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For Deseret News Book Store, 74, 2
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A NOTABLE ANNIVERSARY

Sixty years ago today a tragedy was enacted at Carthage, Illinois, which stained with blood the soil of that state and the honor of its then Executive, Joseph and Hyrum Smith, the Prophet and Patriarch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, were cruelly slain by a disguised mob, and John Taylor, one of the Twelve Apostles, was wounded in four places by the murderous and fanatical assassins; Willard Richards, another of the Apostles, escaped without injury, although exposed to the fire of the assassins, while concealing his wounded companion. They were under the pledged protection of the Governor of Illinois.

The story of the charges preferred against the Prophet, his surrender to the demands of the law, the acknowledgment of his enemies that "there was no case against the Smiths," the organization effected for their assassination, the pretended guard over them by the Carthage Greys who deserted their post to make way for the mob, and the details of the martyrdom and the fear that fell upon the people that the "Mormons" would wreak summary vengeance, in retaliation for the awful and senseless crime, have been told repeatedly and form a startling chapter in the annals of the Church and of the nation.

We do not wish now to revive the feelings of horror and resentment that animated the souls of the Saints when the full sense of the situation fell upon them in Nauvoo, nor to dwell upon the infamy of the unavenged slaughter of those anointed servants of the Lord. Our purpose is simply to keep in memory the day of their sacrifice, when they "sealed their testimony with their blood." It is one of the anniversaries that should be kept in mind. The great mission these noble brothers performed should never be forgotten. When the archives kept on high are opened and the chief events on this earth are disclosed, and the seven angels shall sound their trumpets "and reveal the secret acts of men, and the thoughts and intents of their hearts, and the mighty works of God" in each of the world's seven thousand years, the grand mission of the Prophet and Patriarch will be proclaimed among the greatest of all, and the responsibility for cutting them off in the strength of their manhood and the height of their usefulness, will be placed where it belongs and the word of the Most High will be verified: "Vengeance is mine, I will repay."

Today we remember the grief that rent the hearts of the Saints when the sad tidings of the tragedy reached them, and we reflect on the career of the greatest prophet on earth except the Redeemer. We marvel at the wealth of principle and the gems of intelligence he brought forth, with the history of a continent, revelations of the eternal past and of the everlasting future, of the nature of God, of the destiny of man, of the exaltation and glory awaiting the good and obedient, and of the final redemption of the race, and we praise the Great Centre of light and truth, the Father of us all, for the manifestations he has made through the seer of the nineteenth century.

We his followers are building upon the foundations which he laid. We proclaim the doctrines that he taught. We are guided by the patterns that he gave. We administer the ordinances he explained. We act by authority of the Priesthood he received under the hands of holy messengers from on high. Ever blest be his memory and that of his faithful brother, who stood by him through life and was with him in death. Inseparable they were in mortality, they share the honors and the rewards of immortality and endless dominion.

Today the First Presidency with others of the committee appointed for the purpose of erecting a monument to the memory of the martyrs, selected a spot within the Temple grounds on which it is to be erected. It is a fitting time for this choice and a most suitable place. Thousands of the Saints will wish to contribute to the memorial. It will be fashioned and set up in due season and will be worthy of the heroes departed.

The great and last dispensation ushered in under the latter-day Prophet continues to go forward. It will proceed and prevail. It is onward in power, not only upon earth but in the regions of the departed. The mighty ones slain at Carthage are far greater in their ministry where they have gone, and where they are joined by hosts of

devoted men and women who have died in the faith. They are rejoicing with the just. They retain their authority and appointed places. They are beyond the reach of violence and the Destroyer, and they add their influence to that of their followers in the flesh, for the forwarding and consummation of the latter-day work. "Hail to the Prophet" and hail to the Patriarch! Honored and blest be their ever great names, and let future generations revere their memory and emulate their worthy example!

LOW MORAL STANDARDS.

Senator Hoar believes that the standard of private and public morals has greatly improved in this country during the last 50 years. But in one particular he admits that public morals have degenerated, and that is in regard to the use of money to secure nominations and elections. He dwells upon the desire of rich men to obtain seats in the national legislature, and declares their accumulations to be the greatest danger threatening the republic. He thinks no punishment too severe for the men who corrupt an electorate, and yet admits that the offense is not treated with the exorcism it deserves, and commonly escapes punishment, though "a corrupt and rotten republic cannot long be saved and will not be worth the saving."

It will be readily admitted that no censure can be too strong upon the evil here pointed out. The unscrupulous resort to bribery, and all forms of corruption, constitute a real danger to free institutions. But it would possibly be wrong to conclude that the use of money to obtain influence is a proof of modern degeneration in morals. The fact is that, as far back as history goes, we learn that some people have obtained more than their due share of influence over their fellow-men. The thirst for power is hardly any more intense now than in the early ages. There have always been slaveholders, kings, tyrants. The means of obtaining power have not always been the same. There was a time when the most successful slugs became the leader of other fighters, and through them he obtained influence and wealth. Others have obtained prominence by crafty appeals to the superstitions and fears of men. Today wealth is more abundant than ever, and it is used to satisfy ambition with. Men, formerly enslaved by physical force or intellectual jugglery, today fall under the yoke of Mammon. It is very much as it ever was. The aims and objects are the same; the means of obtaining them differ.

