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TO THE SWEDES IN UTAH.

Reports of the famine in the northern part of Sweden continue to come, and the situation is pitiable. The Descret News has already given some particulars of the distress. In view of the needs of the afflicted people there, we suggest to the Swedish Saints in Utah that some aid from them to their starying countrymen would be proper and Christianlike. Southern Sweden is responding to calls for assistance very generously. And in the United States help is being afforded to some extent, We believe that our people will be glad to cast in their mites when the occasion is understood, and we therefore make this suggestion for their consideration.

It is true that the terrible results of the famine there in 1860 are not likely to be duplicated. Railroad connections have been made since then. A line runs from Stockholm into the centre of the afflicted district, and supplies can be readily forwarded. But these must be first obtained, and all the help that can be given will be acceptable.

We are of the opinion that the Scandinavians of Utah, Swedes, Danes and Norwegians, will be ready to respond to the invitation to come to the aid of the distressed people of northern Sweden, and we therefore appeal to them to do so without delay. In this we have the approval of the First Presidency of the Church and we advise immediate action. Mr. August W. Carlson of Z. C. M. I. has kindly consented to act as treasurer for the funds donated, and they can be forwarded to him as soon as collected. What is done should be done at once.

### FAVORABLE SENTIMENT.

The opponents of Hon. Reed Smoot as a candidate for the position of United States Senator from Utah, would be greatly surprised, and perhaps chagrined, if they were to see the numer ous telegrams and letters of congratulation that have poured in upon that gentleman, on his choice for the office by the Republican caucus, which ensuces his election by the Legislature. They have come from prominent men in different parts of the country, many of them holding important official positions. The very scheme to prevent his election has stirred up a strong sentiment in his favor, even among Democrats as well as Republicans, who resent the interference said to have been interposed. As to his being seated, there is no doubt in the minds of those who are best posted on the law and the rules of the Senate. The following from the Portland Oregonian expresses opinions very generally entertained:

"Reed Smoot, who is reported to be certain of election to the United States Senate by the Republicans of the Leg-islature of Utah, is a Mormon Apostle. This profession of Mormon faith is no legal bar to his admission to the Senate. legal bar to his admission to the Senate, as he is not a polygamist in practice, as was Roberts, who was rejected by the House of Rpresentatives. Roberts had three wives and confessed that he was a polygamist both in faith and practice. Smoot is not a polygamist, and he may believe any faith he chooses so long as his religious practice is not in violation of the laws of the United States. Of course, the United States Senate, as the sole judge of the qualifications of its members, might reject Mr. Smoot, but it could no more reject him on the ground that he was a Mormon Apostle than it could on the ground that he was an agnostic or a Seventh-Day Adventist or a could on the ground that he was an ag-nostic or a Seventh-Day Adventist or a Unitarian. Our laws disqualify a man for public office not upon the acore of his creed, but upon the score of his practice, if that is in violation of our law. Under our law no man is molested or civilly discualified because he is a Mormon in faith, but because he is a colvernist in practice. polygamist in practice.

## NO FEAR FOR THE FUTURE.

According to the Washington Post It is not necessary to have any fears for the future on account of a possible exhaustion of the supply of coal. The storage rooms of the earth where coal and coal oil were in ages past put away for future use, will become empty in time. That is admitted. But this does not mean that a coalless age and the absence of natural gas and kerosene will be destitute of heating facilities; that there will be no heat for demestic uses, for manufacturing and for transportation. Nature, we are arsured, has made no such blunder as that. Nothing in the story of this earth furnishes ground for such an in-Metment of its Creator, The means of developing heat would be ample if all existing fuels were swept off the globe. The winds, waves and tidex produce force enough to warm a thousand worlds if their motion were so controlled as to tax its exhaustless capacity. And there is exhaustless heat in the sun. Invention is not dead. Noither abstract nor physical science is going on the retired list. What has been accomplished even in the last few decades ought to banish any doubt of the capacity of man to overcome such an obstacle to progress as the exhaustion of fuel. The reasoning is perfectly correct. Providence has not put the children of men upon this earth with-

out sufficient means of sustaining them here, as long as their earthly mission is not finished. As the necessity arises new methods of obtaining the means of existence will be "revealed" to those whose minds are prepared for that class of revelations. Thus it has been in the past. Man has been able to "subdue" the elements and thus make practically all the earth habitable.

