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## "THE MENACE OF MORMONISM"

Senator Cullom of Illinois, has an article in the current number of the North American Review, entitled "The Menace of Mormonism." The heading suggests one of those misleading and eruptive outbursts that occasionally emanate from both pulp and press, with which the reading public have become familiar. But the paper from the venerable statesman turns out, on reading, to be a mild and conservative review of the "Mormon" question, as it appears to him from the information he has obtained, and from the standpoint he occupies as an old-time opponent of that which he understood to be "Mormonism."

It will be saying nothing against the gentleman personally, to state that his labors under the same misapprehension of the genius, teaching and tendency of the "Mormon" faith, as that entertained by the very large majority of the people of this country, including many of its notables in the highest circles of public life. But at the same time he admits that there are two sides to the question under consideration, and that it is not only wrong but exceedingly unwise to judge a matter from the reports and attacks of its opponents, and especially from anonymous communications. On this point he says:

"Truth may hide in the shadow of the anonymous, but it is not a truth which is intended more for an injury than justice, and it is seldom creditable. The object of contumely often gathers strength instead of falling. In the multitude of council there is wisdom, but in even conservative stipulation there are only weakness, confusion and abortive energy."

These are words of wisdom that experience has demonstrated to be true, and that are directly applicable to present efforts to cover with ignominy a people and a cause that will surely gather strength from the very means that are employed for their overthrow. As to whether "Mormonism" is or is not a "menace," the venerable Senator appears to be somewhat in doubt, and to regard it as an "open question." His discussion of it on either side is prefaced with an "if" when referring to alleged facts.

But he stands firm on the proposition that no man, corporation or community can be excused who would set aside the laws of the land. He affirms that "there is nothing which can justify the deliberate and persistent breaking of any law." Still he concedes that "circumstances may extenuate many things between individuals," and that "in the present peculiar conditions there are some who honestly consider that the extenuating circumstances are sufficient to mitigate the malevolent influence of setting law at defiance."

Senator Cullom speaks of his past hostility, exhibited in congressional legislation which he instituted or favored, against that which he then regarded as a menace to the country. This was comprehended, he says, in "polygamy and hierarchy as perpetrated in the early Mormon Church." He refers to the time when, he says, "Brigham Young constituted the Mormon Church, temporal, spiritual and material." Of course the gentleman is mistaken in regard to that supposed fact, but that has been the popular opinion, and we need not spend time just now in showing its fallacy. The one piece of evidence which the Senator cites in its support may be noticed, to show on what a shallow foundation the notion has been built. He quotes from memory these sentences which he alleged were part of a sermon by Brigham Young:

"I never yet preached a sermon and lent it out to the children of men that they may not call Scripture. Let me have the privilege of composing a sermon and it is as good Scripture as they deserve."

Without disputing the accuracy of the alleged quotation, and certainly not identifying it, we cannot help inquiring what proof it contains that the speaker "constituted the Mormon Church, temporal, spiritual and material?" Does every passage of Scripture constitute a writer "the whole Church, temporal, spiritual and material?" If so, who was the primitive Christian church, Peter, Paul, James, or John, Matthew, Mark, Luke or John? We might ask further, if by the term Scripture is meant something written under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, would not the utterances of a prophet in modern times be equally Scripture with those of prophets and apostles in older times, if similarly inspired? But in either case, would the conveyance of a divine message constitute the individual through whom it was imparted the entire Church to which he belonged, head, feet, body and hands? The learned Senator says concerning these alleged remarks of Brigham Young:

"It presumes that the great mass of the heathen believed that he spoke to them from God, and it is easy to un-

derstand how such a man at the head of such a church must make it a menace."

It is doubtless easy for some people to jump from that ground to such a conclusion as that reached by Senator Cullom, but we do not see how he is justified in taking that leap by reason or by example. Did the fact that the Apostle Peter stood at the head of the Christian Church, holding "the keys of the kingdom," with power to "bind on earth and it should be bound in heaven and to loose on earth and it should be loosed in heaven," make him "a menace" to his country? Following the logic of the esteemed Illinois statesman, every prophet among the people of ancient times who "spoke to them from God," must have been a menace to the world.

But passing that by, the gentleman does not contend that the conditions which he ascribes existed in Utah in the past are to be found here today, and he urges inquiry as to this and deprecates forming a judgment about it from one-sided statements. It is evident, however, that he has himself been somewhat influenced by the recent cries of "Polygamy" and "Hierarchy," because he uses them repeatedly. Yet he does not affirm the active existence of these two elements, which he considers would form a positive menace, but leaves the question open while advocating their suppression if necessary.

