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#### PRESIDENTIAL POSSIBILITIES.

One feature of the interviews on Pres-Hential candidates, published in the "News" on Saturday, is the almost general preference of President Roosevelt for another term. But this is only natural. Whatever faults he may have-and no man is perfecthis honesty, his valuant championship of whatever he deems right, his patriotism and manly statesmanship have endeared him to the hearts of American citizens. The people trust him. Besides, he has taken the initiative in a number of measures which many citizens would be glad to see carried out under his leadership. The famous declaration that he would consider his election to the Presidency as the seand election to that office, counting his election to the Vice Presidency as the first, and that, consequently, he would under no circumstances become a candidate next year, is by many regarded as an utterance prompted by gencrosity rather than statesmanship. The weight of it, when balanced against national issues. in the decision which the statesman is everything, is judged accordingly.

As for the candidacy of Secretary Taft, it is the opinion of well-informed Republicans in Washington who keep in touch with the political conditions throughout the country, that it is on the verge of collapse. According to the Washington Herald, no section of the country has developed any enthusism for his candidacy, except New England.

Fairbanks, it is thought, stands a better chance to secure the support of the state of Ohio than any other candidate. In Indiana, it is said, whose delegate vote Roosevelt may have for the asking, in case he consents to run again, there is some sentiment in favor or "Uncle Joe" Cannon as second choice after Fairbanks. Hemenway, Watson, and other members of the Indiana designation are Cannon's devoted persomal friends. But if Fairbanks cannot be nominated for President, local gard to belief, which the Constitution conditions are bound to prompt their guarantees. advocacy of the old ticket again-Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

But, reverting back to the possible re-election of President Roosevelt, and the candidacy of Secretary Taft, an Omaha dispatch of June 19 quoted Louis, as follows:

Louis, as follows:

"At this time I am not authorized to give out information officially, but I can say that the President has recently considered very carefully the question of accepting the Republican nomination for another term if he decides in his own mind that it is the true wish of the people that he do so. Secretary Taft has not and probably will not announce himself a candidate. Of course, if President Roosevelt does not step in, the Secretary of War will

of course, if President Roosevelt does not step in, the Secretary of War will receive the unanimous support of the next Republican convention.

'However, I think I am in a position to say that President Roosevelt has decided that he cannot decline the nomination if it is tendered him unanimously. He resilizes that his position would be weakened should he at this time announce himself as ready to accept the nomination. While in Washington I was in conference with persons authorized to speak for the President in this matter, and there is no doubt in my mind as to what may be expected. I do not believe Secretary Taft's name will be presented to the convention."

Judge Spencer came to Omaha after

Judge Spencer came to Omaha after a political mission to Washington. At Omaha he joined Secretary Taft, and it is understood that he had some message of political importance to convey to the Secretary of War, with whom he left for Kansas City.

### TO THE CRITICS, AGAIN.

Dryden was of the opinion that "truth has such a face and such a mich, as to be loved needs only to be seen." The apt and forefble reply of Elder Roberts to the attack which certain ministers recently made upon the faith of the Latter-day Saints, has occasioned not a little merriment at the expense of the critics, which merriment, however, it is not our purpose to prolong or enlarge. Soberly believing in the truth of Dryden's maxim, we propose to consider whother or not it is a fair con-clusion which the ministers have drawn, which is, in substance, that the faith of the Latter-day Saints is unscriptural and unreasonable, simply because they believe they are justified in so characterizing expressions discovered in sermons or papers of which prominent men are the authors.

Few modern men stand higher in Christian theology than Bishop Jeremy Taylor. His lifet of The Palus of Hell," as expressed in his discourse on that topic, is shown, in part, by the following extract:

Tollowing extract:

"We are amazed at the inhumanity of Phalaris, who rousted men in his brazen built, this was joy in respect of fin comparison with) that fire of hell which penetrates the very entuals without consuming them.

"Husbands shall see their wives, parents their children, tormented before their eyes.

"The bodies of the damned shall be crowded together to hell like grapes in a wine pross which press one another till they burst.

"Every distinct sense and organ shall be assailed with its own appropriate and most exquisite sufferings."