THE QUESTION OF MIRACLES. A recent article in the New York In-

dependent on the "recession" of faith ic miracles, has started quite a discusgion in the religious press of the Eng-Lah-speaking world. The writer of the article claimed that

a belief in miracles was not essential The story of the miracles of our Lord, for instance, might be discredited and His teachings yet accepted. "Whether Christ"-so the argument runs-"was born of a virgin or not, whether His flesh and blood and bones rose from the sepulcher or not, whether four undred believers saw Him ascend into heaven or not-and we shall not hasten to give up our belief-we yet know that the Christian religion rests on the Sermon on the Mount, on the Eleventh commandment, on the regeneration of the souls taught to Nicodemus, or Paul's psalm of charity. So, if the miracles should one of these days have to go, we should still hold fast to all the duty, the obligation, the service the character, the new heart, the holy life of love, and should still believe that we had retained all that was vital in Christianity, all that the miracle was used to support.

The fallacy of this reasoning is apparent, when it is remembered that the first divinely commissioned exponents of the Gospel of Jesus, so to speak, staked all on the resurrecfign as an historical fact. That Jesus, after having died, rose from the dead; that He walked with His followers, talked to them, partook of food with them, blessed them, and finally ascended into heaven-the historical truth of all this is the very foundation stone of Christianity. "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is in vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished." I Cor. 15: 17, 18. That is a clear statement of the importance in the Christian structure of the most stupendous of all miracles. It is the foundation on which the edifice stands, and with which it must fall. It is nonsense to argue that the miracle can be denfed, and the doctrine retain-

The controversy on this point shows where the modern method of criticism necessarily must lead to. According to that criticism we commence by doubting the historical accuracy of the historical part of the Scriptures. We simply call them "myths." The next step is a repudiation of the authority of the Scriptures. And then comes, naturally, doubt in a life after this, and a tendency to the belief that man is but an accidental form of life that exists for a moment like an air bubble on the troubled waves, and then is no more. That is the logical outcome The effort to hold fast "that which is vital" and discard the rest, as it seems best to poor human understanding with its limited horizon, is only another form of total surrender to the enemy Infidelity is never satisfied, until it has consumed all.

The position of doubt assumed by many professed believers today is, how. ever, a logical outcome of the general denial of latter-day revelations. "Christlans" of today tell us that there can be no more direct communication with the heavenly Father, such as was had in former dispensations; there can be no visions, no visits of angels, no heavenly manifestations, no miracles. If this is true, the presumption is very strong, indeed, that the books that tell about such manifestations in ancient times are myths, and that the "critics" are correct in refusing to believe them. The denial of the revelations of God in this age, must necessarily lead to that position. The Gospel must either be accepted entirely, or else rejected entirely. Between "Mormonism" and infidelity, there is really no logical position.

## THE JEWS AND JESUS.

At a recent meeting of Jewish women at the temple Adath Israel, Rabbi Charles Fleischer brought up the question of the attitude of the Jews toward Jesus. According to the Boston Transcript, the Rabbi said that this attitude is of three kinds. Some Jews hate the Nazarene; others are indifferent, and others are commencing to appreciate Him. The attitude of hatred, he said. can be easily understood when we real ize that for centuries the name of Jesus has been the symbol of all the sufferings the Jews have experienced at the hands of those who followed Him-"at a distance." "Hatred," he continued, "is not to be justified by hatred, but we need not wonder that most Jews are unable to forget the persecution and ostracism which they have endured and still endure at the hands of the distant followers of Jesus, This attitude, however, represents not merely resentment and bigutry, but also an uncompromising adherence to pure

The attitude of indifference, the speaker thought, was taken by the many who had ceased to hate, and yet did not care to investigate the claims of Jesus. But the progressive Jews. or many of them, he declared, are beginning to examine with an increasng interest and a growing appreciation the career and the character of "this most influential of Jewish teachers, this loving and lovable Rabbi, Jesus of Nazareth.

