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Latter-day Saints-

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EASTERN OFFIC

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SALT LAKE CITY, - OCT, 17, 1901.

A PRACTICAL RELIGION.

In a recent issue of the Denver Post there was an editorial on the policy of the "Mormon" leaders. After speaking in a complimentary manner of the thrift and commercial sagacity displayed in Salt Lake by the Saints, it asserted that there has been "quite a little worldliness mixed up with their godtiness." It also complained of the "little regard 'Mormon' or Gentile has for the old relics of the sturdy generation which laid the foundation for the present State of Utah." And further remarked that "walls are going to ruin and old buildings are being torn down to make way for more ambitious modern structures."

These are rather singular objections to come from a non-"Mormon" source. Usually, people who are opposed to our faith try to make it appear, that we are wedded to old notions and objects and that we are non-progressive. Indeed, it is not infrequent to notice claims that Salt Lake is indebted to "Gentile" ideas and wealth for the modern structures which help to make up the strength and importance of our city. The Post talks a great deal about the "sentimental" side of this question, and considers that to be of the "utmost importance," and that it ought to be affostered by the leaders of the "Mormon" Church, in preference to the material advancement exhibited in new and expensive residences and other

marks of wealth and prestige. It is perhaps to be regretted that some of the relics of by-gone times, which form landmarks of the early settlement of these valleys, are passing from view, Some of them ought to be and no doubt will be preserved, as monuments to the labors and lives of the hardy pioneers who laid the foundations of this commonwealth. But it or "Gentile," that they avail themselves of the skill and ingenuity displayed in modern improvements of every kind. These are marks of vitality and progress among any people. Their absence is a sign of stagnation or de cay. It seems to us that the very indications objected to by the Denver Post are credit marks to the people of Utah The idea that the "worldliness mixed up with godliness," which that paper observes in the policy of our leaders is anything detrimental or discordant is a very great mistake. Religion is not necessarily devoid of interest in what are called "temporal" things. "Mormonism" is a practical system. In does not consist of mere sentimental ideas and suritual theories. It is an everyday affair. While it relates to the future, it applies to the present. It is adapted to man in his mortal condition. The abstraction which passes for religion in a great many modern minds, is a very poor substitute for the religion of Christ which is meant for mankind as they are. We are not at present mere spiritual or etherial creatures. Man is a dual eing. His body is as much a reality as fils spirit and His spirit as much so as Hs body. The needs of both must be supplied. That which contributes to the happiness and improvement of one part has a necessary effect upon the other part. But there is so radical a difference between the two, although they are united in one, that each needs rules and regulations specially adapted to it in its own sphere. "Mormonism" is both spiritual and physical. It bears upon both time and eternity. It directs people how to act today; individually, as members of a family, as parts of society, as units in the great sum of progressive humanity, building up, improving and beautifying the face of the earth for present enjoyment and the elevation of the race. It also reveals the purposes of the Eternal Father for the everlasting exaliation of His children in the undying future. It ministers to man's whole nature, and therefore enters into his needs and advancement today, as well as his preparation for the glories of immorality and spiritual bliss. Old structures will have to go and make way for those that are better adapted to increasing needs and improved designs. In the same way, antiquated notions which increased light and knowledge have exposed as erroneous, will have to be swept aside by the introduction of advanced thoughts and revelations from the Source of true intelligence. It will be found as time rolls on and the clouds of prejudice are dispersed, that "Moralsm" is progressive and full of vitallty, fitted for the latest centuries of the world's history, and eminent in all that is bright and beautiful and good, both temporally and spiritually.

er, they should not be compelled to continue an existence of torment. On the to this country and Great Britain, and contrary, they should be given another the rumor that his purpose is to secure chance to build a home under more cona more cordial understanding, if not genial circumstances. And so strong an alliance, between his country and these great nations. He, too, is reported

is this public sontinuent that it is doubtful whether the adoption of a canon by any assembly could change it, Still, every question has two sides, nd the other side to this is a strong onviction that the facility for obtain-

ng divorce and remarriage, is largely esponsible for the flippant manner in which many enter upon the marriage elation, and for the frequent failures esulting. It is argued that were it

ore difficult to secure a divorce, people could think twice before deciding upon that step. And if remarriage were not o common, married persons would fight harder against the little trials and dif-

ficulties that often assume imaginary proportions, if no special effort is made on either side to forgive and forget. But no matter what side of the di-

