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USE YOUR REASON!

The credulity of many people, their readiness to accept for fact the most apparent fiction as to political affairs, is no less astonishing than is the facility for inventing and the recklessness of assertion of most improbable stories, on the part of professional politicians and wire-pullers. Just before elections all kinds of rumors and roborations are set afloat; candidates for office are charged with opinions they never entertained, sentiments they have not uttered, motives they do not entertain and actions they never performed. Party principles are misrepresented, sentences are misquoted, isolated phrases are picked out and a wrong construction is placed upon them, and it seems to be an understood policy that either party has a license to abuse, vilify and brow beat the opposition without regard to truth or decency.

Now what is the use of all that kind of warfare? We doubt very much whether it accomplishes the end in view. It may catch a few votes from the simpleminded, but the great masses of the people see through the thin mist of deceit, and pay little regard to it when ballots are cast. But some of the odium created sticks in many minds, and is detrimental to the reputation of individuals thus assailed and injurious to the general welfare, because of unjust suspicions thus aroused.

We urge upon the readers of the Deseret News the propriety of weighing well such reports as reach them concerning the alleged speeches, intentions and doings of candidates and their supporters, and of rejecting such tales as are in violation of common sense and the known character of the individuals thus attacked. They should have no effect upon sensible people, who should form their own opinions, support the party or the candidates that their own judgment accepts, and use the ballots entrusted to them as citizens, freely, calmly and with a view to the good of the state and the nation, according to the light they have within their own souls. This is their right and their duty and no one should be permitted to hoodwink their minds, dominate their action or interfere with their political liberties. Use your reason!

## GENERAL STRIKE.

The Chicago Record-Herald says it is announced that Herr Most is to come to that city and begin the publication of a paper, to be called "The General Strike." The name, of course, indicates the object of the publication. It is to incite the working men of all trades and conditions to strike simultaneously, in order to cause as much industrial confusion as possible.

Our Chicago contemporary does not believe that any such scheme can succeed in attracting serious consideration, in this country at least. Probably not, at present. At the same time, we see around us conditions that are calculated to cause apprehension. The knowledge that is so widely distributed in our age enables a few to seize and to abuse power, more formidable than was exercised by tyrants of old. On the other hand, the masses have awakened to a realization of their worth and rights, and they will never again become slaves, without a struggle. Agitators are dangerous, in proportion as the interests of the classes appear to clash.

The question whether the country can afford to have incendiary literature spread broadcast, may yet have to be considered by the legislatures. Foreign anarchism of the violent type is now by law excluded from our shores. Consistency would seem to demand that official vigilance go beyond the ports of entrance to the country.

## VARIOUS POINTS OF VIEW.

The peace congress in Boston just ended, has excited a great deal of discussion concerning the practicability of the plans and aims of such gatherings. It is doubtful whether the examination of arguments pro and con have ever been more popular.

Carnegie, the industrial king, has spoken for those who believe that war would be abolished by a combination of nations strong enough to keep peace among all the rest. "The only thing needed," he says, "to banish war is to get such a combination of the ending powers as would be able to enforce peace." And he adds that this combination, or league, when organized, should be ready "to fight for peace at all times if necessary." He thinks that the United States Great Britain, France and Germany would form such a combination.

To this it should be said, though, that he plan has long ago been tested and found wanting. Alliances between powers have generally been counterbalanced by other combinations. Holy alliances, Triple alliances, and Dual alliances have, so far, not prevented wars. The absence of international law is

called attention to by a writer in the Empire Review, who does not believe it possible to abolish war until such a code is adopted and means provided for its enforcement. "Till the arrival of the millennium one of two conflicting parties must be prepared to give way to the other," he says. "The only way in which issues in dispute can ever be settled is by an appeal to brute force, or, in other words, to war. . . . As a matter of fact, the International Court of Arbitration at The Hague has no more power of dictating to either Russia or Japan whether peace shall be made, or if so, upon what terms, than the discussion forum of Coger's Hall." He also contends that "there is as yet no authoritative statement which could be cited as defining, in accordance with international law, what articles are or are not contraband of war," and that "practically the force of each contention must be decided, not by abstract arguments, but by the conflicting interests of the rival belligerents."

This fact must be recognized and taken into account. The establishment of a reign of universal peace is possible only when there is a court with power to enforce universal law. But this does not need to cause despair. For the tendency is toward a world-union in which such conditions may exist.