Now, judging the ministers by the

Now, judging the ministers by the day Saints, and it rollows that they ple could get been unite nearly faultnot only believe in, but are bound by, less that deal with the bears of the the flendish and parrible conception of Vellowstone, the and hill stag, the the future state of the sinner, as expressed by one of their "authorities." Springfield fox, the northern wolf, etc., than those which these enterprising and

Jeremy Taylor, and they claim that the sayings of leading men in the past history of the Church prove the faith and practice of the present day. Their claim is nonsense. They are bound to admit that the members of their churches are not obliged to accept the opinions of men in the past or present unless those opinions are consonant with reason and in harmoy with the Scriptures.

Or do the ministers still profess to believe in the doctrine of hell as taught almost universally in Christendom, un til the Prophet Joseph proclaimed the mercy of the Eternal Father. If they do, we can refer them to an antidote for all such error-to the Gospel of Christ as understood by the Latter-day Saints -to a mercy that "endureth forever." extending where needed, beyond the grave into the spirit world, and forever working to save and to redeem, not merely to condemn and torture eternally, those sons and daughters of God who were not fortunate enough o believe in and obey the Gospel in

But as to the main question at issue If it is competent to prove what "Mormonism" is by quotations from works not accepted as standards of faith, why is it not equally good to prove what the faith of the ministers is by quotations from well-known sermons and from theological treatises in Christian literature?

#### WHERE TREASON HIDES.

An alleged correspondent of the local anti-"Mormon" sheet voids his venom in the assertion that the memhers of the Church do not profess loyalty to the Constitution because of its intrinsic worth, but primarily because it serves the purposes of the 'Mormon" Church. Is this, he asks, to which the sheet, o

course, answers, No, It is treason. It has come to this now that, in the opinion of the anti-"Mormon" pathfinder, it is treason to profess loyalty to the Constitution of the United States, No wonder that the members of the Church are accused of "treason," They certainly are, and have always been, loyal to that instrument of liberty.

It may be doubted whether the alleged inquiry was formulated anywhere outside the office of the sheet referred to. But, assuming that it was, it merely shows that the organ has idiots among its readers and supporters.

People with ordinary intelligence understand that when the speakers, or writers of the Church point out that the Constitution of this country is so free that under it the Church could be established and grow as nowhere else on earth, they do so, not because that this is the only motive why they love it, but because that is a sufficient answer to the absurd charge that the "Mormons' do not love the Consittution. It is equivalent to saying that the "Mormons" love that instrument, not only as every loyal American citizen loves it, but for the additional reason that as a "Mormon" he loves liberty of conscience, equality of rights without re-

The Latter-day Saints have been taught that the Constitution is an instrument that owes its existence to divine inspiration. They have been taught to look forward to a day when wicked men are to make assaults upon Judge Selden Palmer Spencer of St. it, to destroy the safe-guards it has erected around the inalienable rights of man, and to be prepared to defend it, even with their lives if necessary. If

that is treason, make the most if it. That the Constitution is not safe from assaults of anti-"Mormons" was sufficiently evident during the last crusade against the Church. The proposition was to deprive a citizen of the United States of his constitutional rights, for no cause whatever recognized the conspirators openly urged discegard for the Constitution and a decision In accordance with an alleged "higher law." If that was not a treasonable proposition what was it? Yes, anti-'Mormonism' is treasonable in its aims and means. That is the reason why it charges Church members with treason. It hopes to hide its assassinations and overturn the law behind a mass of false

### THE NATURE STUDENTS.

The controversy occasioned by the President's reference to certain writers as nature fakirs, raises an interesting

Suppose that such books as those of Messrs, Seton, Long, and London, which at present appear to have great popularity, contain exaggerations, as claimed by Mr. Roosevelt and John Burroughs, what then? Are all books | cradle, that contain exaggerations of the doings of nature's wild creatures to be discouraged or suppressed?

We think not: at least not until there are other books of equal morit from the standpoint of popular tasks to take their places.

Mr. Seton's books, for example, exaggerate the reasoning powers and the party. sensibilities of animals; whereas it is not clear to what extent animals poscontain accounts of the relative strength of aulinals that appear highly improbable; and Mr .Long's books report certain feats of animals that to most observers seem incredible. Granting all this, it seems to us that these books are responsible for the creation of a great deal of that interest in stade himself out to be, nature which, it is said, exists quite generally among the younger generation who have been reading these pon-

cussion are concerned, we would agree with the President and Mr. Burroughs miconni, that is a marter requiring fur-

unfortunately happens that we do not

ing in favor of the best and tr books. But where are the books that ure better? We have to take, in nature as in other fields, what we can get, not what we would desire to have, And until better books that people will actually read are produced, we must accept those containing errors, rather than to read none at all.

