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SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 6, 1899.


## STAKE CONFERENCE.

The quarterly conference of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, as already announced, will commence at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, March 12th, in the Tabernacle in this city. It is desired that all the officers and members who can attend will be present at that hour. There will be no Priesthood meeting on Saturday, as the conference will not assemble until Sunday morning. Meetings will be held on Sunday afternoon and on Monday morning and afternoon. The Bishops and their counselors, and all the officers and members of quorums as well as of the various auxiliary organizations, are specially requested to attend on Sunday and Monday mornings, when matters of importance will be presented for the consideration and action of the conference. This notice should be widely circulated among the Saints in every ward of the Stake, and the respective Bishops are hereby requested to urge the visiting officers to notify the people, so that none will be left uninformed as to the time of meeting. It is expected that some of the leading Church authorities will meet with the Saints in this Stake Conference, and that it will be of great benefit to all who are privileged to be present.

## A WORTHY CAUSE.

The announcement in the Deseret News that an entertainment would be given in the Theatre, for the benefit of the Utah soldiers at Manila, has aroused much interest. Money is needed for the hospital fund there, and the movement to supply it in the way that has been adopted, we believe will meet with general favor. Dr. Prentiss, a gentleman of eminent ability as a writer and public speaker, has agreed to deliver a lecture which, with illustrations, will form the principal feature of the entertainment, and there will be music and other attractions to make the meeting pleasant, recreative and profitable. To help our loyal, brave and patriotic soldiers in Manila is a cause which will receive enthusiastic support, and everybody should be ready to contribute something towards it. As each purchaser of a ticket will receive full compensation in the entertainment provided, his help will virtually cost him nothing. To put it in another way, everybody who attends will enjoy an intellectual treat, and at the same time aid the gallant heroes who represent Utah in the Philippine Islands. Fill the Theater to overflowing next Monday evening, March 13th.

## THE SCHOOL BILL.

It is proposed to change the date of the election of members of the city boards of education, from the first Wednesday in December to the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November. This will save the expense of a special election for the purpose, by including it in the general election, and avoid the sectarian schemes, squabbles and ill-feelings that have arisen over the special school conventions.

It is also proposed to elect city superintendents of schools every four years at the same election, instead of having them appointed by the boards of education. This will give the people the power to make their own choice of those officers.

These propositions are opposed for the alleged reasons that they will plunge the schools into politics, and that the teachers and even the scholars will be infected with the political fever.

How a mere change of date of an election will produce this astonishing effect, is not made clear. How the election by the people, instead of an appointment by persons elected by the people will produce this threatened epidemic, is not brought to light. The opponents of the change say it will, and that they seem to think is sufficient. But an esteemed contemporary says:

"It is simply proposed to make it a partisan scramble for the place; to do away with the consideration of credentials, with the constant search for the best talent, wherever it may be found, with the effort to build up the schools regardless of any consideration but the excellence sought."

We respectfully submit that all that is mere assertion. No such proposal is made. There is no wish or intention to do away with a single requirement as to qualifications, or to cease any effort to build up the schools by the aid of the best talent to be had.

We have to repeat the question: What injury has come to the schools in the respective counties, by the popular election of county superintendents in place of their appointment? What harm has been done to the educational interests of the State, by the election of a State superintendent instead of his appointment?

The bill before the Legislature proposes to elect the city superintendents in the same way that the county and State superintendents are elected. But it does not propose to change the manner of conducting schools, or selecting teachers, or regulating school affairs; and all the horrors depicted as a consequence of what is really proposed, fail to frighten anybody who looks at that which is, and cannot be diverted by that which is not.

As to our "having a short memory," our contemporary is mistaken. It is partly because of a very vivid "memory on some things" that we favor the change proposed in the educational bill now before the Legislature. We do not forget what occurred previous to the school election of 1896 or that of 1897. And we sincerely hope that such scenes as were presented will never be re-enacted. They will not appear again if the proposed measure becomes a law.

## THE VACCINATION CLAUSE.

If it is the intention of those interested in the passage of the health bill, with its objectionable compulsory vaccination clause, to defer its presentation to the House as long as possible, in the hope of having it passed in the rush of the closing hours, we trust that the members of the House will not be misled by such tactics. Multitudes in this State are opposed to compulsory vaccination from conscientious motives and they are earnest in their protests.