This is pointed out by a contributor to the Atlantic Monthly, who calls attention to the fact that "nations, repeatedly, in separate congresses, upon special subjects, have expressed their intelligence and their will, and have entrusted to the nations severally the duty of carrying out that will, as is most perfectly illustrated in the case of the Universal Postal Union. That is, the nations are creating a world legislative department."

This is a most significant fact. When the nations are joined in business interests, too vast to be risked in foolish conflicts, a means will be found to protect these interests, just as a means has been found to protect private and public interests in civilized communities. The world is heading away from the maelstrom of strife, toward the harbor of peace. It may be difficult to find the narrow entrance, and there may be many dangers to avoid, but the Pilot is holding the helm with firm hand, and the final outcome is not in doubt.

## RUSSIA'S NEW MINISTER.

The manner in which von Plehve, the late Russian minister of the interior, was removed, and the wide-spread impression that the assassination was due to political motives, have caused general attention to be riveted upon his successor, Prince Sviatopolk Mirsky. The question of interest is whether he will follow in the footsteps of his predecessor, or adopt a more liberal course. One of his official acts is a permission to again issue a Hebrew paper, suppressed by von Plehve, and this is taken to augur well for the future.

But his past career is thought to furnish ample ground for hope for the future of the Russian masses, as far as his influence goes. Several incidents in his career are now recalled. While governor of Karkatinsk, he is said to have exhibited, on one occasion, great moral courage. Czar Nicholas II, at the urgent request of Minister Durnovo, received a deputation from the Iven Semstvo, which deputation asked that the semstvo, or county representatives, be allowed to participate in the deliberations of national affairs. The czar dismissed them with a shrug of the shoulder and the sneering remark that their request was "an absurd dream."

Prince Mirsky, it is said, dared to criticize the doings of the reactionary party in a most energetic fashion, and also to enter his protest to the czar himself against the harsh manner in which the deputation had been received. This incident is also related. When Sipyagin was advocating his famous measure of placing under military arrest all those students who had participated in certain disturbances, Prince Mirsky opposed his superior officer in the most strenuous manner. Sipyagin succeeded in carrying his measure through, and the prince handed in his resignation, which, however, appears not to have been accepted.

As governor general, Prince Mirsky is said to have done all in his power for the amelioration of the people placed in his charge, and when he was called to the ministry of the interior, and the Lithuanians, it is said, realized that they were going to lose their beloved governor general, the regret was universal, and on all sides it was freely admitted that he had faithfully kept the promise which he made in his inaugural address, when he said that throughout his administration he would always keep an eye single to the interests of the Lithuanian population. Such a past would seem to be a guarantee of a liberal future, especially as his call to the helm of the internal affairs of the empire, must be taken to mean that the czar, at least, has perceived the necessity of a policy different from that of von Plehve.

What Russia needs first of all is perfect religious liberty. The Russians must be permitted to believe whatever seems true to them, and practise what they believe, be they Jews, Christians, Mohammedans, or what not. The government must cease looking for political offenses in religious practices, where no such offenses are intended. With perfect religious liberty established, the rest will come—representative government, educational facilities, and the proper freedom of the press. The new Russian minister professes to be in sympathy with the principles of tolerance and progress. "Peace and prosperity among the Russian people and the Russian subjects," says one writer, "is the dominant note of all of Prince Mirsky's recent expressions. And there is no reason to doubt that he is earnest in his convictions and in his purposes." If this is so—and the future will tell—there is a better day dawning for Russia.

Why not call it the Baltic Slow?

Thus far in the great fight Kuropatkin has refused to retire.

A great many political heroes are more legendary heroes than anything else.

While Secretary Cortelyou is a great athlete he has never been known to turn a somersault in politics.

The Russians and Japanese love one another so that they are even now locked in a death-like embrace.

There is much talk about rational pleasure, but no one seems to have thought of putting ratiocination among them.

If the reports of various inspectors-general are to be believed the way to heaven lies through the army cautions.

Those "fery orators" in Manila who were to speak there last Sunday do not seem to have set the world on fire.

If an automobile should make a dash for the pole it would be sure to run into it, if there is anything in the teaching of history.

Sir William Ramsay says that American science teachers are underpaid. And the science teachers say he never uttered a greater truth.

A colored barber at Pittsfield, Mass., has refused to shave a colored gentleman. This cannot be attributed to white-man prejudice.

A dollar of the mintage of 1894 was recently sold at auction for eleven hundred dollars. That is a dollar of our daddies worth having.

A rich man gets credit for ten times the amount he gives to a campaign fund while a poor man gets no credit whatever for his donation.

