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#### SOUTH JORDAN QUIBBLES.

We give place today to a long statement purporting to explain "the position of the South Jordan Canal company as seen by the stockholders." We do so in order that it may not be said that the Deseret News declines to present that side of a disputed question. But it really contains nothing that has not been published in this paper and replied to directly. We do not believe that the crude statements made therein are the views of the foremost stockholders of the South Jordan company, or that a vote based on the stock held therein would support the claims set forth. There are a few agitators who have

against the gentlemen who have devoted so much time and thought and patience to this undertaking are shameful, and to be condemned by all fair-minded people. "There are none so blind as those who will not see."

### ON THE RAPID DECLINE.

The Idaho Statesman has become the laughingstock of many papers in that State because of its evident senility, exhibited largely in its impotent attacks on the "Mormon" Church. Its latest eruption is entitled "Church in Polities," and its excuse for it is "the presence in the city (Boise) of a man whose personal experiences furnish a striking illustration of Church activity in controlling the political action of its members."

One would suppose from that assertion that the Statesman had really struck something, or somebody, that furnished proof or convincing evidence that the "Mormon" Church controls "the political action" of the Latter-day Saints. But after giving a garbled and incorrect account of a dispute that occurrred "some years ago," between a Church member who is a Democrat and the President of the Bear Lake Stake who is a Republican, over an alloged remark of the latter in a meeting attended by a number of members of both political parties, it falls down utterly in its effort to bring "the Church"

into the conflict. The Statesman calls the gentleman a "Bishop" all the way through the labored article, showing the writer's unfamiliarity with his subject, and the outcome of it all is a simple question of veracity, or rather of a proper understanding of a remark which was ventilated, as the Statesman admits, 'some years ago" and which was left as an open question of little consequence. No real connection of the "Mormon" Church or its authorities with the matter was ever established, and the Statesman does not allempt to any, but simply argues show that "If the Church were out of politics" and "wished its members and the general public to understand that its pledges were in good faith," it would "long ago have reduced to the ranks" the "Bishop" for abusing his authority, etc.

Now, is not that "proof" with a vengeance! If the Church had interfered in this dispute between a Republican and a Democrat in favor of either, would not that have been construed as the "Church In Politics" with some show of reason? The Church was not in it. Nothing was done by the Church in the matter. The dispute was between the two gentlemen alone. One declared the other said something which the latter disputed, and "there you are.'

The Statesman would like to run the "Mormon" Church as well as the poli-

Europe. There were three hundred and ten delegates, one hundred and thirtyfive of them coming from beyond the borders of France, and three hundred individual friends of the cause in addition, in attendance. The subsequent congresses have been at London, Rome, Berne, Chicago, Antwerp, Buda-Pesth, Hamburg, Paris, Glasgow, Monaco, and Rouen. The Hamburg Congress was especially important, its public meetings having, perhaps, the largest aftendance ever seen at these gatherings. It is proper that this country should have a large gathering of friends of peace, for the present encouraging status of that cause is chiefly due to the activity unfolded by citizens of this country. America has taken the lead in the promotion of peace. The influence of our representatives at the Hague saved the day, when representatives of other countries were about to retreat in despair. The ensign of peace has waved from the pinnacles of American legations throughout the world, inspiring hope and confidence among those who have been looking for the dawn of the Millennial day, among the

## MIGHT BE INVESTIGATED.

nations of the earth.

The New York Evening Sun, speaking of the fact that so many of our legislators are absent from the halls of Congress, quotes Congressman Livernash of California as saying in part: The other day when prislation of ex treme importance was up; when any man who had any right conception of the dignity of Congress would not have wished to be absent one moment, rights of the nation were lost because more men were at Bennings race track than under the dome. I know one man who hasn't come sober into the House of Representatives once this session, and against polygamy." he comes in pretty often. When he came in the other day an assistant sergeant-at-arms, a friend, came up to him to lead him out, saying, 'John, you must go out.""

The Sun admits that the charge regarding race-meetings is probably true, and goes on to say that if the Suburban or the Futurity were to be run in the vicinity of Washington during a session of Congress, the occupation of the sergeant-at-arms would be gone on the day of the "classic race." And national legislation would probably suffer if the great prizes of the P. R. were won and lost in a stadium on Rock Creek. "There are a good many Congressmen who would rather see Jeffries box than listen to the Demosthenes from the Twelfth New York district," is the indictment of the Sun.

