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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT 15, 1909.

PRESIDENTIAL TOURS.

A New York paper, the other day, made a fierce attack upon President Taft because of his great transcontinental tour. Unworthy motives were, of course, ascribed to him and his friends.

President Taft, we believe, realizes the value of Presidential tours to the country. They cause the citizens of the states visited to realize more fully that they belong to one country and have common interests. They stimulate loyalty and strengthen the bonds of union already existing.

Our government was founded in the East, and Eastern interests are still slow to recognize the importance of the West. The West has been added to the country in recent years. Such visits correct the impression that the West is merely an appendix. They help to do away with sectionalism and promote a better understanding of the country's needs.

President Taft will be welcomed in Utah with a cordially suppressed nowhere. He will be welcomed by all citizens alike. As the Chief Representative of the Nation he will be as heartily welcomed by members of one party as by another, for the people here believe in honoring the authorities that be as the representatives of all, and not merely of one faction. We trust the visit of President Taft to Utah's capital will be as much of a pleasure to him, as it is an honor to the State.

A GOOD WORD FOR THE SAINTS

The press of the country is no longer, as a rule, eager to dance to the music of anti-Mormon bagpipes. Papers do not sneeze every time an anti-Mormon sheet takes snuff. They do not jump every time such sheets crack the whip. This is evidenced in the case of the attack upon the Governor of Vermont by the Boston Traveler as noted in this paper of Tuesday. The Montpelier, Vt., Argus of Sept. 4 gives space to a defense of the Prophet Joseph, which we reproduce in another column on this page. And the same paper, of Sept. 8, copies this paragraph from the Randolph Herald and News:

"We do not believe the visiting Mormons at South Royalton would have Governor Proctor and other state officials if they should accept the invitation said to have been tendered them and join the party there. The people of this section have ceased looking for the hordes and hordes of Mormon pilgrims. Their course and conduct have been such as to warrant the good feeling that exists toward them. Whether the state should officially welcome a party of prominent churchmen of any denomination is a matter of taste and opinion, largely. The Mormons have certainly created a beauty spot at their Smith shrine well worth a long journey to see, at an expense of probably \$15,000, and they contemplate doing much more. Nobody in Vermont has been harmed thus far, and there is little prospect of moral blight resulting from their advent."

The Latter-day Saints are conscious of no offense toward God, nor toward man. They ask for no privileges, no prerogatives but those granted to American citizens by the laws of the country. They have no aspirations but to serve their Creator according to the dictates of their consciences and to do good to their fellowmen. Like all men, and communities of men, they may have their faults and shortcomings, and they may be far from perfect, but they have no other aim than to do what is right. Good men and women who come in contact with the Latter-day Saints, and especially with their leading men and their missionaries, feel convinced of this, and they generously acknowledge it wherever they go. Truth is proverbially slow, but it is overtaking falsehood all the time.

AMERICAN.

The August number of the Americana, published by the National Americana society, is a beautifully illustrated and instructive magazine. The following list of contents gives an idea of the high class of literature offered the public by the editors:

"A Hudson Bay Company's Hog," by James Cooper Wheeler; "Before the Walls of Tripoli," by William R. Hays; "History of the Mormon Church," by Brigham H. Roberts; "The Birthplace of American Liberty," by Henry Waterson; "Chastelaine of the British Legion," by Clara Bacon Foster; "Crucifixion for the Southern Party in the United States," by Milton Baker; "La Milla," by Francis Meade; "An Ancient Virginia House and its Ghost Story," by T. D. Pondston; "The Education of Successful Men," by William J. Leonard; "History of Slavery," by Sallie R. McLean; "Representative Southern Literature," by Elizabeth L. Stuebing; and "Rise of the United Empire Loyalists," by Vincent de France.

Everyone of these papers is worth reading, but of special local interest is the "History of the Mormon Church," by President B. H. Roberts, the third and fourth chapters of which appear in this number. We need not say that this history is absolutely correct, embodying nothing but well authenticated facts; not that it is written in the vigorous, fascinating style for which the gifted author is so well known. The name of President Roberts is to all who know him, a guarantee of accuracy of research, and clearness and vigor of expression. The article has two beautiful illustrations; one, a portrait of Lucy Smith, the mother of the Prophet and the Patriarch; and the other, a picture of the Smith home at Palmyra.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to this history of the Church. We hope they will appreciate it, and show their appreciation by subscribing for the magazine that publishes it. A great amount of good will be accomplished by placing the truth before the public in this manner, and the magazine ought, consequently, to have a large subscription list in Utah. It can be ordered through the Deseret News Book store, or at the offices of the American Society, 154 East Twenty-third St., New York. A great many people desire to know the truth about the rise and development of the Church. It is one of the great events of American history. This effort to disseminate the truth should have the support of all who have the interest of the Church at heart.