Secretary Shaw doubts if Congress has the constitutional power to investigate an executive department. Be that as it may, still it is well to keep the departments in such shape that they will bear investigation.

The Cyrus Field monument to Major Andre at Tappan, New York, has been sold for taxes. Several times it has been damaged in attempts to blow it up. There is a magnificent monument to his memory in Westminster Abbey. That is the proper place for one rather than not on American soil.

It is a generally recognized truth that evil-disposed persons can easier agree on plans for the promotion of strife among men, than peace-makers can unite. To do wrong is usually easier than to do right. It requires greater effort to climb to the mountain top, than to fall down. But then, to fall, very often means death, below.

The lighthouse that is reared upon the dangerous rock, to guide the mariner to the harbor, or to warn him of ever present danger, is not expected to howl against the winds, or roar against the waves that may break against its massive masonry. As long as it sends forth its light over the troubled sea, it fulfills its purpose. Those who are light-bearers are not fighters, but peace-makers.

Are we about to have another period of lawlessness in this city, such as was experienced more than ten years ago, when citizens, finally, had to combine for self-protection? It is quite certain that breeders of strife nearly always attract, from all parts of the country, a lawless element. Criminals know that they have a fair chance in communities where citizen is arrayed against citizen in bitter strife.

The American war vessels that have been anchored in the Thames for several weeks have been treated with a sweet neglect by the London authorities. It was a splendid opportunity to knit closer the bonds that join the United States and Great Britain, and the utter neglect to utilize it is quite inexplicable. The treatment accorded the Olympia and her sister ships gives color to the saying, "Most friendship is mere feigning."

Amadeo Horville, one of the supreme justices of Tahiti, has been denied by the United States department of commerce and labor the privilege of passing through the United States on the way to his old home in France, because he was found to be afflicted with consumption. A pretty hard decision that. What if the governments of Europe should shut out all invalid Americans who go around in search of health? Would not a mighty "roar" go up in this country against such action? Justice Horville merely wanted to pass through the United States to his native land. In this matter of admitting people to our country it is to be feared that at times the camel is swallowed while the goat is strained out.

## WAR IN WINTER TIME.

Boston Transcript.

Many great battles have been fought in the snow, Eylau and Hohenlieden being familiar examples. Austerlitz was fought in intensely cold weather and the Russian losses were increased by Napoleon turning the fire of his artillery on the frozen lakes over which the Russians sought to retreat. In our civil war, Fort Donelson was captured in February, Fredericksburg was fought in December, Stone River on Dec. 31, 1862, Jan. 2, 1863, and Thomas defeated and ruined Hood's army at Nashville on the 15th and 16th of December, 1864. Hence it will be seen that history does not warrant us in believing that the war in the east will pass into an unofficial truce when the snow begins to drift.

## THE UPLIFTED CHIN FAD.

New York Press.

Of the many fads of women the newest to engage the physical culture teacher is "the uplifted chin." Hundreds of women are studying the new pose. Most girls are given to dipping their chins. This makes wrinkles in the throat, helps the growth of the double chin, handicaps the beauty of a dimple and gives an awkward carriage to the head. If there is a tilt of the eye or a turn of the forehead, or a curve of the nose, it is all developed a thousand times

as charmingly with the chin lifted as without. This at least is what the physical culture men are saying to the women, and many thousands of the pupils of the new method.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The current number of the Juvenile Instructor has, as always, a varied and instructive list of contents. The first paper in on Cuba. This is illustrated by a view of the entrance to the Havana harbor. "Olive and Oak" is another illustrated paper on some of the venerable trees of Palestine. "A Prayer in the Hills" is a short story by Jennie Roberts. H. D. Brown writes about "The Importance of Keeping a Record." "Preparation of the Teacher and Pupil" is intelligently discussed by Arthur Porter, Jr. In the editorial department there are several thoughtful editorials. The leading one is on "Backbiting." This is signed by President Joseph F. Smith, and it is in his well known practical, philosophical vein. It is an article that can be recommended to the careful study of all whose aim it is to live according to the highest Christian ideals. "Temptation," "Jealousy," and "Admiration for the Beauties of Creation" are subjects of other thoughtful editorials. The number contains several poems and brief papers on current topics. There is a special department for "Our Little Folks," and a pretty piece of music, "The Pilgrim's Song of Hope," by Edouard Batiste. The Juvenile Instructor is one of the excellent church publications that should be circulated at home and abroad.—Salt Lake City.

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Some Singing. Some Dancing. Some Nonsense.

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