We fear legislative assemblies all over the world are more or less liable to the same charge. Startling revelations would, no doubt, be the result of a thorough investigation.

ages. When they reach the age of discretion they will not advocate this.

The contest between the civil and military authorities in Colorado for supremacy still goes on. The consequence is everybody in Colorado has a supreme disgust.

Those bicyclists who insist on breaking the ordinance relating to riding on the sidewalks, and there are some, should be invited to an interview with Judge Diehl.

Seeing that the season for baseball and other outdoor games has opened, would it not be well for those who patronize them to remember the Sabbath to keep it holy?

Persons who were present at the 'prize fight" in the Theater last night declare it had all the evidences of being a "fake." If those who complain would not give cash and encouragement to this class of people they would never be disappointed by a "fake," for no opportunity for one would be given.

The Kansas City Journal has this to say on the question that is agitating so many:

"We cannot take stock in the idea that the Mormon Church is a hierarchy antagonistic to the republican forms of government, and that every member of the Church has forfeited the right to political place or honor by the mere fact of his membership. It would have been far more reasonable to have barred the Populist congressmen from Kansas a years ago, every one of whom was babbling about 'bullets instead of bal-lots,' and doing, his best to incite a rebellion against the Washington government. Neither in precept nor practice has the Mormon Church arrayed itself against the authority of the United States government, save that in terri-torial days it disobeyed the statutes

### THE MISSOURI. Kansas City Star.

The lamentable accident on the battle ship Missouri will undoubtedly furnish fresh campaign material to the op-ponents of President Roosevelt. The argument, it may be confidently pre-dicted, will take about this form: The captain of the ship on which the acciden occurred is the president's brother in-law; doubtless he owes his position to that fact and not to his competency; therefore presidential favoritism is re-sponsible for the appalling loss of life. Then somebody will look up the facts in the case and will discover that Captain Cowles had a fine record of over 30 years before his marriage in 1895; that the present assignment came to him in the regular order after forty years of faithful service; that the President had nothing to do with the case; and finally that the captain was probably no more responsible for the accident in the turret than he was for the latest eclipse of the moon.

### Worcester Spy.

A modern battleship is a great machine requiring electrical experts and mechanical.engineers to operate it instead of fighting sailors and intrepid naval captains. In some way the skilled mechanics and mathematicians,



their heads set in a certain direction, and the term "obstructionists" that has been used concerning them is strictly applicable in their individual cases.

There are a few - indisputable and simple facts opposed to the theory that the South Jordan company owns 80 second feet of the flow from Utah Lake. That company has the right to one-fifth of the flow as determined by the actual, beneficial use thereof. The court commissioner has reported that in a series of seven years that has not exceeded an average of 57 second feet. The correspondent says that the five canal com panies "have never since the establishment of these canals made a beneficial use of all the water Utah lake would discharge" between given points. Very well, the right to water is limited to the extent of its actual beneficial use, and the South Jordan company can claim no more than one-fifth of that amount.

The notion that the committee have done this, that and the other, and that the government wants to take some advantage of the farmers, is so foolish as to demand silence instead of reply. But we will repeat that the government does not ask or want anything. It is government aid that is needed which cannot be had until the beneficiaries come to an agreement as to what they want, and on a basis that can be recognized. Development for a greater supply-which is a real necessity-can be done much better and cheaper by the government than by the companies; hence the movement now objected to by a few people in South Jordan. It is not "the committee" but the people, the stockholders of four out of the five ca. nal companies who have decided on the basis alluded to. At first they agreed that 40 second feet was an equitable demand for their primary rights, but subsequently decided that 50 second feet was fair and justifiable. They have raised to 60, to meet the objectors. Are the four-fifths of the users wrong and a fraction of the one-fifth only right? Is the tail to wag the animal?

The correspondent is not only dens: as to these points but is not fair in putting his case. He speaks of an verage of 78.64 for a period between March 4 and October 15. That was the time when the pumping plant was in operation and when North Jordan did not use the water and the city permitted an extra flow for the farmers. But it does not allow for the full division of the water nor for the ocrasional failure of one of the pumps, and the figures do not show what the continuous flow is under all the circumstances, of which South Jordan can rightfully claim but one-fifth.

