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WASHINGTON.

The anniversary of the birth of George Washington brings to mind again the great truth which no one understands more thoroughly, or appreciates more fully than the Latter-day Saints, that this is God's country. Abraham Lincoln on one occasion expressed that thought. There was a good deal of fear at one period of the Civil war, that Lee would conquer and proceed to Washington. Then Lincoln, so the story goes, went into his private room, and prayed. And he said: "Now, God, this is your nation—your war. We cannot stand another defeat—it will ruin us. If it is right that we win the victory, I pray that you give it to us." Yes, this is God's nation. That is the great lesson of its birth and of the wonderful life of the immortal hero that forms the central figure in the struggle for freedom and independence.

When that struggle commenced, Great Britain was a power among nations, possessing vast resources. It had a population of eleven million souls and about 200 ships of war. The colonists here numbered about three millions, but sometimes they had, probably only 5,000 men available for active war service.

Prospects of success for the cause of freedom were not bright at first. But for Washington and the little band of patriots around him, it would have failed, and this government would not have been established to bless mankind. But Washington and his compatriots were clearly prepared by the great Ruler of the destinies of nations for the work they were called to perform. They were instruments in the hands of God.

It has recently been asserted that there was royal blood in the veins of Washington. His lineage has been traced to Edward I. This king was a mighty warrior. He fought as a crusader for what was then thought to be a holy cause. He united England, Scotland, and Wales, and under him England became a mighty nation. One might almost fancy the history of Edward repeated in George Washington. For the latter also fought for a holy cause, and for a union no less magnificent than that to which his royal ancestor devoted his energy and talents.

Washington was a soldier out-ranking in genius all the other officers. He was a man of extraordinary industry and he always mastered the details of any work before him. As a general he had no equal. He was long-suffering and patient. He was hot-tempered but generally he had perfect control of himself. Sometimes he, like other mortals, lost that control and then he "swore like an angel." If contemporary records are to be relied on. He bore personal slights with dignity. But his crowning quality was his patriotism. Wisdom, patience and power were united in him. He was specially endowed for the mission to which he was called.

The Farewell Address of Washington, in which he rose to the highest pinnacles of patriotism and statesmanship, ought to be studied carefully by every American citizen. The keynote of it is unity. It is particularly important at this time when internal strife seems to be the sole test of patriotism.

Only the other day Senator La Follette in an address delivered at Baltimore, Md., made the following significant statements:

"The basic principle of this government is the will of the people."

"Our government has undergone a change. It isn't the pure representative form of government our fathers made for us 100 years ago."

"As I believe in God, I believe that the kind of government our fathers built does not exist in this country today."

The speaker sketched the political growth of the country, pointing out changes since the government was established, and then took up industrial development, showing the relationship between the business enterprises and the lawmaking and enforcing powers and how the former are trying to control the latter. He declared the country was at the mercy of seventy-six captains of finance, who not only are endeavoring to stifle competition and wipe out commercial independence, but who are also trying to throttle our government, both state and national. He read from de Toqueville's study of the United States, as follows: "In the United States I never heard of a man spending his money to corrupt the people or the government." Then the Senator added: "That was fifty years ago."

He did not hesitate to say that "our representative government is in peril." By way of illustration he referred to his own experience. He said:

"In neither party is the trouble with the rank and file. It lies in the convention system. I was a candidate for governor of Wisconsin five times. After the first time I could have got the nomination in fifteen minutes if I had entered into a deal with the organization and surrendered to its demands. In 1895 I went to the convention with enough votes to nominate me on the first ballot. Between 9 o'clock and midnight on the day before the convention enough of my delegates were bought in the room at one of the hotels of a United States Senator to defeat me."

The anniversary of Washington's birth should be a reminder to every true American of the sacrifices made for the establishment of a free government in this country, and the necessity of vigil-

ance, lest liberty be lost. If there is any foundation for the warning sounded by the Wisconsin senator it is time to wake up to the threatened peril.

HERE IS PROOF?