But in one respect it appears that our age is fast degenerating, and that is in regard to the value placed upon human life. As one illustration of this, it is said that hundreds of craft were afloat in the East River of New York at the time of the Slocum disaster, and not one cared to render assistance, until it was too late. That sounds almost incredible, and yet the story is vouched for. The news reports say that yachtsmen engaged in sailing for pleasure, tugmen busy at their trade and other persons in charge of craft moving about in the immediate neighborhood of the scene of the horror refused to respond to the appeal made to them by the perishing victims. Scores of men, it is said, who might have saved hundreds of lives declined to be turned away from the pursuit of business or pleasure until it was too late to do any good. They refused, it appears, to lend aid in the beginning, but when hundreds had perished and hundreds more were in peril, the morbid curiosity for something horrible impelled them to draw near the scene.

Now, not even cannibals would have acted thus toward their own kind. There is a general indifference as regards human life, which indicates that moral standards are being lowered. The proofs of this assertion are numerous.

FOR A RATIONAL FOURTH.

The press of the country, with commendable unanimity, protests against the celebration of the "glorious Fourth" in the usual manner, by which it becomes a day of massacre and sorrow, instead of joy. Last year no less than 500 persons, of all ages and both sexes, lost their lives, and others were injured. What may be expected in this direction was shown a short time ago in Boston, when the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill was celebrated. The freckler, the toy pistol, the torpedo were all there, with the result that, in a few hours, over 300 Bostonians were at the hospital. The New York Tribune says the total number of Americans killed and wounded in that battle did not exceed 450, so that Boston had about two-thirds as many casualties in celebrating the event, as occurred in the battle itself. And probably there were many more; for a great number of cases were treated at home, and did not attract public attention. This is barbarous. Celebrations of that nature should not be tolerated in a civilized community.

The first celebration of the Nation's Independence was observed in Boston on the 18th of July, 1776. A description of this event is found in the American Magazine, Vol. III., as given by a British officer, at the time in Boston. He says in part:

"As we passed through the town, we found it thronged in all quarters with persons of every age and both sexes. All were in their holiday suits, every eye beamed with delight, and every tongue was in rapid motion. King street (State street), Queen street (Court street), and the other streets adjoining the Council Chamber were lined with detachments from two battalions of infantry, tolerably well equipped, while in front of the jail (site of the Old Court House on Court street) a brigade of artillery was drawn up with lighted matches."

"On entering the hall, we found it occupied by functionaries, military, civil and ecclesiastical; among whom the same good humor and excitement prevailed as among the people out of doors. They received us with great frankness and cordiality, and allotted to us such stations as enabled us to witness the whole of the ceremony, which was as simple as the most republican taste could have desired."

"Exactly as the clock struck one, Col. Crafts, who occupied the chair, rose, and, silence being obtained, read aloud the declaration, which announced to the

world that the tie of allegiance and protection, which had so long held Britain and her North American colonies together, was forever separated. This being finished, the gentlemen stood up, and each, repeating the words as they were spoken by an officer, swore to uphold, at the sacrifice of life, the rights of his country. Meanwhile the town clerk read from a balcony the Declaration of Independence to the crowd; at the close of which, a shout of triumph arose, and the battery on Fort Hill, Dorchester Neck, the Castle (Fort Independence), Nantasket and Long Island, each saluted with thirteen guns, the artillery in the town fired thirteen rounds, and the infantry, scattered into thirteen divisions, poured forth thirteen volleys, all corresponding to the number of States which formed the union. What followed may be described in a few words. There was a banquet in the Council Chamber, where all the richer citizens appeared, where much wine was drunk, and many appropriate toasts given. Large quantities of liquor were distributed among the crowd outside, whose patriotism and courage grew more and more warm at every draught; and when night closed in, the darkness was effectually dispelled by a general illumination, which was termed then a splendid illumination."

This, except the drunkenness, might very well serve for a pattern for a Fourth of July celebration. The reading of the Declaration of Independence, social parties, and patriotic speeches are eminently proper features of such celebration. The booming of cannon and the firing of guns are also proper, if done by experts under the direction of responsible parties, but the habit of letting young boys and hoodlums loose in the streets with dangerous weapons is too absurd for anything. Let there be celebration, but not a slaughter of innocents. The spirit of the day should be sacred against pagan noise and pastimes.

Maud Muller weather is approaching.

Raisuli was well repaid for his trouble.

How Kuropatkin must continually long for night or Blucher.

Peace hath her victories no less renowned than those of Japan.