The argument that the water is not needed so much in the latter part of the season will not be endorsed by the mafority of the farmers in this county And the statement that only in one or two years has the South Jordan company received less than sixty second feet "in the early part of the season," shows that when compared with the latter part of the season the average has been much less than the sixty feet which the other four companies agree is a fair basis.

The demand for 80 second feet is not supported by any facts, figures or fair argument that has yet been adduced. And we can only conclude that the South Jordan opponents of the best measure ever presented for the increase of the water supply in these parts, in

tics of Idaho, but it has not the power to do either. It makes many assertions about what the Church does, without offering one particle of proof for its avowals, and shows the inherent weakness of its cause, by vainly repeating its baseless charges and assuming their truth instead of bringing evidence in their support. It is evident that the ridicule of that paper by many of its contemporaries in Idaho is not mere journalistic badinage, but well grounded appreciation of its decadence.

# THE PETROPAVLOVSK.

The Russians are slow to acknowledge that the latest naval disaster at Port Arthur was due to Japanese engines of destruction. But really there seems to be no escape from the conclusion that Makaroff was outwitted by Admiral Togo, and lured to death and disaster. The Japanese accounts of the affair appear to be straight and credible, while the Russlan accounts appear to be not free from difficulties. Thus, for instance, it is beyond belief, that Admiral Makaroff should run his flagship against Russian mines, with the location of which he must have been familiar. Then, all accounts agree that the vessel was struck midships, and not in the bow, as would have happened, had there been a collision with

submerged mine. The probability is in favor of the Japanese account, according to which a great naval engagement took place during which the two Russian ships were destroyed, and one disabled. A Cheefoo dispatch has it that the Russian commander was making a sortie with his squadron, when he was at tacked by the entire Japanese fleet and compelled to seek refuge in the harbor The Petropavlovsk, this account says was surrounded by five Japanese boats and was struck by five torpedoes.

But however the disaster is to be ac counted for, it is almost certain to have great influence upon the further devel opment of the war. If the naval advantages gained by Japan are followed up, Port Arthur cannot long remain in Russian hands. With the fall of that station, Japan's supremacy on the sea will be undisputed. The war will then be confined to land operations, until one party, or the other, is exhausted, or until a third party shall succeed in meditting between the two

# THE NEXT PEACE CONGRESS.

The international peace congress will be held in Boston, this year, during the first week of October. Only once before has this gathering taken place in this country. This was in 1893, in Chicago, in connection with the World's fair It is believed that the coming congress will be the largest ever held. There is ground for this hope, since the cause of peace has gained hosts of friends among all classes, in all countries. The object of the international peace congress is to promote popular education as to the duty of supplanting the war system by rational and legal methods. of the speedy reduction of armaments and the application of the vast suins spent upon them to constructive ends. and of the better general organization of the nations in their mutual relations. Since 1889 such congresses have been held almost every year. The gathering

### AGAINST LYNCHING.

The New York Methodists, in conference assembled, recently discussed the subject of lynching. One of the speakers called attention to the fact that the practice of murdering men and women, by mobs, has become a national disgrace. It is no longer confined to any one section of the country. Nor is it limited to any crime, race, or sex. During the past twenty years there have been, he said, 1,800 cases of lynching in this country, of which 600 were white and 1,200 negroes.

The facts in regard to this matter are most humiliating. It is well that the religious people of the country wake up to the peril that menaces both state and church, in the overflow of brutality, threatened on all sides. Too long they have slept and dreamed of peace. Until the leaders of, and inciters to, mob riots are severely dealt with, that particular form of lawlessness will stain American soil with blood and cover it with a curse that may have to be washed off with blood.

We hope the agitation against lynching will become general. The crime is abhorred by all whose consciences have not become dead through habitual consumption of moral poison.

Some people insist on going from bad to Hearst.

The unpoetic truth is . that April showers bring May moves. Were Carlyle living he undoubtedly

yould include Andrew Carnegie in his Heroes and Hero Worship." The fight at Albany shows that the Empire State Democrats expect to

make great gains this year. The Kaiser also dined with Mrs. Goe-

let as well as with Mrs. Vanderbilt. Yet the latter was facile princeps.

Why not refer to The Hague arbitration tribunal the question, Who or what sunk the Petropavlovsk?

Russia is still trying to buy ships. Would is not be wise and economical to walt until after the war is over?

