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## TREASON!

The daily assault of the Saints has, at last, found an alleged proof of its contention that the Church is a treasonable organization. Ordinarily the proof ought to have been at hand first, and the accusation formulated accordingly. But this rational procedure is contrary to Tribune methods. That organ of moral purity and angelic innocence always accuses first and looks round for proofs afterwards. And so it happens that the alleged proof of treason is late in appearing. But here it is, and we may well exclaim with the Ser of old, "Hear, O Heavens, and give ear, O Earth!"

"The Lord God Almighty has set up a kingdom that will sway the scepter of power and authority over all the kingdoms of the world, and will never be destroyed. It is the kingdom that Daniel saw and wrote of. It may be considered treason to say that the kingdom which that prophet foretold is actually set up; that we cannot help, but we know it is our testimony."—Sermon of President Brigham Young at Salt Lake Tabernacle, April 6, 1882; Journal of Discourses, volume 1, pages 292 and 293.

This the Tribune quotes as proof that President Young was a traitor! To proclaim the supreme power of the Almighty over all the kingdoms of the world, is treason! To believe that the Church is the "kingdom" of which Daniel wrote, is treason! We are under obligation to our adversary for admitting that the only foundation on which its charge of treason rests is the belief of the Latter-day Saints in the prophecies of Daniel. We are, furthermore, under obligation, because the Tribune charge shows that the crusade against the Church leaders is but a continuation of the warfare against our Lord and the first martyrs. He was slain accused of being an aspirant to political power, though Ho explained that his kingdom was not of the world. His followers were slain by the thousands on the pretext that their doctrines were a menace to the state, though the Caesars had no truer subjects than the Christians. The crusade of the Tribune is but a continuation of that warfare.

But treason is a well defined crime in this country. It consists in levying war against the United States, or in adhering to the enemies, giving them aid and comfort. It is not treason to believe and preach that the Lord has set up the kingdom which Daniel saw in his visions.

If it is not true that the Lord has already established that kingdom, it will be established at some future time. Everyone who believes in the Bible believes in the prophetic declaration of Daniel. He believes either that the kingdom has been established, or that it will be. Every believer in the Bible is, therefore, by the Tribune reasoning, a traitor.

We submit to any reasonable being the proposition that the only true test of the loyalty of any people is furnished by their acts. And by this test the Latter-day Saints are perfectly willing to be judged. During the early persecutions and ever since they have proved themselves loyal and law-abiding, true Americans by instinct and Christians in practice. They were hated because they believed in maintaining the law, and because they were reformers. One of the chief excuses for the assaults by the Missouri mobs was their belief in spiritual manifestations and in the power of God to heal. This was incredible to the ruffians who assailed them in Missouri; and yet that doctrine is now almost common. The Saints have been driven, outraged, murdered, but they never thought of any hostility to the United States, the government or the Constitution. They were loyal to the flag. They protested against the excesses of the mob, but they committed no crime, and sometimes criticized officials whom they thought guilty of neglect, but they carried with them into the wilderness a profound reverence for the institutions of this Republic. They looked forward to the time when it would be their mission to uphold and maintain the integrity of these institutions. The "Mormon" battalion gladly marched under the Star-spangled banner to aid in the extension of the borders of the Republic, and those who did not go with the battalion carried the flag with them to these mountain valleys. And this attitude the Saints have ever maintained. Their struggles in the courts have been for the maintenance, as they saw it, of Constitutional rights. It remained for the anti-Mormons to propose in the United States Senate, that the Constitution be set aside for an alleged higher law. That may, perhaps, be branded as treason.

The Prophet Joseph in his very last public discourse said, in part:

"We are American citizens. We live upon a soil for the liberty of which our fathers perilled their lives and spilt their blood upon the battlefield. Those rights so dearly purchased shall not be disgracefully trodden under foot by lawless marauders without at least a noble effort on our part to sustain our liberties."

