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SLANDERS REFUTED.

Some of the state papers have noticed an article said to have appeared recently in the New York Herald, in which one Hans Peter Freese is quoted regarding Utah and the people here. Among other things Hans Peter Freese is made to say:

"Polygamy is preached to the old and young Sunday after Sunday from the pulpits and platforms in Utah. They make no pretense of it. It is only when they come East to get converts that they deny polygamy."

Hans Peter Freese is also quoted as follows:

"They [the missionaries] send to Utah reports of my labors, with the result that my father, my sister and my brothers, who still live there, are made to feel their displeasure. They have threatened me with all kinds of personal violence should I dare to return to Utah, and one of my brothers has been assaulted frequently; my other brother was forced to leave the high school, the Mormon authorities telling him he could not teach there while I was opposing them. At first my father feared it would be dangerous for me to continue, but he has now become reconciled."

Commenting on these ridiculous allegations, the Richfield Reaper of May 28, says:

"It appears from the article that one Hans Peter Freese is given to lying mendaciously about his friends and neighbors in Sevier county. Of course no one who knows Hans Peter would pay the slightest attention to him, but he is working the gullible public in the Empire state with his tales of the horrors of Mormonism and incidentally getting the shekels to pay his tuition in a law school which he is attending, and he intends to come back to Utah and reform conditions here, with his knowledge of the law and the prophets."

"To those on the inside of Hans Peter's family relationship that solicitude for his father is most touching. Some there be who aver that not only does the elder Freese get consolation, help or even decent treatment from this most illustrious son of the house of Freese. The people of the town of Salina never heard of the brother being assaulted. Presumably the brother referred to is Dan Freese. True, he did have a school where he taught in that town a few years back and there are things that could be said of Dan that would not sound well in the ears of the people of New York. Things, too, that would not reflect any great amount of credit on Hans Peter. For further particulars as to the school where Hans Peter received his education could very well be referred to."

"Hans Peter has a sister who is a practicing physician in Salina. It is safe to say that more than half of her patients are Mormons. This does not look like persecution, as all are equally capable physicians in this county to whom the Mormons could give their support and even in Salina there is an excellent physician who has been a warm friend of the Mormon people, although he is not a member of any church. If Hans Peter is telling the truth Dr. West should be receiving much of the patronage the sister of this defamer is getting."

"The brother who is referred to as having been ordered from the high school is undoubtedly Her Freese who is at present principal of the Salina school. Her was given that position when C. A. Mattson, a Mormon bishop, gave up the position, and it is understood that part of his duty as principal is to assist in the high school work. He has been engaged as principal for the next year again and he is said to be well liked in Salina. This does not look like he is to be driven away by the Mormon authorities. Hans Peter is a mendacious liar. He says he has been threatened with all kinds of personal violence when he returns to Utah. That is another lie, although if ever a man deserved personal violence for traducing a community that man is Hans Peter."

The Reaper, which, by the way, is one of Utah's many live and enterprising newspapers, completely refutes some other falsehoods credited to Hans Peter Freese.

The Salina Call, of May 29, contains the following communication over the signature of Dr. Margaret A. Freese, in answer to the defamatory misrepresentations of her brother:

"Salina, Utah May 25, 1908.  
"An article published in one of the state papers which is a synopsis of a lecture given in New York by H. P. Freese came to my notice, and I want to say to the community that I do not approve of the article. I want to say that in no community could the people have been more considerate. I have been given a square deal by the people, as a whole, since the day I landed in Salina. I can also speak for my brother, and father and that they feel that they owe an apology to the people for the article that appeared in the paper, which was uttered without their knowledge or sanction and that we are none of us responsible for anything that comes from that quarter. Yours truly,  
"MARGARET FREESE."

From time to time men arise who think they can make an easy living by telling credulous people dread tales about the Latter-day Saints. H. P. Freese is one of these geniuses. It is one way of making a living. And it is apparently, not as dangerous as counterfeiting and "shoving the queer," though not very much more honorable. H. P. Freese should remember, though, that none of his predecessors in the defamatory business, for money, have prospered in the long run. They have been "caught" sooner or later, and the vile features under their elaborate disguise have been revealed to their gauds. It is poor business to peddle falsehoods.

