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THE PEACE CONGRESS.

If the peace conference should fail, it would be the first gathering of that nature in recent history to terminate without accomplishing its purpose. The Russian-Turkish conflict of 1829, the Opium war in China, the Crimean war, the Franco-Prussian war, the last conflict between Russia and Turkey, the conflict between China and Japan, and our own late unpleasantness with Spain, all were finally ended when the powers concerned had arrived at the stage of negotiating with one another. It would therefore be rather singular if the conference at Portsmouth should come to naught, but the entire conflict has been peculiar, and it is possible that the powers that be in Russia do not yet realize the full strength of the enemy.

It is to be hoped that the friends of the combatants will exert themselves to the utmost to bring about an understanding. The terms of Japan at this time are a great deal more moderate than could be expected, when their remarkable successes, both on land and at sea, are taken into consideration. Japan has fought two wars the last ten years in order to establish her supremacy in Korea and Manchuria, and now after having conquered, first China and then the Russian forces sent to maintain the supremacy of the Czar in that territory, she refrains from adding any of her conquests to her own domain, with the exception of the island of Saghalien, to which Russia has at best a doubtful title. This is moderation almost without precedent, at least in recent history. In fact, Japan is more moderate now than after her brief struggle with China. At that time she demanded the southern part of Manchuria as well as the island of Formosa, and some other islands. She intended to hold all the territory overrun by her armies at that time, whereas now the independence of Korea under Japanese supervision, and the restoration of Manchuria to China, are the conditions insisted upon.

With regard to the indemnity, it is announced from what appears to be authentic sources that, when obtained, it is to be used to settle the financial obligations incurred by the war, to pay pensions and to develop the educational system. These uses are perfectly legitimate and the rest of the world need not fear that, if Japan gets the control of a vast sum of money in the form of an indemnity, this will be used for the development of her military resources, and thus become a menace to the peace of the world.

Everything considered, the strongest influence should be brought to bear upon Russian statesmen in the interest of a termination of all hostilities at this time. If the issue should be left with Marshal Oyama and General Linvitch, the probability is that Russia later on will be compelled to sue for peace on conditions less favorable to not only her own interests but the interests of the entire civilized world. Besides, the massacre that would take place, should the two vast armies now in the field try conclusions with each other, can best be judged from the accounts of former battles in this sanguinary war, in which entire regiments have been moved down, as grain before the moving machine. The civilized world can hardly afford to have any more blood stains on the pages of its present history.

ROOM FOR TRAINED NURSES.

We understand there are still some vacancies in the corps of trained nurses at the Latter-day Saints Hospital, and for that reason we call the attention of young ladies who may have an inclination in that direction, to the fact that a training school for nurses will be started at the hospital, commencing during the first week of September. The course extends over three years, during which time the students have everything free, and some pocket money besides, and at the end of that time, they are sure of good wages. Application for admittance to the class should be made at once to the chief nurse at the hospital. There is no more worthy occupation than that of nursing fellow-creatures in cases of sickness. Life can be spent to no better purpose than in alleviating suffering and spreading light and hope in the valley of the shadow. That is an occupation that develops the best qualities of human nature. We hope the class about to be started will be filled up with the right kind of applicants for the position. It is a great advantage to a community to have a large number of trained nurses, so that sufferers may not perish for want of the aid necessary. In many instances, such as typhoid fever, nursing is a very important part of the treatment, and much experience, as well as theoretical knowledge, is needed for anyone who

undertakes the duties of a nurse. At the hospital thorough training will be given, and those who attend the class there faithfully will at the end of the course be fully qualified for the work in the sick room.

INTERESTING POINT OF LAW.

A short time ago a legal decision was rendered by a district court in the state of Iowa, which has some interest, because it sustains the right of a religious society to acquire and hold real estate and transact other business, necessary for the welfare of its members. The proceedings were commenced in order to end the corporate existence of the so-called Amarna society, believed to be one of the strongest of communistic societies in existence. The judge said, "It is undisputed that the donation of personal property and personal labor and the holding of property in common is a fundamental tenet of this faith. Render this impossible, and you destroy the ability to observe their religious faith. Deprive the society of the right to acquire and hold real estate out of which to make a living, and you deprive its members of the means with which to make a living." Therefore, it was said, in carrying on its secular occupations the community did not exceed its powers as a religious body, nor was it doing anything "obnoxious to a sound public policy."

