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Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - APRIL 12, 1901.

PRESIDENT CANNON GONE.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is in mourning. It has experienced a great loss. President George Q. Cannon, whose demise, with a brief biography is announced in another part of this issue of the Desert News, was so intimately associated with the great latter-day work that his career is part of its history. From his boyhood he was a Latter-day Saint. He figured at Nauvoo during the lifetime of the Prophet Joseph Smith, was one of the earliest settlers in these mountains, aided in the building up of the Territory, represented it for many years in Congress, did much toward the formation of the State, served on important foreign missions, was active as an Apostle of the Lord, was known and loved in every city, town and village in Utah and the country surrounding, where he frequently visited and where he taught the truths of the Gospel, and gave sound advice on the affairs of the people both secular and ecclesiastical, was at the head of the Sunday schools of the Church, promoted its educational and literary interests, was a leader in the associations and corporations formed for the temporal advancement of the State, gave his whole time and wonderful energies for the public welfare, sustained a large family and lived a life of honor, sobriety, dignity and devotion, and stood among the foremost men of his time as a distinguished citizen, a commanding orator, a forcible and elegant writer, a wise counselor, a practical director and a devout and inspirational servant of the Lord.

President Cannon's intellectual powers were varied and remarkable. No matter in what he engaged, there was an exhibition of mental strength that gave him prominence and entitled his views to weight and consideration. He was usually calm in his manner and judgment, courteous to all whom he met, and pleasant in his demeanor. His personality was attractive and cheerful. Though not of tall stature his noble head was indicative of power, and his presence never suggested littleness either in figure or force. His exemplary life was a continual object lesson and exhortation to temperance, honesty, cleanliness, virtue, benevolence and charity. His capacity for business was astonishing. In the councils of the Church, and directorships of the various enterprises with which he was connected as a leader, he bent the full energies of his mind, and exhibited a patience and endurance that rarely flagged and that was surprising to all observers. In his family he was indeed a loving husband, father and patriarch, and his tender care over all his household and descendants endeared him to every one related to him.

While in the Church of which he was one of the Presidency he was looked up to as an exceptional and prominent character, sound in doctrine, firm in faith, thoroughly devoted to Church interests, ready to sacrifice everything for its advancement, he was recognized in the political and commercial world as a man of mark, whose influence was desirable and whose presence and words were of value on great occasions. At notable gatherings and congresses of great public associations, his voice was heard with respect and eager attention, and he never disappointed the expectations of his admirers.

The long experience of President Cannon, his thorough familiarity with the affairs of the Church in all the world, his retentive memory of men and things, and his readiness to grasp the details of a situation and to perceive the ways and means to a useful end, render his absence from Church councils a great deprivation, and emphasize the loss we have sustained in his departure. His resonant voice will no longer be heard in our tabernacles and assemblies. His cheerful countenance will beam upon us no more in this world. His towering intellect and spiritual influence will be exercised in another sphere. He is, no doubt, "wanted on the other side." He spent all his energies in the service of the Church, and his physical form has broken down under the weight of his labors, and the attacks of infectious disease, consequent upon the failing force of resistance. We must bear this deprivation with such fortitude as we can command, and think of the gain to the great cause to which his life was devoted, by his entrance into that sphere to which so many of his associates in the ministry have gone.

To his family all words of condolence at our command will fail. God alone can comfort and support them in this hour of trial. To the people who have been familiar with his presence and teachings we can only say, God is over all. His will be done; He will overcome every evil for good. All Israel will be sorrowful at the demise of the great man whose efforts for their uplifting will now be better appreciated than while he was living among them.

Let us all be thankful for the life and labors of Brother George Q. Cannon, emulate his conspicuous virtues, and

cherish his memory as a mighty champion of the truth, who suffered in its cause and never faltered or failed in his duty. Peace be to his remains. His calling and election are made sure. His rest will be glorious. He will be numbered with the Prophets and Apostles of the last dispensation who were faithful to the end, and an everlasting crown awaits him in the celestial world.

LATEST-PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON'S FUNERAL WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, AT 12 NOON IN THE SALT LAKE TABERNACLE.

FROM UTAH TO MEXICO.

"There is a strong likelihood that the large body of Mormons who are preparing to migrate from Utah to Mexico will meet with a far less hospitable reception beyond the Rio Grande than they have been led to expect. The movement appears to have been prompted by information that polygamy is tolerated in one of the states of Mexico, and that the Mormons would be heartily welcomed. Advice from the Mexican capital, however, report a strong public sentiment against the threatened invasion from Utah and it is distinctly intimated that the newcomers will wish they had remained away. In view of Mexico's splendid progress in morals and learning together with the fact that she abolished slavery long before we did, it is remarkable that the polygamous Mormons should hope to find an asylum for their peculiar institution within her borders."