The "News" has made the assertion that no members of any church have more liberty than the Latter-day Saints enjoy. The Tribune says this "hypocritical statement" is not sufficient. What proof, pray, does the hungry wolf want?

There are hundreds of thousands of Latter-day Saints who would be willing to testify before God and the world to the fact that no Church leaders ever tried to coerce them in any manner whatever, or deprive them of the exercise of their judgment. There is not one who can truthfully say that his rights as a citizen, or a Church member, were ever interfered with by any of the leaders of the Church. There is a cloud of witnesses to that fact.

The Church does not believe in coercion, not even compulsory salvation. The doctrine of the Church on that point was expressed by the Prophet Joseph, when he said: "I teach the people correct principles and they govern themselves."

The so-called "political rule" which requires the more prominent officials of the Church not to engage in politics without first consulting with their brethren to ascertain whether they can be spared from their ecclesiastical duties, has sometimes been quoted as proof of the lack of liberty in the Church. The fact is, however, that this rule expressly states that if any officer of the Church wishes to become a candidate for a political office, or to enter into any other engagement which will interfere with the duties of his church office, he may do so without obtaining the consent of anybody, by resigning in position. Mr. Thatcher, who at first contested this rule, finally accepted it and declared that it left him absolutely free as an American citizen to exercise his rights as such, and left all the officers of the Church absolutely free.

The Tribune is falsifying wilfully, maliciously and against the testimony of thousands of competent witnesses when it represents the Latter-day Saints as priest-ridden slaves. Its falsehoods are intended for eastern consumption only.

THE PACE THAT KILLS.

Dr. C. St. Clair Drake, of Chicago, has given a great deal of time and thought to vital statistics. He has tried to solve the question why so many die before the age of three score and ten, and he seems to have come to the conclusion that human endurance is not equal to the demands of modern business and society life.

Dr. Drake found from reports made to him by physicians and the police that heart disease caused 10 per cent more deaths in Chicago in 1907 than it did in 1906. Then, he announced that in the chase after money and pleasure the men of Chicago were driving themselves to death by heart disease, and predicted that within a time which any schoolboy might calculate the population there would consist of nothing but women.

The statistics show that the excess of the male death rate in Chicago is 27.4 per cent. The statistics for 1907 show the deaths of 18,332 males and 13,818 females. The death rate was 17.05 to the 1,000 among males and 13.28 to the 1,000 among females. From those figures Dr. Drake says it is easy to calculate how long it will be before the male population is annihilated. But, providentially, more males than females are born every year. Nature is evidently striving to regulate the supply by the demand.

RUSSIA AND SWEDEN.

Russia seems anxious for a controversy with Sweden as well as Turkey. By an old treaty the Russian government has agreed not to fortify the island of Aland, at the entrance to the gulf of Bothnia. Russia now claims that that treaty is no longer in force, because it was entered into with the united kingdom of Sweden and Norway. It is also contended that although Russia has not the slightest intention to invade Sweden, she can never permit the limitation of her sovereign rights to the Aland islands through a renewal of this clause, which was one of a series of restrictions to the use of the Baltic and Black Seas imposed upon Russia after the Crimean war.

The logic of Russia in this controversy is bad. Sweden and Norway at the time of the Paris treaty were not one united kingdom. They were two independent kingdoms with one king and certain agreements made necessary by that arrangement. Treaties entered into with one, or both, are not affected by the dismissal of the king and the election of another, to fill the vacancy. The Swedish government insists on respect for the Paris treaty for the reason that foreign fortifications and a naval base in the islands would be a menace to the Swedish capital, which is within three hours by boat of the Alands. Germany, it is believed, is supporting Sweden in this contention.

UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.

It is not probable that Volapuk, or Esperanto, will ever become universal, but there is some reason for believing that two or three living languages will become the common property of mankind, and then no artificial jargon will be needed.

