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THE PRIZE ODE.

We publish today with pleasure the prize poem to be sung at the National Irrigation congress, which is to open at Ogden September 15. It is a fine contribution to the proceedings, and is worthy of the occasion and of the author. It is also happily adapted to the spirit and purpose of the great gathering of notables to take place in the Junction city. Mrs. McClurg, the writer of the ode, whose home is at Colorado Springs, is not a novice in the sphere of literature, as may be readily perceived by the initiated. She has gained eminence in poetry and in prose, and has been an extensive traveler with varied experiences, including adventures among the Indians. Nor is she a stranger in Utah, as she has visited this city several times, and has written much concerning its attractions. Her husband, Col. Gilbert McClurg, is also well known here, having figured prominently in the affairs of the Irrigation Congress, of which he is now a director, and the general representative. We commend the poem to the attention of all readers of the Deseret News, particularly those who are familiar with scenes in the mountain States, and the transformation that has come to this region through irrigation and the skill and toil of brave men and women, and who can appreciate the vivid pictures presented in the talented lady's production.

TO BE "LET DOWN EASY."

It appears, after all, that Rev. Dr. Leitch is to be permitted to resign and leave Utah; in other words, he is to be "let down easy." That is all right, and the people of Utah, including his co-religionists who have had the most cause to complain, will be content to let him return to Pennsylvania, and if the folks there desire his presence and services it will be satisfactory all round.

It is claimed that his actions—those to which exceptions have been taken—were due to ill health rather than ill intention, and that he is really a patriotic, pious gentleman. If that is true, of course we should sympathize with his infirmities and hope for his improvement. We must also, we suppose, attribute his false affidavit about Senator Smoot to an excess of "patriotism" but we are at a loss to see where the extra flow of "piety" is therein exhibited. Bodily infirmities often excite irritability and haste, in thought and deed, but it is a little difficult for the common mind to perceive the relation of cause and effect, between kidney trouble and deliberate swearing to an untruth.

We fear that if the course pursued by the alleged invalid Methodist minister had not involved an attack on a prominent "Mormon," his apostolism would not have been so ready to diagnose his case in the manner now adopted. But, never mind, a change of air and scene and surroundings may work a change in his system, and his patriotism and piety may crop out differently in Pennsylvania to their manner of development in Utah and in Washington, D. C. Let us hope that both his health and his disposition may improve by a return to a State, the capital of which is "the city of brotherly love," and that he may hereafter exercise more caution and less eagerness to attack untruthfully a religious opponent, whether prompted by patriotism or by piety.

We wish the "presiding elder" no harm. On the contrary, we hope that his bodily and mental infirmities may be mitigated while he remains in his present ministerial position, and altogether depart when he returns to the classic fields and peaceful folds of the Quaker State. Utah does not begrudge him to Pennsylvania.

IT IS NOT PITCH BLENDE.

Readers of the "News" will doubtless remember that in noticing the production of radium, the wonderful newly discovered mineral, from uranium and the alleged presence of uranium in pitchblende, we suggested that probably the last mentioned substance might exist in Utah, and advised miners to look out for it. A friend has sent us a piece of rock with the request that we determine whether it is of the kind we want, and the explanation that when placed on a heated stove in the dark, it emits a dim light.

We are not in need of anything of the kind, no matter how much of it may be found in the State. Nor are we in a position to analyze specimens of mineral forwarded. However, we submitted the piece of rock sent to us, for examination by Prof. James E. Talmage, and after testing it he kindly furnished us with the following report:

"The mineral submitted is a specimen of impure Calcite with a considerable admixture of Dolomite. In composition it is a carbonate of calcium and magnesium, practically identical with limestone. The property of phosphorescence—that of emitting light when heated—is quite common to this mineral, and the specimen shows weak phosphorescence. The sample contains no rare metal. Material of this kind may be obtained in immense quantities in this immediate neighborhood."

That settles the question as to this

specimen. And it should be understood that newspaper offices are not usually fitted with laboratories or scientific apparatus for the determination of questions of the kind now touched upon. Editors are supposed to know everything but really their knowledge and their powers, like their time and patience are considerably limited.

THE OLD STORY.