That appeared in the New York Mail and Express of April 6th. It sounds like an echo of the past. Every year something of the kind is sent forth from the press of this country. It is as regularly contradicted, but that does not count with the papers that print the canard. Nor does the fact that no such horrid as that described ever takes place, seem to weigh a feather against the fiction which they repeat. Nevertheless we once more inform our contemporaries, East and West, that there is nothing in it.

There is no "large body of 'Mormons' preparing to migrate to Mexico" or any other place. A few individuals who expect to better their temporal condition, and some young folks who want to make a home of their own on land of their own, move out as opportunity offers to less thickly settled places north, south, east or west, but there is no movement of "Mormons" to any point like that mentioned in the New York paper, nor is there likely to be, because there is no need for it.

As to the "polygamy" idea, that is simply nonsense. It is not permitted by the Church to say anything of the State. It exists now only in what remains of the obligations of the past, and in the perverted imaginations of "strong-minded" women and weak-minded men, who are oblivious to real evils within touch, but are agitated over remote horrors that fade into nothingness on near approach. The Mexican people do not fear the advent of "Mormons," but welcome them, whenever they settle on Mexican soil. Nor do the "Mormons" either seek or need an "asylum" anywhere; they are all right at home, where they mind their own business and set an example which their professedly "Christian" friends would do well to emulate.

We presume the Mail and Express, like some others, has been misled by reports published in Los Angeles papers and in a Mexican journal. It is there asserted that "Dr. H. F. Gray, representing the Mexican Colonization Land and Development Bureau," has been engaged in obtaining franchises from the Mexican government for his company, under the pretense that he can start six thousand people at once into Mexico, "to develop that country's resources." Also that "The Mormons from the State of Utah are among the principal emigrants" that "they are anxious to leave Utah, and many have negotiated with his company." He also is reported as giving his views of the "Mormon" religion and the progress of the "Mormon" Church. If his claims as to Mexican concessions are no more reliable than his notions as to the "Mormons," and his statements about their desire to emigrate from Utah, the whole reported business is a fraud.

There is no "Dr. Gray" authorized to speak for the "Mormon" Church, or to act for the "Mormon" people, or connected in any way with a proposed movement of "Mormons" into Mexico. Every once in a while some speculator seeks to obtain concessions of Mexican land, under the plea that he can colonize a number of "Mormons" upon it. Our people are sought after as valuable colonists, and therefore the idea is held out that they can be moved into Mexico in great numbers. The proposition is false, the scheme is fraudulent, and the news published about it is a deception. By this time the influential journals of the country ought to know enough not to copy the nonsense, and thus aid in misleading the public by these repeated foundationless reports.

MUNICIPAL SALOONS.

According to a London dispatch Great Britain is about to experiment with "municipal saloons," in the interest of temperance. The Public House Trust company, under the direction of Earl Grey, is about to lease or purchase the existing saloons, acquire all the new licenses and manage the traffic in the interest of the local communities. The company does not expect more than five per cent on the invested capital; the surplus will be devoted to the building of churches, maintenance of schools, parks, theaters, libraries, bath houses, and other public institutions.

Earl Grey is quoted as follows, in regard to this project:

"No modern temperance advocate willing to take a practical view of the liquor problem any longer believes in prohibition. It has proved a failure in the United States as well as in Great Britain. Regulation is the only weapon with which we have in England at least, fight the trade intrenched behind £20,000,000 (\$100,000,000) of annual net profits. We figure that so long as the people will and must drink, their tendencies should come back to them instead of merely still further fattening a monstrous private monopoly. We hope to promote temperance first by revolutionizing the entire saloon atmosphere, and secondly by pushing forward the saloon non-intoxicants. A third means is

by giving tea and coffee and food the prominence over beer, whisky and spirits. We shall operate in the beginning in the rural districts, invading the cities by degrees."

Associated with the earl in this movement are the Duke of Northumberland, Viscount Ridley, late home secretary; Sir Edward Grey, M. P., and others.