vorce question is considered, it is evident that the increasing laxity is one of the most serious evils of our time. Naturally it causes anxiety among those who are concerned about public morals. There is quite a general demand for uniformity in the divorce laws of the country, and that would be one step toward reform. But more important is a more correct understanding of the nature and divine purpose

of the marriage union. If humanity needs revelation from God on no other point, it needs such guidance on this question of vital importance. People are beginning to lose sight of every feature of the marriage contract, except its civil character. They are regarding it more and more as a civil contract and no more. The old maxim, What God hath joined together, let no man put asunder," is difficult to find any application for in the modern views of the marriage state, and this departure from "the beginning" is at the roat of the entire trouble. It is the anomalous conditions prevailing that have driven such men as Tolstoi to denounce marriage as a sin, and to regard

celibacy as an ideal. With a correct understanding of the divine mission of the two sexes, in their respective spheres, difficulties would disappear, and divorces would be rare exceptions.

VATICAN LIBRARY OPEN.

Pope Leo, during his long incumbency stated that they acted on the advice of of the pontificial throne, has, through high Chinese authorities and foreign many memorable acts engraved his diplomats, and in accordance with Chisurely cannot be reasonably urged name on the annals of history, and nese laws and customs. But the favagainst the people here, whether "Mor- one of these that will be long rememorable impression thus made Dr. Ament ered is the throwing open of the in valuable literary treasures contained in the Vatican library, to the inspection of the scholars of the world. This, more than anything else, demonstrates the real zeal of his holiness for learning and general enlighten. ment. As a result the storehouses of these books and documents are now said to be thronged with students of all nationalities. By the side of the German professor is found a French savant and representatives from every other Christian country of Europe and America. Since access has been given so freely, various institutes for research have sprung up in great rapidity in Rome for the special purpose of utilizing these treasures. The leading earned organizations are the Prussian Historical Institute, the Gorres Society, consisting of German Catholic savants the Australian Institute for Historica Studies, the French Ecole de Rome, and the Hungarian School, and there is even a Belgien, a Danish, and a Polish soclety. So great is the international zeal to investigate these archives, which contain the greatest collection extant of unpublished documents on the his tory of the medieval ages, that it is with difficulty room can be found for all who ask to be accommodated. The Vatican authorities have made the best of arrangements to supply the demand, and the libraries meet the wants of Protestants as quickly and as politely as those of Catholic savants. Men and women alike are accommodated. The red tape of former times has disappeared entirely and the management is thoroughly "modern."

matter for regret that this is the most that could be given him.

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It begins to look as though President Roosevelt's policy towards the South would be pre-eminently "my policy;" and nobody else's.

The evidence shows that Admiral Schley is a mildly profane man, yet nothing to approach the sea heroes of a hundred years ago in the use of "vigorous" language.

seems to have been taken from earth, notwithstanding the earnest ef-Most truly did Mr. Bryan speak at Duluth when he said: "This nation is a world power; it has not acquired its is remarkable, it is not unexpected. influence by war, but for a century its ideas have been permeating the world. will be after one of the greatest and every citizen owes it to his country as well as to his generation and posterity to throw the weight of his that comes to us from the past, as well influence on the right side of every public question." But men always have and always will differ as to what is the right side of public questions, but so long as the difference is an honest one and the parties are tolerant towards each other and do not Eccome fanatical, there is small danger to our institupart some of them took in the looting tions.

of native villages. It is a subject that While it is desirable that all children the missionaries themselves should be should attend school, and the state has slow to rescue from oblivion. A few made ample and splendid provision in days ago at the meeting of the Amerithis matter, yet there are far more can board in Hartford, he alluded to heinous crimes than truancy, and the truant should be treated in a kindly "Missionaries have had some influ-ence in the punishment of red-handed Boxers. Why not? Missionaries have assisted in the collection of indemnities rather than a harsh manner. Yesterday a couple of boys, aged respectively eleven and thirteen, were arrested by the for the people who look to them as leaders and defenders. Why not? Christianity recognizes the payment of honest, debts. Christianity recognizes truant officers. To that there can be no objection in view of the truant law. But these boys after arrest were placed honest, debts. Christianity recognizes the rights of individuals. Christianity teaches the supremacy of law and the privileges of treaties. While the Chrisin the common jail, where all sorts of bad men are placed. This was wrong, and the boys' offense warranted no such tian may take with joy the spoiling of his goods, he will not rail to rejoice when those goods are restored to him. treatment. A boy may dislike school, and run away from it, as much as he Being a missionary or a convert from heathenism in North China by no dislikes soap and water, yet it by no means follows that he is incorrigible. means makes an outlaw of a person, nor, indeed, should it be so. The truant from school should be treated leniently, talked to kindly and "Christ would not unman a person on his becoming a Christian, nor deprive him of the exercise of his common should be marched back to school and sense, nor take away the vigor and en-ergy of his manhood. Why should not not to jail.