The General Slocum life preservers were in reality life destroyers.

John Alexander Dowie has arrived. Let "Zion City" in her beauty rise.

Toga never regrets to report, probably because he always reports victories.

The Prohibitionists are looking for General Miles. Is the office seeking the man?

Not a word from Colonel Watterson of late. Does he suffer from parapsychosis?

The St. Louis platform will almost surely be tongued by Mr. Bryan no matter by whom grooved.

If the czar is wise, he will continue to keep the Baltic fleet right in the Baltic, close up against shore.

The rouble has been falling lately. Wait until Port Arthur falls if you want to see the rouble take a real fall.

Once more the whirligig of time has brought Port Arthur to the fore and placed Cripple Creek in the background.

If Perdicaris contemplates going on the lecture platform let him remember the experience there of Ellen Stone, et M. genus.

Kuropatkin wants to meet and dispose of Kuropki before the latter effects a juncture with Oku. "That just makes me laff."

What length the tariff plank has! It reaches all the way across the Gulf of Mexico right on to the Isthmus of Panama.

The Jefferson Guards at the St. Louis fair have been furnished with a new weapon—slingshots. In this military age this is true Jeffersonian simplicity.

At Port Arthur the Russian fleet refused the offer of battle and returned to port, showing that Admiral Skodadoff is at the head of the Russian naval forces.

What is this talk about Philippine independence? Those natives are so independent now that it keeps Uncle Sam's army busy to keep them loyal and quiet.

King Peter has been the guest of the Seventh Serbian regiment, the regiment whose officers carried out the murder of King Alexander and Queen Draga. It was bad taste, though he may have felt that he must be a guest at supper where he was to eat or to be eaten.

AMERICA NOW.

New York Evening Post.

Secretary Hay has ordered the words of all our embassies and consulates, henceforth we are to be known simply as "America." There are many "United States," a fact which leads, it is said, to a great deal of confusion in foreign countries. The motive behind the change is undoubtedly one of convenience. It would not be surprising, however, if the administration were more or less unconsciously affected by the added sense of importance which this country has acquired in the last few years. But there can be no real objection to our change of name, if it does not stir up ill feeling among our neighbors to the south. They have always called themselves "Americans," and, in their hot-headed way, may exclaim among themselves, "There is now only one America, and bye and bye there may be only one United States."

Omaha Bee.

We observe that this idea of the Department of State is very generally approved of, and yet it is a departure about which there may be some debate. For example, the constitution of the United States starts out with a proposition which it would seem ought to have some consideration when it comes to changing the name of the republic. Establishing the rule that our ambassadors, ministers and consuls shall call themselves Americans is all very

well in the abstract, but it is a questionable proposition when it comes to a departure from a principle which is sacred to a majority of the American people.

Worcester Gazette.
It is proposed by the authorities at Washington to drop the dual appellation "United States," hereafter in referring to our Uncle Samuel's household, and to substitute the name "America." The plan is meeting with unqualified approval on every hand and will probably supersede the former method of designation very readily. The change is in the right direction and is already established in popular usage. The wonder is that it was not done before.

Boston Herald.
Secretary Hay is an accomplished scholar and diplomat, and his order may be correct in directing that on all the record books and seals hereafter by our diplomatic and consular representatives in foreign countries their offices should be designated as the American legation or the American consulate, instead of using the term "United States legation or United States consulate, as hitherto. It is, nevertheless, true that in Europe the new designation must be as confusing to foreigners as the old one was. A good deal of America is located outside of our United States, and it seems rather presumptuous for Secretary Hay to assume that such is not the case, as he practically does in this order. There are also other American governments on this continent besides our own. And there are other United States. Accurately speaking, we are the United States of America, and we ought to call ourselves so officially.

Binghamton Press.
If Secretary Hay wishes to use the word "America" or "American" instead of "the United States" on seals and embassy stationery and things nobody is going to make a fight over it. But the desirability of the change is not obvious. The argument for it is that there are other "United States," such as the United States of Colombia. So there are other Americas than the United States. There is British America and South America and Central America. We have never heard of any serious diplomatic mixups because of the use of "the United States" on stationery and seals, but if Mr. Hay wants "America" we must give it to him. Nothing is too good for the ablest Foreign Secretary of the day.

Hartford Courant.

In the popular speech of Europe and in the European newspapers it has long been the American minister, the American consul, the American legation, the American consulate, etc. In our own official language it has been thus far "the United States minister, etc." Now Secretary Hay conforms to and directs our diplomatic and commercial representatives in Europe to conform to the established and universal usage there. We shall hear a little less grumbling from Canada and the Latin-American countries, we suppose, but it won't last long, and it won't break their big but benevolent Uncle Samuel's bones.

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The dancing at Lagoon is

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new floor and the best

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Round Trip 25c.

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11:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

1:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m. 2:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.

9:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.

11:30 p.m. 10:30 p.m.

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