The Manufacturing Jeweler, published in Providence, Rhode Island, was ably represented in Utah on the recent visit of prominent eastern editors. The account furnished to that paper is fair, and finely illustrated, but of course contains some inaccuracies, as might be expected from so brief a sojourn "in our midst." The "polygamy" idea was prominent in the gentleman's mind; he marvels that he did not hear anything about it in the discourses at the Tabernacle, and he credits the President of the Utah Press association with four wives, which will no doubt astonish the genial Dave Felt and his family and friends. Mistakes will happen, however, in the best regulated journals, and the Jeweler no doubt had good intentions.

We notice this finely printed paper, more particularly because of its leading article in the issue of Aug. 13, which is on the "Crisis in the Labor Market." It appears that the same trouble raised by some of the unions in other trades, affects the jewelry business. It seems that at a former issue between employers and employed, the unionists urged that "if a nine-hour day was granted they would ask nothing further, but when that was conceded they wanted the manufacturers to collect dues from union members who were delinquent. When the employers would not consent to this, a sympathetic strike ensued. The Jeweler says, "the manufacturers very properly decided to give the union men a taste of their own medicine." A heated conflict is expected with this result, which is the same old story.

"The real test is to be whether the manufacturers are to run the business in their own way or whether their factories are to be run or dictated to by outside influences. In this connection it is no more than fair to say that the employees in the jewelry factories of the east were apparently satisfied with their conditions previous to the coming into the labor field of a bad outside influence, and they have been misled by unwise theories, by holding out false hopes, and undoubtedly in many cases by making untrue statements of conditions."

"The eastern manufacturers have thoughtfully considered the situation and have decided to resist demands which they deem impractical in the present state of the jewelry business. In order to maintain this position concerted and loyal action is necessary."

LITTLEFIELD'S DISCOVERY.

Some time ago a statement came from an Indiana town to the effect that one Mr. Littlefield had succeeded in developing living germs out of a mixture of salt, water, alcohol, and ammonia. The statement is making its round through the press, and many will, we presume, accept it as true.

It should be pointed out that the mystery of life has not been solved. In that respect science stands just where the Egyptian magicians at the time of Moses stood, who were compelled to acknowledge the hand of God in the appearance of insects, though they could completely imitate some other works of Omnipotence. According to biology, life resides in cells. The cell is built up of protoplasm, and the microscope shows that it is an elaborately organized machine. An experimenter should, therefore, first produce his raw material and then construct a cell. Virchow laid down the doctrine in 1858 that no cell could be developed except from another cell, and most naturalists entertain that view today.

Those familiar with this subject tell us that Redi, a Florentine philosopher, had not moved an atom from a prominent "Mormon," his apostolism would not have been so ready to diagnose his case in the manner now adopted. But, never mind, a change of air and scene and surroundings may work a change in his system, and his patriotism and piety may crop out differently in Pennsylvania to their manner of development in Utah and in Washington, D. C. Let us hope that both his health and his disposition may improve by a return to a State, the capital of which is "the city of brotherly love," and that he may hereafter exercise more caution and less eagerness to attack untruthfully a religious opponent, whether prompted by patriotism or by piety.

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MILES AND NELSON.

If it is true, as the friends of General Miles seem to think, that the retired army commander has not had the recognition his talents and his services merit, he may possibly find consolation in the thought that many men of historic fame have had a sterner experience. Admiral Nelson, to mention only

