

The anti-Mormon sheet says "common sense" is outgrown, meaning of course, that the members of a set of despots who dictate their course of conduct politically, socially, and religiously. The candid appendix of the sheet is preaching the same falsehood, and designates the doctrine of common sense as "petty dodging and lying."

The absurdity of the anti-Mormon idea should be apparent to all who will reflect that we are living in a free country, where no man can exercise despotic powers over any other man, and least of all politically. But the idea has obtained currency by virtue of frequent repetition of absurd stories about "hierarchical despotism." Let the truth, therefore, again be stated, that the members of the Church are enjoying to the fullest extent the liberties and prerogatives that are guaranteed by the Constitution to every American citizen.

There is really no excuse for the existing ignorance concerning the Church. The duties of the various officers are well defined in the Revelations and set forth by our ecclesiastical writers. But dictation is not one of those duties. The doctrine of common consent was one of the first exemplified in the teachings imparted to the Church founders. Elder B. H. Roberts in his admirable Outline of Ecclesiastical History, says:

"Thus the Church was organized, and in that organization we see the operation of two mighty principles—the voice of God, the consent of the people. At the time that Joseph and Oliver received instruction to ordain each other to be Elders of the Church, they were told to defer their ordination until such time as would be practicable to get their brethren who have been and who would be baptized assembled together, for they must have the sanction of their brethren before they ordained each other Elders of the Church; and their brethren must decide by vote whether they would accept them as Joseph and Oliver as spiritual teachers. Thus, notwithstanding Joseph and Oliver had been ordained apostles under the hands of Peter, James and John, and had doubtless been recorded as such, as already stated, yet when it came to being ordained Elders of the Church, and made the spiritual leaders of it, it must be done by common consent of the Church, and thus early we see enforced that law which says: 'All things shall be done by common consent in the Church by prayer and faith.' But no sooner was the Church organized than a prophet, a seer, a translator, is appointed and the Church commanded to give heed to his words, and to receive them as coming from the mouth of the Lord himself. Here in the very inception of the Church organization, the clearly established great truth, the grand principle that in this government of the Church there is to be a union of the voice of God and the consent of the people."

This is the "Mormon" doctrine on the question of common consent. If the opponents will kindly put aside their arrogance for a minute and admit that we know what we believe better than they do. It is not outrageous. It can never be, worlds without end, for it is eternal as the kingdom of God itself.

But, the anti-Mormon sheet says "common consent" was not obtained by Senator Smoot to become a candidate for the United States Senate. Certainly not. That is the point we have tried to make all the time. The Church was never asked to join upon the political candidacy of any man, for the simple reason that the Church is not a political organization. Senator Smoot was elected by his party, as a United States Senator he represents the State and not the Church, and that is the position of any other civil officer. The Church has absolutely nothing to do with their candidacy, or their election. That follows from the showing made by the Tribune in the matter of the candidacy of Utah's Senior United States Senator.

But the anti-Mormon sheet is bound to have a liberal amount of Church interference on hand, even if it does not exist. Their business requires it. And so they rave against influential American citizens if these exercise their prerogatives as citizens, pretending that the Church interferes in politics if those who hold ecclesiastical offices take an interest in municipal or civil affairs.

Have we, then, come to this, that in this country it is wrong for a Sunday school teacher, a clergyman, a bishop, an apostle, to vote and ask others to vote for good, clean officials, while it is laudable for a saloon-keeper to vote and to bribe others to vote for gamblers? Just consider this proposition of the anti-Mormon sheet for revenue. Has it come to this that a citizen whom thousands love and revere because of his Christian goodness and purity of character, must consider himself disfranchised, while the keepers of brothels are planning right and day on spending money for the election of officers that will close their eyes to their work of destruction? Is this what is meant by "Americanism"? If so, Heaven pity this municipality! There should be no difficulty in recognizing the origin of such damnable doctrine. Its very claims and pretenses should seal its doom for ever.

