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SALT LAKE CITY, MAY 7, 1908.

BIBLE THE WORD OF GOD.

The Tribune, on Tuesday, permitted some ignoramus to use its editorial columns for an attack on Elder John Henry Smith, of the Council of Apostles, because he, in a recent sermon, referred to the article of the creed of the Latter-day Saints which reads: "We believe the Bible to be the word of God, as far as it is translated correctly." The Tribune scribe says he supposes that the author of this phrase and those who repeat it, "really think that there is something difficult about the translation of the Bible, and that scholars find it a great task to translate it correctly. Nothing of the kind is true."

Then he goes on to say that the trouble is not in translation but "in getting a text to translate." It is only a few years, he says, since the learned world agreed on a standard text for the Greek Testament, and now "there is no difficulty about a uniformity." The Old Testament presents the same difficulties.

The author of the riddle quoted is laboring under the impression that the translation from one language to another is perfectly easy, as soon as the text to be translated is determined. Far from it. Even when the question is of translating from one modern language to another the difficulties are almost insurmountable. Somebody has said that Shakespeare cannot be translated. And that is true. Ibsen cannot be translated. But when it comes to translating from the old languages to modern, the difficulties multiply.

The eminent scholars who revised the so-called authorized English version of 1811, and spent ten years on that work, state in their preface to the New Testament:

"We know full well that defects must have their place in a work so long and so arduous as this, which has now come to an end. Blemishes and imperfections there are in the noble translation which we have been called upon to revise; blemishes and imperfections will assuredly be found in our own Revision. All endeavors to translate the Holy Scriptures into another tongue must fall short of their aim when the obligation is imposed of producing a version that shall be alike literal and idiomatic, faithful to each thought of the original, and yet, in expression of it, harmonious and free. While we dare hope that in places not a few of the New Testament the introduction of slight changes has cast a new light upon much that was difficult and obscure, we cannot forget how often we have failed in expressing some finer shade of meaning which we recognized in the original, how often idiom has stood in the way of a perfect rendering, and how often the attempt to preserve a familiar form of words, or even a familiar cadence, has only added another perplexity to those which already beset us."

That is the view of modern scholarship of perhaps the best translation of the Bible extant. Modern scholarship recognizes that it has its "blemishes and imperfections"; that all efforts to translate the Scriptures into another tongue "must fall short of their aim"; and that the translators sometimes fail to express the finer shades of meaning which they recognize in the original. This is true of all translations even after the text is determined. And for that reason the creed of the Latter-day Saints very well accepts the Bible as the word of God as far as it is correctly translated. Any imperfections or blemishes, any shortcomings due to the limitations of scholarship and human understanding, any failure to render the finer shade of meaning must be credited to the imperfections of the human instruments, and not to God. We can safely ask any scholar whether that is not a concise statement of an indisputable truth.

The Tribune scribe asserts, with the confidence of crass ignorance, that as soon as the original text is fixed "it is very easy to make a translation." If he had ever tried to make a translation from the Hebrew or the Greek, he would know better. The languages in which the Scriptures were written are no longer spoken; they are different in construction from our own; the expression, and images, and thought of the inspired authors are entirely different from those of modern literature, belonging to an age different from ours; many of the manners and customs of that age have passed away; hence difficulties in the understanding and the translation of the text, that are sometimes insurmountable. There are difficulties in the explanation of words and phrases, and the connection of arguments, etc., which make the task of the translator exceedingly difficult.

A familiar verse of the New Testament may be referred to for illustration. The word "substance" in Heb. 11, is a literal translation of the original word, "hypostasis." It means whatever "stands under" and "sustains" that which is attached to it, whether subjects or qualities. But, although that is true the translation is yet obscure. In Heb. 1:3 the same word is translated "person," and in 2 Cor. 11:31, "confidence." The translator may infer that the word stands for such evidence of things not seen as evidence doubt, or the conviction which such evidence produces in the believer, but where can we find a modern word that will express that idea, and in addition the ideas for which the original stands in the other passages mentioned? Where can he find a true and full equivalent for that one word?

Take another well known phrase, John 1:16: "Grace for grace." What

does it mean? Has the translator been able to make the original clear by that rendition? Some tell us it means: "Additional grace for grace properly used;" others: "Grace on account of the grace of Christ;" others: "Grace upon grace," although the preposition "anti" is not rendered "upon" in any other New Testament verse. It is defended, however, on the theory that it is a "Hebraism"—a peculiar, not to say incorrect, translation—of the preposition "al" upon, and that the phrase means "an abundance of grace."

