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AND THIS IN BOSTON:

The Boston Traveler is greatly exercised because of a report that the governor of Vermont is to honor the memory of Joseph Smith, founder of Mormonism, by attending the dedication of a monument at Sharon, Vermont, his birthplace, at which time Smith will make the address. It is not considered by the official mentioned, although the story has been public for almost a week.

And then the paper pours out its vials of wrath upon the governor for giving official recognition to the prophet.

What kind of news service has the Boston Traveler? Here in Utah it sounds queer to hear a newspaper printed at the very center of American intellect speaking of an event as still future, which transpired four years ago. The monument was dedicated in 1905. The Traveler has evidently lost track of time and is lagging behind the rest of the world.

The part of the article in the Traveler, relating to the history of the church, is just as absurd as that already quoted, and shows as much ignorance, and a great deal of malice. "Joseph," the paper says, "was a brutal and illiterate boy." The opposite is true. He was gentle as a lamb, though full of courage. He was religiously inclined, devoted to his God, as the shepherd boy David. He was studious and thirsting for knowledge.

The Traveler makes a number of curious statements. It says that at the age of fifteen Joseph had alleged visions "in which angels advised him that the New Testament was buried in a certain spot." Did anyone, but the Traveler, ever hear of any such visions relating to the New Testament?

The paper, further, asserts that "in due time, Smith produced a stone box in which was a volume six inches thick, made of thin gold plates eight inches by eleven." Also, "a pair of spectacles consisting of a set of two crystals set in a silver bow," and yet he was so poor that he had to induce "an ignorant farmer named Miller to give him money to pay for printing the book." Where, in the opinion of the Traveler, did the young boy get those gold plates and the crystals set in a silver bow? Did he buy those gold plates and those crystals, or did he manufacture them? In either case he must have had money, for a number of gold plates would have represented a large fortune. If he had money enough to produce, in due time, as the Traveler asserts, a volume of gold plates six inches thick, and a pair of crystals set in silver, the other statement that he depended upon the ignorance of a farmer for money for printing, is impossible. The enemies always contradict themselves in trying to account for the origin of the church.

The Traveler has a great deal of startling news about the church, but this is the most "newsworthy." It is, we presume, original with that paper: "Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, and Martin Harris each made a sworn affidavit that an angel of God had shown them the plates from which the book was a translation. Before each of these men died they testified on their sacred oath that they had committed perjury and that the entire proceedings were a fake."

The Boston Traveler, in this paragraph, has capped the climax of stupidity and ignorance. It has hurled itself against the rock of solid historical facts. If any truth is established it is this: that the three witnesses never denied their testimony.

Oliver Cowdery died in full faith and Church fellowship, though he was outside the Church for some time. Just before he breathed his last he asked his attendants to raise him up in bed. This request being complied with, he told those present to live according to the teachings contained in the Book of Mormon. David Whitmer, though not identified with the Church since 1838, always testified that an angel appeared and showed to him the plates. And Martin Harris also testified to the last that the Book of Mormon is true.

This being the fact, we hope the Boston Traveler will correct the errors into which its anti-Mormon bitterness has led it, unless, like those the Salt Lake Tribune, its mistakes on that subject are intentional and for a purpose.

QUESTION OF PRIORITY

It may be regarded as unfortunate that there has arisen what promises to be a bitter controversy concerning the honor of priority in the discovery of the North Pole. But such controversies seem to be inevitable in the fields of discovery and invention.

Everyone is familiar with the fact that there were many claimants to the honor of having invented the art of printing. Gutenberg, or perhaps, Willdivided between Gutenberg and Caster, Kistner and Holland. There seems to be very strong contemporary testimony for both claimants and both claimants.

"The discovery of the planet Neptune is said to rank as the most brilliant of the scientific feats of the last century, and the honors are divided between Adams and Leverrier, or shall we say, between Professors Galle, of Berlin, and Challis, of Cambridge?"