GENERAL BULLER AND LADYSMITH.

ose who unjustifiably deprive our people of their homes and property re store that which they had stolen? Thi New York World. This Gen. Builer's confession that he act-ually did advise the surrender of Ladyis the payment of an honest debt, not retallation." smith, the holding of which was per-haps the best achievement scored by British arms in South Africa, has set all Strenuous efforts have already been made to prove that the missionaries Britain ablaze with resentment. Even were very little to blame in the unforthe government organs advise him to resign his recent appointment as comtunate affairs in China. It has been mander of the first army corps.

Boston Transcript.





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THE DIVORCE QUESTION.

The house of deputies of the general convention of the Episcopal church, in committee of the whole, last Monday, passed, after a spirited debate, the canon relating to marriage and divorce. as previously adopted by the house of bishops. This canon prohibits Episcopal clergymen from matrying any divorced persons, except in cases where and raw countless thousands of laborthe marriage has been annulled for causes existing before that marriage. But when the question again came up barrassed at the present moment, and

PREDICTS MORE WAR.

The San Francisco Chronicle prints an interview with one Dr. Nicholas Senn, professor in surgery in the Chicago university, to the effect that before another year has elapsed, Japan and Russia will be engaged in a fierce war about Korea. The professor has just completed an extended tour of the Orient, and made his observations. He says he has conversed with prominent and influential men, on this question, and the impression is general that the two nations are on the verge of war. Japan, he explains, wants Korea and is colonizing the Land of the Morning Calm by sending over settlers in batches of 20,000. Japan finds it necessary to have more breathing room for her excess population, and she wants either to take Korea and annex it as one of her own realty possessions or establish a protectorate over the country such as would enable her to control its affairs and give her own people more elbow room. Japan wants no share of Chinese territory, but is certainly casting longing glances at

Japan and Russia clash, and it is an open secret, that Japan is actively preparing for this war. The Russians on their side are equally active. Prof. Senn states that according to his observations in Siberia and Manchurla, they are bending every

energy in an effort to complete the big trans-Siberian railway and its Chinese castern connection at the earliest possible moment. He went over that line, ers engaged on the work. Russia, he says, is supposed to be financially em-

effaces with one stroke. The missionaries, he again asserts, "have had some influence in the punishment." They have "assisted in the collection of indemnities," and then he triumphantly asks, "Why not?" Why not, indeed? Because a mission-

to have said that Japan may be called

upon to fight any moment, and un-

doubtedly Russia is the prospective

It is rather remarkable that peace

forts for the establishment of perma-

nent peace tribunals. But though it

Whenever the era of peace comes, it

catastrophes the world ever witnessed

That, at least, seems to be the dictum

as the inevitable conclusion from the

AMENT SPEAKS AGAIN.

Missionaries in China have no cause

for gratitude toward Rev. Ament for

taking up again the question of the

present status of the world.

the matter in these words:

antagonist.

ary as such has no business to have any "influence" in the punishment of thieves. If he feels called upon to act in such a role, he should secure a position as judge or prosecuting attorney or policeman, or commissioned soldier and act in accordance with law. When

as a missionary, he "assists" in collecting indemnities, and that in a foreign country where he has no rights except those of hospitality, he assumes duties and authority that do not belong to

The fact of the matter is that the speaker furnished another proof of the very radical departure of presentday Christianity from the standards of the Nazarene. The effects of modern thought and education are seen in the lowering of religious ideals, as well as in averything else. Science, so-called. away. has long ago discarded the belief in a