We could multiply instances of difficulties of translation, if it were necessary. And we may add that the blunders of translators are responsible for a great deal of infidelity as regards the Bible. The Bible is the word of God to man, and it has divine authority. It is the Book of books, and as far as it has been correctly transcribed and translated, it is an utterance of Divine wisdom and love. This the "Mormon" creed states briefly and correctly.

HE WAS A GOOD CITIZEN.

In the sudden passing of Hon. John Clark the community, religiously, socially, and politically, loses a sterling citizen whose good deeds will live long after the mortal remains have returned to their parent dust. Those who had the privilege of knowing Mr. Clark intimately point to his career as one that could be taken as a pattern by all young men. His life was an open book and whether it be as a militiaman in the early Indian campaigns, a missionary in England, treasurer of Z. C. M. I., head of a large wholesale establishment, or mayor of Salt Lake City, everything he undertook was marked by the note of sincerity, conservatism and energetic action which invariably leads to success. In John Clark were concentrated many virtues and no vices, and the community is the poorer by his sudden departure. Those he leaves behind have the sympathy of all and the comfort that there is none who can arise and truthfully say that John Clark had ever wounded him in word or deed.

PERSONAL EXTRAVAGANCE.

The extravagance of the retail trade in ladies' spring hats and in some other lines of goods that are more or less of the nature of luxuries, alarms the man of moderate income.

Young wives in particular, whose husbands are just making a start in life and are working for modest salaries may think it all right to make frequent purchases of costly wearing apparel, but from our standpoint such luxury, while always objectionable, is especially dangerous at this time.

The West has not suffered so much as have certain industrial centers of the East from the recent financial stringency, and retail purchases scarcely abated at any time, but the danger is not yet over.

In an intelligent review of monetary conditions on the Pacific coast, a Los Angeles correspondent points out that notwithstanding the hopeful predictions that bankers, brokers and real estate men have been making ever since the panic of last fall struck the Pacific Coast, the expected improvement in general business conditions has not materialized. In fact, the general stagnation is more marked at the present time than at any period since the first paralyzing days of Clearing House certificates. Even the most optimistic have now ceased to predict speedy resumption of business activity, and all classes appear to regard it as inevitable that a prolonged period of depression is upon us. Bankers, in particular, do not hesitate to discourage their customers from embarking upon new enterprises; and merchants have cancelled large orders on account of the dullness of retail trade and the expectation of lower prices. The number of the unemployed increases steadily, and the probability of extensive wage reductions is creating considerable uneasiness.

It seems likely, therefore, that the coast cities have special reason to anticipate dull times and unsatisfactory business and financial conditions. San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Spokane, and practically every important town of the Far West are overbuilt. The growth of the past few years has been so rapid that every one had fallen into the habit of discounting the future. The collapse of boom conditions and the special causes that are leading to the withdrawal of both population and wealth to new agricultural districts that are springing into existence in California, Arizona, and New Mexico have already resulted in leaving an abnormally large number of business and tenement buildings vacant. It may be several years before the demand for such properties becomes sufficiently active to cause a general resumption of building.

Wise men of small income, and wise women also, will do well to be conservative. Financiers have done this; why should poor people spend extravagantly? While it is true that we have no panics here, there are enough echoes of hard times to dictate prudence in personal expenditure.

PROHIBITION IN THE SOUTH.

The temperance reform movement is particularly strong in the Southern States, and from there it is spreading to all parts of the Union, and in all probability liquor selling will soon be placed under the ban in nearly every state.

People who return from visits to the Gulf states, says the Rural New Yorker, are impressed with the growth of prohibition or "temperance" sentiment in that section. There seems no doubt but that prohibition has come to stay, and that it is a business question of greater importance to the Southern people than even the tariff. It made but slow progress until country people saw the business side of it. We have told how the thing that made Southern prohibition a great issue in politics was the necessity of keeping liquor away from the idle negroes. Now that the saloons are closed, another business argument has been demonstrated. Sales of fruit, vegetables and dairy products have increased as the sales of liquor were shut off. Figures from several towns in Alabama show that the greater part of the money formerly worse

than wasted in drink, now goes to buy the things which farmers produce. All this makes new markets for new crops, and puts money into the right sort of circulation. As the South is an agricultural community these benefits will grow larger, and there seems no chance for any going back. Throughout rural sections in the North and West, too, the sentiment for prohibition is growing as business rather than politically. It is essentially a movement of farmers, and makes little headway in cities and towns. It seems as if it means inevitably a contest between country and town, such as we have never before seen in this land."