Senator Cullom intimates that he has somewhat changed his opinions concerning the "Mormons," having been "led to believe that the ethics of Mormonism have really changed on the two vital issues" named, and yet in another part of his article he admits:

"It is not the abstract ethics of the Mormon Church with which we have the right to come into conflict, for, as a nation, we are pledged to freedom to worship God. Every man has the inalienable right to accept the faith which pleases him and to believe what he will, and I am ready to rest on the testimony that in many of its details, the Mormon faith is a strong advocate of justice, righteousness and integrity. It is not improbable, as claimed for it, that the ethics of Mormonism include principles which, of themselves, tend to produce good men. If by their fruits ye shall know them! then for sobriety, industry and thrift, the general characteristics attributed to Mormon communities speak well for the character of the dominion which has curbed and incited them; but it is not what a man believes, but the putting of his theories into practice, if they conflict with law, which rightly demands public attention and ought to receive punishment when punishment is due."

In the foregoing paragraph the gentleman stands on solid ground. His theory is correct. It is American. It supports the liberty of the individual and also the supremacy of the law. The "Mormon" people will find no fault with it. The men who in their testimony before the committee of the Senate, to which the gentleman alludes, are with him on his propositions. The law must be honored or repealed, but the right of every person to believe that which appears to him to be true cannot be abrogated.

The Senator speaks of the death or change of a principle. We do not agree with him in that idea. A principle cannot be changed nor will it ever die. Truth is eternal, imperishable. Policies may be changed, rules and regulations may be altered or abolished, practices may cease, but a principle abides forever.

The writer concludes his temperate and conservative contribution to the Review with these sentences:

"We cannot, we must not, tolerate any philosophy, religion or code which sets the tenets of its organization above the Constitution of the United States; claiming or accepting, by an oath or by admonition, a deed, a devotion or a duty that is in conflict with the community of interests of the whole country, or with the constitutional commands of the State or of the Nation to which we all owe allegiance."

We affirm that there is nothing in "Mormonism" that is in conflict with the Constitution of the United States, and that there is no oath or deed or anything in it against the "community of interests" of the whole country or with the constitutional commands of "the powers that be." We recognize the right of the Nation and of the State to regulate the conduct of its people, to punish those who violate its laws and to restrain them from invading the interests of the commonwealth. At the same time we maintain the right of every citizen to entertain in theory such doctrines of philosophy or religion as claim his belief and appeal to his reason, and that there is nothing in the Constitution of the United States or of the State of Utah which justifies intolerance as to that philosophy or religious faith.

Nor do we believe that the distinguished Senator from Illinois really differs with us on this proposition, although some of his sentences may not be clear on this point. There is nothing in "Mormonism," however, which can be legitimately construed into a "menace," either to the Constitution, the Nation, the State, or to any individual, and we are pleased to note that the Senator himself does not actually assume that the so-called menace has a real existence.

## INFLUX OF VISITORS

The tide of travel from the East to the western coast, augmented to a large extent by excursions to the Portland Fair, continues to be in very large volume, and the great body of it passes through Salt Lake City. It moves on rapidly, however, although a portion of it rests here for a little while, and the benefits resultant are reaped not only by the railroads but by the hotels and restaurants and business establishments of the city.

The principal good, however, arising from the influx of people from different parts of our great country, is the opportunity afforded our friends of learning something about the people who laid the foundations of this commonwealth, who redeemed the desert from the silence of ages, planted the flag of freedom in the midst of the Rocky Mountains, and made possible the incoming of others to enjoy the benefits of civilization and modern advancement at this great distance from the marts and centers of population, commerce, religion, science, art and political influence.

Thousands of people come here imbued

with the wildest and most ridiculous notions respecting "Mormonism" and the "Mormons," and although their stay may be brief and their investigations hurried, yet if they steer clear of the persistent villifiers and soured haters of the majority of Utah's citizens, they go away with many fallacies corrected, and are able to undeceive their friends and associates when they return home, in regard to the principles and tenets of the "Mormon" faith and the character and conduct of the "Mormon" people.

The peculiar ideas that are entertained by many of our visitors are very amusing, but not to be wondered at, considering the publication of untruths that has been going on for many decades. Seeing for themselves, however, makes a far greater impression on their minds than anything that might be offered by way of refutation or argument, and therefore the coming of so many travelers to this point will prove educational in its character, and will aid mightily in dissipating the prejudices which prevail throughout the land against Utah and its people.

The good work of the Bureau of Information within the Temple grounds cannot be too highly appreciated and praised. It is doing a grand work, and particularly during the present season is accomplishing much more in the line indicated than could be performed by hosts of missionaries, spending time at great expense and much difficulty.

The predictions of the ancient seers concerning the Zion of the latter days will be fulfilled, Zion will arise and shine. She will put on her beautiful garments. Her splendor will go forth to dissipate the darkness of the world. Kings will come to her light and mighty ones to the brightness of her rising. We welcome our friends from afar and hope that their numbers will increase.