It is true that the craze of the average reader for something wonderful, something novel, exciting, and even improbable, may give exaggerated animal ctories an advantage in the market, But we also think that books which turn the popular taste toward a study of nature contain in themselves the natural antidote for any errors or exaggerations they may unwittingly present. For soon, under the impetus of the interest thereby created, we may expect to learn the real truth of nature and to read of it presented in a style that shall be as entertaining as the most fascinating of the present day productions can possibly make it.

Mr. Burroughs thus summarizes the case against Dr. Long: "He is not observing coolly to see the simple facts; he is looking to see the impossible incident he has been told of and he sees He doesn't take the camera along,'

Here is the solution. Take the camera. It will tell the truth, which is often stranger than fiction, and we shall soon have plenty of nature material from a thousand sources to where at present we have but one.

### CHINA'S KEELY CURE.

We have noticed in these columns the heroic fight the Chinese government is making against the opium vice in the empire. It appears that the crusade will not be confined to the opium smokers at home but that it is to be carried on among the Chinese in foreign lands as well.

According to the Los Angeles Times an imperial edict reached that city last week, in which the Chinese were informed that after a certain date it will be a crime punishable by torture for a Chinese subject to indulge in the use of the poppy drug. Copies of this edict were pasted on telegraph poles, in restaurants and on the walls of the tong uses and temples.

With the edict came bottles containing an alleged remedy against the oplum habit. This will be distributed free of charge to all who need it, and the Chinese addicted to the vice will have to take the medicine or be declared enemies of their country.

The medicine referred to is a herb prepared and made into pills. The story goes that the Chinese government some time ago offered a liberal reward for a remedy that would cure the opium habit. Finally a report came from one of the southern islands of the Malay archipelago of a wonderful herb to be found there. The Emperor sent for specimens. Experiments were made and it was found that within eight days, by the use of the drug, the craving for opium would be destroyed. A factory was built at Shanghai and the preparation of the medicine was begun. Several million bottles of it have been scattered over the Chinese empire, and it is being sent to every country in which Chinamen live. The pills, it is said, are taken in tea, six a day for eight days.

There can be no doubt that the optum habit has been a great curse to the Chinese race. Strenuous measures have been taken in the past to put an end to it. In 1840 such efforts cost the people a war with England in which the Chinese, of course, lost and were forced to

tolerate the ravages of the drug. If it is true that a herb now has been found, which in a short time cures the victim of his unnatural cravings, there will be no war about it. Whether the t of losing the head, in case the remedy proves ineffective, is immaterial as long as the desired effect is produced. To the Chinese it will mean a new start on the road to greatness among na-

To produce a sane and safe Fourth wet the firecrackers and bombs.

Ways that are past finding outcoal dealers' weighs.

"Is life worth living?" What a question to ask in strawberry time!

The sweet girl graduate already has been metamorphized into the summer

Horticulturists are about the only people these days who are not accused of grafting. The hand that rocks the boat is no

relation to the hand that rocks the If it pays to bring building stone

from Indiana, why wouldn't it pay to bring coal from there? "A Yankee at the Court of King

Arthur" made real by the presence of Mark Twain at King Edward's garden

The sheriffs of Mariposa and Madera counties are saying. Lone bandit on the hills, farewell,

To purchase coal and not know what the price is, is worse than buying a pig in a poke. According to witnesses for the defense

A seismograph has been installed at

the University. If the students do anything shocking it will be recorded. If Christian had only had an automotile to climb the Hill Difficulty, how

much easier his task would have been! The decision in the suit brought by Dr. Beatty is expected to determine

The chambers having endorsed his policy in the wine-growers' strike, Premier Clemenceau may now seek a

the fact that he crows best who crows

His many denunciatory addresses show that the chancellor of Syracuse university is, in a way, a Day of

Note that this reasoning is not ours. ingenious authors have written, it would but theirs; for they have not regulated be a simple matter to direct their read-

oks It is the best,

When the officers want him it is almost as hard to find John D. Rockefeller as it is to find a needle in a haystack,

"It is a tissue of falsehoods," said Secretary Tart when his attention was called to the reports of dissatisfaction on the part of the administration with the management of affairs under the isthmian canal commission. What circumlocution and refinement of expression compared with a much shorter and more virile word.

