the mysterious Hyksos, or Shepherd kings, came to Egypt shortly before the advent of the Israelites. The Phœnician power was extending at this time in all directions, traces of their conquests having been found in Babylon, in Egypt, in northern Africa, and in Europe. The early history of the Hebrews falls naturally within this general upheaval, and there can no longer be any doubt that the Mosaic account has been placed in a clear, historical light. The importance of the discovery in this age of higher criticism can hardly be overestimated.

In the long contest on scientific ground about the authenticity of the sacred Scriptures, the defenders of that volume have always come out victorious. Apparently irreconcilable statements have, on investigation, been found to be in perfect harmony with facts. This is true of the Bible, and it is no less true of the Book of Mormon, as far as this scientific test has been applied to it. American archeology is young compared to that of the countries in which Biblical history was enacted. But as far as it has penetrated the mysteries of this continent, it has only confirmed that much misunderstood record. As high an authority on this subject as Plongeon has not hesitated to say, that as far as he knew, there was nothing in the Book of Mormon contradictory of any known fact relating to ancient America. This is strong proof of the authenticity of that sacred volume. It is a complete refutation of the long ago exploded surmise that it owes its origin to the sickly fancies of romancers. The Pentateuch might as well, notwithstanding the evidence of archeology, be ascribed to authors of fiction.

**PULPIT AND PRESS IDEAS.**

Under the caption of "Menace to the Republic," the Detroit Free Press of Monday, Nov. 20th, devotes more than two columns solid, to reports of the attacks of ministers of that city on the "Mormon" Church the day preceding. The excuse for the trades of abuse and distortions of "Mormon" doctrine indulged in from "Christian" pulpits, was the Roberts question. But this was almost entirely lost sight of in the efforts to misrepresent and denounce "Mormonism."

The authority for all the assaults on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, was the literature which has been scattered through the country containing garbled extracts from discourses and alleged remarks of "Mormon" writers, some of them manufactured by the distributors of those pamphlets. The objections raised by the Detroit preachers have all been met and answered, so there is no need to take them up in detail, and the argument adduced from those harangues is so absurd that it would seem that even an anti-"Mormon" preacher would see its utter irrelevance to the subject of "Mormon" doctrine and its preaching and prevalence. "It is this: Because 'Mormonism' is said to be contrary to Christian doctrine and its missionaries have been wonderfully successful, therefore B. H. Roberts should be expelled from Congress. That is the kind of logic indulged in by the Detroit preachers.

One of them, as an argument for the

unseating of the Congressman from Utah, made these statements:

"The problem of 'Mormonism' is of practical interest because of the menace of increasing activity among the adherents to the 'Mormon' Church. The Christian churches are complaining that there has been an alarming decrease in their membership. But the increase will better indicate the relation of the 'Mormon' Church to this problem of membership. During the year 1897 the Congregational church gained 12,000 members; the Presbyterian church, 17,000 members; the Methodist church, 20,000 members; and lastly, the 'Mormon' Church gained 65,000 members.

"Among the 125,000 members of the 'Mormon' Church there are 20,000 church officials in descent from the President to the Deacons. The members of the Church are obliged to give one-tenth of their income to the Church authorities, and when Brigham Young was living he claimed the control of everything even to the ribbons on a woman's bonnet."

As a pleasing contrast to the effusions from the pulpit, we find the following in the Detroit Evening News of the same date. It is a sufficient answer to all the tirades from the different "Christian" pulpits on Sunday, Nov. 21st. That paper says editorially:

The News does not know what it its readers think about the case; but for itself it must confess that it has become somewhat confused by the noise and clamor that are being raised about the case of Representative Roberts of Utah. Doubtless we are very stupid; but we cannot understand what it is all about. Roberts is a very honest and well enough that Mr. Roberts is a polygamist on a small scale—no elaborate establishments like those maintained by our great and good friend and our distinguished fellow-citizen, the Sultan of Sulu; but rather a modest ménage à trois. It is not disputed, we believe, that Mr. Roberts married these three wives before Utah was admitted as a State, and he has continued to live with them, supporting the three families, and recognizing all of the offspring as legitimate children.

In the month of 1893 Mr. Roberts was nominated and elected to Congress. Immediately the cry was raised that the presence of such a man in the House of Representatives was a menace to Republican institutions. The demand was made that he should resign his seat. Finally somebody took the trouble to explain that the House could not very well refuse to seat him if he went to Washington bearing from the proper authorities credentials certifying that he was the legally elected representative to the Congress of the United States from Utah. Then the demand was altered, and petitions have been circulated insisting that the House shall expel the polygamist gentleman from Utah, upon the ground that he has three wives, and that three wives are a menace to the nation. To be sure, Congress has the power to expel one of its members on any ground it wishes to select. The only thing for Congress to determine is whether the crime fits the only punishment that body can impose.

The "News" must admit that while it has a very poor opinion of "Mormonism" and its practices, it sees nothing in the election of Mr. Roberts to the House of Representatives to warrant the turmoil that has been created. If all the men who maintain more than one domestic establishment are to be expelled, there will be vacancies in the representation from several States in the Union. As for any prestige that the "Mormon" Church might gain if he were allowed to hold his seat, we think that has been greatly exaggerated, too. Mr. Roberts will be only one representative among 355, and it is not probable that he will enact a great deal of legislation favorable to the "Mormon" Church. But, say the petitioners, the United States government cannot afford to recognize the "Mormon" Church by allowing one of its polygamist members to hold a seat in the law-making body of the nation. With all due respect to them, the United States government will not be recognizing any church of any kind if Mr. Roberts retains his seat. The government merely recognizes the fact that he is not disqualified by the Constitution for holding the office to which he was elected; and that he was chosen in a legal manner by citizens whose right to exercise the franchise in the manner they have cannot be questioned.