It is perfectly right that those who believe in vaccination should practice it; and we venture to say that even those who have little faith in its efficacy would comply with the advice of their family physician, were he to order it in cases of supposed necessity, just as they would comply with his advice as to various kinds of medicine, diet and rules of health. But a law making it compulsory upon all, when medical authorities are themselves divided in opinion as to its efficacy, is repulsive to those who disbelieve, and is an invasion upon personal rights that should arouse every lover of liberty to indignant protest.

## RUDYARD KIPLING.

Public interest in the welfare of Mr. Kipling has been general both here and elsewhere. He is in some respects the most original author of the period. In his "Recessional" he struck a popular chord. Then he issued a series of warnings against the intoxication over England's military power. When the czar called for a peace conference he wrote his famous poem, "The Truce of the Bear," in which he seemed to attack the sincerity of the young ruler. Recently he produced the poem entitled "The White Man's Burden," which was believed to be an appeal to the United States in behalf of the Filipinos. It was regarded by some as the most important poem from the pen of the gifted author. His various contributions to current literature are received with avidity and everything he writes is welcomed.

Mr. Kipling is about 34 years of age. He possesses rare literary talent, deep thought and a wonderful command of language. His death at this time would have been regarded as a calamity to the English-speaking world; his expected recovery is hailed with joy in both hemispheres.

## THE CZAR'S ILLNESS.

Some time ago it was announced that Emperor Nicholas was sick and that his condition excited the gravest solicitude. In fact, it was stated that an ailment of long standing had assumed a critical form, soon after the issuance of the manifesto relating to the limitation of the armaments of the powers. Now it is reported that he is prostrated. The malady is said to be of such a character as to forbid all intellectual exertion. Consequently the burden of government has been entrusted to Grand Duke Michael, the grand uncle of the czar.

But it appears from later news that the statements concerning the czar's illness are regarded with suspicion. It is believed that the turning over of the government temporarily to the grand duke, may indicate a change of policy as to the peace proposition. It is well known that it did not meet with the hearty response that was expected. This, together with the present situation in Europe and eastern Asia, may have convinced the framers of the Russian policy of the hopelessness of the proposed plan.

The temporary change in the government may, therefore, have been deemed expedient, and the czar may have stepped aside for the time being, in order to permit a reversal of the policy announced. European diplomats usually find a way of accomplishing any plan desirable—that is, within certain limits.

Grand Duke Michael has often been the aid of the Russian rulers in a diplomatic [illegible]. He is a brother of Nicholas I. He was appointed president of the imperial council by Alexander III. He holds that exalted position today, and he is said to enjoy the full confidence of the young czar and czarina. But whether the emperor's illness is real or assumed, the announcement of his condition will probably have an adverse influence on the deliberations of the peace congress.

## DEPRESSION IN JAPAN.

The Denver News calls attention to the fact that Japan at present is suffering from a serious financial and industrial depression. This is all the more remarkable because it would naturally be supposed that the country, after its successful war with China and the large amount of money received as indemnity, would be absolutely prosperous. The total foreign commerce of Japan for the year 1895 was valued at [illegible] yen. In 1898 this was increased to [illegible] yen, the yen being worth 50 cents in United States gold. The exports of Japan for several years have kept at about the same value. In 1895 they were [illegible], and in 1898 [illegible] yen, but the imports have been rapidly growing in volume. In 1897 they were [illegible] yen in excess of the exports, and in 1898 [illegible] yen, which is largely due to the extravagance of the people and the rapid [illegible] of industrial enterprises. Last year, however, there was a partial failure of the rice crop, which made necessary the importation of unusual quantities of that article. Japan exports its own rice to Europe and imports a poorer quality from China, Corea and the East Indies. The exports last year were about [illegible] yen, which was up to the average, while the imports were valued at [illegible] yen, an increase of [illegible] on 1897.

The Japanese people, it is pointed out, are no longer able to supply their own needs. Rice, cotton and sugar are being imported very extensively. There is also a large increase in the importation of wearing apparel, machinery, hardware and iron and steel goods generally.

American control of the Philippines should, under the circumstances, be of material benefit to this country and to Japan alike.

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As was expected there are two reports on the alleged battery case. Read them both and take your choice.

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Tennessee tornadoes yet hold their own fairly well with Kentucky feuds. The latest Tennessee affair claims three victims dead and twelve wounded.