As will be seen, the idea is to introduce into Great Britain the so-called "Samstag" system which has been in operation in several Norwegian cities for many years and which is the twin brother of the Gothenburg system. It cannot be denied that wherever it has been in operation for some time, it has had beneficial results. It closes the saloons at the hours when workmen are most exposed to the temptation of spending their hard earned money for drinks. It holds the bartenders responsible for the good order of the places where drinks are sold. And it gives the community the benefit of the surplus earnings. Undoubtedly there are ways in which the laws and regulations can be evaded, but on the whole the system has proved successful.

Temperance people generally hold that there is no remedy against the saloon evil except total abstinence. And that may be true; but if that is impossible to attain, except as individuals shall be made to see their duty in that regard, it becomes imperative to adopt some efficient system of regulation for the control of those who will not, or cannot, abstain entirely from intoxicants, and for the benefit of society in general. We do not believe any more national or effective system has been proposed than that which now is about to be tried in Great Britain, and it will be interesting to see its operations there. If it works well in England, it should be given a trial in this country, and make the exploits of the Carrie Nations superfluous.

LARGE IMMIGRATION.

There are early signs of a heavy immigration this year to this country. The condition of the laboring classes in Europe is becoming oppressive, and many are turning toward America's shores to seek remunerative work and comfortable homes.

About a week ago the German steamer Rhein landed 2,409 immigrants in New York, and this is said to be the largest number of steerage passengers ever brought over in one ship. Well, there is plenty of room in this country for industrious, thrifty and loyal citizens, who come for the purpose of founding homes and building up the waste places, or in other ways contribute toward the national wealth in brain or muscle. It will take a long time before the United States has a population comparable in numbers to the square mile with either Great Britain or Belgium, to say nothing of India or China. And there can be no good reason why this continent should not be able to sustain as many of the human family as the countries mentioned.

Immigration is the best standard by which to measure prosperity. At present the United States seem to be an Eden to those who toil for starvation wages, while they are made to carry heavy burdens of militarism and are denied reasonable representation in the governments of the countries, for which they are taught to be ready to die at any moment. No wonder that they come by the thousands.

AMERICAN GENEROSITY.

The New York Times, in its Saturday Review presents some interesting data concerning public gifts and bequests in the United States during the last year of the century. They are from advance sheets of the Appleton's Annual Cyclopaedia. Gifts and bequests amounting to \$5,000 or over are included in the list, but ordinary denominational contributions for educational, benevolent, and religious purposes, and also State and municipal appropriations to public institutions are excluded.

The figures show that even with these limitations, gifts and bequests for benevolent purposes amounted during the year 1900 to \$47,500,000, and this is the largest sum for such purposes in eight years, with the exception of 1899, when charitable donations reached the sum of \$62,750,000. During the last eight years the total gifts and bequests within the limitations specified, amounted to \$314,050,000. It may be added that the present year, though only one-fourth gone, is keeping well up with its predecessors.

It is edifying to contemplate such figures at a time when there is an impression that generosity is vanishing and selfishness all-predominant. Our age may be one of mammon worship, but there evidently are thousands who either have never bowed down in worship before that strange god, or who have turned away from their evil ways. The spirit of philanthropy still influences wealthy Americans.

Mr. Frederic Harrison not long ago made some remarks at the Authors' club, on the recent offer of Mr. Carnegie to provide buildings for libraries in New York. They are pertinent in this connection. He said:

"One thing that has particularly struck me in this country has been the spirit of philanthropy which is everywhere displayed by our wealthy citizens. A remarkable instance of munificence has been made known within the last few days. These great gifts to libraries, schools, and colleges have surprised me. We have nothing like it in England. Why we have it, I would not take too long to tell. Our social system is different from yours. There the heir of a wealthy house has to provide the means through which his son, or it may be his grandson, may take his place in parliament, or may become the head of a noble line. Apparently an American college has only to ask and means are given it. Nobody in England ever thinks of bestowing upon our colleges the much-needed endowments which your citizens so freely bestow upon yours. I congratulate the people of the United States in possessing such generous donors and I congratulate them also in possessing such a large and well-cared-for reading public."

There is much timber in the Philippines and naturally many (Tagalogs) in the timber.

Added to her other misfortunes and disagreeable experiences Brazil is now suffering from the plague.

Minister Loomis' account of the con-

dition of affairs in Venezuela was not so very luminous after all.

M. Deleasse says he was charmed with the Duke of Genoa. It may be, but did the charmer charm wisely?

It has often been said, that there is gold in sea water. The officers of the Wilhelm Kaiser der Grosse are very much inclined to that view.

The most influential paper in Caracas issued in mourning its edition announcing the capture of Aguinaldo. If it did this when he was captured it must have suspended publication altogether when it learned that he had taken the oath of allegiance, so great was its grief.