The society, we understand, has about 1,750 members, owns 26,225 acres of land, supposed to be worth about \$40 an acre. Five thousand three hundred eighty-six acres are under cultivation, the crop being worth annually about \$75,000. In addition to this income the society has its woolen and cotton mills, fanning mills, blacksmith shops, live stock, all yielding considerable income. There are seven villages in the tract of land owned by the society, and dwellings, barns, hotels, stores, shops, etc., are said to be worth about \$400,000. The population has increased, it seems, somewhat since 1875, and its property value has also increased, and in this respect the Amarna society is different from other communistic societies which have flourished a few years and then ceased, generally owing to dissensions among the members.

There is very little doubt that the highest form of human society, and the form towards which evolution has steadily carried it onward, from the family to the tribe and the state, etc., is the universal brotherhood. This perfect form of human society has been the dream of the most advanced thinkers in all ages, since the dispersion of the human family. During the last century, perhaps as an outcome of the principles that had their root in the French revolution and the general struggle for liberty, equality and fraternity, the need of the establishment of such a universal brotherhood became strongly felt, and numerous enthusiasts were eager to try the practical workings of those principles, as applied to human society. Everywhere leaders arose who thought they knew exactly how to organize society, and who were willing to sacrifice everything for their principles. The trouble, however, has been with most of these organizations, that they have left out the religious element, and therefore they have had no stronger bond of unity than material and personal interests, and no reform can ever succeed unless it aims at the upbuilding of man's moral nature. The universal brotherhood will be realized one day, when all power, all dominion and all glory shall be given to Him who has redeemed mankind, but it is unattainable under any other conditions.

HE MUST WAIT.

A "subscriber" asks: "If a person who has drawn a number for land on the Uintah reservation fails to answer to his name, when it is called at Vernal, can another person who has no number file on land immediately, or is he required to wait until after Oct. 28 to file on land that is not taken?" The answer to this question is found in the paragraph of the President's proclamation, which stipulates that, "If any applicant fails to appear and present his application for entry when the number assigned to him by the drawing is called, his right to enter will be passed until after the other applications assigned for that day have been disposed of, when he will be given another opportunity to make entry, failing in which he will be deemed to have abandoned his right to make entry under such drawing."

As to persons who have not registered, the proclamation provides that "no person shall be permitted to settle upon, occupy, or enter any of said lands, except in the manner prescribed in this proclamation, until after the expiration of 60 days from the time when the same are opened to settlement and entry. After the expiration of the said period of 60 days, but not before, as hereinbefore prescribed, any of said lands remaining undisposed of may be settled upon, occupied and entered under the general provisions of the homestead and townsite laws of the United States."

A BIT OF HISTORY.

The following item has been kindly sent us by a subscriber. It is from the Youngstown, Mahoning Co., Ohio, Vindicator. Warren is in Trumbull Co., the same state. As the item possibly may be of historical interest we reproduce it:

"Special to the Vindicator.
Warren, July 18.—An old marriage contract was unearthed here yesterday in the probate office, that of the marriage of Silvery Redden and Phoebe Brooks in 1820. Mr. Brooks afterward became a Mormon minister, performing the ceremony uniting Brigham Young and his first wife."

Russia's greatest anxiety is to save her face.

The private car lines are, par excellence, the private snags.

It was a rain of which any weather bureau might be proud.

A female physician says that married women should be hypnotists. What

the female physician says should be usually is.

This town isn't prohibition, but it is about the driest in the country.

Small showers thankfully received, larger ones in proportion.

"Is America at its zenith?" asks an exchange. It surely isn't at its nadir!

A glass bottle trust has been formed. It should be an easy matter to break it.

"Trusts that do not obey the law will be punished," says the President. When?

The dove of peace is a little undecided as to what is best to do, to return to the ark or to go on.

To avert a renewal of the war will require all the strenuous of which the President is possessed.

M. White says that Russia has never paid an indemnity. A new and novel sensation is in store for Russia.

The Chicago hotel men are waging war on the beef trust. This is not entirely unlike the pot calling the kettle black.

A Pittsburg man has invented a machine that will turn out forty pies a minute. How many turnovers will it turn out?

Hon. D. R. Francis of Missouri says he may or may not be a candidate for President. The odds would seem to be on the not.

