

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

LORENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

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NO BREACH OF FAITH.

"The Tribune warned the men who were driving Roberts on as a candidate that it would hurt Utah, that it would give the Nation a right to say that faith had been broken, that it would cause the hands of forty-four States to be pointed at Utah in scorn; that it would cause the persecution of Mormon missionaries, and that it would bring confusion and disappointment to Mr. Roberts himself; you know how it was all answered."

Certainly. We know how the threats uttered by those who wished to dictate what the people of Utah should do, at the polls, have been carried out because the great majority of them refused to bow down at the command of that self-assumed authority. Suppose that when the verdict of the people of this State was rendered, the preachers and papers in Utah had acquiesced in the will of the majority; how much of a storm would have been raised in this country over the result? How much pressure would have been brought upon Congress by excited members of churches and yellow journals, over the seating of the member from Utah? Would there have been any more noise about his election than there was about the appointment of Federal officials occupying a similar social status?

If anything that has happened in consequence of that election to "hurt Utah," it is the outpourings of wrath, disappointment and revenge, that have been overflowing from the Salt Lake clergy and their mouthpiece ever since the votes were counted. They are responsible for the finger-pointing of the States, the "persecution" of "Mormon missionaries" and the "confusion" and "turbulence" that have been occasioned. They are also responsible for the falsehood that "faith has been broken with the nation." All this originated with them, and they are the authors of all the obloquy that has been heaped upon the State and its Representative.

But "the nation" has no "right to say that faith has been broken." Neither the nation nor any individual or journal has the right to utter a falsehood. The State of Utah embodied in its Constitution all that was required by the Enabling Act of Congress, and it was accepted as sufficient by the President of the United States. That this commonwealth has kept faith with the nation in that respect, is demonstrated in the fact, that its courts and officers stand ready to prosecute and punish violators of the constitutional provision which is viewed in the nature of a compact. Also in the further fact that not a single case of infraction of that provision has been legally complained against. The rumors which have been circulated in aid of the crusade against the "Mormon" people, are so flimsy and destitute of competent evidence that none of them has materialized into a criminal case.

The suits which have been instituted on the complaint of a hired informer, even if they were carried to convictions, would have no bearing whatever upon the question of "faith with the nation." The demand expressed in the Enabling Act was a provision in the State Constitution forever prohibiting polygamous or plural marriages. That was the beginning and the end and the utmost extent of the requirement, and it has been strictly carried out. The State of Utah made that so-called "compact" with the United States, and nothing can be advanced, supported by the slightest actual evidence, showing that there is any semblance of a rupture between the parties to the purported agreement.

Charges that have been made against the "Mormon" Church, equally groundless and destitute of proof, even if they were justified by facts, would not constitute any violation of the faith of the State with the United States. The nation made no compact with the Church. To do anything of the kind would be foreign to its functions. The government does not treat politically with ecclesiastical organizations. It has nothing to do with them in that way. If members of a religious body violate the law they are amenable to the law as individuals, not as members of a religious body. There is therefore no compact between the government and anybody else on this question except the State of Utah. That, as we have shown has kept its pledge and has not broken its faith.

The State of Utah has included in its code, provisions against an offense altogether different from that which was legislated against in the Constitution, as required by the Enabling Act. The nation has nothing whatever to do with that. If no provision had been incorporated in the code against what is known here as "unlawful cohabitation," there would have been no breach of faith with the United States. Congress has no jurisdiction over the subject. The State has full right and power to regulate its own domestic affairs, consistent with the Constitution of the United States. Therefore no matter how many offenses have been or have not been committed against the State statute which provides penalties for that misdemeanor, they would not constitute any breach of faith or violation of compact or disregard of pledges with the Nation.

All this talk, then, about Utah not

having kept faith, is so much nonsense when viewed in the light of reason and the law, and the endeavor to make "Young Utah" believe that here has been anything of the kind, but a shred out of the whole-cloth blankets of falsehood, which are almost daily woven by the Salt Lake Tribune.

WHAT THE DENVER POST SAYS.

We print today an editorial taken from the Denver Post which will be found in another column. It is timely and right to the point on the subject, which is now engaging so much public attention. But there are a few sentences in the article which need explanation. Speaking of the compact with reference to polygamy entered into by the State with the United States, the Post mentions the "Utah understanding of the meaning of polygamy."