In childhood days the ditty ran, "London bridge is falling down." But now it runs, "British trade is falling off."

The Russians still obstinately refuse to admit that it was the Japanese who sunk the Petropavlovsk. It is hard to kick against the pricks.

"Carnegie's gifts to date, \$101,412,223," says an exchange. Add his gifts of libraries and the like, and what does the whole amount to?

Henry Villard in his memolrs, says that Stephen A. Douglas was just four and a half feet in height. And yet he was a genuinely big man

The regret of the Japanese over the death of Admiral Makaroff is of the same order as the tears the crocodile sheds before it swallows its victim.

If nations denounced treaties as politicians denounce their opponents, the reign of peace would immediately be postponed another thousand years.

men of training, nerve and skill, are required to discharge these modern guns means economy as well as success both to have the shells hit the mark gunner who can land nine thirteen. ich shells on an enemy's boat within few minutes is worth millions iollars to his government.

#### Springfield Republican.

The frightful explosion in the after turret of the United States battleship Missouri, resulting in the death of 31 men, pales in comparison with the sink-ing of the Russian battleship at Port Arthur, but the Missouri is our own, and the accident to her is right at home. Not long ago a similar accident occurred on another of our warships. These casualties that are the result of chance or carelessness in modern nales seem to cost as many lives a naval battles. The accident on the Missouri is evidently the most deadly one in our navy since the loss of the Maine. Captain Cowles of the Missouri will com-mand public sympathy on account of the series of misfortunes that has attended his service on this ship. His presence of mind in flooding the maga. zine is said to have saved the Missouri from the fate of the Maine, and it is to be hoped that neither he nor any of his officers are censurable for the turrel explosion.

#### Cincinnati Enquirer, In our own case, which, despite the

nuch smaller loss, comes nearest home to us, the mishap is paralleled by that on the Massachusetts, when nine men were killed, and it is attributed by our officers to the same cause. They say there has grown up on each ship a de-sire to surpass all others, and beat the ecord, in rapidity of firing, and that the superheated gas due to too great haste caused the explosion. If this be true it ought to be possible to regulate the rate of firing in the future, so as to prevent the recurrence of such harrow. ing and costly results. There are some however, who take the view that the explosion was due to some loose packing material which got into the gun and ignited. The officers of the ship appear to have acted with great promptness,

bravery and efficiency. Pueblo Chieftain.

But now that the danger has been so erribly demonstrated, any further experiments along this line are unneces ary and wrong. The navy department should establish a maximum rate of speed for working the big guns and this should not be exceeded under any cirumstances except those of actual battle. It is only by the merest chance that the magazine of the Missouri did not explode with the loss of the ship and all its crew. No more risks of this kind should be taken.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The naval inquiry which is sure to llow should be of the most searching character, and if any surviving officer is blamable for the conditions which produced the fatal explosion he should ot be spared. The good of the service certainly demands that the safety of the men should be more secure in time of peace than in time of war, which does not appear to be the case now.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The May Pearson's contains another paper by Mr. Henry George, Jr., in his series of Modern Methods of "Finance" -The Shipbuilding Trust; an account of Thomas Nast's first trip abroad in the interests of his paper, by Mr. Albert Bigelow Paine, in the Nast memoirs; a timely article on Japan and Korea, by Mr. Colgate Baker; the story of Fer-syth and the Rough Riders of '68, by Dr. Townsond Brady, on the bight Dr. Townsend Brady; and The Birth of Great Trees, by G. Clarke Nuttall, B. S. The short stories are-The Super and the Signs, by E. F. Stearns; The Biter Bit, by D. F. Seton-Carruthers-Breast

Bit, by D. F. Seton-Carruthers-Breast of Light, by Edward Stratton Hollo-way: The Fight in Ghostly Hollow, in the King and Queen of Smugglers se-ries, by Halliwell Sutcl'ffe, and Time's Blunder, by Chris Sewell-all well il-lustrated. Pearson's Talks with Players this worth Size chais with Care this month give chats with Grace George, Jessie Busley, Eleanor Robson and Ethel Barrymore. Home Notes has

# that year was held in Paris, under the founded in obstinacy and a lack of presidency of M. Frederic Passy, now A Philadelphia woman's club is advo-clear understanding, and the strictures the Nestor of the peace cause in cating telling the truth about their New York,

