DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 9, 1899.

GOOD PLACE FOR HOMES.

There are many people in the neighborhood of this city who desire to find a place where they can make a permanent home, and obtain land for cultivation with a view to acquiring an independent livelihood. One of the best openings for many of them is in southern Alberta, Canada, where work is being performed by a railway and canal company, which pays for labor and wages partly in cash and partly in land, and where farms can be had on easy payments with secured water rights.

Persons who desire full information concerning that location, and the facilities for reaching it, and for obtaining the advantages here referred to, can learn all about it from President C. O. Card, who has just come from Canada and is prepared to meet with them. He will be at a room attached to the office of the Presiding Bishopric, just north of the Deseret News office, on Main street, from 10 a. m. until 4 p. m. on Friday, Saturday and Monday. We advise all who contemplate moving to a place where they can acquire title to land for themselves and families, to call on Brother Card and learn of the advantages of the colony he represents. It is no wild or forbidding region, but a fine country, where there are some excellent people and where congenial society can be had by Latter-day Saints and other friends of peace, order and good government.

IT WILL NOT WORK.

Ever since the publishing of the notorious letter signed "Young Utah" appeared in the "Tribune-West" signed, as the anti-"Mormon" sheet is, this city, the public have been troubled—to use a very mild term—of any anonymous communication that appears in its columns. The trimmings of time assumed by that paper over an alleged bona fide letter from some person not named, or rendered indecorous by the statement in the letter itself, that the writer does not know anything of the main point it is supposed to establish. Whether the communication is genuine or not does not signify, if it is put forth as an argument, or as evidence to establish any charge, or as a starter for "Young Utah," to whom it is specially commended by the anti-"Mormon" sheet.

It is refreshing, however, to have a little variation of its authority for such assertion. The "respectable old lady" has become too antiquated; the "well known citizen" is altogether too vague; the "reliable attorney" does not establish veracity; and "a scion of Young Utah" doesn't blossom as a reality in view of Young Utah's vigorous protest. The return to anonymous letters relieves the monotonous; it does not add to the reliability of the paper that sees them. The "Sod Hut Address" of years gone by, has burned a deep spot in the memory of both young and old Utah; such cases now, as days will not work.

STILL AT IT.

The charge is still kept up that "Utah's compact with the nation has been broken;" that "faith has not been kept;" that "some persons teach there is a higher government here than the government of the United States," etc. What good can possibly result from such agitation? Who will be benefited by it, except a few sectarian preachers who are raising funds in the East by means of the furore their falsehoods have aroused?

We are continually hearing of "Utah's compact with the nation." What is it, where is it, and how has it been violated? If that compact is a matter of record, bring it out from the national archives. Let us have a copy of it. Photograph it, typewrite it or print it in any form, so that we may know what it is.

The only document of that kind that we know anything about is the Constitution of the State. That it is violate. Nothing it contains has been violated. All its terms are recognized as the supreme law of the State. "Faith" has therefore been kept with the nation. The requirements of the Enabling Act were fully complied with in the Constitution. The proof of that is the proclamation of the President of the United States. The Constitution of Utah went further than mere verbal compliance with the Enabling Act, and provided means for the enforcement of that prohibition which the Enabling Act simply required to be announced.

As for the "higher government," that charge is altogether too stale. It is worn out and cannot be revamped, or patched up to serve the purpose for which it was originally designed. There is no union of Church and State in Utah, neither does any church attempt to dominate the State. There is no other political government set up here than that of the State under the Nation.

In religion God is recognized as Supreme. With that faith the State has nothing to do. Every creed under the sun has that belief for its basis. It is independent of politics, and is entirely outside of the individuals or the society's that entertains it. That is all the "higher government" taught in Utah.

Hints to the contrary simply serve to deceive people at a distance. They are invented for that purpose. They appear periodically in the sheet published in this city with the chief purpose of villifying the "Mormon" people, ridiculing their Church and abusing their leaders. Let those who delight in that sort of thing subscribe to it. Those who despise and detest its sentiments—those should show their sentiments by withholding their support.

THE NEXT CENSUS.

The next census of the United States will be taken in the year 1900, and this column will be non-partisan if those preceding, the purpose being to confine the timely item only a few important branches of knowledge, outside the counting of the number of inhabitants. This will be satisfactory. The two previous censuses were so overloaded with data that the last volumes did not appear until the matter they contained was nearly all obsolete.