A Chicago paper declares that there is more truth than poetry in Alfred Austin's latest production. And there is but a modicum of truth in it, too.

Puck wants Mr. Carnegie to endow a hospital for Chicago university professors. It is a most excellent idea and should be adopted by the great philanthropist.

The English woman who was coming over to the United States to prove that the earth is flat, has abandoned her intention. Her passengers would have met with a flat denial.

Bishop Potter advocates twenty minute sermons. It is a very good idea but few men are capable of condensing an hour or two's talk into twenty minutes. It almost requires genius to do it.

The public demanded that the board of inquiry into the Bennington explosion should fix the responsibility therefor. The demand has been complied with and the responsibility mainly fixed upon Ensign Wade. A good work has been done.

Land Commissioner Williams of Washington state, charged in the irrigation congress, that what Director Newell said regarding the conduct of the department at Washington, was not sound. Be that as it may Commissioner Williams' charges were all "sound."

A HOUSE OF MANY TONGUES.

New York Evening Sun.
Probably this is the most polyglot assemblage that ever filled a New England hotel since the pilgrims made that stern and rock-bound landing of theirs. The envoys, the staffs and the correspondents foot up a total of some ten nationalities, but that isn't all, by a long sight. The three hotel cooks are Italians, the steward is a Frenchman. The head porter is a German, his first deputy a negro, and one of his lesser scene shifters, who juggles trunks, a Swede. The run-of-the-house men are mostly Frenchmen and Swedes, with one Englishman assigned to the palm garden. The dining room girls are all either school teachers or college students. Two are Wellesley undergraduates, four are from Smith and three from Vassar. The rest are scattering. Even the bar men are negroes and Polakoff has a Chinese man servant. The night clerk hailed originally from Canada. One of the twenty telegraph operators was born in Ireland and another in Mexico of Mexican parentage.

INVISIBLE STERLING.

London Telegraph.
M. Branley, one of the foremost of French experimenters in wireless telegraphy, describes in the Comptes Rendus apparatus by which mechanical effects at a distance may be produced by electric waves—such as starting a motor, lighting a lamp, or causing an explosion. It requires only suitable instruments at the distant station to bring about these effects, without any human assistance. The idea is not new, though the apparatus in M. Orloff has shown in this country how a boat or torpedo may be steered by an electrician on shore.

OUR MORALS MAY BE QUESTIONED.

Roswell Field in the Chicago Post.
It may not be assumed that our present standard of morality, admirable as it is, will endure for all time. What more like than that the century which the entire probity of Peter Panuoli, John Hancock and Sir Francis Drake in their peculiar line of endeavor may not be subjected to severe criticism by those who come after us a hundred years? How shall we say that Mr. Carnegie, he of the library habit, may not be remorselessly handled by the moralist and public instructor of the future, and that our great University of Chicago will not be spoken of with much shaking of the head for the manner in which it obtained its start? It is not wholly beyond the limit of possibility that the methods employed today in amassing colossal fortunes will be regarded in the next century as nothing short of actual robbery and moral unscrupulousness, and that the stock broker, the grain speculator and other opportunists to our modern ornament will be held in quite as much abhorrence as has hitherto been the distinction of the eminent Captain Kidd.

MIGNONETTE A FASHIONABLE FLOWER.

New York Press.
Back to nature has London's smartest set rushed in its latest fancy, and the heavily perfumed exotics of the conservatories are forced to bide their diminished heads while the wild mignonette holds sway. The Countess of Warwick is said to be responsible for this craze, for she has worn bunches of wild mignonette fastened in her buttonholes during her lecturing tours through England, and the cue was quickly taken up by the English metropolis. While the majority of persons have long considered mignonette as purely a cultivated flower, the more exclusive florists are showing beautiful specimens of wild bloom from Haunts and Thonet. No fragrance emanates from the newly

popular flower, a fact which caused it to be called "false but fair wild mignonette." Distinguished only by its three cleft leaves from yellow weeds, it is not altogether a thing of beauty, but that doesn't matter as long as it meets with fashionable folks' approval.

THE FASCINATION OF AN ECLIPSE.

Baltimore American.
Naturally the eclipse of the moon attracted a great deal of attention. There is something in human nature which likes to see a bright light under a cloud, whether it is a heavenly body in eclipse or a true magnet getting a "roust" for making tainted money.

A DIPLOMATIC HORSE TRADE.

