

that will astonish even atheists. Here are the words of the *Tribune* report: "Brother Penrose offered prayer, after which the choir sang, after which a score of flunkies fed and watered the animals." If there is in this broad land a Christian who endorses such a presentation of the communion service of any church, then in truth Christianity is a failure.

The report further says: "He told the story of Adam and the apple, and how Eve and the malicious snake beguiled the father of mankind into contracting an attack of the colic. Then he described the death of Abel and how Cain walloped the stuffing out of him with a club. Cain was a brute, and thus the sermon went."

This is just how Johan Most and Mrs. Parsons, the Anarchists describe the same biblical incident when ridiculing Christianity and the Bible. The *Tribune* may suppose that such language as this reviles Mormonism alone; in that it is mistaken. It is an attack on all religion. It is an outrage on the sacred beliefs of the vast majority of American people. This is just how the Bible is handled in the slums of all large cities, by the Communists of Paris, by the Red Socialists of Berlin, by the Anarchists of Chicago, and by (as I see now) alleged Christians of Salt Lake City.

Being a stranger in this city and having attended yesterday's services in the Tabernacle, I cannot help repudiating, as a Christian, such foul and villainous presentations of the most important sacraments of the Bible.

Heaven help the country which depends on such a source for patriotism and purification, for sanctification and evangelization. That's what I say.

—TRANGER.

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 29, 1890.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

"I want to tell you a story," said Dr. Moliere, the well known physician, to a *Chronicle* reporter yesterday. "I am not a superstitious man, nor do I believe in dreams, but yesterday, for the third or fourth time in my life, I was saved by a premonition."

"I got aboard of car No. 81, on the Sutter Street line, at the ferry yesterday to ride up to my office. As usual, I walked to the forward end of the car, took a seat in the corner with my back to the driver, and pulling a *Chronicle* from my pocket, was soon deeply engrossed in the news. Suddenly something said to me, 'Go to the other end of the car.' Acting on impulse, I changed my seat, and so rapid were my movements that the other passengers in the car noticed them. Remember, I was sitting, in the first place, with my back to the driver. I was paying no attention to anything but my newspaper, and the premonition, if I may so call it, could not have come from any outside influence, such as seeing approaching danger; but, sir, I had not been in my new seat more than

five seconds when the tongue of a heavily loaded wagon crashed through the side of the car just where I had been first seated, and had I not changed my seat my back would have been broken by the wagon tongue.

"As I said," continued the doctor, "I am not superstitious, but the incident I have just related, taken in connection with other incidents of a similar nature occurring in my life, makes me believe, in spite of myself, that there is a 'destiny that shape our ends, rough-hew them as we will.'"

In answer to a question as to what similar warning or premonition of danger he had ever received, Dr. Moliere said:

"Well, one time I was riding on the Michigan Central Railroad. It was a bitter cold night, and when I entered the car my feet seemed frozen. I walked forward and took a seat next to the stove in the forward part of the car, putting my feet on the fender. In a short time a gentleman changed his seat and came and sat beside me. The train was running at a high rate of speed, and the draught soon made the heater in the car red hot. Suddenly there came to me a premonition of danger, and turning to my companion I said: 'If we should meet with an accident, a collision, for instance, you and I would be in a bad place. We would certainly be hurled on the red hot stove.' At the same instant, and before my seatmate could reply, the impulse to grasp the end of the seat came upon me so strong I could not resist it, and hardly had my fingers closed upon the rail of the seat when there came a crash, and the car we were in was thrown violently from the track. I clung to the seat and my companion, when thrown forward, narrowly missed the stove. My position in the seat was such that, had I been pitched headlong as he was, I could not have missed the heater. A broken rail caused the accident, but what caused me to grasp the seat as I did I would like to know."

Speaking of Dr. Moliere's story to a well-known sporting man, the latter said:

"Well, I've had the same sort of experience once or twice in my life. I'm superstitious. I admit it. Of course fellows laugh at me, but for all that I believe I've got some sort of a guardian angel that whispers to me when I'm in danger. Maybe it's one of the wrong sort, for they do say the devil takes care of his own; but wrong or right, as to kind, I know one thing certain that my life has been saved more than once. One time I was at a race course and was up in the grand stand. I was broke and wanted to keep away from the boys. There were not many people on the stand; it wasn't half filled, but suddenly I felt an impulse which fairly drove me out of the place. I had not got clear down the stairs when the whole stand went down with a crash, and the fellow who was sitting right next to me was crushed out of all semblance of humanity by a great big beam that smashed the whole

row of seats we were in. That is not the only time I have been warned and if the what-is-it would only whisper to me when I go to put my money on the wrong horse I'd be a millionaire in a month."—*Chronicle*.

LECTURE ON THE TEST OATH.

Charles Ellis, the distinguished lecturer and orator, spoke on the "Test Oath" December 29th, at the Salt Lake Theatre. The main auditorium and first balcony were well filled with people. The speaker in the opening sentences went right at his subject. He said he would show that if the provisions of the "Test Oath" were honestly enforced, none but Mormons and freethinkers could cast a ballot lawfully under them. He assailed the "Test Oath" from the standpoint of law, the Bible and the Constitution, and contended that it was antagonistic to all.

The speaker during the course of his lecture touched on polygamy in Utah. He wanted it distinctly understood that he in no sense advocated, encouraged or abetted polygamy. But then he argued that every man who aided in the dissemination of the Bible, and every woman too, aided and advocated polygamy, because the Bible taught bigamy and polygamy, and every Christian who circulated the Bible violated the provisions of the "Test Oath," and if such provisions were enforced, all Christians must of necessity be disfranchised. He made numerous quotations from the Scriptures to substantiate his point. He said: "There is absolutely no polygamy in Utah at present. The manifesto of President Woodruff was delivered in good faith, and so accepted by the people at large. Carpet baggers may still howl about polygamy, but their cry must be changed."

At this point the audience cheered and clapped vigorously and enthusiastically.

Mr Ellis towards the close gave a short exposition of "Mormonism," saying that it was abreast of the best thought, religious and social, of the age. Theories supposed to be new promulgated by Herbert Spencer and Ralph Waldo Emerson, were preached half a century ago by "Mormon" elders. The saying of Joseph Smith the Prophet that his people "were now where God was, and would yet be where God is" exemplifies the progressive spirit of "Mormonism" and accords with the spirit of modern secular progress. He said that "Mormons" worshiped a living, active God, while other alleged Christian sects worshiped a petrified mummy.

The lecturer spoke for 1½ hours and held his audience the whole time.

Miss Gossip—I hear your club had a meeting last night.

Miss Dorcas—Yes. Indeed. We had a splendid dinner at Delmonico's that cost \$20 a plate, after which our president read a helpful letter on "How to Live on \$500 a Year."—*Ex.*