One purpose of the government in thus counting the people once in ten years, in addition with a constitutional requirement, is to ascertain how many representatives in Congress each State is entitled to. Before a census was taken the total membership of the House was sixty-five. Virginia was assigned ten members, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania were allowed eight each, New York and Maryland six each, and the other States were granted representation in the same arbitrary manner.

The apportionment based on the first census, of 1790, gave one representative for each 33,000 inhabitants. Then the total membership was increased to 105. Ten years later the number was 141, but since then it has been thought advisable to require a larger population for each congressional district. The total membership is now 357, giving one to each district of about 173,901 souls.

The next census will probably make a new apportionment necessary, as there is a desire not to increase the total membership of the House very much beyond its present proportions.

It has been strongly urged that the next census be kept out of the political machine. The work begins at the opening of the Presidential campaign. Probably the temptation to take advantage of that event in the interest of politics will prove too strong to be resisted, and in that case the value of the elaborate work may be considerably lessened.

A NEW CRUSADE.

Some time ago ladies in Illinois organized a crusade against the immodest pictures used for advertising purposes. The movement has now reached London and is said to have excited much interest there.

The claim is that the display, so often found in advertisements, of half-nude female figures has a tendency toward immorality, by originating unworthy thoughts and lowering the standard of womanhood. It is believed that such abuses ought to be corrected by proper legislation.

This is an age of ideas. Human thought reaches out in every direction searching for the ways and wherefores of every existing condition. And nothing gives better hope for the future, than the honest efforts at finding and removing the causes of the corruption that is recognized as an immense dark spot on the sun of our civilization.

But are the pictures referred to one of those causes? Are they not rather a symptom? If modern society were not suffering from the disease, would it be possible to corrupt it by such displays? Would it be practicable to publish them, and if so, how long would public sentiment tolerate their appearance? It seems that efforts at reform ought to go deeper than the surface. Whitewash on the outside does not remove the decaying bones in the tomb.

But let the good work go on. If efficient legislation can be secured against objectionable advertising devices, let it also take in improper pictures of the other sex. Consistency demands this. Let it go further and cover the theatres and concert halls of the immodesty there displayed, and not forget also the bathing resorts. Let it be understood that no person must appear in public, either actually or in picture, otherwise than would be tolerated in the daily walks of life, or in society, and let the same standard be set for all manner of advertisements.

But how could this result be obtained by legislation, unless accompanied by the establishment of a censorship? The best method of reaching the desired end is through the conscience and elevated morality in individuals. This will be more speedy and permanent and better, but that is the only way to be certain of ultimate victory.

DANGEROUS COMBINATIONS.

The press of the country has given attention lately to the formation of large companies in the East for business purposes. The practice is looked upon by some as a menace to the best interests of the country. It is thought probable that the accumulation of money will enable the combinations to control legislation in the various states, because an employer of a mill owned by a trust would hesitate to vote for a legislator pledged to open competition.

Be others it is pointed out that the movement all over the East to form so-called trusts, is not prompted by a desire to control certain branches of trade, but rather to furnish a vehicle for speculation. They are formed, it is said, by outsiders who gather up the loose ends of a particular industry merely for the purpose of floating shares of the combine. The promoters are only seeking to make a showing in order to induce people to buy stock, only worthless paper.

Assuming this view to be correct, it can be safely predicted that the formation of these combinations will result in disaster, and the juice will be by those who have bought the shares under the impression that they were joining a trust for the exclusive control of an industry.

But whatever may be the aim of the combinations represented or hoped to be formed in copper, wood, lime, steel, electricity, etc., attention has been called to what has been regarded as one of the great dangers of our age, and numerous voices are heard in favor of the government taking charge of the industrial affairs of the country, as the best means of securing the general welfare and of protecting individual citizens in their guaranteed liberty. This, however, tends toward "socialism," and for that reason will be violently opposed.

It cannot be denied that the civilized world before long will be called upon to deal with conditions which the far-reaching statesmen of the past have predicted, and for which, after all, there is but one efficient remedy—that offered in the divine and practical principles of truth upon which "Mormonism" is safely founded.

AGUINALDO.

Since the outbreak of the insurrection in the Philippines, American version of the leader, Aguinaldo, has not as a rule been favorable. Very little, comparatively, is known of him in this country, and generally he is portrayed as a semi-barbarian, a sort of fitting foil originated by the most savage instincts.