Lincoln State Journal.
In some respects the negotiations going on at Portsmouth resemble the dicker of two farmers over a horse. "How much will you take for that animal?" Farmer Swagback asks. "Four hundred dollars; how much will you give?" responds Farmer Wheatand. And so they banter back and forth until they come to a common agreement that \$200 is about the right figure. In the peace negotiations Baron Komura leads with a demand more exacting than Mr. White could think of according to in behalf of the Russian government, but it opens the way for a diplomatic horse trade that may ultimately be effected on terms entirely satisfactory to both Russia and Japan. In the preliminary struggle both sides are indulging in the highly genteel and dignified deception that is expected of them.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The September number of McClure's has another study of so-called commercial piracy, the first half of "Miss Tardiff's paper on the Korean oil war, and an excursion into the marvels of modern biology, "Prolonging the Prime of Life," which is an authoritative account of the discovery of a group of scientists who have determined that old age is a disease. Color printing has achieved very perfect results in the eight full-page reproductions of Lungen's paintings of the Grand canyon of the Colorado, which accompany William Allen White's description of the "On Bright Angel Trail," a bit of descriptive writing which may well take place with the classics of our language. Eugene Wood, George Randolph Chester, Mrs. Wilson Woodrow, Jean Webster, Arthur Train, and Norvell Harrison supply a round of short stories—The S. S. McClure Co., New York.

The September issue of Impressions Quarterly is to contain the third and closing paper in the series, "Art and Life," by Regina E. Wilson, treating of "Line and Color." Other articles to appear in the number are: "Notes on Japanese Art," by Cleveland Ludlow Brownell, P. R. G. S., "A Good and Faithful Servant," by Prof. Thomas R. Bacon, in review of Andrew Dickson White's "Autobiography," and "The Saga of Ragnar Lodbrok," Englished by Adeline Knapp and Nils Beck-leyer—235 Post St., San Francisco.

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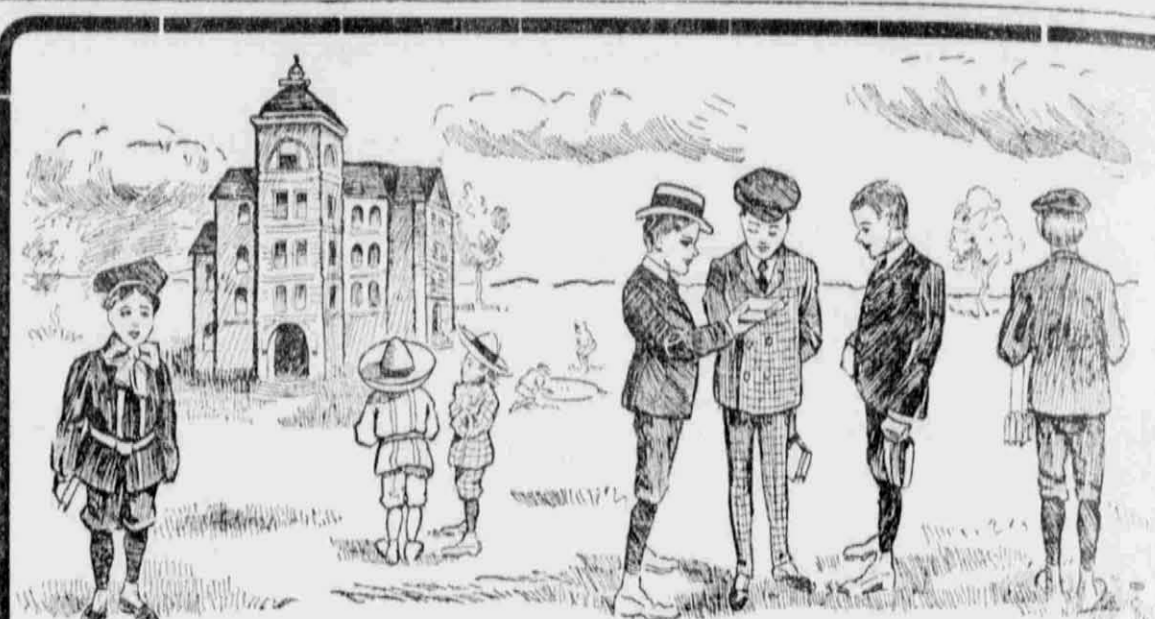
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