The whole question of "Mormonism" is entirely outside the Roberts case, and cannot be affected by any action the House may take in respect to his seat. If he is expelled from the House, the "Mormon" Church will not be harmed. Polygamy should be destroyed root, branch and twig; but that has nothing to do with the legal right of Mr. Roberts to hold an office to which he has been lawfully elected, or the right of citizens of Utah to elect him. Congress by a man who was not Constitutionally ineligible to the office at the time of his election.

**SAYINGS OF THE PROPHET.**

Mr. B. F. Johnson, of Mesa City, Arizona, sends the subjoined communication to the "News":

"In an editorial in your issue of the 7th of this month you discuss the question: Is the Earth Alive? After quoting a Russian philosopher and Doctrine and Covenants, you refer to the Prophet Joseph as having said that 'the earth breathes,' and to settle that point more fully, I will state that the Prophet was at my house at Ramona, twenty miles east from Nauvoo, on April 2nd and May 16th and 17th, in 1843, at which time he taught us all the principles contained in sections 129, 130 and 131 in Doctrine and Covenants. His instructions were drawn out in such questions asked by those present, and Brother William Clayton, his private secretary, wrote down at the time his replies, as they are in sections 129 and 131, in my house. On one occasion Brother Clayton was absent and there were other questions asked of great interest to me, and to others who were present. As to the cause of the ebb and flow of ocean tides, he said, the earth is a living organism and the tides are caused by its breathing pulsations. His replies to other questions such as: Where are the Lost Tribes of Israel? and as to what is to be the future of the brute creation, I could relate, were it profitable to do so."

The Anglo-Egyptian expedition up the Nile has administered a knockout blow to the Soudan uprising, and British need fear no further trouble from that quarter.

To be good and to do good mark a triumph that can be achieved in its fulness only by those whose pattern and reliance is in a sphere higher than mortality.

The Yankee is great as an advertiser, but the statements from London show that the English shopkeepers can give him pointers in using patriotism as a bill-board.

Five hundred cases of smallpox in a town of eighteen hundred population, as reported from Uniontown, Ky., make things look as if pretty nearly everybody had caught on.

The censorship in dispatches from South Africa is notably in evidence in characterizing British success as a "Boer rout," and reverses as a "withdrawal" or "evacuation." This censorship is

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the same all around, whether in Spain, the United States or Britain.

Colorado is proud of its big cabbage crop this year, eight hundred carloads having been shipped to the Southern States. Those Colorado agriculturists are a hardheaded lot.

Ex-Congressman Jerry Simpson has returned to farming, and says he is glad of it. The Kansas voters in his district seemed to be of that mind some time ago, hence the return.

So we are to have a milk trust, are we? The effects of it will soon be felt by the Salt Lake public. Is this a "partisan" remark? Well, all parties will soon take in the question with their morning's milk, and will know how it is themselves.

Senor Buencamino, the ex-member of Aguinaldo's cabinet, just captured, is the author of the latest Filipino pronunciamento claiming the ability of the Tagals to maintain a stable government for the Philippines. His changed circumstances may change his opinions.

The British army officers could stand ten tons of plum puddings being fired at the English troops now in South Africa, but when it comes to the queen bombarding "Tommy Atkins" with chocolates for Christmas, the veterans rise up and protest. They do not want the army knocked off its feet before the campaign is through.

The New York Evening Sun quotes Miss Susan B. Anthony's clever reply to her critics, in which the lady explains her position on the Roberts controversy, and adds this laconic but significant comment: "Of course Miss Anthony could not agree with the proposition—'What is a little thing like the Constitution between friends?'"

Aguinaldo's son is now in the hands of Gen. Wheaton. He is not kept a prisoner, but is given the best of care, as the child is but four years old. It can be said that Gen. Wheaton holds an interesting part of the family, and more of it should not be far off. In the meantime the general can give the baby better care than its father.

The reported misuse of the white flag by Free State Boers is most reprehensible, and Gen. Methuen did well to protest to the Boer commander. Judged by the course followed by Gen. Joubert, the Boer soldier who is guilty of such diabolism as that reported will receive scant courtesy from his own side, for the Boer commanders heretofore have sought to follow closely the rules of civilized warfare.

Big buildings for large numbers of workmen are not always pleasant places. Here is the remark of an observer who made a tour of the great office buildings in Chicago, and beheld the employees therein: "The manner in which those poor mortals are corralled in dark, poorly-ventilated rooms, struggling along day by day under the sickly gleam of electric lights, is enough to make the heart grow weary."

The death of Lady Salisbury may possibly be of grave consequence to Great Britain at this critical period. Lord Salisbury was much devoted to his wife, and her demise may cause his retirement from public life. In that event it is believed there would be a struggle for the leadership between Balfour and Chamberlain, which, while the war in South Africa is on, might be of serious consequences to the empire.

San Franciscans want to be relieved from the duty of entertaining the troops passing through the Golden Gate. The city has done such splendid work with the going and returning volunteers, that there should be no delay in granting this request. By their

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