One of the ladies asked the question whether anyone would be justified in believing that Jesus was a perfect beng. To this Rabbi Fleischer re-

"A few Jews are tending to accept His helpful humanity and to believe that He had a beautiful personality. For my part, I believe that Jews acc For my part, I believe that Jews act unwisely in the attitude that they take toward Jesus. Whatever Jesus was, Ho was a Jew, and I am willing not only that Jews shall receive credit for Him but that also in proportion to the intrinsic merit of His life and trachling we shall find further proof of the religious genius of the Jew, For one I am giad to recognize the greatness. of this human seer who chanced to be a Jew, and to acknowledge the singular ". His personality."

asceptance of Jesus as a great The teacher, as a "loving and lovable Rabbi," is a good introduction to His acceptance as the Messiah. For it He was good, and true, and just, His claims must have been true. And He claimed to be the Messlah? In fact, He was condemned for having "blasphemed" in this particular. If He was good. He is all that He claimed to be. He is the Messiah, the Savior of the world, the Son of God. If He is not all this. He is either a deceiver or one deceived. And in either case, there is no "singular beauty of personality," Jesus must be either entirely accepted or rejected. There is no middel ground that is safe, or even reasonable,

#### DESIRES INFORMATION.

Mr. Thomas Kane, 310 Ashland Boulevard, Chicago, requests information relative to the question of tithing. Acording to the Christian Cynosure he

"Quite a number of churches of the different denominations in this country and Canada have adopted the tiffe system as a solution of the problem of church finances, as well as of obtaining contributions for home and foreign missions. The results so far as I can earn have been extremely satisfactory I desire to obtain information from all churches who have tried this method, on the following points: First, as to how long the system has been in operation; second, number of tithers in the church; third, the total church membership; fourth, the proportion received from those who tithe their income as mpared with those who do not; fifth, he results upon church finances; sixth, the results so far as known as to the spiritual life and temporal prosperity of those who practice the system; seventh, the methods used to have the plan adopted by the church. Brevity and compactness of statements are very de-

We copy the item, because it proves that interest is growing in the world for a system to which the Latter-day Saints were the first to call attention, as a law of the Church in this dispensation. Not many years ago it was opposed by many religious members and people, but it is now being looked upon as a virtue. The gentleman should study the book of Doctrine and Covenants, together with the Bible, if he desires information on the subject, as revealed in this age for the obedience and benefit of those who are willing to do right.

#### PROMPT ACTION.

Congress and the President have done well in acting so promptly on the bill to suspend the duties on coal for the present. It is claimed by the opponents of the measure that it will not bring the expected relief, but it will be time enough to pass on that question, when the measure has had a fair trial. But the good work should not stop there. Let it continue, until it is made reasonably certain that a few grasping individuals cannot bring the American people to the state of vassalage, or make them tributaries to monopoly.

What oppression may lead to in this country, was illustrated at Arcola, Ill., the other day, where the citizens selzed sixteen cars of coal that was in transit through the city. And it is claimed that the crowd that took the coal included some of the best people of the town-clergymen, bankers, merchants. They simply felt that they were justified in helping themselves, after having suffered for two weeks from the prevailing coal famine. We may not justify the action of those citizens in helping themselves to property not theirs, but still less can the action of those responsible for the coal famine be justified.

## NOT AFRAID OF THIRTEEN.

Friday is not an unlucky day, nor is 3 a number to be dreaded. This is the substance of a recent statement attributed to Lieutenant Totten.