DOUBT WITHOUT REASON.

It does not speak well for the general variety of mankind, that so many are inclined to doubt the words of their fellow-men. There was a time when the bare statement of an explorer, or discoverer, was accepted as gospel, unless there was some evident reason for skepticism. But the rule now seems to be to brand everyone as a liar until the contrary is demonstrated. What is the world coming to?

Cook is being denounced as a liar; and Miss Annie Peck, who claims to hold a record for mountain climbing, is challenged to prove "to the scientific societies of either this side or the other, before any one will give her credit for even what she claims to have done. When she does produce this evidence," she critic says, "I will acknowledge her as a mountain climber, but not before."

It seems to be necessary for explorers in the future, whether they go into frozen regions or climb mountain peaks, to bring with them a notary and make an affidavit on the spot. Man no longer trusts man.

As for the case of Cook, if he had had with him instruments for photographing the sky, he could have brought home a document more authoritative than an affidavit. Such a photograph would show the Polar star in the center of the heavens and the other stars and constellations about it in positions that astronomers could easily locate and verify.

But even in the absence of such evidence, his daily records should show to the scientists how far north he went. Fictitious data would soon reveal their nature to the scrutinizing eye. Superintendent Tittman, of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, says he is confident that no one could prepare a fictitious story that would bear scientific investigation. He says:

"I feel the utmost confidence that the record Dr. Cook will bring back will tell the story which the scientists are now awaiting as plainly as if he had been under constant espionage. The members of the computing division of the Coast and Geodetic Survey could take the record of his observations and determine with practically no difficulty whether he has accomplished the discovery of the North Pole. The figures will speak for themselves. There are so many checks that could be applied that he could not hope to convince these experts if his observations had not been taken on the ground."

This is, of course, the only view to take at present of Dr. Cook's statement. The fact that many are inclined to doubt, without any reason for it, is really a reflection upon human nature itself.

As a female barber Delilah is easily first.

A man who is his own boss doesn't do much losing.

It is a wise father who knows half as much as his dullest child.

The milliner feathers her nest by feathering other people's hats.

No man has so many fair weather friends as the weather man.

If Fekino evidence is sauce for the goose it is sauce for the gander.

Disco de Rara's cup-bearer's cup is full. He has been ordered deported.

The shoemaker stands up for his lefts just as much as he does for his rights.

Lord Northcliffe says that Germany means war. No; Germany means business.

It is astonishing how much hot air there is about the North Pole controversy.

The standard of prices and the standard of revolt are generally raised together.

It looks as though Secretary Ballinger had changed his mind and will not kill any snakes.

It is more pleasant to see others as others see them than to see ourselves as others see us.

Marie Correll has become a suffragette. Still this should not be held against the suffragist movement.

As the weather moderates there is less apprehension over the coal question. Still it should not be ignored.

If Mr. Bryan's speech at Dallas is not a bid for another nomination we miss our guess, and will not ask for another.

"One learned doctor has decided that politics is a disease," says an exchange. And in the fall every two years, it becomes violently epidemic.

The best protection that can be given an American President is the love of the American people for law and order and reverence for the Constitution.

Judge Robert E. Lovett the new head of the United Pacific system was born in a log cabin. There is no use in going further, that explains everything.

Speaker Cannon, addressing the Bankers' convention, said that the present tariff law is not perfect but that it is not made perfect. How? He forgot to tell.

Puck had just finished reading the account of the Cook-Peary controversy

THE MORMON PROPHET

Editor of the Evening Argus: In accepting space to answer the article of Sept. 1, entitled, "Mormonism in Joseph Smith's" copied from the Boston Traveler, we are reminded of the saying of Gamaliel:

"For if the work be of men, it will come to naught. But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it."

Concerning the proposed visit of governor and staff we know nothing, but we do know that thousands of the best citizens of New England have visited the monument, among them the ex-governor, and all have left impressed with the wondrous beauty of the place and the kindness extended them while there.

Truly as the article says, "The present generation know little of Joseph Smith or what he did."

He was born of God-fearing parents. His father was one of the selectmen of the township, and teacher of the village school; and his mother, Lucy Mack, was a descendant of Ebenezer Mack, who founded the first Baptist church at Lyman, Conn. Had his father been ignorant, shiftless or dishonest, he would not have held these positions.