What a wild insane story that was that the Filipino junta in Singapore sent the London junta that Gen. MacArthur intended to put Aguinaldo to the torture. There was no foundation for it except the erratic movements of disordered brains. Gen. MacArthur is no Weyler.

It is much to be hoped that Secy. Hay and Lord Pauncefote will be able to arrange a new convention regarding the Nicaragua canal. Like all negotiations this will have to be a giving as well as taking by both sides. The fact that each country is desirous of reaching a final and satisfactory understanding is the most hopeful sign of all.

How easy it is to deceive mankind! Here is this really notorious counterfeiter Skoog, who passed among his neighbors for an active, interested citizen, an earnest churchman, a kind neighbor respected, almost beloved, by all. Yet he was preying upon mankind, trading upon a seemingly good name, yet all the while a man of the very worst kind. How eagerly is the world led and deceived by appearances! Yet it cannot be much different for it is that by which man must judge. Only One can know the heart of man as it is.

A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Hartford Times.
The city of New York sets a good example to the country from time to time when it shows that any law can be enforced if the officers of the law set out to do it. The latest illustration came from a sudden determination to enforce the law against spitting on the floors of street cars and public buildings.

Philadelphia Ledger.

If New York succeeds in stopping the spitting nuisance, possibly some other cities may be encouraged to do the same.

Baltimore American.

The Baltimore ordinance has become a dead-letter, and it is high time to start in this city a crusade modeled on the New York pattern—one that shall put an end to these nuisances and teach the offenders that they must respect the law and the rights of others.

Philadelphia Times.

A little persistence in this salutary discipline will accomplish much for public health and decency. The indiscriminate spitter is among the most disgusting beasts in the whole range of the animal kingdom, and if he cannot otherwise be taught to mend his ways, he should be imprisoned or transported.

Washington Star.

There is serious need here for such a raid as that which resulted so successfully in New York and for a general bestirring of the public conscience on this subject.

AS TO TRUSTS.

Springfield Republican.
The billion-dollar trust is more properly the billion-and-a-half trust. The charter of the United States steel corporation, as now amended, provide for a stock capitalization of \$1,500,000,000, which, with a bond issue of over \$200,000,000 makes a total capitalization of over \$1,700,000,000. It is now in order for another spasm of fear of general bankruptcy and ruin to sweep over industrial Europe. Matters, indeed, are moving along swiftly enough in this particular to make one's head swim here in the United States.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

There can be no maintenance of competition except by making it possible for the railroads and manufacturers to maintain competition without paying too heavy a penalty; and this result can only be attained by rational regulation.

THE CANAL TREATY.

London Daily News.

We are disposed to think that the rights reserved to us under the Clayton-Bulwer treaty are not at the present day and in the altered circumstances of the case of overwhelming importance to Great Britain. Nobody doubts that we have those rights, and no sane person can maintain that a mere resolution by the Senate can override them. Obviously it was not easy for Lord Salisbury's government to submit to the somewhat arbitrary and dictatorial methods of the Senate. If, however, America is still anxious to spend her money in constructing and owning a canal (and in making herself to that extent more vulnerable), there seems to be no reason of sound policy why Great Britain should cast obstacles in her way.

London Times.

We shall be ready to assent to reasonable modifications of its clauses when we are asked to do so and when there is a fair probability that the Senate will accept our concessions in the spirit in which they are offered. Until that time arrives, we have no grounds for dissatisfaction with our existing legal position, a position which we do not intend to abandon except upon terms which have been concerted in a friendly manner with ourselves.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The biennial report of the State Board of Horticulture of the State of Utah, for the years 1899-1900 is a veritable handbook for the fruitgrower, as it contains a vast fund of information of much value to both large and small producers of fruit. It is handsomely embellished with many illustrations, showing typical fruit farms and orchards, irrigation methods, manner of spraying, etc. The leading carvers of the report, written by successful Utah fruit growers, will show its value to the horticulturists of the State: San Jose scale in Utah, Certificates from Successful Growers, Rules and Formulas for spraying, Carving for Orchardsmen, Carving in Utah, Preservation of Fruits by Drying, Growing Tender Grapes, in Utah, Grading and Packing Fruit, Orchard Planting, Fruit Tree Pests, Fruit Evaporation, List of Fruits, Peach Culture. Copies of the report will be furnished free upon application to members of the board of horticulture, or J. A. Wright, Secretary, Ogden.

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