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JUDGE HARTCH'S DECISION.

The decision of Judge Hartch in the legal dispute as to the powers of the Utah Commission in the Constitutional election canvass has been as prompt and comprehensive as the case seemed could desire. The opinion is an elaborate review of the law relating to the account of elections and the canvass of votes, and as such should be read with close interest by every citizen. A further and special interest is added by reason of its definition of the powers and procedure of the Utah Commission, in view of the previous practices of that board. Altogether the subject is viewed and expounded by Judge Hartch in of grave importance, and his reasoning and conclusions are entitled to calm, unprejudiced consideration. The document is, under existing circumstances, worthy of careful perusal in its entirety.

TRAINING THE INDIANS.

The January number of *The Forum* contains an article on the "Proper Training and the Future of the Indians," from the pen of Major J. W. Powell. As Major Powell has spent nearly half his life in association in one form or another with the aborigines, his treatment of such a subject is entitled at least to respectful consideration. As to his experience, he recounts that he has seen most of the tribes of the United States; has wandered with the natives in the woods, ridden with them across the plains, climbed with them over mountains, visited their homes, slept in their camps and studied their languages, habits, customs and mythology; for twenty-five years has had associated with him on exploring expeditions and in the work of the bureau of ethnology a number of men who, like himself, have been making a life study of the North American Indians; his investigations have extended from the Eskimo of the Arctic circle to the Maya of the tropics; and he has seen thousands of Indians pass from the state of savagery to a half-civilized condition, and a smaller number into practical civilization.

From the last sentence it may be inferred that Major Powell is a believer in the theory that the education of the Indian can be productive of good. He has seen it worked in a successful demonstration. He does not believe that "the only good Indian is a dead Indian," because his experience has proven otherwise. But he has decided and, it must be admitted even by those inclined to disagree with him, very practical views as to the manner in which the aborigines should be dealt with by the government and by schools.

In the first place, he declares that the United States policy of dealing with the Indians as sovereign nations, and making treaties with them on that basis, is erroneous and has proven disastrous; and to confirm his argument he cites the policy of nations north and south of us, who have dealt with the savages as a portion of the people to be colonized direct by government. Then he points out the record of early school experiences, and says that from schools and books the Indian learned little; "the early methods devised for civilizing the Indian tribes largely failed. Schools and books failed." The reason for this failure he points out to be the fact that the white educators had not realized that the Indians were not a homogeneous people; that they were dealing with fractions of civilized governments, religions and languages, and consequently their work was complicated for one little tribe had to be disease by extending beyond its boundary, and books in one Indian tongue could be read by only a few persons. Therefore a literary education was impractical.

Turning to the new or industrial system of education, Major Powell points out that it has not yet really wonderful results, all the conditions considered, and indeed it has made a deep impression on the aborigines. There are now about 10,000 Indian children under instruction. They are being taught to work, and to speak and write the English language to certain extents. Summing up the results thus obtained, it is stated that "there are thousands who were roaring rebels in their youth and the youth are now guiding the plough; girls who were picking berries have a home; boys and girls who were speaking in language native to only a few hundred persons are now speaking our common tongue; musicians who were practicing sorcery when I was a boy are dead, and in their stead physicians employed by the central government are administering spiritual powers of thousands of people subject to the superstitious of sorcery and to the abundant methods of torture by which evil spirits were supposed to be driven out are now submitting to rational treatment for disease. Few of the old men and women speak our language; nearly the children speak it, and in another generation one homogeneous tongue will replace the multiplied jargons of savagery."

This is the Indian being shown to be worthy for some other position than that of a beggar and a vagabond. The new industrial economy is bearing good fruit; nearly, in the practical labors of the Indians we have good fruits from the first in Utah's experience. When the Indian has learned that the honest day's labor is a useful one—a condition that is attainable in time by patience and humane and rational methods—he will no longer a savage, but will take his place as a civilized being, an important factor in the nation, and will not be intelligently to disappear as civilization presses around us save in an overmastering claim. The experience and conclusions of Major Powell are a dictionary of the conclusions of the theory upon which the people of Utah from the first have dealt with the aborigines.

FOR HOME INDUSTRY.

The movement in favor of home industry, mentioned by the Logan correspondent in his letter of January 15, is an excellent one. When the consumers unanimously agree to support their own manufactories, they virtually place themselves in a position to reap the benefit from the money they pay out, because as long as it is kept at home, it will circulate and return again and again to the hands that started it rolling, and as long as it is kept in circulation business will be quickened and built up.