The United States vice consul at Hong Kong, Mr. Wildman, who has befriended Aguinaldo, gives a different picture of him in Harper's Weekly. Probably his estimate of the famous Malay is somewhat exaggerated, but it is nevertheless interesting at this juncture. Of the personal appearance of Aguinaldo the consul says:

"Nothing in the chieftain's dress suggested his rank, but a glance at his serious frowned countenance stamped him in my estimation as a leader. His head is large, but sits well upon his rather slight body. His hair is the rich shiny black of the Tagals, and his cloth, somewhat soiled, inclines to light somewhat. He was neatly dressed in a suit of fine pina cloth of native manufacture, and as he stood there, straight and dignified, one hand resting on his desk, despite his undersize and much-humble surroundings, he impressed me as a man capable of all he had undertaken, and the possessor of a will and determination equal to the task set before him, and I made up my mind then and there that he was genuine, that his dignity was natural, that his aim was lofty, and his character trustful and worthy of being trusted. True worth shines through the eyes, will shows itself in the mouth, ability in the curve of the nose. There is a look in the face of men who lead, men who command, that no student of character can fail to note. There is something in the make-up of this little Tagalo that inspires more than respect—something that commands without words. I do not think that I am overestimating Aguinaldo when I say that he possesses the attributes that go to make up greatness as it is understood among men."

Of the insurgent chieftain's work for his country, the consul says:

"Whatever the outcome of our policy in the Philippines will be, the islands will ever owe a debt of deep gratitude to Aguinaldo. He has made life and property safe, preserved order and encouraged a continuation of agricultural and industrial pursuits. He has made brigandage and lust impossible, respected private property, forbidden excess, either in revenge or in the name of the state, and made a woman's honor safer in Luzon than it has been for 200 years. Had not Aguinaldo gone to Luzon as our guest, he would have gone anyway sooner or later, but not bound by the solemn promises of friendship—promises not broken at this writing, and if I judge the man rightly, promises that will not be broken lightly. Had he not gone at all, a hundred "Aguinaldos" of inferior character would have sprung up all over the islands, and brigandage would have been rampant. Fire, pillage and murder would have laid desolate the fertile valleys and villages, no one would have been responsible for a devastation that would have taken a decade to remedy, and a race of gentle people would have relapsed into the savages that resisted the occupation of the white man for a century. Even in the three weeks that elapsed between the 1st of May and the arrival of Aguinaldo this state of affairs was beginning, and property was looted and life sacrificed at a fearful rate, as any one who will listen to the stories of the natives or American officers can hear. Dr. Aguinaldo accepted the grave responsibility of being the sponsor of peace, order and the good name of his people. Why he has been assailed and maligned so often in public print it was beyond my ability to explain to him. There are some things in our body politic that are beyond the ken of his comprehension and mine, the wholesale manufacture of public sentiment is one of them. What I said to Aguinaldo that day at Malolos and what he said to me is immaterial. It served to assist me to a judgment of his character. I have taken Aguinaldo as he takes himself—seriously, and it is the highest compliment I can pay him, and the only way I know of to do justice to a man whose achievements stand pre-eminent in aboriginal warfare in the world's history.

We can only hope that estimate of Aguinaldo is somewhere near the mark, for if he is sincere, it can only be a question of time when he will realize that what he endeavors to secure for himself and his country, through war for if he is sincere, it can be but a by the strong hand of the American government, that has now prepared the way for the establishment of liberty and civilization in that distant region.

STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, as already announced, will commence at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, March 12th, in the Tabernacle in this city. It is desired that all the officers and members who can attend will be present at that hour. There will be no Priesthood meeting on Saturday, as the conference will be assembled until Sunday morning. Meetings will be held on Sunday afternoon and on Monday morning and afternoon. The Bishops and their counselors, and all the officers and members of quorums as well as of the various auxiliary organizations, are specially requested to attend on Sunday and Monday meetings, when matters of importance will be presented for the consideration and action of the conference. This notice should be widely circulated among the saints in every ward of the Stake, and the respective Bishops are hereby requested to give the visiting officers to notify the people, so that none will be left uninformed as to the time of meeting. It is expected that some of the leading Church authorities will meet with the Saints in this Stake Conference, and that it will be of great benefit to all who are privileged to be present.

Gov. Roosevelt of New York is out with a proposition to regulate and control the canal system of the State.

"Teddy" feels that he must be coming somewhere, ever since he cleaned out the New York police force.

The ice-trust in Maine has met with a foeman, the legislature having taken action against it.

Denver can erect no more worthy monument to the memory of Myron Reed than the proposed park.

Harvard University is proud of the fact that Mr. Choate is the eighth alumnus of that institution to represent this country at the court of St. James.

That there are plenty of men in this country eager to fight Filipinos or anything else is shown by the rush of enlistments for the increase of the army.