Our Denver contemporary will find, by examining the subject a little closer, that the "Utah understanding" is that conveyed and defined by act of Congress, and that the meaning given to it by the Edmunds Act applies to the District of Columbia, where Congress is now sitting, and to every place "over which the United States have exclusive jurisdiction." So that the inference made by the Post that this "understanding" is peculiar to Utah, is a great mistake.

Another error is the assumption that the Enabling Act contains provisions concerning "polygamy." That term is not to be found in that instrument. It was intentionally omitted. The purpose in view in requiring a special provision in the Utah State Constitution, was the prohibition of future "polygamous or plural marriages." The words we have just quoted were those employed both in the Enabling Act and in the State Constitution. The confusion of mind exhibited by some leading papers of the country is caused by a failure to fully understand this important distinction.

The Post says: "There is little doubt that several polygamous marriages have been solemnized since the admission of the State." That may be the state of mind of the Post and some other papers and persons outside of Utah, but the great body of the people here are satisfied that the stories which have been set afloat, concerning such marriages in Utah since Statehood, are without foundation and are entirely false. There is no proof and no evidence worthy of the name to establish the charges of that kind that have been made. We agree with the Post that even if those stories were correct, they would not "justify the branding of the entire people as persisting in an offense they had forewarned."

Next the Post speaks of 3,000 being the probable number of men in Utah who are now involved in the practice of polygamy. That is an exaggerated estimate. Diligent inquiries show positively that there are less than half that number in this State; and thus it is true, as the Post says that "polygamy is becoming extinct as rapidly as death could remove those involved in it."

But the chief point in the Post article is that which it regards as the "real menace" to the country; that is, the "domination of the Church in politics." That shows the greatest mistake of all in the Post editorial. It assumes that "when a single churchman holding a religious office has strong political convictions and gives them utterance," the people "regard him as infallible and therefore, the result is that any election he is interested in goes as he desires." This assumption and conclusion are fallacious in the extreme.

In the first place, there is no person in the "Mormon" Church who is regarded as "infallible." In the next place, the highest authorities in that Church are divided in their "political convictions" and utterances. So are the individual members of the Church. Each acts according to those convictions without restraint of any kind. "The union of Church and State" which the Post thinks "will finally be severed," has no existence in Utah. The State Constitution has a special provision against it. There is no need of that, so far as it might affect the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. You cannot sever that which is not united. The Church does not attempt to dominate the State, nor does it direct the people how or for whom they shall vote at elections.

With these exceptions, the article in the Denver Post is admirable, and with its general tenor no fault can be found by those who desire to see the truth set forth for the consideration of the American people. We fully endorse the closing sentence of that editorial. "With a cause based in justice and right such as theirs, the Mormons are bound ultimately to triumph."

MASTERS IN BLACK ART.

The Kansas City Star, and a few other papers, tell their readers that there is no crusade in this country against any members of a Church, except in so far as they are law-breakers. This only proves that they know absolutely nothing about the origin, or the originators of that crusade.

There is a striking resemblance between the tactics of those engaged against "Mormonism" and the early crusaders against the Christian faith. The instigators of the movement that led to the tragedy of Calvary were confronted on one hand with a people zealous for their religion, and on the other hand with a liberal government that cared nothing for religious controversies. To succeed they found it necessary to formulate a double charge.

In the dark council of the Sanhedrin it was alleged that the Accused was a blasphemer, and before the government representative it was claimed He was a traitor. Neither charge could be proved by truthful testimony, but His own teachings were put forth in a perverted form to sustain both charges. The plan worked well. It inflamed the bigoted multitudes until they in chorus demanded the death of the victim, and the governor, intimidated by the popular rising, dared not to follow his own inclination to act on the real evidence produced.

The tactics pursued against "Mormonism" today are strikingly similar to these. The purpose, as has been admitted by some of the originators thereof, is, as it always has been since the

assassination of the Prophet Joseph, to exterminate a Church—the only American Church in existence. But in order to enlist the aid of the government, this is denied, and "polygamy" is held out as the point of assault, although that is a practice of the past. And so the cry on one hand is: "Down with the Church!" and on the other: "Lawbreaking must stop."