"Will you all stand by me to the death, and sustain, at the peril of your lives, the laws of our country, and the liberties and privileges which our fathers have transmitted unto us, sealed with their sacred blood?"

A mighty shout answered the appeal, in the affirmative. That is the spirit of "Mormonism." And it will be as long as the memory of the martyred Prophet is revered.

## CORRECTION CHEERFULLY MADE

In the issue of the Deseret News printed on Friday last, there appeared an item under a Logan dateline, bearing the heading "Knight Refuses to Make Speech," followed by an account of a purported meeting held in Nibley Hall, Logan, the previous evening, at which, it was alleged, the Democratic candidate for governor, Hon. J. William Knight, had dismissed a meeting which was to have been addressed by Mr. George F. Williams and himself.

The Deseret News has since learned that the occurrence did not take place as stated in the article referred to; that the meeting, owing to Mr. Williams' failure to arrive, was dismissed by Mr. Nebeker before Mr. Knight reached the hall, and that the latter was then conducted to the Commercial club where an informal reception was held and Mr. Knight made his address.

The Deseret News sincerely regrets that it was made the vehicle for one of the political "fakes" which seem to be inseparable from every campaign. The information in question came from a source that was thought to be reliable; an effort was made to reach Mr. Knight, or some one else present at the meeting, to have the item verified, but the effort was unsuccessful, and the report was printed.

The Deseret News would not knowingly do an injustice to any man, and it believes emphatically in giving a "square deal" to all. If through inadvertence, or any other cause, an error creeps into its columns this paper will never be backward in making a proper correction, and a proper apology. Both are tendered in this case, and we trust that whatever unpleasant feelings have been aroused by the occurrence, will be forgotten by this tender of the "amende honorable."

## VOYAGE OF THE FLEET.

Popular interest in the voyage of the American fleet is no longer as intense as it was. Even the most important events naturally are regarded in the light of matter of fact when the novelty is worn off. When the fleet first started on its tour, everyone was curious to know how the massing of ships on the Pacific would be construed by other powers, especially Japan. There was some alarm lest the enterprise should turn out to be a menace to the peace of the world. But nothing of the kind has happened. No embarrassing complications have arisen. The Fleet is as welcome in Japan as it was in Australia and New Zealand. The demonstrations are on a truly Oriental scale. The croakings of the birds of ill omen have, once more, come to naught.

There was some disappointment at Manila, because the health conditions there were such that it was deemed inadvisable to permit the men to land. But the plan now is to return to Manila early in December, when it is hoped the health conditions will be improved.

From Manila, the fleet will go to Colombo and then head straight for Suez, where it is scheduled to arrive the first week in January. Visits will be made at Athens, Naples, Genoa, Leghorn, Malta, Algiers, and other ports where the American flag is rarely seen. It will then reassemble at Gibraltar in the first week of February. Then will come the sail straight for home, the plan being for the arrival of the fleet at New York on February 22, Washington's birthday.

When this tour is completed it will be placed on record as one of the most remarkable voyages of history. And the best of it is that the fleet is the bearer of a message of good will to all the nations of the earth. American seamanship is being tested in this circumnavigation of the globe, as never before, and its superiority is demonstrated in the precision of the movement and freedom from delays which have characterized the itinerary so far. It is a demonstration of the superb construction, equipment, and management of our navy, and it crowns, daily, with new laurels, the American naval service.

## IN THE BALKANS.

It is evident that the peace of Europe is still in danger, though the efforts of the dominating powers are for a peaceful solution of the trouble. Special dispatches from Belgrade say that a secret understanding exists between Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria by which the independence of the latter is recognized by Franz Josef, while Bulgaria promises to stand by Austria in case complications arise because of the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This secret compact, if it exists, is sure to complicate matters. Bulgaria, relying on the military forces of Austria, is sure to be less tractable than it would be without a powerful ally.

Bulgaria has been considered a menace to the European peace for many years. As we have stated before, the country was given self-government under Turkish suzerainty by the Berlin treaty of 1878. But Ferdinand has always aimed at complete independence. In 1906 he made a tour of Europe for the purpose of ascertaining the views of the governments on this point.