A FINANCIAL LOSS.
The fair has been expressed that the Jamestown exposition will not be able to pay its debt to the government. Congress authorized a loan of \$1,000,000, and \$500,000, it seems, remains unpaid. The suggestion has been made that the government may, as it did in the

case of the St. Louis Exposition in 1904, take the same receipts from day to day, as well as the receipts from commodities. Such action would amount practically to the assumption by the government of the financial management of the exposition for the remainder of the season.

The Jamestown exposition was meant to celebrate the nation's birth, and it ought to have been a great success. The show is said to be admirable from every point of view. But it was the victim of many untoward circumstances. For one thing the exclusive building spirit of it was not in harmony with the general conception of propriety. A hazy display, no matter how magnificent, was not generally regarded as a most fitting tribute to the achievements of the republic. Then, the peculiar interpretation of the law relating to interstate transportation, by which the business of the press with the railroads has been greatly curtailed, has had its influence upon the attendance. The exposition was very largely ignored by the press. Its defects were emphasized and exaggerated. It is a question whether any great undertaking of the kind will succeed under the present arrangement.

But if the government is about to lose \$500,000 on the Jamestown exposition, the loss will not be staggering. There is a comfortable surplus in the treasury, and this income all the time exceeds the expenditures.

USE OF THE ARID RANGE.
President Roosevelt advocates the leasing of the public range to homesteaders throughout the arid region. We believe that this would be a good plan.

There are millions of acres of government land in the trans-Missouri region unfit for farming. Over this immense area the rainfall is too light to permit of crops without irrigation, and for irrigation, even under a system of government works, the supply of water is insufficient.

A contemporary calls attention to the fact that in earlier days this great region from the Rio Grande to the Canadian border, was covered with herds of cattle and flocks of sheep. Grazing was free and the ranges were overstocked and rapidly became exhausted. Hard winters caused heavy losses, the price of cattle declined for a period of years and many of the largest stock-raising became bankrupt or were starved out of business. In sections where the herds of range cattle had been counted by tens of thousands they dwindled to hundreds. The genuine cowboy is almost extinct because his occupation is gone.

It is not lawful at present to fence the public lands and the practice of doing so has been stopped during the last three administrations—those of Presidents Cleveland, McKinley, and Roosevelt.

It seems probable that the fencing of the public land has occasioned less harm than the overstocking of the free ranges.

Texas, owing the public domain within its borders and permits it to be fenced. So does Australia, where the government has large tracts of land. If this were possible under our laws, the arid West would soon bring back much of its former industry of cattle ranching. Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico would all, we believe, be greatly benefited by such an amendment to the land laws.

Should stock raising be encouraged in this manner, one effect would probably be a substantial reduction in the price of meat.

It would be wisdom to make use of the vast areas that are hardly worth buying, and that, if left entirely open, subject the stock grazers to such uncertainties that the free range is not the advantage that at first sight it appears to be.

TACT IN CHINA.
The speech of Secretary of War Taft in Shanghai is considered one of the most significant addresses delivered in recent years by a representative of our government. It is virtually a hint to Japan, as well as to other powers interested in eastern Asia, that the United States will brook no interference with the American trade there. It is a strong re-affirmation of the "open door" policy. Secretary Taft said:

"We do not complain of loss of trade that results from the employment of greater enterprise, ingenuity, or attention to the demands of the Chinese market, or the greater business success shown by our competitors. We should have the right to trade at being excluded from the trade of China by reason of our insistence upon the policy of the open door. The acquiescence in this policy of all the nations interested has been so unhesitating and emphatic that it is hardly worth while to speculate upon the probable action of the United States in case the Japanese or American merchants were placed in jeopardy, and how far the United States would go in the protection of its Chinese trade. I cannot say. It is clear, however, that our merchants are being treated to the importance of the trade, and they would view with deep concern any and all political obstacles to its maintenance and expansion. This feeling is likely to find expression in the action of the American government."