The gentleman has at times startled the world by announcements of impending calamities, but this time his words are calculated to have a calming effect. A correspondent of a New York paper feared that the year 1903 would be a year of calamities, because it has 13 in it, and because its sum total is 13, and also because the 13th of February, March and November fall on Fridays,

To this Lieutenant Totten replies:

"Well, what is the matter with either Friday or the number 13? As to Amer-ica, it bears 13 all over its heraldry, and Friday has been its chief day (discovery of America, Declaration of Inde-pendence, etc.) We have 13 letters in E Pluribus Unum, 13 more in Annuit Coeptis, both being mottoes on our great seal. We have 13, 13 times re-peated on that seal. Take out a new silver quarter, if you have one left, and count the 13s even on its obverse face. Dear me! Don't worry over the luck-lest number that there is-a full baker's dozen is 13-1 .e, one is for good measure pressed down and running Manasseh was the 13th ruler in Israel and we are the people.

Tillman and Gonzales never spoke as they passed by.

The people ask for coal and the trusts give them a stone,

Interest in the coal strike commission hearings is swallowed up by interest in the price of coal.

Senator Tillman's pitchfork is much ess deadly than Lieutenant-Governor Tiliman's pistol. There need be no undue apprehension

Louis. St. Louis always was slow, She has arrived. Lord Salisbury used to call Colonial Secretary Chamberlain "Jack Cade."

over the overdue American liner St.

Probably for the cadence of the name and nothing else. The price of beef on the hoof in Chicago has dropped fifty per cent. But it hasn't dropped a fiftieth of that to

the people who can afford to buy beef. So it seems that the Bridger, Montana, bank robbery was planned by a woman. Whoever she was she is entitled to take a front seat along side

Mme. Humbert. Mr. Carnegie has on hand seven hundred and thirty applications for libraries. If for any reason he should refuse one of these applications he would be called mean and stingy. Such is the gratitude of mankind.

That Washington policeman who halted Mrs. Roosevelt and told her she could not enter the White House certainly had more zeal than discretion. He also once halted the President. He is the only man in the country who ever dared call a halt on Mr. Roosevelt.

Another Russian torpedo boat destroyer has been allowed to pass through the Dardanelles. It looks as though the Muscovite and the Turk had lain down together and were not fearful of the rearings of the British

The Salt Lake Tribune now has something to say about "evasion" and "quibbling," a subject on which it ought to be an authority, judging by its record for both practices. But it does not mention the name of its paragon candidate for the United States senatorship. Is that evasion or quibbling or both?

The cost of the great Durbar, or reception, at Delhi is now computed to be \$5,000,000. It was really the coronation of King Edward as Emperor of India, through his viceroy, Lord Curzon. The British treasury is expected to furnish \$3,700,000, and the Indian treasury \$1,-300,000. Lord Curzon has spent his private fortune freely in entertaining the Indian princes.

The Massachusetts supreme court has recently decided that the streets are not laid out as playgrounds for children, but that a child who is playing therein is not a trespasser, and has a right not to be run over. Good sound sense that. Still it is not wise for parents to allow children to roam the streets at will and play when and where

Congressman Griffith of Indiana has introduced a bill to prohibit the accumulation of private fortunes beyond the sum of \$10,000,000 and to condemn any excess as a public nuisance, full of peril, and to forfelt it to the United States treasury. Public nuisances of this character are likely to be very few and exceedingly far between. What a pleasure it must be to commit a nuisance of that kind.

The Rome correspondent of the New York World says the pope enjoys excellent health, and everything justifies the expectation that he may occupy his exalted position for many years to come. The mother general of a religious sisterhood recently had the honor of a private audience with the Holy Father to whom she expressed her fervent hope that he might live to be a hundred. "Thank you, thank you, my child," replied the Pontiff, "but why assign a limit to Providence?"

The good people of Hawaii are very much stirred up over the report of the senate sub-committee on the leper settlement on Molokal. They fear that a change to federal control would injure the islands. It is hardly probable. The general government could give the lepers better treatment than the territorial government possibly can, while the disease itself would undoubtedly be more thoroughly and scientifically studied. There is really no ground upon which

It appears that President Kerr of the Agricultural College has issued no "ultimatum" to the State University as reported. Of course not. There is not any real unpleasantness between the two institutions. Some little dispute has occurred about duplication of studies and classes but a mutual understanding is likely to settle all that, and there is no need for any serious contention. Neither of the presidents is disposed to be either contentious or unreasonable, "Let us have peace."