Providence which upholds justice and humanity, and substituted for it the recognition of blind and ruthless force as the ruling principle of the universe. College training has fallen into linand emphasized physical development at the expense of moral and mental achievements. Popular taste is corrupted as seen in the desire for prize fighting, bull fighting, and sports decidedly barbarous. The pulpit has followed the general trend, and now even ministers flout the principles taught in the sermon on the mount. They uphold

times necessary, and sometimes not. In this general tendency away from true, Christian standards, the sophisms of Rev. Ament regarding missionary "influence" in robbing thieves and rob bers, and the alleged manhood thus displayed, find a rational explanation. Christian manhood, however, makes for peace, even if it is necessary to suffer to some extent for its maintenance. But the spirit of violence is abroad in all the earth, as before the deluge. It is one of the signs of the approaching end. It is never too late to mend, not even proken political promises. Captain Cook ordered the loop, and fke Cariolanus, he did it alone,

President Roosevelt will write his own message, and it will be writ arge, too. It is often easier to give honor to whom honor is due than to give cash to whom cash is due. Korea. Here is where the interests of The Bulgarian brikands have taken another captive. They seem to be captivating lot.

Venezuela and Colombia should put an end to their squabbling by declaring for war or peace. It should be possible to make bleycle

paths out of the bicycle planks in the various platforms. In national as well as in personal affairs there can be no surplus so long as there is a debt.

What the actor loves most is the

rous readiness to tell the truth and save others, but we must consider him save others, but we must consider him as a man physically brave but mental-ly timid, brave in battle but easily daunted by the difficulties of the cam-paign, and taking his first check with tragic intensity. The surrender of Ladysmith would have been a disaster of the first magnitude to the British in-terests in Africa. It might not have been the Yorktown of the struggle, but to have averted the full consequences

to have averted the full consequences of such a surrender, military and polit-ical, would have been a task compared with which that Great Britain now has on her hands may be deemed trivial.

Boston Herald. It has been more than once acknowl-

edged that the British army authorities made a serious mistake in locating an important military station at Ladyfor defensive purposes, and was as ex-perience proved, so situated as to make the giving of reliaf a task of tremen-dous difficulty. The retention or aban-donment of this place-assuming that Gen. Sir George White could abandon it without too great loss-was bready. it without too great loss-was largely a matter of sentiment. As it was, Gen. Buller wasted months of time and in-curred enormous losses in men and materials in endeavoring to relieve a mil-itary station which was of no value to them when the enemy had been driven

New York Evening Sun. If we concede that in suggesting sur-render to Gen. White, Sir Redvers Buller was ready to assume the responsi-bility, what are we to think of his long dience about the matter? For almost two years he has allowed the public to draw the inference that he had been unjustly accused. It is charitable to suppose that Gen. Buller was irresponsible. His off-hand comment that it Was "a mean thing to send a fellow certainly has a flippant sound. His in-difference to the dead he left behind n Spion Kop-the Boers buried them with his consent-must also be s evidence that he lacked sensibility. What confirms the estimate of Gen. Buller's incapacity is the absurd conwar as a normal source of good, incelt about his powers which he has al-ways displayed. He capped it in his speech on Thursday when he challenged his critics to name any officer of instead of regarding it as an evil, someferlor rank who was fitter to command an army corps.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. To have advised the surrender of Ladysmith, the papers say, was a stupendous blunder; all the other reverses were trivial in comparison to the numiliation he contemplated. No doubt t would have severely wounded British bride, but it was the general opinion of military critics at the time that the radical blunder of the campaign was the diversion of the main strength of the British army, with its awful waste of time and blood, in the attempt to relieve Ladysmith by the advance through Natal; that it would have been far better to have left Ladysmith to its fate and concentrated the British strength on the more direct line of ad-vance toward Pretoria from Cape Colony northward.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Health Culture for October opens with a continuation of the very instruc-tive paper by Dr. Latson, on "Physical Training as the Basis of Health. Strength and Grace." It has, further, articles on "Eating." on "Massage for Common Disorders." and numerous subects on practical hygiene .-- Health Culture Co., Fifth Ave., New York.

Among the contents of the October mber of The Critic, the reader will notice an interesting contribution on "The Tauchnitz Edition," one of the most remarkable of European literary most remarkable of European literary enterprises. Other subjects treated of are "Mrs. Carlyle and Her House-maid," "The Effects of a 'First Night' Upon the Actor." by Minnie Maddern Fiske: "Ernest Seton-Thompson." hy William Wallace Whitelock, and "Gil-bert White," by L. L. Miall. The cur-rent issue is "Publishers' Annouace-ment number, and it contains a vast amount of information on literary and amount of information on literary and art subjects.-The Critic Co., New York.



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