SOCIALIST PROMISES.

The Socialist convention held in this city on Saturday deserves more than a passing notice. The Socialists are confident of polling 1,500,000 votes in the presidential election this year, in this country. They base the prediction on the per centage of increase gained

at each of the last three or four elections, over the preceding one, and they look forward to the eventual seating of a Socialist candidate in the Presidential chair.

The Socialists appeal to the laborers everywhere. They accuse the "ruling class" of hostility to the laborers, and the courts of impartiality directed against the rights and privileges of workers. They accuse Congress of contempt for the interests of labor, and the larger political parties of being in the service of class interests. As a remedy they demand immediate governmental relief for unemployed workers, by building roads and canals, by restoration of the forests, by reclamation of arid lands, and by extending all other useful public works. If they are placed in power, they promise that the government shall lend money to states and municipalities without interest for the purpose of carrying on work, and it shall contribute funds to labor organizations for the purpose of assisting their unemployed members, and shall take such other measures "as will lessen the misery of the workers caused by the misrule of the capitalist system."

Here is the socialist program:

"We demand:  
"The collective ownership of railroads, telegraphs, telephones, steamships, and all other means of transportation and communication, and all lands.  
"The collective ownership of all industries which are organized on a national scale and in which competition has virtually ceased to exist.  
"The extension of the public domain to include mines, quarries, oil wells, forests and water power.  
"The scientific reforestation of timber lands and the reclamation of swamp lands. The land so reclaimed shall be permanently retained as a part of the public domain.  
"The absolute freedom of press, speech, and assembly, as guaranteed by the Constitution.  
"That religion be treated as a private matter—a question of individual conscience.  
"The improvement of the industrial conditions of the workers: By shortening the working day in keeping with the increased productivity of machinery; by securing to every worker a rest of not less than a day and a half in each week; by securing a more effective inspection of workshops and factories; by forbidding the employment of children under sixteen years of age; by forbidding the interstate transportation of the products of child labor, of convict labor and of all unsanitary products; and by abolishing the practice of substituting in its place compulsory insurance against unemployment, illness, accidents, invalidism, old age and death."

They, further, demand:  
"A graduated income tax.  
"Unrestricted and equal suffrage for men and women, the initiative and referendum, proportional representation and the right of recall.  
"The abolition of the senate.  
"The abolition of the veto power by the president.  
"That the Constitution be made amendable by majority vote, and government by majority."

The free administration of justice is part of the program, and it is freely admitted that such measures of relief "as we may be able to force from capitalism" are but a preparation of the workers to seize the power of government in order that they may thereby lay hold of the whole system of industry.

Such is the Socialist program as presented by the party. No well-informed citizen can afford to be ignorant of their aims and purposes.

It is not strange that the laborers of the country turn to the reformers who promise them the establishment of Utopian conditions, and listen to their arguments. All is not well in the industrial world of today. We live under a system which in theory is based upon competition and equal chances for all, but in fact competition has been, very largely, abolished by combinations. There is something wrong somewhere, when theory and practice are thus brought into conflict. It is natural that those who feel the wrong are virtually excluded from the benefits of free competition should demand reform. The Socialists have found a plausible issue that necessarily appeals to a large class of the citizens of every civilized country. That accounts for their success. But their hopes for the future are no doubt too sanguine. In the meantime, they should be heard, and the questions they have raised should be considered. They cannot be ignored. The only way to prevent revolution is to remove the causes, as far as possible.

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

The two large national conventions, the Republican with 292 delegates, and the Democratic with 1,002, or if the Philippine representatives be seated, 1,008 delegates, that will meet to nominate their respective candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, have several points of resemblance, and of difference.

In the Democratic convention six delegates each are allowed to Alaska, Arizona, District of Columbia, Hawaii, New Mexico and Porto Rico. The Republican convention allows six each from Alaska, New Mexico and Arizona, and two each from the others. In both conventions, the States have each two delegates for each electoral vote.