That Laporte farm surely was one of the portals of death.

The Leslie Shaw boom has simply gone the way that many booms will go.

When one runs over \$5,000 a ton the owner generally carries all of it in his pocket.

Freight trains will not go faster because freight rates have been advanced.

"Fighting Bob" is good but "Our Bob" brings him nearer to the hearts of the people.

Bella Guinness should have called her farm Bella Vista. It was such a beautiful place.

One merit of the "Merry Widow" hats is that they do away with the need of a parasol.

The pictures of some of the graduating nurses look as though their specialties were heart troubles.

Why doesn't Andrew Carnegie fit out an expedition to go in search of the fountain of youth?

The Socialists are calling on Jack London to be their standard bearer. Is not this the call of the wild?

A Mr. Mead is running for mayor of Harrisburg, Pa. His platform is a square meal and a full dinnerpail.

If Judge Lacombe's decision on moving picture shows is sustained, the moving picture shows will have to move on.

There is a great difference between weathering a storm and storming about the weather. It never profits any one to do the latter.

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than those of war." That is the kind the fleet achieved in San Francisco yesterday.

The Santa Fe railroad advertises Chicago as an ideal summer resort. The Santa Fe doesn't seem to have a high ideal, except for temperature.

In studying the method of control of the social evil in San Francisco, let our mayor remember the fact that it was one of the great sources of graft there.

In his plea for a \$600,000 bond the organ of the American party forgot for once, to berate the leaders of the "Mormon" Church and its adherents. How soft and sweet the voice of the deceiver when it would beguile the people!

"After woman is granted the ballot she will inform her husband that she has 'nothing to wear' to the polls on election day," says the Washington Post. Experience in Utah, Wyoming and Colorado belies the statement. She informs her husband that she is going to the polls and will be back soon; and is. Woman suffrage is a success.

The labor of the text book convention now assembled in this city to adopt school text books for the next five years, is one that will bear much fruit. The consequences for the public schools are momentous. We believe that the members of the convention sense fully the responsibility that rests upon them, and that they will conscientiously endeavor to reach results that shall be for the real and permanent advancement of the schools.

Mr. William A. Brady announces

Mr. MANTELL

IN SHAKSPERE!!

Monday Night "King Lear"
Tuesday Night "Macbeth"
Wednesday Night "Hamlet"
Thursday Night "The Merchant of Venice"
Friday Night "Othello"
Saturday Night "A Midsummer Night's Dream"
Sunday Night "King Richard III"

Evenings at 8; Saturday Matinee at 2 p. m.
Prices—25c to \$1.50. Boxes, \$2.
SPECIAL WEDNESDAY MATINEE 2:30—Prices 25c to \$1.00.

APPLES FOR SLEEPLESSNESS.

London Globe.
The apple is such a common fruit, says a medical writer, that very few persons are familiar with its remarkably efficacious medicinal properties. Everybody ought to know that the very best thing they can do to get to sleep is to eat an apple before retiring for the night. Persons uninitiated in the mysteries of fruit are liable to throw up their hands in horror at the visions of dyspepsia which such a suggestion may summon up, but no harm can come even to a delicate system by the eating of the ripe and juicy apple before going to bed. The apple is excellent food, because it has more phosphoric acid in easily digested shape than any other fruit. It excites the action of the liver, promotes sound and healthy sleep and thoroughly disinfects the mouth. Dyspepsia is not all. The apple prevents indigestion and throat diseases.

A GIRL REVERSED.

Exchange.
A girl of 14, who lives in the North of England, has a peculiarity of mental development which is puzzling doctors. She cannot learn as other children do. Though quick in conversation and at games, she hardly knows the letters of the alphabet properly, though she has been at school for many years. When asked to write she takes a pencil in her left hand, and starting from the right hand writes before going laboriously across it, writing each letter the wrong way about. She de-

clares she cannot write any other way. Also she can pick out the letters of the alphabet easily when they are written the wrong way around, but with the greatest difficulty when they are rightly informed. As with letters so with figures. She puts them down from right to left, gravely draws a line and proceeds to a desperate and quite hopeless attempt to add. She is not left handed in the ordinary sense of the term. If she pauses anything or anything is offered to her she uses her right hand. Yet when in the school-room she was asked where a certain village lived she immediately pointed with her right hand in the opposite direction, though she knew well where the house was located. Externally this young person is like any other 14-year-old girl except that her eyes are slightly crossed. She is quiet, an obedient and seems anxious to learn.