Portsmouth, N. H., will be famous in history as a has-been.

By just standing still Norway is drifting towards a republic.

Senator Depew has become the most silent man in all the land.

That navy-yard building has become an international hall of fame.

Any early bird can catch violators of the sprinkling proclamation.

Whether or no the Pacific is neutralized it will always remain Pacific.

The signing of the treaty of peace is one of the best signs of the times.

In the new assistant secretary of state the President saves his Bacon.

The treaty having been signed, you may whistle as long and as loud as you choose.

Nan Patterson doesn't figure as one of the features in New York's opening theatrical season.

If an anti-American boycott in China is a violation of treaty rights, what are outrages on Chinese in America?

The President is entitled to say, "De-la-hied," as he looks upon the full accomplishment of his labors for peace.

The people of Massachusetts regretfully admit that Governor Douglas is a man of his word, and that his word is "No."

The architects are about to begin a fight for the prize for the best plan for the Peace palace to be erected at The Hague.

A part of a man's spine was removed in a Kansas City, Kas., hospital the other day. The man had backbone to undergo such an operation.

"Bishop Potter should be convinced by this time that the saloon can't be saved by prayer," says an exchange. And he should be convinced that prayer is not made efficacious by saloons.

A Chicago masher has just been fined two hundred dollars for trying to "mash" a young girl of sixteen. Good for the judge who imposed the fine! Next time let him add imprisonment to the sentence.

If an ultimatum does not scare the Sultan of Morocco any more than it does the Sultan of Turkey, France will have to send a duplicate one to Fez, and perhaps a triplicate.

Tipping servants or corporation purchasing agents for the purpose of influencing trade is made a crime under New York's latest law. But "grafting" still remains an honorable career in the Empire State.

The "clothesline" or giant hog, is a monster mammal nearly ten feet long and six of seven feet high, whose fossil remains have been found in the John Day region, Oregon. This is the ancestor, no doubt, of the end seat hog.

The Caesar should lose no time in calling a Pan-Russian peace conference. His domains are ripe for revolution and unless something is promptly done, revolution will be rife everywhere. Could the Caesar be freed from the bureaucratic influence that surrounds him, and from its traditions, he would probably confer great rights and privileges upon his people that they would rise up and call him blessed. At heart he is a kindly, generous man with a deep feeling for the welfare and advancement of mankind. May the day soon come when he can give full play to his better instincts!

"The famous battleship Oregon is to be withdrawn from service to be overhauled and refitted. The repairs will require about two years, and when she again goes into commission, it is announced, she will be 'an absolutely modern battle ship.' The Oregon was built only ten years ago, and seven years ago she was believed to be as fine a battle ship as there was on the seas. Now she has become obsolete and must be brought up to date," says the Springfield Republican. And by the time the great battleship is thoroughly overhauled and refitted she will be more or

less passe. A real, modern, up-to-date battleship seems to be an impossibility.

In his contribution to the North American Review for September, Senator Shelby M. Cullom, of Illinois, pays a glowing tribute to Judge C. S. Zane, for whom the Senator entertains the highest regard and respect, which is shared by many people of the State from which the Judge came to Utah. The Senator when talking of Utah affairs rarely fails to mention his friendship for the Judge and his estimate of the character and ability of the jurist who, coming here to administer the Federal law, has become a permanent citizen of this city and state. Judge Zane's judicial acumen is recognized by members of the bar who have practiced in his court, and he has received judicial honors at the hands of people who once considered him an implacable foe.

## WAYS OF READING.

St. Nicholas.

Quite as important as what books one likes is why one likes them, for one may select the right book for the wrong reason, or you may make a book very different by different ways of reading it. Skipping is dangerous if you are reading an author who can be depended upon not to waste your time, and if you have a book which is little harmed by skipping, you will probably save time if you skip at once from Chapter I to "Fins." If old enough to read books of your own choice, you are also old enough to know whether it is worth while to give time to any particular book; but do not make the mistake of not reading a great deal purely for amusement. "No profit grows where is no pleasure taken." Remember, however, that the "pleasure" may be that of acquiring knowledge or discipline, and that often the most effective studying is done by young people in acquainting themselves with something they do not learn in school hours.

## THE ENCORE NUISANCE.

Boston Herald.

The New York Evening Post, in its notice of the new theatrical production, says of the encore nuisance: "Some of the other songs are forced to tire some encoures by the usual organized clique, which has become an abominable nuisance nowadays, and should be suppressed. Audiences should not be bored by listening over and over again to a song which publishers are determined to make popular." Too frequent encoures are a nuisance, and in more than one instance, as our New York contemporary suggests, the managers as well as the public are responsible. In the English theaters they are more reasonable. Pretty songs are encoured, but a single repetition of the last verse is usually all that is demanded, unless the song is particularly attractive. The encoures, however, are not encouraged by the musical director to any such extent as is the case with far too many of the light pieces produced in our own theaters.