In the Democratic convention, the State is the unit; in the Republican, the congressional district. Hence, a Democratic State convention can instruct all the delegates from that State to vote for a particular candidate. A Republican State convention can instruct only the four delegates-at-large, and each Congressional district can instruct its own two delegates as it pleases.

Democratic national conventions recognize the unit rule by which, when so authorized by a State convention, a majority of the delegates from that State can vote the entire delegation as a unit. Thus forty delegates from New York can cast New York's seventy-eight votes. Republican national conventions do not recognize the unit rule. The vote of every delegate is counted.

In a Democratic national convention the votes of two-thirds of the delegates are necessary to nominate a candidate. In a Republican convention a majority nominates.

It is said that the two-thirds rule was adopted by the first Democratic national convention held in 1832 in order to give a semblance of unanimity in the nomination of Van Buren for Vice President. Polk's supporters revived it in 1844 in order to defeat Van Buren's re-nomination for President. The rule

has been adhered to in every Democratic convention since that time. Its purpose is often defeated, however, by the unit rule, which makes it actually possible for a little more than one-third of the delegates to nominate the candidate through the simple process of allowing a bare majority of one in each State delegation to vote the minority.

It was the intention of the men who framed the Constitution to have the electors, for whom the people vote in national elections, choose the President according to their own views, ignoring the supposed wishes of the people. But during Washington's administration, the national parties were formed and electors were then chosen by a congressional caucus, and the electors ratified the selection thus made. This caucus was supplanted in 1821 by the present form of national conventions. The electors have uniformly voted for the choice of their respective parties, and the idea that they should choose the President and Vice President, though contemplated by the framers of the Constitution, has not once been acted upon by them.

What is so rainy as a day in June?

Not "bleeding" but cyclone Kansas.

The Congressional Record is never broken.

In its own way the Sixtieth Congress acted like sixty.

Give credit where credit is due, but not where cash is.

Whoever is furnishing this kind of weather is no quitter.

Celt won the Brooklyn handicap. Years ago the Celts won New York.

Up at the University they are singing, "In the Good Old Summer School."

Old Sol would be a favorite sun if he would only come out and show himself.

The President has signed the Salt Lake assay office bill. Now bring your ores.

The Sultan of Morocco is beginning anxiously to ask, "Is my crown on straight?"

It is easier to tell who is chiefest among ten thousand than to tell who is chiefest among four chiefs.

It is eminently proper that among the major appropriations made by Congress is the one for the army.

"Ours is emphatically a government of laws and not of men," says Judge Dillon. Academically, perhaps.

Playwright Augustus Thomas will second Mr. Bryan's nomination at Denver. This insures that the event will be dramatic.

At the coming centenary celebration of the founding of Quebec why not have an aeroplane race over the plains of Abraham?

Stuyvesant Fish has transferred his son from practical railroading to Wall Street. Does this mean that the Fish-Harriman feud is to be perpetuated?

A Kansas merchant advertises, "I want eggs, and I want 'em bad." Any cold storage house should be able to supply him with all of that kind he wants.

It is said that the currency commission will sit four or five years. If it does, the members' joints will be as stiff and creaky as were Rip Van Winkle's after his long sleep.

"This is the first time I ever got into salt water," said Governor Johnson the other day when he took a dip in the ocean. At Denver he may, for the first time, get into hot water.

MARK TWAIN POINTS A MORAL

Mark Twain in the Sunday Magazine.

Once in Hartford the flies were so numerous for a time, and so troublesome, that Mrs. Clemens conceived the idea of paying George (the colored butler) a bounty on all the flies he might kill. The children saw an opportunity here for the acquisition of their mother's money, and they began to accumulate dead flies, for some aesthetic or scientific reason or other, and they judged that the more flies she could get the happier she would be, so they went into business with George on a commission. Straightway the dead flies Mrs. Clemens was pleased beyond words with the success of her idea. Next, she was astonished that one house could furnish so many. She was paying an extravagantly high bounty, and it presently began to look as if, by the addition of our expenses we were now probably living beyond our income. After a few days there was peace and comfort; not a fly was discoverable in the house; there wasn't a straggler left. Still, to Mrs. Clemens' surprise, the dead flies continued to arrive by the plentiful, and the bounty expense was as crushing as ever. Then she made inquiry, and found that our innocent little rats had established a Fly Trust, and had hired all the children in the neighborhood to collect flies on a cheap and unbusinesslike commission.