The dominant languages in the temperate zones now are English, Spanish and Russian. English is the most widely studied language in the schools of many European and South American countries. Its gain in this respect in the past twenty years has been striking. In Mexico and Japan it is compulsory upper-grade study.

Professor E. R. Rabbitt, in an article in the World's Work, expresses the opinion that "it is probable that within the century English will be the vernacular of a quarter instead of a tenth of the people of the world, and be read by half instead of a quarter of the people who can read. Indeed, if its supremacy is frankly recognized

it can be made the universal reading language in even less time."

As it is, a traveler can get along very well with a knowledge of English. On steamboats, railroads, in hotels, and in many stores of the world English is spoken. Everywhere, along tourist routes, guides are found who speak English. English seems destined to become universal, so there is really no valid reason for the manufacture of a dead language to take its place.

W. Parrent is still not apparent.

And talking about Sheets, will his trial before Morse be followed by remorse?

The maid of the old rhyme, "Curfew Shall not Ring Tonight" held the Bell's tongue to keep it still; how Sheets must have longed to emulate her!

To shoot, howl and wave aloft the red banner of anarchy will hardly be recognized in Philadelphia or any other American city as a rational appeal for aid. Many times the unemployed prejudice themselves in the public mind by the policy pursued.

Fate has been cruel to Admiral Evans in not permitting him to terminate a long and brilliant naval career in good health. Utah, taking special interest in the good sailor appointed to Annapolis from this state, hopes that his stay in Callao will make him well and strong so that when he leaves his ship at the journey's end it may be with firm tread on the gang plank and that old twinkle in his merry eye.

The finance committee of the city council resembles very closely the pilot of a boat in heavy seas trying to steer his craft to a safe anchorage with his rudder gone and the wheel broken. If it were not so serious an affair to the people who pay the taxes, their efforts to pay bills without available funds would be farce comedy. As it is, though, it is a tragedy that the voter will try to prevent when he goes to the polls next time to say who shall guide the destinies of this city.

"It is understood that the public school at Blackfoot, Idaho, is now in charge of a Methodist minister. Blackfoot is the home of Fred T. Dubois, the champion Mormon fighter, who objects so strenuously to church dictation. Wonder what he thinks of this action of his home school board? Would he stand for the placing of a Catholic priest in the same position? We know he would yell himself hoarse if the principal happened to be a Mormon bishop, but it is probably all right for a Methodist minister to fill the position. If Mr. Dubois would broaden the scope of his efforts at curbing church dictation and make them include every denomination and sect he would find recruits at every turn and many of them would be members of the Mormon faith," says the Soda Springs Chief. For our own part we only ask for fair play and equal privileges to all. No more, no less.

A COMPARISON.

San Francisco Call.
A current New York story is that Harriman said to a friend some time ago, "Within six months I will be able to draw a larger crowd in the west than will Roosevelt." This remark was made before the president's latest message and the story runs that after the delivery of that arid routine broadcast Harriman's friend asked him if he still held to his comparative estimate of popularity. Harriman grunted and his inquisitive friend suggested that he had better make it 12 months before he entered into competition with Roosevelt in drawing power. We do not vouch for the truth of the story, but it has certain obvious possibilities and probabilities. The world's doubtless father to the program and the machinery by which this program would be worked out creaks and rattles painfully in the cogs and joints. The concerted endeavor to hold Roosevelt responsible for the financial stringency was industriously worked in every kept newspaper in America, with what effect the reception of the president's message shows.

NEVADA'S WEALTH.

San Francisco Chronicle.
All of a sudden Nevada has blossomed out as a great gold-producing State, and it may yet do more than its share in making gold—as some predict it will soon be made—as fluctuating and uncertain a measure of values as silver now is. What will come of the present run of Nevada it is too early to predict, but it looks as if it were to be a great gold-mining camp and there is no reason to doubt—and no veteran prospector does doubt—that somewhere in the state there are hundreds and perhaps thousands of outcroppings of rich gold as yet undiscovered. And rich gold mines will bear substantial taxation, so that the power of the state as represented by public and private revenues may become equal to that of almost any other state in the Union. The auto is destined to play a great part in the exploitation of Nevada. It uses little water and its fuel is concentrated and light, and when it is not working it costs nothing. It looks as if the great state of Nevada was now at last coming to its own.