All this will be clear to the American people in the course of time. In the meanwhile the crusaders have a difficult juggling feat to perform. Fighting in reality religious liberty, they must make it appear that they are in arms against immorality. It takes a good deal of sleight-of-hand performance and skilful arrangement of the editorial mirrors on the public stage to produce the desired effect. Only masters in the black art can succeed.

WHAT REASONING!

Referring to the implied charge by a well known judge of the Supreme Court, that the Tribune is guilty of falsehood, in making unproved and unprovable charges against the "Mormon" authorities, that paper in rebuttal offers the alleged argument that, "we could make no such charge unless it was true, without being overwhelmed by libel suits."

The force of this kind of reasoning will be easily felt, when it is remembered that the Tribune published a long list of names of persons whom it accused of polygamy or polygamous relations, which proved to be a gross libel upon them without the slightest excuse for its publication, and yet not a single libel suit was entered against that paper.

If a criminal charge of libel had been entered and pressed for every scandalous attack upon individuals, without cause, made by that sheet, it would take several ordinary lives to serve out the penalties that might be imposed under the laws against libel and slander.

The Tribune's reasoning is as faulty and unreliable as its reckless accusations, perpetually repeated, against the "Mormon" authorities and the "Mormon" people.

LYNCHINGS AND CRIME.

It looks like grim irony, that at a time when American society is being harrowed in all directions by tales, in the press and pulpit, of the menace to the home, supposed to exist in Utah, a drama of horror is enacted in one of our immaculate States, compared to which the alleged cause of the present tumult is as nothing.

In Kentucky some wretch committed a crime, revolting in the extreme. This was the signal for an entire community to become insane. A frenzied mob seized the criminal and tortured him to death, inflicting such mutilations upon his body, as are practiced only by the lowest class of savages. And as if the thirst for the awful was not quenched by the spectacle of a human being expiring in indescribable agony in flames, the multitude scrambled for teeth and bones to keep as souvenirs. Women and children were in the throng that looked for fragments in the reeking ashpile.

It must be remembered that the mob which, in this way, executed vengeance, did so not to vindicate the law; nor to keep others from committing the crime for which Coleman was burned at the stake. The criminal was in the hands of the officers and the law would certainly have been carried out in his case. And as for any deterrent influence of mob law, it has been proved beyond a doubt that there is absolutely none. Mob law breeds violence. It provokes crime. When the ordinary methods of justice are overruled, there remains but brute force, and the country of lynchings consequently becomes the country of pistols, knives and feuds. In view of all the facts, there is no explanation of the lynching but this, that the mob yielded to precisely the same savage instinct as that which prompted the miserable wretch to commit his crime. It was a case one brute being tortured to death by other brutes—murderers slaying an assassin. And what must the effects of such a lesson be, when impressed upon the minds of children and the mothers of children! What about the "sacredness" of the American home? What about American civilization?

The most discouraging feature of the entire proceeding is this, that the professed "ministers" of the gospel are almost silent, when their church members engage in such savagery. Some feeble protests are recorded in the press, but beyond that, there is almost no effort to stop the law-breaking that threatens to become a national calamity. Why are the ministers silent, while blood is being shed unlawfully, and why are they lifting their voices against an evil their own imagination has unduly magnified? How can they escape the rebuke that once was hurled with the power of divine eloquence against those who are straining at a gnat? If there is any regard for the sacredness of the American home, let some effort be made to put an end to a lawlessness that stains it with blood.

The proposed big cigar trust of the American Tobacco company is liable to go up in smoke.

Germany now proposes to double the size of its navy. Of course the Kaiser is for peace—with a war backing.

With no beer, and whisky at \$3 a bottle, the garrison at LadySmith must be in a condition for sober reflection.

Judging by the number of prisoners the British report having lost, the Boers certainly have a taking way with them.

Now Louisiana claims Gen. Joubert as a native son of that State. It is expected that the general will be able to prove an alibi.

It is a great gift to be able to wield the power of language; but it is a precious prize to have the wisdom and opportunity to wield it properly.

Heroic as was the pursuit of Aguinaldo by Gen. Young's detachment, it must be conceded that the Americans had a hollow time in being without food for forty-eight hours and in not bag-

ging the game they made such a noble struggle to get.