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Now that the Schley-Sampson controversy is settled, it is interesting to note that while both are rear admirals, Schley is two numbers ahead of Sampson.

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California is fearful of another drouth the coming summer. Less than four inches of rain has fallen in the southern part of the State since last April.

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The woolen goods trust seems to have spread its blanket over all the important woolen mills of the country. It is to be hoped it will not prove a wet blanket on this industry.

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Among the reforms promised by the new Spanish ministry is an efficient navy. It took the naval battles of Manila and Santiago to convince Spaniards that their former war vessels were not serviceable except as targets.

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Conclusive evidence of the civilizing of the Indian comes from South Dakota. Shoots-at-him, a full-blood Indian on the Rosebud agency, has applied for a divorce from his wife, for infidelity, instead of following the Indian method of killing her.

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Two United States gunboats have left Venezuelan ports for Jamaica. This move is not to be taken as having any connection with the Jamaican crisis, but that the war vessels are being brought home.

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Italy is now grabbing a slice of China, having landed troops for that purpose. No wonder European diplomats are predicting international control for the Mongolian empire. It is either that or national division.

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London has the influenza, and has it bad, one out of every eighteen deaths in the metropolis the past week being due to that disease. No wonder the people want spring weather hurried there.

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Billion dollar Congresses are no longer a surprise to the country. The one just closed had a billion and a half in appropriations, of which less than half a billion is directly chargeable to the late war with Spain.

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The number of deceased American soldiers to be brought from Cuba and Porto Rico this month aggregates 1,115. This mark of respect to the heroic dead, officers and private soldier alike, is unequaled in the annals of any other nation.

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London financiers say that Wall street is figuring to catch the London market "short," and it will come pretty close to doing that same thing, judging from the dangerous persistence in "bulling" which the Londoners have displayed of late.

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The explanation comes from Washington that Admiral Dewey wants small war vessels to suppress filibustering in the Philippines; but there is no explanation yet of the call for the Oregon or for three thousand "steel cooling baskets."

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The losses of cattle and sheep during the recent heavy weather are terrific, according to reports to the National Live Stock association. Yet several prominent Utah sheepmen say the loss accredited to Utah in these reports is greatly overdrawn.

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Cecil Rhodes predicts the absorption of South America by the United States. Mr. Rhodes must have a remarkable conception of the assimilative faculties of the United States, to think of the possibility, much less the probability, of such a proceeding during the life of the present generation of Americans.

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Le Autorite, a Parisian newspaper, has warned the French government that there is great risk of Queen Victoria's yacht meeting, in French waters, the same fate that the Maine met at Havana, and M. Loubet's government is providing for the English queen special police protection.

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One effect of over-legislation is plainly apparent in the Klondike country, which is becoming depopulated because of the heavy taxation imposed by the Dominion government since the discovery of gold there. Evidently the Canadians do not know how to nurse and nourish a gold boom.

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Certain Cuban leaders are very anxious to have American troops withdrawn from the island. But that event may as well be deferred till Cuba gets some definite form of civil government, based on the consent of the mass of the people on the island. The United States will not care to leave the seeds of internal strife in active germination in Cuba.

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Queen Victoria is going to the south of France next week, and for the first time since the Crimean war will visit Boulogne. It is amusing to realize that anti-English demonstrations will not prevent the queen's trip, and that possibly the call at Boulogne, as a reminder of the time when Britain and France were allies, will be productive of increased friendliness.

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A new and alarming danger, that of chemical decomposition in smokeless powder, has been developed by the arsenal explosion near Toulon, France, resulting in terrible loss of life and property. In this country just now, it is good enough to keep powder magazines at a distance, inconvenient for frequent trips thereto, but emphatically convenient in the case of their destruction.

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It may not have been generally noted that Agoncillo, the Filipino representative who hurried from Washington to Canada, the night of the Filipino attack on Manila, was a passenger on the steamship Labrador, wrecked last week on the Scottish coast, and barely escaped with his life. His cold fate there ought to suggest a parallel in his political voyage under Aguinaldo's leadership, in which he will be lucky to make as good an escape when he returns to the Philippines.