The Utah sugar factory deserves patronage from the people, and it would seem but natural that no other sugar should find a market in this Territory as long as the supply of that institution lasts. And there are other articles of which the same can be said. The farmers of Utah, one would think, should be able to supply the people with all the flour needed for bread. Yet it is a fact that flour is imported from eastern states under the pretense that it is of so much superior quality to the Utah article as to warrant the increased price a long transportation makes unavoidable. And while the people eat bread for which the money is sent East, our own farmers are compelled to sell their products at a price which barely covers the cost of raising them.

Utah flour is good enough for Utah people, and they should demand that article in preference to any other. It is poor policy to impoverish the laborers of the soil. To cripple the farmers is to dry up the very life blood of the body of state and cannot not be fraught with disaster. The question of establishing and maintaining manufactories and home industries of every kind has from the beginning been paramount to the people of this region. It is so to-day as much as ever. And now the facilities for carrying out this policy is greater than they ever were. Let the people then awake to their own interests and agree, as they did in the valley north of us, to consume Utah products first, even if it were a fact that imported goods in some instances are of a grade higher quality.

AFTER SMUGGLERS.

Leading western newspapers are now agitating the abolition of the Zona Fronteria, or Free Zone along the boundary line between the United States and Mexico. This strip of country at first only extended along the northern border of the Mexican state of Tamaulipas, where the decree of the governor of that state released from import duties and federal taxation all foreign goods imported within said zone, in order that the Mexican citizens might compete with the American neighbors. The Mexican congress finally abolished the decree, and future sessions, by various decrees, extended the free zone until it now reaches from the Pacific coast to the Gulf of Mexico, and is sixty kilometers, or nearly forty miles, in width.

Into this free zone are brought silks from China and Japan, rugs and sarapes from Persia, China and these goods from France, woolens from England and opium from China, not for consumption by the inhabitants of the free zone, for they are not a market, but for smuggling in competition with the honest merchants of Mexico and the United States. This competition is effected through the process of smuggling. The quantity of the free zone goods is only comparatively little of the country is wild and rugged, and it requires only slight precaution for part of the smuggled goods to be low enough scattered along the line and get the contraband into the country which, after the first outlay, yields a profit of 100 per cent. Mexico, it is estimated, gets about 25 per cent of the goods imported into the zone, and the United States 75 per cent, all of which, or practically all, is smuggled. As Senor Romero, the present Mexican minister to the United States, was formerly prominent in agitating the abolition of the free zone, it is believed he would come to the support of the present proposition and the desirable change could be made without much difficulty.

A TRUE QUESTION.

If the charitable societies of New York prevail with the legislature, the philanthropic beggars and tramps of that country will be compelled to work. The idea is to establish a farm to which to put such persons for a term of certain years with the prospect of being reconducted if they behaved.

The general economy of a country organization says the plan has worked well and has done much to keep away idle and vicious, or to drive them out of the community.

The idea is no doubt commended for all economy, but it seems liable to objections. If honest work is to be given as a penalty for crime and the criminal has to "reform" in order to escape being laborious in honorable employment, he takes about labor most unmercifully become more outlawed than ever. That a legislative measure of this kind would have any that result that is to drive out of the city a large number of tramps and unmerited beggars, who already look upon an honest work as an unmerciful penalty, is hardly probable. They would merely resort to other parts of the country, and there might not be inclined to appreciate very highly the honor of being selected as the camping-ground for the new criminal state and city of New York.

BLOODSHED INCREASING.

The increase in homicides in the United States in the past year over the records of previous years is a feature of anything but an encouraging nature. It shows that the sense of the sacredness of human life is in danger of becoming blunted, and it is manifest that it cannot be allowed to go on a condition may finally prevail in which the slightest cause may result in further carnage. The most conspicuous revolutions of the world have taken out after being prepared for years by more or less isolated acts of violence, either by those in power or by the people, ruled by no higher law than the dictates of passion and brutal instincts.

The number of homicides of all kinds in this country is placed at 6,791 for 1892, and at 6,848 for 1893, and at 7,127 for 1894, or 1,372 more than the previous year. That means, if the figures are correct, that in this country one person in every eight thousand, in round numbers, is prematurely cut off by the hands of murderers and assassins. But it is to be feared that this kind of crime is still more frequent than the figures indicate, because, while it is time enough that murder generally is found out, sometimes it is not, and there is ground for the supposition that some alleged suicides and natural deaths are due to other causes, especially in the cases of infants and young children. But the figures as they stand present a serious outlook enough.

The case is pretty near similar on this side of the world. Perhaps if our views were comprehensive enough to trace effects to their first causes it would be possible to find a natural connection between the depressed business condition which the nations of the world groan and the steadily increasing tendency to crime of various kinds. If so, there is no remedy possible except a full repentance and a return to the old paths of virtue and the fear of God.

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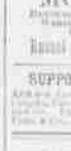

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Its Effect on the Clothing Trade —Clothing not Cheaper.

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