one instance, is an illustration of this fact. After the battle of the Nile, as his engagement of the French squadron that had conveyed Napoleon to Egypt, is called, the question of recognition came up in Parliament. General Walpole suggested that a higher degree than baron be conferred upon him, but Mr. Pitt argued that this was unnecessary on the ground that Nelson's fame would be co-equal with his title. And this view was accepted, though both before this and after, higher titles were conferred on public men with less claim to recognition. The admiral felt the slight keenly and to his friends expressed his indignation, without reserve. He had a similar experience after the naval battle of Copenhagen. Everyone knows of the valor and skill then exhibited by the British under Nelson. But the heroes of that sanguinary encounter did not receive the recognition they had merited. Nelson wrote to the Lord Mayor of London: "The smallest services rendered by the army or navy to the country have always been noticed by the great City of London, with one exception—the glorious 2nd of April—a day when the greatest dangers of navigation were overcome, and the Danish force, which they thought impregnable, totally taken or destroyed by the consummate skill of our commanders and by the undaunted bravery of as gallant a band as ever defended the rights of this country. For myself, if I were only personally concerned, I should bear the stigma attempted to be now first placed upon my brow with humility. But this 'stigma' was not all. Another honor also was withdrawn from him. The king had given medals to all the captains who were engaged in important naval battles, but Nelson did not receive one, though he asked for it. 'For what reason,' he said, 'Lord St. Vincent best knows.' History has many such examples. Honors are not always bestowed where they are due; nor are they always due where they are bestowed. True merit, like virtue, is often its own reward, and that never fails. It is difficult to believe that anybody in administration circles has intentionally slighted the retired General, who deserves well of the country he has served for so many years, faithfully and with success.

THE CUP RACES.

When Sir Thomas Lipton's new challenger meets the Reliance in a series of races off Sandy Hook, it will be the twelfth effort of a foreign yacht to take away the America's cup. This highly valued trophy was won from the British Royal Yacht squadron by the schooner yacht America in August, 1851. Since then eleven unsuccessful attempts have been made to retake it. Sir Thomas Lipton has tried twice before, the present attempt being the third. A great deal of guessing has been indulged in as to the probability of success this time, but without much satisfaction. Experts agree that the two boats are so nearly matched that the race will be the most exciting ever run for the cup. The public will not be in suspense much longer. Tomorrow the first of a series of five races will be sailed. The cup will go to the yacht that wins three out of the five. The following historical data about the America's cup races are well known, but may be of interest at this time again:

Six years after the schooner yacht America had won the memorable race around the Isle of Wight, and brought the cup to this country, it was placed in the hands of the New York Yacht club as a perpetual challenge cup. It was not until 1870 that an attempt was made to recapture it. In that year James Ashbury, of the Royal Thames Yacht club, came over her with the Cambria. Like the America, the Cambria was compelled to sail against a fleet of yachts and the schooner Magic won. Mr. Ashbury came over the next year with the Livonia. One yacht was pitted against the Livonia in a series of seven races. The Columbia was first selected, and won two races, losing one. The next two races were won by the Supho, thus retaining the cup. In 1876 the Royal Canadian Yacht club challenged, naming the Countess of Dufferin, a schooner. The Madeline was selected to defend the cup, and won two races, thus keeping the cup here. Five years later the Canadians challenged again, bringing down the Atlanta, which the American defender defeated.

Then came Sir Richard Sutton with the Genesta, in 1885, which the Puritan defeated. Then, in 1886, came Lieut. Henn, of the royal navy, with the Galatea, which the Mayflower defeated, and in 1887 came James Bell, of the Royal Clyde Yacht club, with his Thistle, which the Volunteer defeated. In 1891 Lord Dunraven brought over Valkyrie I, and the Vigilant defended the cup. Two years later Lord Dunraven brought the Valkyrie III over, and the Defender won the first race. In the second race Valkyrie fouled the Defender, and although the challenger closed the line first the race was awarded to the Defender. Dunraven thereupon refused to sail the third race and retired to England. In 1899 T. Thomas Lipton built a challenger, she was defeated by the Columbia. In 1901 the retired Shamrock came over and the Columbia defeated Sir Thomas' second cup hunter by rather close margins.

Pride goes before a fall. So does a hot summer.

Give a negro plenty of rope and the lynchers will hang him.

If a railroad is built through Luzon it should be named the Island Pacific.

Of a verity may they say in Kansas, it never rains but it pours.

General Miles to General Black: "After you, my dear Gaston."

Venezuela seems to be seeking trouble again. Seek trouble and ye shall find it.

A crusade against high heels has begun. Those who use them will have to come down.

The Russian naval demonstration will

demonstrate to the Sultan that the Czar is in earnest.

Mr. Carnegie varies the old saying, making it: O that mine secretary would write a book.

If the wind is tempered to the shorn lamb why cannot the heat be tempered to the bald head?

It will be just as hard for the Humberts to produce the Crawfords as the Crawford millions.