There is another move to keep Gen. Wheeler out of Congress. It will be easy for the general to get the people to elect him again. Alabama is not unmindful of distinguished military men.

Senator Mason wants Congress to express sympathy with the Boers in their present war with England. Congress has no sympathy as an official body, when the possession or expression of it would affect the neutral position which this country has assumed. A vote of sympathy for either side in this conflict would be an expression of enmity against the other, and Congress has no right to act in that way when the masses of the people want to hold aloof from participation in the South African conflict.

When the war in South Africa began, the British government paid the usual allowances for families of soldiers—in the case of privates fourpence per day for wives and a penny for each child. As the prospect of a long war makes the expense heavy, the government has made an order that after January 1st this allowance comes from the soldier's pay. For instance if a private has a wife and six children, the amount retained is tenpence daily, or about six dollars a month, and under the new order is virtually a reduction of that amount in his wages. The carrying out of effect of such an order is sure to have a depressing influence on the men with families. It would have been better never to have paid the amount than to have had to cut off the allowance.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Baltimore Sun.
President McKinley's message is a most elaborate document, which touches upon every subject of national interest and importance. Its leading features are the recommendations for the maintenance of the gold standard and the regulation of trusts, the discussion of the situation in the Philippines and Cuba, the proposed plan of government for Porto Rico, the necessity of legislation for Hawaii and Alaska, the exposition of our policy in China, which though brief, is pertinently stated, and the President's defense of his order amending the civil service act.

New York Mail and Express.
Let well enough alone. That is the irresistible conclusion to be drawn from a perusal of the President's message. It affords that the President's administration is enjoying a high degree of prosperity. Our relations with all the other great powers of the earth are not only peaceful, but positively friendly. The business activities of our country are in an unusually high condition, and new fields of enterprise which remain unexplored when times are hard are constantly being opened.

Boston Herald.
We are inclined to accept the declaration made in the President's message that "it will be my constant aim, in the administration of government in our new possessions, to make fitness, character and merit essential to appointment to office, and to give to the capable and deserving inhabitants preference in appointments," as the avowal of the genuine intention on his part. We have the more faith, also, that it will be carried out, because a different policy must produce direful results that it is impossible cannot be foreseen.

Boston Transcript.
One of the English papers commenting upon the President's message expresses the opinion that its language with regard to England would have transcended friendship but for Mr. Chamberlain's indiscretion at Leicester. This criticism of Mr. Chamberlain over the shoulders of President McKinley is simply an illustration of the average British editor's inability to understand American ways. The President's message is not a stump speech addressed to a caucus. It is a communication from the executive to the legislature, a state paper, whose language must be guarded, an incontrovertible statement of facts. To all foreign powers President McKinley's language was courteous. To have exceeded this limit would have been to fall into effusiveness.

Denver Post.
The views on trusts as expressed in the annual message of the President differs somewhat from those of other distinguished Republicans, such as, for instance, as Mr. Hanna of Ohio or Mr. Allison of Iowa. That the President views on the subject would indicate that he has once more had his ear to the ground and listened attentively to the mutterings of the people. Mr. Allison declared that there were no trusts; that they existed only in the imagination of demagogues, such as Bryan, and that they were being used to frighten the people, while Mr. Hanna coincided in this view of the matter, added to the view taken by Mr. Allison, that if there really were trusts they were good things to have, and there should be more of them, as this era of prosperity, brought about through his personal exertions, could not have enough of the good things of the world.

Denver News.
Within the last year dozens of trusts have been formed, with an aggregate capital amounting to billions of dollars, and yet no move has been made by the law officers of the government to enforce the act of 1890. In the cases named there were strong commercial influences that compelled the attorney general's office to proceed against the combinations named. Thus, while the President asserts that the law is ample, and that the attorney general has full power and authority to proceed, there are but three cases in which action has been taken, and hundreds in which it has not been taken. The federal steel trust, the Standard Oil, the lead trust, and hosts of others are in existence in defiance of the law as laid down in the message, and yet, President McKinley's attorney general has not proceeded against them. The President ought to explain why the law has not been enforced.