The governor of Oklahoma fired the anti-Christian Science legislation properly today, by vetoing the measure, assigning as his reason that it interfered with religious liberty.

The backbone of the railway blockade in the mountains east of this State now seems to be broken, but the railway companies admit that it was the hardest winter job they ever performed, and it seems near breaking some of them.

The Filipinos who thought they could drive the Americans into Manila as they did the Spaniards, now find that they drove them out in a mustard stalk, which, when struck, scattered its seed and occupied a much greater area than ever before.

Queen Victoria's trip across the Channel to the south of France will cost the British people the little sum of $75,000. No less than sixty persons are engaged to wait upon her majesty, $2,000 a month is the rent of her apartments. Royalty comes high.

It is now said that Admiral Dewey's health is impaired. If that be true, the gallant commander should be given an early chance to recuperate. As for his own feelings, he is doubtless anxious to finish his work in the Philippines before taking even a short rest.

The Hongkong Filipinos say they are sorry the insurrectionists attacked the Americans at Manila, and would like to get out of the trouble easy if they knew how. The easiest way open to them before they are finally whipped into submission.

It is anticipated that when the new sewerage system in the City of Mexico goes into operation the place will become the healthiest city in the world. Certainly a great improvement may be expected from the improved sanitation in a city that is now one of the most unhealthy on the continent.

The St. Louis police succeeded in closing the whisky saloons last Sunday, with the effect that a bill has been introduced into the Missouri legislature permitting the saloons to open on Sundays after 1 p.m. It will be seen now whether the lawmakers wanted the statute enforced or they passed it.

The chief of the district police in Massachusetts says the "sweating shop" system does not exist in his State, and that by its extinction the people have gained more in health than they have lost in business. Even the loss in business must have been a blessing to the laboring people, who before had to work for 2½ cents an hour under the "sweating" system.

PARTITION OF CHINA.

San Francisco Chronicle.

What a grotesque assumption it is to say that autonomy for China can be left. With the outlets, the natural wealth and the commercial means of communication of the empire in the hands of Western powers, their respective spheres geographically defined and well understood, it is proposed the Peking government to conform to European views, the partition of China will no longer be debatable. It will have been achieved. And when that very hour time comes Great Britain will be found quite as well provided for as any other nation with the handed souls found, there is ground for the fears expressed at Peking that she does not propose to wait any longer before putting surveyors in the field. She is lack of Dairy, and may naturally be expected, while the prizes are passing, to help herself.

Chicago Record.

China continues to be an element of disturbance among the great powers of the world. Whenever anxious of a Western nation are abused in that country, the effects of the outbreak extend far beyond the relations of China with the power whose subjects have been the sufferers. Thus, because there are reports that Germans have been maltreated by Chinamen near Kiao-Chou, there is talk of the sinking transit of a German squadron at that port, and some kinds are thrown out that such a movement of German ships may result in the assembling of a stronger British fleet at Wei-Hai-Wei. In view of the frequent shouts of hostile portent that drift from China above the European horizon, it seems strange that the Western powers do not try to agree upon some policy that will mitigate the nervous tension among them.

JAPAN'S FRIENDLY ACT.

North American Review.

It is quite clear that China cannot be saved by the efforts of the existing Chinese government and Manchu dynasty. Both are hopelessly decayed and moribund. The ruling race stands pledged to opposition to reform, and the whole of the imperial machine exists for thinking of nothing but the preservation of its own privileges and aloofness as a foreign clique on the resources of the state. The emperor is nominally in the proclaimed enemy of reformer Li Hung Chang, the champion of steam reforms, has no influence and will never possess any ability all the Manchu princes are engaged in a solid phalanx against British influence, because under that head is classed the efforts, or at least the expectation being made for the regeneration of China. The young emperor made his effort as a reformer in conjunction with Kang Yu Wei, and it failed in his hands. When he comes to grief, a child will be placed on the throne, so that those in power may remain undisturbed.

Chicago Times-Herald.

It is to be hoped that the reported seizure of arms and ammunition intended for Filipino insurgents may prove true. It would be worth more to the United States than the loss of 20 men and of some to the insurgents, for it would be a notification to Aguinaldo that Japan has no intention of lifting a hand to aid him in carrying on a fight over against the United States. The government of Japan is in the hands of men who are quick to detect the drift of international affairs. They are too shrewd and far-sighted not to appreciate that friendly relations with the country are of more present and prospective value to Japan than anything to be gained by encouraging the schemes and ambitions of Aguinaldo.

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