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The Chicago Board of Health in its report for January states that some interesting investigations have been made relating to the influenza bacilli. The bacteriologists claim that in several instances the bacillus of influenza was found together with the bacilli of diphtheria, scarlet fever and other disorders, the complication of influenza with the other maladies being readily detected by this means. Another fact reported by the department is that in cases which on first examination appeared to be diphtheria, accompanied by the usual throat symptoms, the influenza bacillus was present in a condition almost pure. In some cases which resembled influenza, on the other hand, a microscopic examination showed the presence of diphtheria bacilli. The results obtained are thought to be of interest to physicians and the general public.

## SAGASTA'S FALL.

Chicago Times-Herald.

The defeat of the same being accomplished, the defeat of the treaty is quite another thing. Spain would have all to lose and nothing to gain by such a reckless procedure. Every additional day since the signing of the protocol has told to our advantage, and we have been enabled to take possession of the Spanish colonial dominions as effectually as though the Paris agreement had been officially concluded months ago. Given a technical restoration of the state of war and the crippled Spaniards could not renew the war. We should have to make all the aggressive moves. * * * A stubborn resistance would bring home those horrors of strife and bloodshed which were confined last year to the colonies and make the process of recovery longer and more painful by many degrees than they would be under the original stipulations. Only madness could court such a fate.

Chicago Record.

Whatever may be the effect of the present ministerial crisis on the internal politics of Spain there is no reason to fear that it will involve the failure of the peace treaty. It has been known for some time that the Sagasta ministry must fall. The popular clamor at the proposition to cede the Philippines on any terms has made it difficult for many of the members of the cortes to accept the treaty, even were they so disposed, while the warring political elements which have been menacing the dynasty have lost no opportunity to stir up antagonism to Sagasta. The Spanish minister has had no option but to stand by the terms agreed upon by the peace commission and endeavor to win support from the cortes.

## GERMANY OUR FRIEND.

Denver Post.

That the German government is determined to re-establish thoroughly friendly relations with the United States has been manifest for some time. The government has been made aware of the bitter feelings which were aroused in this country, and this has caused it to make renewed efforts to establish more cordial relations. Acting on this theory, the German fleet has been withdrawn from the Philippines and the German subjects there placed under the protection of the United States authorities. This is the strongest proof that can be given of Germany's desire to have none but the best relations with the American government.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Germany is leaving no opportunity unused to show her good will for the United States. The Samoan trouble gave her one chance and she made the most of it by friendly relations. Now we learn that a fair meat inspection law is to be enacted and that several grades of American fruit will be admitted to the country without hindrance and the inspection of other fruit made as fair to the trade as possible. The restrictions now imposed upon the American life insurance companies that do business in Germany are being put in the way of removal, but, more remarkable yet, the Kaiser has ordered his war ships away from Manila on the ground that his subjects will be able to find ample security there under American rule.

Chicago Daily News.

Germany has decided to order her warships away from Manila, leaving German subjects in the Philippines under American protection. Thus another of the predicted breaks between the United States and the fatherland goes over, leaving the industrious persons who have during the past ten years been endeavoring to promote war involving two nations united by the closest ties of kinship to invent some new grievance for either one or the other.

Chicago Record.

The action of the German government in withdrawing all its vessels from the Philippines and asking the United States to assume the protection of German interests there should put a stop to the circulation of preposterous rumors of hostile purposes on the part of the emperor and his ministers. These rumors, which have been echoed throughout the country on the slightest pretext, assumed some semblance of truth because of the known conduct of Admiral Diederichs towards Admiral Dewey and the Americans at Manila. Even the German government's disclaimer of any desire or intention to interfere did not silence the falsehoods. The subsequent rumors have come with a regularity and persistence suggesting that they were invented to influence the stock market. Their refutation now comes direct from Berlin and it takes a form which admits of no doubt as to the sincerity of the German government's intentions.

Chicago Times-Herald.

Germany has now given this country an unmistakable proof of her confidence and friendship. While the wildest stories were afloat to the effect that Admiral Dewey had sunk an American vessel in Manila harbor, the Berlin government was actually intrusting the protection of its interests in that part of the world to the government at Washington, and was ordering the withdrawal of its warships from the Philippines.

### What Women Want.

Some women think that they want a vote when all they want is a voter.

### Why He Forgave Him.

Sunday School Teacher: "So, you forgave the bad boy that hit you? That was very good. Now tell me why you showed such a Christian spirit." Tommy Scrappers: "'Cause he was twicet my size."

### Women for Luck.

The Burmese have a curious idea regarding coins. They prefer those which have female heads on them, believing that coins with male heads on them are not so lucky, and do not make money.


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