The writer has personally interviewed two residents of Sharon, aged 32 and 35 respectively, neither of whom knew anything but good of the family while residents in Vermont.

In 1815 the family moved to Ontario county, N. Y., and in three years had sixty acres of heavy timber cleared on their farm, which speaks well for their industry, refuting the insinuation of laziness.

In 1819, an unusual religious excitement moved New York and Vermont. His father's family belonged to the Presbyterian faith, but Joseph inclined to the Methodist, owing to much contention, as each claimed to be the true church, Joseph was undecided.

He thought on the words of James: "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally," etc. He put the promise to the test and while in humble prayer, two heavenly beings appeared, instructing him to join none as in due time the gospel in its purity and authority, as of old, would be restored to earth.

Here I would say that numbers of affidavits testify to the excellent character of Joseph Smith and his family up to the time of his visitation, and not all of them, as one affidavit says, did we hear that the Smiths had been or were bad people.

A period of four years elapsed, when, while engaged in prayer, Joseph received the visitation of Moroni, who said he was a resurrected being, sent by God to deliver the record of a great people who had lived on this continent of North and South America, who had been favored of God, but falling into sin, had been cut off. That they were the "other sheep" referred to by Jesus, John 10:16 and that he, Moroni, under command of God, while in the flesh, made an abridgement of their history on gold plates, and that he, Joseph, was now sent to deliver them, that they might go forth to all people. Joseph received them and by the power of God translated and published them to the world. This is the Book of Mormon.

In 1827 Joseph Smith nor anyone else knew aught of the signs of a vast civilization now being found in the west and south, substantiating the Book of Mormon. The theory connecting it with Solomon's Spaulding is obsolete, as that story was exploded years ago, by Pres. James H. Fairchild of Oberlin college, Ohio, where the manuscript is now kept, and who says: "The manuscript of Solomon Spaulding is not the original of the Book of Mormon."

The angel Moroni also appeared to and showed the plates to Oliver Cowdery, an honorable son of Vermont, Martin Harris and others. The latter died a few years ago (out of the Church) one of the most respected citizens of Richmond, Mo., and to the last maintained that he saw the angel. Eight other witnesses saw the plates,

over the discovery of the North Pole.

"What fools these mortals be," he said as he laid down the paper.

Mr. Herbert L. Bridgeman, secretary of the Peary Arctic club, says that instead of appropriating Dr. Cook's stores, Peary "only saved" them after they had been abandoned by Franke.

In other words, it was simply a case of "benevolent assimilation."

Mr. Willard Done has resigned as assistant to Colonel Squires, state insurance commissioner, and will join the teaching corps of the L. D. S. university.

Prof. Dime, we understand, will also give some attention to literary work, particularly in the direction of revising manuscripts for publication, preparing booklets, outlines, pamphlets, etc. There is an undoubted field for this work, and his eminent fitness for it is well known. While regretting the loss of his services to the State Insurance Department, we congratulate the Latter-day Saints' Business College and the evening missionary class on so excellent an acquisition to their teaching force.

DARNED STOCKINGS.

New York World.

A darned stocking is a little thing, but when it flies to the dignity of a theme for a cotillion report it merits consideration. According to our consultant at Hamburg a considerable industry exists in the importation into Germany of discarded stockings for remanufacture into shoddy. American stockings, it appears, command the highest prices, partly because of their fine texture, but also because, being but little darned, they are the most durable. The influence of so small a matter on a trade movement is not without interest. But it is the implied commentary on our national habits of extravagance which is most instructive. Czarist could reconstruct a suit from a single bone and a competent sociologist no doubt could find in this little example of wastefulness the text for a treatise. For the discarded holds good for hats, shoes and clothes as well, for food and drink, for all articles of consumption. A European peasant could far outdo us in the food which he gets out of a single American table and cloth himself and his family on the garments discarded by a Harlem household of the boulevard class.

ARE YANKEES DECADENT?

Philadelphia Record.

In the business of importing and re-exporting the population of this country, our native Americans have far behind the enterprising and industrious Europeans who cast their lot amongst us. Some significant figures bearing upon this matter are revealed in the school registration of Schuyler county. The registry in Portville shows a total of 2,627 school children. In Schuyler, a town of nearly equal population, there are 6,387 children registered. In Portville, the counts show that natives predominate in Schuyler and foreigners in Hamilton.

This is a fatal showing and an ominous one in other parts of the country, or denotation of high birth statistics. In good times the machine

but not the angel, and so testify in the world.