A great many of the discoveries and

inventions from which the human race derives benefit have been made simultaneously, by ten or more investigators. Witness the discovery of anesthesia and of the use of electricity. At the time Franklin was making his famous experiments with kites in this country, a monk in central Europe is said to have been conducting similar experiments, with similar success. Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin developed and announced at the same time the theory of struggle and natural selection. For nearly a hundred years before Morse made his practical demonstration of the telegram the possibility of transmitting words by wire and electricity had been under discussion and not without some successful experiment. The telephone, or transmission of the voice by wire, was hit upon so closely in point of time by several men, that a five to four decision of the United States supreme court had to settle the question of priority.

And so it goes. "There is nothing new under the sun." But Cook and Peary should not permit the controversy as to priority to become acrimonious. There is enough honor for both, if both have been at the Pole. The testimony of one should corroborate that of the other.

JAPAN IN CHINA.

According to the reports Japan is now pursuing in Manchuria the very policy for which it made war upon Russia. It is gradually drawing the entire province in under her control.

It seems that a new treaty has been entered into by which Japan secures the management of the entire transportation system of Manchuria. Of course the sovereignty of China is expressly admitted, but it is agreed that China shall not build any railroads in Manchuria, unless they are approved by Japan. It is stipulated in this remarkable convention that four new "treaty ports" shall be declared by the Chinese to be open "to the commerce of the world"—the joke being that they are exactly the spots most convenient for the establishment of Japanese military bases.

The "open door" policy, when violated by Russia, was maintained by Japan, but it now seems that Japan has decided to take the part Russia played before the war. Will Russia step in against Japan? Probably not. The other European powers are not likely to. Great Britain cannot consistently object, if Japan in Manchuria is following the illustrious example of England in Egypt. But the cabinets are said to be watching Japan's tactics in China with considerable interest.

TUBERCULOSIS AND THE LAW.

The new law on tuberculosis, recently enacted by the legislature of New York, is regarded as one of the best measures yet devised on that subject in this country.

Under the provisions of this act tuberculosis is declared to be an infectious and communicable disease, dangerous to the public health; hospitals and physicians are required to report any known cases of it.

An important provision is that the local health authorities are requested to provide for the free examination of sputum upon the request of any physician. The health authorities may, upon the complaint of any person, after an investigation thereof, serve notice upon any person having tuberculosis who disposes of his sputum in such a manner as to cause offense or danger to others requiring him to dispose of his sputum in such a manner as to remove all reasonable cause of offense or danger. The violation of such an order is a misdemeanor.

Another provision is that the register of persons having tuberculosis is protected from publicity. Penalties are exacted by the death or removal therefrom of a person having tuberculosis must be reported to the local health authorities and must not be occupied until properly disinfected. Health officers must visit such apartments or premises and determine the manner in which they shall be disinfected, cleaned or renovated. Disinfection must be done by the health authorities at public expense. Cleaning and renovation shall be done by the owner, at his expense, in accordance with the instructions of the health authorities. In case such orders are not complied with the health officer may post a suitable placard, preventing the reoccupation of the premises.

Such are the main features of the New York statute.

In view of the fact that the high altitude and dry air of the Rocky Mountain plateau tend to the prevention and cure of this scourge of the white race, the medical profession here would do well to prepare and recommend to the legislature a law similar to that of New York.

Our law, we are informed, is frequently derived from the principles of jurisprudence recognized by the decisions of the courts of New York, and our statutes have occasionally been copied from those of that commonwealth. Here is another opportunity to borrow the embodied legal wisdom of that great state on a subject of vital concern to the health of our people.

The relative freedom from lung diseases characteristic of our balmy climate may not hold true as a future condition if we fail to put into operation the plain rules of sanitary inspection and regulation.

WHY LIVING COSTS MORE.

Investigations as to why the cost of living has increased so rapidly in recent years bring out the old story of accusation by the farmers against the transportation companies and all agree in holding the trusts responsible for a large part of the increased cost.

Grocers claim that they are not making as much net profit as they did ten years ago. Higher rents, higher wages, consumers' demands for higher quality, and the higher cost of the farm products we buy, all tend to narrow their margin of profit.