Worcester Gazette.
For the benefit of our readers who were afraid to read the President's message, or any part of it, The Gazette will state that it contained no propositions to change the Republic to an empire, no request for a crown or scepter to decorate the chief executive with; no proposition to create a great standing army with which to crush the people's liberties; no demand for an offensive and defensive alliance with Great Britain; no argument in favor of a crusade of conquest, and no suggestion in favor of the restoration of slavery. It is perfectly safe for the anti-imperialists to come out from under their beds.

Springfield Republican.
The parts of the message commanding the greatest popular interest deal with the islands wrested from Spain. The way seems to be clear to the President in respect to Porto Rico. A civil government should be instituted, and it is "our plain duty" to abolish all United States tariffs on the products of the island and admit it within the free trade area of the American States. This will shock many former followers

... GREAT ...

Holiday Exhibition!

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Z. C. M. I. THIS WEEK.

Everybody is invited. Everybody is welcome. We have opened for inspection the most Magnificent and Extensive Stock of Goods ever displayed in this Market. Every Department in our great Dry Goods establishment is replete with the best and most stylish products of the manufacturer's art. There are creations from all parts of the world, and the highest qualities of the useful, ornamental and beautiful gathered here. For this occasion our spacious rooms are tastefully decorated, and the whole forms a magnificent picture to please the eye and gladden the heart. Come and view it, and bring the children. Come, whether or not you wish to buy. You are welcome. If you wish to be a purchaser, you will find that this Season we have put Everything at our Popular Prices.

Z. C. M. I.

T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

of the President in his campaigns on the ruinous effects of even so small a measure of free trade as this, but he is right as to our plain duty now. The industrial life of the island is at stake, and if the Constitution does not command the island's inclusion within our tariff humane considerations certainly do.

Los Angeles Express.
The message should be read by every good citizen who wishes to keep posted on his country's affairs. President McKinley has voiced the sentiments of the nation in his message.

Chicago News.
As a whole, the President's message on the disposition of America's new possessions will be satisfactory except to those who advocate a course inconsistent with solemn international obligations in connection with Cuba and the Philippines. The latter class will find little comfort in the President's message, long as it is.

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JOHN A. CUTLER, JR.
24 Main Street.

EYES
are an every day possession, almost every one has them. They don't seem to be very wonderful until we lose them. It doesn't make the affliction any easier to bear to know that we are to blame—that it is entirely our own fault. A skillful oculist will save many defective eyes.

JOHN DAYNES & SONS, Jewelers.
23 Main Street, Opposite Z. C. M. I.

We can sell you a suit of homemade clothes that will wear twice as long as eastern and will only cost you the same price.
We make all wool hose, cotton and wool garments in our knitting factory, at the right price.

Men's Navy Blue Flannel Shirt..... 75c. \$1.00 and \$1.25
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Pravo Blankets, the best in the country..... \$2.00 up.
All kinds of Knit Underwear, Shawls, etc.

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36 MAIN STREET, Salt Lake City.

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With this great big store crammed full of useful presents for men and boys—we know no better suggestion to make today than the Reefers and Suits for boys. We've Reefers for boys of 3 to 15 years—some of them with large sailor collars—some with the large reefer collar. There's one particular one at \$4.00 that deserves special mention. It's of blue chinchilla—good linings—has reefer collar—buttons up close around neck—double breasted style—large white Pearl buttons—trimmed down the front with black Kersey, sizes 3 to 8 years—very nobby. Then we have a handsome blue chinchilla reefer, very heavy—one of the swiftest things we ever had. This runs as large as 15 years—price \$5.00. Then we have them down to \$2.00 and in between.

Reefers put us in mind of other overcoats—cape style or little men's style. Cape style \$2.00 up. Little men's style \$2.50 up—with a specially nice one in her ring bone stripe covert cloth at \$4.50.

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Small collars this season are the popular things for the little fellows—still some mothers don't want to break away from the old standby—large sailor collar—So we've made preparations for all—but it's the small collar kinds we'll tell of today—we think they're so nobby. We've a varied assortment of these from \$2.50 to \$8.50. There's a very nobby one at \$5.00—of dark gray cheviot—back is pleated and has the belt effect. The vest is of pearl gray silk—double breasted style—opens in front just like men's—fancy buttons, etc. Sizes run from 3 to 8 years.

For boys of 8 to 16 years—we've a splendid showing of the regular double breasted styles in chevots, cassimeres and fancy worsteds—from \$1.50 to \$8.50.

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