JUST FOR FUN.

Just for Fun.
No woman should trust her life's happiness to a man who kicks a dog.
—Jacksonville Times-Union.

Not All Pleasure.
Mrs. Gay—Of course we must go to the ball at the club next week.
Mr. Gay—O, you think of nothing but pleasure.

Satisfying Him.
Small Boy—Can I have a ride on a donkey?
Ma—No, dear; your papa says you are not to have one.

Small Boy—Why can't I have a ride on a donkey?
Ma (to her husband)—Oh, for goodness sake, James, give him a ride on your back and see if it will keep him quiet.—Illustrated Bits.

Time for but One.
"Mrs. Jones had a most delicious bit of scandal to tell Mrs. Brown, and the latter wouldn't give her a chance to let go of it."
"I thought she reveled in such things."
"She does."
"Why wouldn't she hear it?"
"Their time was short, and she had some scandal that she wanted to tell herself."
—Nashville American.

Where Is Dr. Osler?
A Montgomery County man sixty-eight years of age cultivated a corn crop last season with a horse twenty-five years old and two ploughs, one twenty-five and the other thirty years old.—Kansas City Journal.

No Advance Agents.
It would seem that we have not as yet made sufficient advancement in science to be able to predict anything about the coming cyclones until after they have arrived.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Ruins.
Englishman—What a pity your country has no ruins.
New Yorker—Ruins! I guess you haven't seen the Metropolitan Street Railway.

SALT THEATRE
LAKE THEATRE
GEORGE D. PYPHER
MANAGER
CURTAIN 6:15

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, May 8-9.
Saturday Matinee.
ALL NEW THIS YEAR!
Hear Lew Sing, "When the Hammer on the Anvil Rings."

LEW DOCKSTADER
And His Own Great
MINSTRELS!!

NEIL O'BRIEN,
Vic Richards, Eddie Mazzier, Pete Detzel, Reese V. Prosser, Will Oakland, Wm. Hallett, Wm. H. Thompson, Master Keegan and sixty others.

Prices—Night, 25c to \$1.50; Matinee, 25c to \$1. Seats now on sale.

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SHAKSPEREAN

FESTIVAL Ever Known in Utah.

WEEK MAY 11.

SALE SEATS TODAY.

Orders by mail filled as received when accompanied by check.

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We direct special attention to the

UNUSUAL WAIST VALUES AT \$1.25 AND \$1.35.

These two lines are leaders with us and if economy means anything to you, we know you'll be interested if you see them. There's a saving on every purchase you make here.

LADIES' KNIT UNDERWEAR is always a special feature here and this season we have made our line stronger than ever.

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SOAP? SOAP??

For one week we will sell at 25c the box, the following excellent soaps:

Glycerine, Oatmeal, Cold Cream, and Bouquet.

You should not miss this offer.

Godbe-Pitts Drug Co.

JUST IN TIME!

You may save loss on your property if you have it insured against fire right now. "You know not what a day may bring forth," and if it brings forth destruction of your property it will bring forth with it full indemnity for the loss when your policy is written in the

HOME FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF UTAH.

For one week we will sell at 25c the box, the following excellent soaps:

Glycerine, Oatmeal, Cold Cream, and Bouquet.

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Unless you have them cleaned and pressed once in a while? We clean ladies' and men's apparel by processes all our own. Try once.

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No home should be without this new and scientifically prepared remedy, which is the result of long practical experience. Unexcelled for the treatment of sore throat of every description. First dose gives relief and small bottle cures. Suits both the old and young. Both bottles 40c. Remember the number.

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We have all kinds of coal and are exclusive agents for Diamond.

"Keep it in your mind."

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153 Main St. Both 'Phones 49.

Your Credit Is Good

Men's, Youths' and Boys' Clothing sold on easy weekly or monthly payments. All the latest styles and patterns to select from. We sell only reliable, up-to-date shape retaining clothing at lowest prices. 1700-made Suits from \$7.00 to \$30.00.

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