RED IN MOST FLAGS.

New York Sun.
There is only one flag in the eastern hemisphere that does not contain red. That is the flag of Greece. (The Swedish flag, since the elimination of the union mark, has no red in it.) Other standards in the western hemisphere not containing the color are those of the Argentine republic, Brazil, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Uruguay and Honduras. In this country there is no red in the union jack, nor in the flags of the secretary of the navy, the admiral of the navy, the rear admiral senior in rank, the rear admiral junior in rank, the rear admiral second in rank and the pennant of the revenue marine. The flags which are entirely of red, except the devices in some, are those of Egypt, Morocco, Austria-Hungary and Japan. That of Turkey is nearly all red. The flag of the other countries also contain most conspicuously the color which is supposed to represent war. As to devices, the star is represented on 20 flags; the cross, including the double cross, on 12; the anchor on two, the eagle on four, the lion on one, the sun on one, the lion (not including the lion and the unicorn) on one, the Persian dragon on one, China's red sun on three, while Burma is the only flag on earth which has the turkey. The only all-yellow flag is that which represents quarantine. After red, blue is the prevailing color in flags of nations.

KINDLY OMITTED.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.
Perhaps it will be noticed with painful surprise that Miss Vanderbilt isn't getting any kitchen or linen showers.

A SERMONET FOR WORKERS

[For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.]

(For the "News" by H. J. Hapgood.)
The big man in business has a decided advantage over the physical weaklings. He often wins out by sheer weight and bulk. His powerful physique helps him to inspire confidence where the little fellow would not be able to make a favorable impression. It is many times true that an ounce of brain is worth a ton of muscle; but the big man usually brings with him sufficient weight to turn the trick in his favor.

An employer in the West once advertised for a salesman, and received among many other applications, the following:

"I weigh 193 pounds and measure 6 feet 2 in. in my stocking feet. Played center on my college eleven and am not afraid of anybody."

He got the job and sold more than anybody in the place.

"The average weight of our outside men is five feet, nine inches," said the sales manager of a large paint concern to me the other day. Then he went on to tell how a big man was often able to scare an order out of the buyer when the little salesman couldn't get a contract by all the arts of salesmanship in the world.

As a matter of fact when a physical giant comes into your office and sits beside your desk, you know someone is talking to you. He is generally big enough to block the doorway completely and you can't get away till he has told his story.

"If I were to be born over again," said one of the ancient philosophers, "I would rather be big than great."

I have known men who actually failed in business simply because they were not physically strong enough to stand the pace. They had brains and ability—but the strain was too much and they had to give up before the race was run. It takes a smart man to finish at all; but it's the big man who finishes strong.

JUST FOR FUN.

Saving Himself.

"You don't mean to say," remarked Wise, "that you made a present of that \$5 to Borrowman?"

"Yes," replied Markley. "I had to save my own self-respect."

"I don't understand. I thought you loaned it to him."

"So I did, not knowing any better. But now I don't want anybody to believe I was ever foolish enough to expect it back."—The Catholic Standard and Times.

At Low Tide.

Wilfred was sitting upon his father's knee watching his mother arranging her hair.

"Papa hasn't any Marcel waves like that," said the father, laughingly.

Wilfred, looking up at his father's bald pate, replied, "No; no waves; it's all beach."—Harper's Weekly.

Could Readily Believe It.

An old country gentleman, returning home rather late, discovered a yokel with a lantern under his kitchen window, who, when asked his business there, stated he had only come a-courting. "Come a what?" said the irate gentleman. "A-courting, sir. I'm courting Mary." "It's a lie! What do you want a lantern for? I never used one when I was a young man." "No, sir," was the yokel's reply; "I didn't think yer 'ad, judging by the missis."—Exchange.

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