In 1903 Bulgarians invaded Macedonia, Turkey protested and both countries talked war, but a conflict was averted by the powers. Early in the following year the trouble broke out afresh, when Macedonia again became a danger spot owing to the uprising of peasants led by Boris Saraff and other insurgent leaders. Again in 1905 trouble seemed inevitable.

The recent friction arose concerning an agreement with Austria-Hungary regarding the Oriental railway. Talk of war with Bulgaria was had at a meeting of the Sultan's cabinet on September 28 last, and on the following day Bulgaria defied the Balkan powers on the dispute over restoring the railroad.

According to a recent estimate of the situation that appeared in the New York Herald:

"The real gravity of the Bulgarian situation lies in the fact that, like the Moroccan situation, it is one of the issues which divides the great powers of Europe in the gradual reforming of their international alignment. In the present instance the interests of Russia, France and Great Britain are largely in common against those of Germany and Austria, with Italy occupying a middle ground. Russia has a most vital interest in Bulgaria owing to racial conditions, geographical proximity and Black sea prestige, but Russia has not been entirely free to act with Germany, having adverse interests on her Baltic frontier. This has left France and Great Britain to play the chief part in Bulgarian readjustment, with Russia a silent but deeply interested spectator and ally."

"On the other hand, Germany has first pushed her influence toward Morocco in the south and then toward Turkey, Persia, the Balkans and the near east. In these movements Austria has usually been found co-operating with Germany, partly through the bonds of the Triple Alliance and partly because of personal interests in the contiguous territory of the Balkans. This in turn has fanned into activity the old animosity between Italy and Austria, threatening to disrupt the Triple Alliance and to group Italy with France and Great Britain. This gradual regrouping of the powers has been affected by three recent movements—Turkey's adoption of a constitution, the reappearance of the Moroccan issue and the present independence of Bulgaria, in all of which the new alignment of the powers is becoming manifest, with Great Britain, France and Russia occupying common ground, Germany and Austria on the one side, and Italy in a somewhat neutral attitude. As in the Moroccan affair, the indications are that mediation or an international congress will seek to arrange some workable basis as to Bulgaria, but meantime the intriguing among the powers for influence over Bulgaria and other portions of the Near East is likely to go on unabated and to be an important factor in the new grouping of the Powers of Europe."

Bosnia and Herzegovina nominally belong to Turkey, but by the Berlin treaty they were placed under the administration of Austria-Hungary. That Treaty and a subsequent agreement with Russia gave Austria-Hungary a mandate for the indefinite occupation of the provinces. Following the successful movement in Turkey for a constitutional government, the Slavs in Bosnia and Herzegovina began agitating for an autonomous government, and this doubtless led Austria-Hungary to take steps to define the status of the provinces.

Time always flies and airships sometimes. Politically, Crete belongs to the cretaceous period. A sharp tongue doesn't always indicate a sharp wit. Be cheerful but not so cheerful as to neglect your work. "Student activity" is too often nothing but student deviltry. Those balloons that fell into the North Sea got beyond their depth. The Chicago Cubs cynically say, "There were Giants in those days." More massacres in Armenia. The Sick Man of Europe is himself again. It is the merchant who knows best what the future holds in store for him. Perhaps it is natural that footballists should frequently be at the foot of the class.

Mr. Hearst welcomes Governor Haskell's suit. Just as a bill collector is welcomed.

Servia has come to the conclusion that second thoughts are best and will not go to war.

Will the Thanksgiving proclamations, this year be issued before or after the election?

It is running for office that causes many a man to "go the pace" after the election is over.

When a ton of coal only weighs eighteen hundred pounds, buyers wonder who gets the "rake-off."

Some humane officers are so humane that they will not even beat carpets when their wives want them to.

A man always has to take great care to preserve his reputation unless it is bad; then it takes care of itself.

Poor judges of human nature that they generally are yet few take a man's measure so accurately as tailors do.