Mrs. Clemens' experience in this matter was a new one for her; but the governments of the world had tried it, and wept over it, and discarded it, and every half century since man was created. And the Government could have held her that the best way to increase wolves in America, rabbits in Australia, and snakes in India is to pay a bounty on their scalps. Then every patriot goes to raising the issue.

FAMOUS WAIFS.

The Delineator.

The list of waifs who have become famous is a long one. It includes Sir Henry Stanley, Queen Catherine the Good, Alexander Hamilton, Rose Bonheur, Edgar Allen Poe, Rachel Leurgard da Vinci, and dates back as far as Moses. All these were homeless children—children who if left to their fate would undoubtedly have drifted into evil ways. Instead they have lived to add glory to their names and have contributed to the knowledge of the world at large through the fruits of their genius.

NASTY FRENCH THEATERS.

Paris Correspondence Kansas City Journal.

The abolition of the censorship of the stage in France has produced its logical result. License of language has

invaded the theater until the public itself has begun to protest. A few weeks ago a woman well known in society and letters, wrote to a leading Paris newspaper, proposing to her sex to boycott those playhouses and cafes chantantes where indecency is rampant. And again this week the academical, M. Etienne Lamy, publishes in the Echo de Paris a strong article entitled "Asses" against the public immorality promoters, who are pandering to a lower empire taste. The situation is described with eloquence and anyone who has observed the evolution of Montmartre during the last six months can corroborate every word of his diatribe against those whom he calls "les exploitateurs des curiosites mal-saines."

JUST FOR FUN.

An Indisputable Title.

Colonel Brownson, 84 years old, but still erect and vigorous, was riding leisurely homeward on his bay mare Kit, when he was overtaken by a man residing in the next township, with whom he had a slight acquaintance, and they fell into conversation.

"I have just been down to the county seat," said the other, "on what you would call a foolish errand, inasmuch as I have lived where I am for thirty-seven years, and nearly everybody within forty miles of here knows me. I have been proving up my title."

"Your title?"

"Yes; and let me tell you, Colonel, you had better look up yours. You never can tell what may happen."

"I am not afraid about my title, sir," majestically answered Colonel Brownson, who had never owned an acre of ground in his life. "I won it, sir, in the Mexican war!"—Youth's Companion.

Caught Him.

Mrs. Hoyle—I've found out where my husband spends his evenings.

Mrs. Doyle—Where?

Mrs. Hoyle—At home. You see, I had to stay in myself last night.—Harper's Weekly.

A Thoughtful Family.

"Does your father know I love you?"

"No, Papa isn't very well and we've kept it from him."—Harper's Weekly.

Still Time.

A long-haired man walking along the street met a little boy, who asked him the time.

"Ten minutes to 9," said the man.

"Well," said the boy, "at 9 o'clock get your hair cut." And he took to his heels and ran, the aggrieved one after him.

Turning the corner, the man ran in to a policeman, nearly knocking him over.

"What's up?" said the policeman.

The man, very much out of breath, said: "You see that young urchin running along there? He asked me the time, and I told him, 'Ten minutes to 9,' and he said, 'At 9 o'clock get your hair cut.'"

"Well," said the policeman, "what are you running for? You've got eight minutes yet."—Hapgood's Opportunities.

The Real Trouble.

Hawley—So her father objected to your suit, eh?

Spleigh—Oh, no, me clothes were perfectly satisfactory. It was me he objected to, doncher know.—Chicago News.

Cold Storage.

Hook—I understand he married a cool million.

Yes; but he's complaining now because he hasn't been able to thaw out any of it.—Illustrated Bits.

Opheum THEATRE

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READ THE Theatre Magazine

For Theatrical News And Stage Pictures.

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