Those arrested for sprinkling out of hours are but a sprinkling of those who water out of hours.

Uncle Sam has almost seven hundred million dollars in gold in his coffers. But he doesn't cough up.

Evidently Colombia does not want an interoceanic canal. She prefers to use the isthmus as a dog manger.

Those English golfers will add some links to the chain that binds the friendship of America and England.

The world's apple crop is somewhat short this year. But there is no shortage of worms in the apples.

Fifty people were poisoned in Colorado Springs from eating ice cream. Still the girls will go on taking chances.

The Philippine friars are evidently calculating on doing a land office business when they sell their lands to the United States.

"The universe is gradually disintegrating," says a contemporary. This news should be put into the category, "important if true."

In letting Rev. Mr. Leitch go back to his old home our Methodist brethren acted on the theory that discretion is the better part of valor.

Many profess to be greatly surprised at the advance of General Wood. They should not be. Did not the woods of Birnam advance to Dunsinane?

Man that is born of woman his days are few and full of trouble, but his troubles are as a mite to a mountain compared with Mrs. Nation's.

Ward McAllister made "society" in America to consist of "400." Mrs. Astor has raised the number to "500." The lady evidently believes in expansion.

A Philadelphia minister has been charged with stealing two umbrellas from a department store. "Lifting" one umbrella may not be stealing but to take two is.

The news of the demise of Mr. Daniel Eyer yesterday came rather suddenly to his numerous friends, as it was thought he was on the way to recovery. Relatives have the sincere sympathy of friends and acquaintances.

IN GEORGIA.

Boston Transcript.

Administering forty lashes, each of which drew blood, to the bare back of a delicately nurtured woman, by the officers of a Georgia prison, is only a little less horrible than the lynching bees which have so befouled the State's reputation. Still, when "prominent citizens" engage in the latter, what better can we expect of them when invested with authority than that they will exercise it in a brutal manner. There are threats of lynching against these inhuman officials. If the "prominent citizens" will turn their lynching charges upon one another, then perhaps even the "superior race" will come to an understanding of the logic of the practice.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

Agitation in Georgia over the reported whipping of the white woman convict, Mamie De Crist, is not difficult to understand. From any possible standpoint, the punishment was inhuman and outrageous. The report that Miss De Crist is highly connected and that the offense for which she was lashed was refusal to work in the fields with negroes, may add fuel to the flame of popular indignation in Georgia. But whatever the offense, the punishment was an unrelieved barbarity, and the prison management under which it could occur is not fit to exist. In ordering a thorough investigation, Gov. Trevelick has taken a course that will be universally approved.

Springfield Republican.

The woman is now in hysterics, and shrieks continually: "Don't take off my clothes! Don't hit me again!" This is not an exceptional case in the penal system of Georgia as one could wish. If it had been a negro woman, possibly it would not have aroused threats of lynching abroad. The thing to do is not that but the citizens of Georgia are called upon to set earnestly to work to bring their prisons, their calaboscos and all the rest into a condition fitting the age of civilization in which we are supposed to live.

New York Evening Post.

The whipping of a white woman in a Georgia prison has aroused universal indignation in that State. Similar protests might not have been heard had the victim been a negroess, like the one who was beaten to death in penitentiary in Alabama. Be this as it may, the incident will serve a useful purpose if it stirs up the Georgia public sentiment to demand a modernization of the State's prison and convict system. The Georgia House last week re-enacted the convict lease system in a form which the Atlanta Journal declares to be more vicious than that existing hitherto. The new bill has a clause in it permitting county or municipal authorities to hire convicts at \$120 a year and all their expenses. This was intended to blind the outraged moral sentiment of the State, for no county will lease convicts at that price, and much less a town. Naturally, the Journal declares the bill a fraud, and the whole system "barbarous, inhuman, essentially unwise," "private greed buttressed by public graft."

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The victim in this case was a white woman, a notorious thief and forger, who so forgot herself as to "sass" the wife of the prison warden. The offended woman induced her husband to "trie up" the female convict and subject her to an unmerciful whipping on the bare back, as a result of which the victim nearly died, after which she was put to work in a field gang, the only white person in a crowd of negro convicts. Naturally this outrage has aroused the whole state to a passion of resentment.

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