The Hon. Mrs. Coulter, Representative in the Legislature from Weber county, has the courage of her convictions and senses her duty to act on the wishes of her constituents. She also understands her responsibility in the House to rest, not upon the personal views of some of her lady friends, but on political principle. She can afford to "agree to differ" with individual dissenters. The distinction conferred upon her in her appointment as chairman of a most important committee, is a well deserved compliment to her distinguished ability.

The words "Jehovah" and "Elohim," says Public Opinion, were in common use among the Jews in Old Testament times, and there is good reason for assuming that the latter term, a plural of a word signifying majesty. lordship, and government, was in use among the primitive nations of the east long antecedent to the Mosaic era. These facts do not, however, warrant the conclusion that "Jehovah" and "Elohim" are the most ancient names of the Deity. They are antedated by the Egyptian title "Nutar"-or, to be more exact, "Nutar Nutra Amtu Heret" (the Almighty Power which is in Heaven). Professor Renoul, a French archeologist, emphasizes this point in his book on "The Religion of Ancient Egypt."

## ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

New York World.

The Rev. Dr. H. K. Carroll, the gov-ernment's church statistician of 1999, reports that "nearly every relleious body in America has more churches than ordained men." Pulpits multiply than ordained men. Pulpits multiply while pastors decrease. Ministers of all bodies number 147,113 and increase slowly. On the other hand, the churches number 194,116 and increase

Worcester Spy.

Any preacher can collect moral precepts and deliver them to his hearers; but great is the preacher who can lead his audience up to a high mountain and his audience up to a high mountain and give them perspective and outlook. The usefulness of a mother is not to be gauged by the amount of good advice she gives the child, but by the clarity of the atmosphere with which she envelopes the child's life

The last file of the Sydney papers contains a passage of unconscious hu-mor: "The natives of Malieta are, it is said, bitterly opposed to the intro-duction of Christianity, and as a result frequent disputes occur, many of which were investigated by H. M. Sparrow, Mr. Sparrow visited five places on the island, namely, Auki, Sio, Uras, Kivi and Port Diamond. At the four first-named villages the natives were firstnamed villages the natives were found to be hostile toward the Christian re-ligion, and it was deemed advisable to



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give them a salutary lesson. Numbers of the natives were taken aboard and shown the heavy guns. They seemed to recognize the awful character of the instruments of destruction and left pro-foundly impressed. As a further warning, several rounds of blank shell were fired into their villages. The ordinary practice shells, which are non-explo-sive, were used for the purpose, and although no actual damage was done, the natives were very greatly alarmed, and fled in all directions."

The Congregationalist and Christian World.

We see convincing evidences that the Christian churches in this country are in the first stage of an evangelistic movement, which is likely to effect all denominations and to continue for several years. These evidences are found in newspaper discussions of religious problems, in news from the churches, reports of sermons, and plans for ag-gressive work. Especially do we note the increasing purpose of individual Christians to reach their neighbors and friends with the effort to persuade them to declare themselves as disciples

The Watchman.

Undoubtedly we must look to God for that blessed visitation of divine influences that we call a revival. And perhaps one of the reasons why these seasons of spiritual refreshment are not more frequent is that we have sought to command them by merely human agencies. Certainly that is the reason why so many so-called "reviv-ais" have been simply periods of nerv-ous excitation, barren of lasting spirit-ual results. And yet, the question arises: Can we do nothing to secure this blessing? The answer of the Scriptures appears to be plain that we can do much. The very fact that we have a desire for the blessing is God-given, and as we are true to it, by keeping our minds close to His written revelation, and by waiting upon Him in prayer, and by waiting upon Him in prayer, we shall find that our own souls are quickened, and that the fire burning in our hearts is readily communicated to others.

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