## A GIFT TO SET BEFORE A KING.

Pall Mall Gazette.

An ingenious tanner of Segre, whose name is Lepage, has won the grateful patronage of King Alfonso with a gift of rugs made from skins of the two horses killed in Paris when a bomb was thrown at his majesty. The special merit of M. Lepage's sample of work appears to be that he has treated these skins so as to leave the death wounds apparent. It has overcome the rigorous etiquette of the Spanish court, which is against accepting gifts from tradesmen.

## PICADILLY COSTS \$170 SQUARE FOOT.

Chicago Chronicle.

The widening of Piccadilly has been the means of showing the enormous value of land in the center of London, the sum paid by the London county council for a small area, which of course, was built on, working out at \$170 a square foot. This is believed to be the record, but as it included compensation for disturbance it cannot be compared with the prices paid in London, which is the highest rented spot on earth, a single room having been let recently for between \$16,000 and \$18,000 a year.

## TEA

A good deal depends on the brewing; go by the book you find in the package.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like Schilling's Best.

## THE

## New Grand Theatre

Pelton & Smutzer, Mgrs.  
A. C. Smutzer, Asst. Mgr.  
Both 'Phones 278.

## "THE NEW YORK GIRL."

-35 PEOPLE-  
Thursday Night and the Rest of the Week

## "FIDDLE DUM DEE."

Matinee Wednesday and Saturday, 2c.  
Children Saturday Matinee, 10c.  
Nights, 25c, 50c, 75c.

## PEACH DAY

AT

## Brigham City,

September 7,

Everybody who visits Brigham City on that day will be treated to all the peaches they can eat while there. Go and enjoy a treat. Round trip from Salt Lake City \$1.25. Special train leaves at 8:00 a. m. and returns in the evening in time to catch the street cars.

## Better Make Up Your Mind to Go.

## Dress Goods.

Every new cloth, every new pattern, every new style is shown in our fabrics for this Fall and Winter. You can't resist buying them.

## School Needs

We are in a position to supply every requirement of Teacher or Pupil. Having been close observers of their needs, and knowing their wishes respecting service, able, practical apparel, we have purchased just that sort of goods to offer them. The reliability and character of this institution permits us to say that better goods for the same money cannot be obtained at other stores in this city. If quality of goods are considered with prices, we are never undersold.

## HOSIERY!

Our shelves are now crowded with a new and well selected stock of ladies', misses', boys' and infants' fall and winter hosiery, ladies' and children's hose supporters, infants' fine knitted wrappers, infants' kid and knitted booties, child leggings, etc.

A special line of school hose is cheap for boys and girls at..... 25c

Our special hose for ladies are cheap full of good wearing quality and are very bargains at—

20c and 25c a Pair.

## CHILDREN'S SCHOOL APRONS.

Made of good quality cambric, lawn and Nainsook, white only. (We sell the cloth for colored ones). Special School Prices—

25c, 50c, 60c, 75c and \$1.00



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Made of good quality cambric, lawn and Nainsook, white only. (We sell the cloth for colored ones). Special School Prices—

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## HANDKERCHIEFS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

THEY ALWAYS NEED THEM.

Children's printed handkerchiefs, good quality, 20c a DOZEN.

Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, plain white and printed hems, extra quality lawn, 5c each, or—

50c a DOZEN.

Fancy lace trimmed and hemstitched; also plain hemstitched linen handkerchiefs; especially good values, 10c each, or—

THREE FOR 25c

## RIBBONS!

Marked at Prices to Accomplish a Purpose—Quick Riddance.

Plain taffeta Ribbons, Best Quality, No. 4—One inch wide ..... 5c

No. 7—One and one-fourth inch wide ..... 6c

No. 9—One and one-half inch wide ..... 8c

No. 12—Two inches wide ..... 10c

No. 16—Two and one-half inches wide ..... 12c

No. 22—Three inches wide ..... 15c

Plain Taffetas, Satin Taffetas, 4 and 5 inches wide, all colors and black, Regular prices 35c and 40c, this week ..... 25c

Our Fall Models of Walking Suits, Costumes and Gowns were critically gleaned from the world's best manufacturers. The same may be said of our New Hats for this season—the styles are extremely new and exclusive—shapes and shades to satisfy every demand.

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\$2.00 Suits at . . . \$1.55

2.50 Suits at . . . 1.95

3.00 Suits at . . . 2.35

\$3.50 Suits at . . . 2.75

\$4.00 Suits at . . . \$3.15

4.50 Suits at . . . 3.55

5.00 Suits at . . . 3.95

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\$6.00 Suits at . . . \$4.75

Also, School Hats, Caps, Shirts, Stockings, Pants, Etc., at lowest prices.

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