Great grocers, for example, admit that melons costing 25 cents are sold for five cents, and that strawberries are sold at an advance of five cents per box over cost; but they claim that on products so profitable as straw-

berries the loss averages one box in ten.

The farmer has gained considerably by reason of the advance cost of food products, but since his expenses have likewise increased, the exact amount of his gain is not so easily calculated. Some grocers suggest that all selling should be by the pound and it is curious that the law has not been made to require this change from bulk to weight in selling a bushel of potatoes, for instance, should weigh 60 pounds, but if sold by bulk it frequently goes at 50 and the peck at 12 pounds, the consumer losing the difference.

Butchers claim that it costs the retailer six per cent more today to conduct his business than ten years ago. The two largest items of increase are the cost of supplies and the operating expenses of stores. Wages, rent and fixtures all are up. The salesman who formerly received \$18 now must have \$26. He also has shorter hours.

The high price of pork is thus explained by a representative retailer: "The farmer used to have surplus corn which he fed to his hogs and plenty of low-priced land over which they could root. Now all his corn is bought up, his land has increased in value, growing hogs have decreased his acreage, there are millions more people to feed. All these factors tend to force up the price of hogs."

The Retail Grocers' Advance denounces as false the charge recently made that the cost of living has increased because of the greed and extortionate profits of the grocers. It was openly charged in New York that grocers retail butter bought at 25 and 25 cents for from 25 to 40 cents. The editor made inquiries of a hundred grocers during the past week and could not find one grocer who is getting more than three cents a pound profit on butter. In fact a good many were selling butter at only two cents a pound profit.

The lack of any appreciable profit on sugar is given by many of the grocers as a reason why they must charge a higher commission on other articles. They say that about nine per cent is made on milk, three per cent on condensed milk, and only two per cent on sugar.

A woman's way is a woman's way. Old age is the reward of a long life of usefulness.

Pugilists are very close-fisted yet free with their money.

How different the college career from the life career.

It is the man who loses that always makes the most fuss.

If second thoughts are best, why shouldn't second place be?

No politics in the taking of the census? We shall see what we shall see.

A man generally shows his teeth when he gets a new set. He simply can't help it.

Peary's friends and supporters are good politicians. They are claiming everything.

There is no longer any bald-headed row in the theaters. The whitem occupants wear wigs.

Lieutenant Sutton's grave having been opened it is to be hoped that his case will be closed.

Secretary Ballinger it is retired from the President's cabinet. Has Chief Forester Pinchot won out?

It begins to look as though the Cook-Pearry controversy, like the brook, would go on forever.

"Is a platform promise binding?" asks an exchange. Certainly it is. It helps to bind the platform together.

In this race for the North Pole that has just been finished some one will have to be put in the "also ran" class.

As the great American traveler the fame of President Taft is destined to be greater than that of Bayard Taylor.

A man in New York committed suicide because he was tired of a life of laziness. He found a sure cure for it.

You can bank on a bankers' convention being conservative; and conservatism is one of the best assets a bank can have.

What better evidence could there be in favor of Commander Peary's claims than the fact that his ship is named the Roosevelt?

"Stealing automobiles has become a common pastime in Cleveland," says the Plain Dealer. Those who indulge in it seem to have "no."

A great deal of the matter sent from the Arctic regions should have been blue penciled before being made public. It is a natural preservative for reputations.

Down in Dallas, Texas, they have arrested a man believed to be Leon Ling, the murderer of Blanche Sigel. To what purpose the man believed to be Leon Ling is subjected.

Is the "American" mayor so much better than his party that some who are out of it are running after him to accept a nomination from them? It is as true today as it ever was that birds of a feather flock together.

The late E. H. Harriman will not be missed so much as many think he will. He was an excellence as an organizer, and had so perfected the organization of his railroad system that in competent hands his work will go on. He led, now others can follow.