If a man studies himself and his children he will have about all the psychological problems he can master.

What a pity that Alexander never thought to conquer the air. Had he done so he would have had no time for sighing for other worlds to conquer.

The Louisiana night riders who are warning planters not to gin any more cotton until the price reaches fifteen cents, would themselves say they are working for a "reasonable profit."

Old saws will have to be reset. It used to be said that "a man's work is from morn to set of sun, but a woman's work is never done." Now it is a man's work is eight hours but a woman's the same old thing.

The following is an alleged report of the meeting of a parents' class said to have been held in the Eighteenth ecclesiastical ward, "the past week:"

"There were perhaps twenty-five members of the class present, among them two brothers, one a Democrat and the other a Republican, and both well known Salt Lakeers. During the evening the teacher said: 'We will now skip several pages or lessons, as I want to read you a lesson on patriotism.' Then she read this: 'It is the desire of President Smith that all Mormons vote for the candidates on the Republican ticket.' This was the lesson on patriotism. Still, the church maintains that it is not in politics."

Needless to say, the entire paragraph is a fake. But false reports and confusion of terms is all there is upon which to found a charge of Church interference in politics.

CROPS OF THE YEAR.  
New York Herald.  
The estimate of the corn crop indicates a yield of 2,555,298,000 bushels, which is 255,000 more bushels than the average corn crop of the ten years 1898 to 1907. The final estimate of the combined production of spring and winter wheat is 659,000,000 bushels (against a total of 634,057,000 bushels in 1907) of 89.4 per cent quality. Of this total, it is estimated that the spring wheat harvest will be 235,000,000 bushels, which

is 3,000,000 bushels more than the yield in 1907. The quality of the crop of oats is given as 81.3 per cent, and the estimated total yield as 789,161,000 bushels, which is 34,000,000 bushels in excess of last year's oat crop. These figures fully indicate that, if the harvests of 1908 have not broken any records, they are nevertheless very bountiful and generous.

## COMPARATIVE CONTENT.

Emporia, (Kan.), Gazette.  
It seemed to me that my life was vain, and the prize not worth the toll, till I chanced to look at a man in pain, a-nursing a large red boll. I sat me down by my door to mourn, and play myself a while; and a woman passed with an aching corn, and she found it, mile on mile. I went one day to the walling place, to weep for a perished hope, and a cripple passed with a sunny face, a-hawking his scented soap. And I said to myself: "You blamed old chump, no reason have you to sigh: it's wicked to weep while the others hump, nor wait till the clouds roll by!"

## THE WAR FEVER.

New York World.  
One menace of war removed when at yesterday's extraordinary session of the Serbian Skupshchina all fear of the fall of the Ministry was set at rest by the unanimous passage of a resolution "supporting the government to the fullest extent," but "expecting vigorous activity for the protection of the nation's interests." One menace of war was added when the Montenegrin National Assembly voted a credit of \$2,500,000 to the war ministry following the reading of a stirring message by Prince Nicholas. Prince Nicholas will, and next week his sixty-seventh year, but he is still the sturdiest warrior among the rulers of Europe. He was until three years ago the absolute ruler of the only Christian population in the Balkans which had always maintained its independence of the Turk. The Assembly, which he constituted on Nov. 5, 1905, presumably because Crown Prince Danilo is less sturdy than himself, exists but to do his will. Nicholas is shrewd as well as brave. No one knows better than he that his little nation of 200,000 souls may be invincible in its own mountains, but that it cannot attack a nation two hundred times as great. Montenegro has no railroads, no telegraph, no ports to pay for war supplies. Austria-Hungary's new narrow-gauge railway, not shown except on the latest maps, can land troops at Foca, the foot of the coast, where formerly they reckoned the population at so many "rifles," not people.

Montenegro and Servia are not strong enough to rescue the unwillingly annexed compartments in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Turkey is on paper strong enough to crush Bulgaria, but has neither money nor credit nor organization.

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