It is often asserted by defenders of trusts that they produce a cheaper and a better product. This assertion does not harmonize with the fact that steel trust steel rails are inferior t the old steel rails. A broken rail was scarcely ever heard of until the trust was formed and now they are heard of almost daily. And the steel trust has the effrontery to say that it will produce a better rail if given five dollars a ton more. What is this but an admission of the inferiority of its

### RIGHTS OF SMALL BOYS.

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

The traditional right of small boys the world over to climb trees has been judicially recognized by the Mississippi court. A Mississippi youngster climbed at oak tree through which passed an electric light wire. The wire was not properly insulated and the boy came to contact with it and received severe injuries. An action was brought against the company for damages and the court found in the boy's favor. The court held that the company was at fault in stretching an uninsulated wire through the tree, particularly as it had fault in stretching an uninsulated wire through the tree, particularly as it had numerous branches which grew close to the ground, and said: "The immemorial habit of small boys to climb trees filled with abundant branches is one of which corporations stretching wires over such trees must take notice, and the court is going to safeguard the right of small boys to climb such trees," It is good guessing that the learned judge was once a small boy himself and possibly retains pleasant recellections of tree-climbing feats of his own.

#### THE VICAR AND THE ROOK

London Spectator. A vicar in Breconshire had an acre on his glebeland which had become coarse, and he was advised to plough it up and sow corn. When the corn sprouted, a few rpoks trespassed, but one especial mother rook was there all day—her nestlings were close by. The vicer become engaged and though he

day—her nestlings were close by. The vicar became enraged, and though he had never before killed a rook, he took his gun and shot the mother. He fully expected to be justified in the examination of the crop, which was crammed, but not with corn. It was full of wire-worm, and contained very few grains of corn. The vicar told the writer of these lines that never again would he take gun against a rook.

### WATER FOR NEW YORK

Pueblo Chleftain. Pueblo Chieftain.

New York City has entered upon one of the most stupendous engineering works ever undertaken, for the purpose of providing the metropelis with an adequate supply of wholesome water. It is planned to construct an elaborate system of waterworks originating in the Catskill mountains, turning the entire Esopus valley, across the Hudson, into a great lake by means of the huge Ashokun dam. From this lake an aqueduct, with a channel 27 feet deep, will pass under the Hudson and extend to the Croton system. It is estimated that the work will have progressed so far within six years that is estimated that the work will have progressed so far within six years that the New York water supply will be increased by 250.000,000 gallons a day, and when the entire system is completed, which will be in about twenty years, the supply will be increased by 600,000,000 gallons a day. The cost of the improvement is estimated at \$161.000,000. The beginning of work on this immense project is the result of years of agitation and earnest endeavor.

### JUST FOR FUN.

The Needed Qualification.

"Why do you dislike him so?" asked Mrs. Gailey. "He's a member of your club, isn't he "
"Yes," replied Gailey. "but he has no business to be."
"Why, what's the matter? Doesn't he drink?"—Catholic Standard and Times

"I like the automobile for style," said "I like the automobile for style," said the old Georgia farmer, "but for safety an' solid comfort give me the slow, old-fashioned ox cart, but I'd like to collar one o' them automobiles an' hitch about four plows behind it in a 20-acre field, then turn on steam an' let it give the old mule lessons in gittin' over ground.—Atlanta Constitution.

She-I hope, dear that you are not going to worry about my exceeding my allowance this time. He (brightening up)—You don't mean to tell me, dearest, that there

isn't any necessity for it.

"Certainly not. What's the use of worrying about something you can't help?"—Life.

"Now, in order to subtract," explained the teacher to the class in mathematics, "things have to be of the same denomination. For instance, we couldn't take three apples from the years, nor six horses from nine dogs." A hand went up in the back room. "Well, Johnny?" smiled the unsuspecting teacher. "Please, ma'am," shouled the boy, "can't you take four quarts of milk from three cows?"—Credit Lost.

"You look downcast old man," "Yes, I feel that way. I asked Miss Hoamley to marry me and she fixed the day in the last week of June." "Well, the time will pass quickly." "Yes, that's what's worrying me."—Philadelphia Press.

"Yes," said the prospective purchaser, "I always select an automobile by its motors." "But don't you pay any attention to its finish?" asked the salesman, who had been showing the uphoistering and brass trimmings, "Oh no. All of my automobiles general finish up a tree or in a haystack."—Chicago Daily News.

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