By George F. Butler, A.M., M.D.
If you are on the brow of the hill, the highest peak of your life's mountain, resolved, if you would remain long there, to so live as to maintain a steady nerve, a kind heart, a cheerful disposition, and a keen appreciation of the advantages you have gained. Your

THE OPTIMIST'S CORNER

life may have been one of toil—all the better for that. You have had your share of hardships, anxieties, worries, sorrows and afflictions, and you have risen above them. Possibly you are over-coming some, now that seem greater than you can bear, but don't waver; brace up; stir up your courage; and determine that you will not abandon hope. Have you apparently failed? Not a bit of it. Let no such word as "fail" be in your vocabulary. Have you succeeded? Has the wave of prosperity come your way? If so, go right on with your work, but in a modified way. When you have "made 50," don't retire from business or professional work, but be willing to put on the brakes, and realize that it is the part of wisdom, as we advance in years, to be satisfied to do a little less work, but to do it better. Keep in the harness, but adjust the harness in such a manner as to make it bear a little easier on all your parts, and cultivate skill in moving along the lines of least resistance.

QUESTION OF OWNERSHIP.

Springfield Republican.
When the question of ownership of the American side of the north pole comes into serious agitation, if it ever does, we shall probably find Great Britain pointing to the treaty of 1818 with the United States. That treaty granted to inhabitants of the United States the liberty, in common with the subjects of Great Britain, to take land "and also on the coasts, bays, harbors and creeks from Mount Joy on the southern coast of Labrador to and through the straits of Belle Isle and thence northwardly indefinitely along the coast." "Northwardly indefinitely" would carry one to the pole and stop there, where to proceed further would involve a southerly direction. Pointing to this provision the British might say that their claims in North America were here made to include all lands and shores to the pole not otherwise appropriated, and that the United States conceded the same.

CERTAINTY VS. MYSTERY.

St. Louis Republic.
We have won the real pole—a vast expanse of snow, purple in the sunlight, white as death under the wheeling aroets and the cold moon through the long months of the winter night. We have won one landscape, but we have lost many. The polar catanet, plunging with awful thunders into the abysses, as pictured in the lurid tale of Poe; the dream of the "concentric spheres," the vision of a terrestrial paradise, a land of strange valleys whose green grasses and blue gentians grow clean to the ultramarine margins of the ice; the lift of mighty mountains under the boundless sky, with the smoke-plumes of volcanoes greater than Erebus and Terror waving above their summits; the mystery of a sea that remained unfrozen while waters far to the south were locked fathoms deep in ice; the faces and speech of hyperborean with whom, an eternal youth, were Andre and his companions. All these we had but yesterday, yet they are gone and gone forever, exchanged for one commonplace waste of wind-swept ice!

JUST FOR FUN.

Fortune's Favorite.
"Some folks is born lucky," said Uncle Eben, "n' due man dat is born wif plain common sense is one of 'em."—Washington Star.

Absent-Minded.
The Wife—Do you know you have not kissed me for over a week?
Absent-minded Professor—Then I wonder who the dickens I have been kissing.—Cassell's Journal.

The Complete Bookkeeper.
Mrs. Knicker—How do you make your books balance?
Mrs. Knicker—That's easy; I always spend the exact sum I receive right away.—New York Sun.

Shifting Responsibility.
A youthful versifier sought the judgment of a well-known critic.
"Sir," said the poet indignantly when the expert had advised him to burn his lines, "poets are born under a curse."
"Young man," replied the critic, smiling, "do not try to shift the blame on to your parents!"—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Father Was Suspicious.
"Only a business letter," explained the blushing daughter as she saw curious looks cast at the mail.
"Yes," said her father, sarcastically. "It does look remarkably like a sealed proposal!"—Baltimore American.

A Pleasant Relief.
"Do you ever really enjoy your work?"
"Well, yes. For two or three days after coming back from vacation."—Kansas City Journal.

At the Charity Bazar.
He—I don't want anything really; but here's a dollar for your pretty eyes.
She—I've two eyes, Monsieur.—Pages Folies.

A Requisite.
Stay-alight—Oh, Miss Wobbin, may I come to see you again?
Miss Wobbin—Well, I cannot see how you can very well, unless you go this time.—Life.

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