Moroni told Joseph his name would be held for good or evil among men; such is surely the case, judging from the article we refute.

During the first visitation the angel told Joseph there was no authority on earth to baptize for the remission of sins.

In 1829 John the Baptist, came to earth, restoring the Aaronic priesthood which holds that authority to baptize. Later, Peter, James and John who received the Melchizedek priesthood from Moses on the mount of transfiguration, appeared and conferred it also on him, thus restoring to earth, the authority to act in the name of God.

The Church increased in numbers, being incorporated April 6, 1830, (not 1828 as stated) and moved to Ohio, building the temple in this dispensation. Here the last incident referred to occurred. Inquire of any eighth grade student about the financial crash of 1836-7, it is in school history, he will say it was general in the nation, yet the article we refute, lays the failure of the Kirtland safety society to Joseph Smith, who had no connection with it at the time.

To refute the shameful insinuation concerning his character in 1841, I will quote from the writings of that great statesman, Joseph Quincy, (1844), who was a personal friend of Joseph Smith. He says: "It is by no means improbable that some future text book for the use of generations yet unborn, will contain a question something like this: 'What historical American of the nineteenth century has exercised the most powerful influence on the destinies of his country? And it is by no means impossible that the answer to that interrogatory may be thus written: Joseph Smith, the Mormon Prophet.'"

The reputation of Joseph Quincy is before the world, and also this query of his to what extent it is given or will be answered history will tell.

Quincy was a man of national repute, a great statesman, who stood for all that was noble, and was not likely to have been friendly to Joseph Smith, had he been the "great criminal or charlatan" as stated.

It was religious intolerance that crucified our Savior on Calvary; it was the same that forced the Pilgrim fathers to seek a home on a "Bleak New England shore." It was the same spirit made manifest by them, that drove Roger Williams, an outcast, to Rhode Island; and the same spirit assassinated Joseph Smith and his brother, Hyrum, in Carthage, Mo., 1844. There he sealed his testimony with his blood.

It has been said: "By their fruits ye shall know them." "Do men gather grapes from thorns?"

Years pass on; I see in the fastnesses of the Rocky mountains, if great peaks, they extend from Canada to Mexico; the valleys are fertile and beautiful. Was it so when these deluded followers of Joseph Smith, led by Brigham Young, planted their feet there? No. It was a barren waste. Yet today, cities teeming with the wheels of industry, adorn these same valleys; the universities and academies stand to their honor, hundreds of houses of worship, point their spires heavenward, and under whose roofs, swell forth each Sabbath day anthems of praise to the same living God that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob worshipped.

Can this be a wicked, wicked people, reeking with sin and wickedness? Reason answers no!

I could yet ask, your forbearance, while I draw another picture. I see thirty thousand veteran patriots marching and counter-marching in a great city of the west, who are they? These are the veterans who fought and bled for liberty, the fathers of the nation, if you please, the men to revere. Who honors them thus and opens up to the doors of their peaceful homes? The Mormons. Is it possible? Yes! We love the institutions you love; we have fought to maintain them as you have. Why this constantly recurring revival of misrepresentation? Why this spirit of intolerance? Why this slander?

Very respectfully,
J. T. SMELIK,
President Vermont Conference.

Both Phones 2549.

Google test," promptly responded the bright little two-year-old—Chicago Tribune.

The Minority Position.

"Saw Peleg down to the public library yesterday. He was reading all the old newspapers he could find."

"Yes; he can't remember for sure whether the Panama canal is to be sea level or lock, and whichever it is he's right it."—Washington Herald.

About Due.

"Not going to write letters during your last day at the beach?"

"I must finish this one," declared the girl. "This is the letter I started to buy a dance last June."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

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Sam Watson's Fareyard Circus, Shreve & Mulvey, Griff.

Herbert & Willing Musical Johnstons Harry H. Richards Beth Stone.

The Kinetoscope, Orpheum Orchestra Matinee Prices—45c, 50c, 60c. Evening Prices—50c, 60c, 70c.

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\$18.75

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In speaking of our exhibit of fall models, we wish to say that in all our magnificent collection of exquisite conceptions there are no two alike in the whole display.

The greatest designers in the world. contribute to the selection, and no woman who appreciates real artistic merit in millinery can afford to overlook our autumn showing.

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The keenest strop in the world. It gives you a razor, or better, still, it gives you a razor that much desired keen shaving edge, as good as an expert barber can obtain. The regular price that you see advertised in all magazines is \$2.00, and at that price it is a bargain; but during this sale we cut the price to 97¢.

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