United States, so long as it was directed along the lines of peaceful prosperity, the maintenance of law and order, and the proper observance of the rights of foreigners. As to the other powers, Mr. Taft thought they would be wise to encourage governmental reform in China, and the development of its resources. He said:

"To do this will add to China's strength and aid her in preparing to resist possible foreign aggression in the seeking of undue and exclusive proprietary privileges. Thus no foreign aid will be required to enforce the open door and the policy of equal opportunity for all."

China is rapidly developing, and the time is drawing near when that country can take care of itself.

BAILOON RACES.
If we may judge from the announcements of the aeronautic contests that are scheduled to take place at St. Louis, this month, air navigation is now an accomplished fact and no longer one of the unsolved problems of the world. The races will commence on the 21st of this month. They are divided into three classes: The airship or lighter-than-air type, the flying machines or heavier-than-air type, and the balloons, which have no motive power and merely drift with the air currents.

The balloon race will be on Monday, October 21. The flying machine contest will be held on October 22, and there are already ten entries, including both the class with wings and the class with aeroplanes. The contest of airships will take place on the following day, Wednesday, October 23. In this class there are also ten entries, for all of which forfeit money has been posted.

Air navigation has developed rapidly the last few years, and there is no reason to doubt that still more rapid progress will be made. It is the beginning that presents the greatest difficulty. After a right start, progress comes natural. Unfortunately, the balloon has been monopolized by the interests of war long before its usefulness in the service of the industries has been established. We hear of more war balloons than of the other kind.

One day the dispatches tell of a new English war balloon; another day it is a German airship; another it is a Frenchman or Brazilian. The races at St. Louis will not be in the interest of war exclusively, and they are therefore all the more important.

The bogus count is never discounted until it is too late.

In finance demoralization often follows immorality.

No Washoe zypher was ever so breezy as a book agent.

Not brothers, no relation—Harry Joseph and Francis Joseph.

"The average man" never doubts that he helps make the averages higher.

The money centers of the world seem to be enjoying a little "frenzied finance."

What the striking telegraphers who have repudiated Small now insist on is a big "stick."

the persons who take this view overlook the great gain that has been made in securing a recognition and a discussion of world-wide politics. For instance, the committee on arbitration recently approved the Anglo-American project for compulsory arbitration by a vote of 11 to 9. Germany, Austria-Hungary and four second rate powers opposed the project, while Turkey, Japan, Italy and three others refrained from voting. With such a powerful minority it may not be possible now to accomplish anything more toward compulsory arbitration. Then, the formal vote of the committee, but the fact that the matter has been discussed and a vote taken is most important in its bearings upon world civilization.

FOUR INDIAN TRIBES.
Indian School Journal.
The Cherokees, who tracked De Soto's footsteps for many weary days while he marched through the South, and who later welcomed Oglethorpe to Georgia, are the most advanced Indians in civilization. The most capable education, spending \$20,000 a year on their schools and colleges.

The Chickasaws have five colleges with students maintained at the yearly cost of \$1000. They have thirteen district schools, costing \$16,000.

The Choctaws have 120 schools, in some of which the higher branches are taught.

The Seminoles, one of the smaller tribes, have ten colleges and sixty-five common schools, with a total attendance of 2,500.

Dr. Ingram, bishop of London, is a learned ecclesiastic, but he declared that at times young children, of whom he is extravagantly fond, upset him badly with their questions. Once he was addressing a gathering of poor children, and at the close of his remarks invited any boy or girl to ask him questions. The bishop answered several, but was finally flustered by a little girl who asked:

"Please, sir, why did the angels walk up and down Jacob's ladder when they had wings?"

Dr. Ingram escaped by blandly inquiring:

"What little boy or girl would like to answer that question?"—Boston Herald.

"Does your son profit by your example? Does he imitate your successes and avoid your mistakes?"

"Now, he wants to get married!"—Cleveland Leader.

"That's a splendid phonograph, old man. It reproduces the sound of Roosevelt's voice better than I ever thought possible. What makes it?"

"We call it the Taft-Life."

"I admit," said Mr. Vane, "that I'm somewhat conceited. It's a bad fault. 'Not only that,' replied Miss Peppery, 'but it also indicates very bad taste.'—Philadelphia Press.

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