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A NEW REORGANITE FABLE.

We rarely pay any attention to the publication called "The Saints Herald," issued by the Reorganites at Lamoni, Ia. Once in a while, however, our attention is directed to some particular endeavor of that weekly to belittle and misrepresent the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. A number of such efforts have been signed L. A. G. supposed to be the assistant editor. We have passed them by, usually, as unworthy of serious consideration. The signature is appropriate, as they LAY very much behind the times and are away in the rear of literature, law and logic. A friend has sent us the first two pages of the Herald for June 20, containing an editorial entitled "When California Came Under United States Rule." The purpose of the article is thus set forth in the opening paragraph:

"The following facts in the premises will furnish to our readers in the field and elsewhere sufficient data to correct the supposition that the settlement made by those who settled in Salt Lake Valley, was outside the jurisdiction of the United States. It is not a correct one, for that portion of the church which went with Brigham Young did not get out from under the jurisdiction of the United States.

Then follow copious extracts from an article published September, 1890, nearly sixteen years ago, in the Century Magazine, giving some account of occurrences during the time of the war with Mexico and which are now to be counted as "ancient history," having been fully related many times during the past half-century, and having no direct bearing on the point the Herald writer endeavors to put forth. We do not wish to waste space upon their reproduction, for there is nothing new in them, and most of them appear in Whitney's History of Utah, and much more in Bancroft's California part of his History of the Pacific States.

The object in view in rehabilitating the story of the hoisting of our country's flag on the California coast while it was still part of the domain of Old Mexico, was to make it appear that the claim of the Latter-day Saints under President Brigham Young, that when they landed here this was Mexican territory and that they raised the United States flag while Mexico still claimed the country, is untrue. It will be seen that this is announced as argument for the Reorganite elders in the missionary field, heretofore to oppose our Elders and raise prejudice against them, which appears to be the chief effort of the Reorganites in their proselyting labors.

Well, what does it all amount to? Why, simply that during 1846-7 there were several outbreaks on the coast of California, in which the Stars and Stripes and the Mexican flag alternated on some old forts and custom houses, Gen. Fremont, Commodore Stockton and General Kearney successively figuring in the fights for the possession of the places referred to. Then comes an account of the struggle for the admission of California into the Union as a State, the bill for which was signed by President Fillmore, September 9, 1850. What that has to do with the argument of the Herald it is not easy to perceive.

Imagine the wonderful sagacity of the Reorganite editor in discovering that the United States flag was raised in California during the war with Mexico, something that every schoolboy who has studied American history ought to know, and they stand in awe of the remarkable reasoning by which it is proved that the raising of that flag on foreign soil, or on the domain of a neighboring government, made that country part of the United States! Yet that is the contention of the Herald editor which he hands out to the Reorganite elders heretofore to confront our missionaries when they meet them "in the field!"

Why, at the same time that Fremont and others were having their little struggles on the coast, the "Mormon Battalion" was carrying the flag from the Missouri to Santa Fe. Did that bring all the country over which they marched on that unparalleled journey, under the dominion of the United States? Does the raising of the flag in a foreign support establish the government of the United States there? Nonsense. During the war with Mexico, of course, every occupation however temporary of a strategic point and every victory over the Mexicans was signified by the hoisting of the Stars and Stripes. But neither California nor New Mexico nor other points of contention became really subject to the jurisdiction of the United States until the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which was signed February 2, 1848.

It was on July 24, 1847, that the Pioneers under President Brigham Young entered the valley of the Great Salt Lake and occupied it as citizens of the United States, fully understanding it was then Mexican territory, which it was until the treaty was signed that ceded all the region now known as California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona to the United States. In "Epitome of Ancient Mediaeval and Modern History" published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston, it is stated, under date "1848, Feb. 2:"

"By the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Mexico gave up all claim to Texas, the Rio Grande to be the boundary, and ceded to the United States the provinces of New Mexico and Upper California, in all about 522,854 square miles, in consideration of fifteen millions of dollars."

The country lying to the north of this

region previous to the date named, belonged partly to the British government and partly to the United States. From the same work we take the annexed paragraphs:

"1847—The United States and Great Britain claimed the territory west of the Rocky Mountains from the northern boundary of Mexico 42 degrees north latitude, to the southern boundary of Alaska 54 degrees 40 minutes north latitude."

"1848—By the Oregon treaty this tract was divided between them, the 49th parallel forming the boundary, and the southern portion, which fell to the United States, retaining the name of Oregon."

If it were necessary we could refer to other authentic works to show where the Mexican boundary reached, and when the United States obtained jurisdiction over the region we have already described. But it is certain that the "Mormon" occupation of this territory was when it belonged to Mexico and while the Mormon Battalion was in the service of the United States, a number of that gallant band after their discharge reaching this city before the treaty was framed by which it came into the domain of this nation. As for California, our peculiar critic gives the evidence himself that it was not admitted as a State until 1850, and that the news of the admission did not reach San Francisco until five months after the event occurred.

But why should all this be furnished to Reorganite elders "in the field"? Why, to give them something where-with to stir up strife against our missionaries and intensify public prejudice. When the facts that the Saints who first came here raised the Stars and Stripes, and that a number of their brethren were enlisted under that banner in the Mexican war, are cited in evidence of "Mormon" loyalty in reply to charges of "rebellion and treason," the fiction is to be presented by Reorganite preachers, under instruction from their organ, that this region was under the jurisdiction of the United States when the "Mormons" came here, and that it is to be told for the pious purpose of hindering our Elders in their missionary work.

We have taken up this matter that they may be posted as to the truth.

The answer to this new Reorganite fable is the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which was not signed until Feb. 2, 1848, and knowledge of it could not reach here for some months later, while the Pioneers formally entered this valley on July 24, 1847.

DOES THIS MEAN YOU?

Line's busy shall I call you? Did you ever hear that from "Central" when you wanted to talk to somebody over the phone? And did you ever get vexed, or "mad" in western vernacular, when you had the same reply for the "tenth time and you were in a hurry? Of course you didn't say anything rude, or slam the receiver back with a bang and "let the blamed thing go." But did you ever consider the cause of these detentions and failures to get a chance to say what you wanted to say? Well, in most instances the fault is not with the instrument or the operator, or anything or anyone but the "phone fiends."

By that designation we mean those inconsiderate people who monopolize the line with which you wish to connect, and are perfectly oblivious of or indifferent to the needs of other folks, but carry on a desultory conversation, often without any more point than the clatter of two female friends when one is alighting from a streetcar, and who repeat ad infinitum, "Well, you come up!" and "You be sure to come down," etc., etc., etc. Let there be a girl at one end of the line, and her "regular company" at the other, and you may be sure of a long wait, only exceeded when two girl chums start a personal conversation.

We touch gently on this common nuisance by way of a hint to those who are guilty of hindering business, causing anger and, in some instances, we are sorry to say, provoking profanity, or at least ejaculations more forcible than polite. The telephone system is not maintained for any one's special benefit. It is a public affair, in one sense, and for the convenience of a very large number of subscribers. We are aware that there are some people who care nothing about anyone but themselves. They will perhaps pay no attention to our admonition that they pay some respect to the general welfare. But there are others who monopolize the 'phone at inordinate length, who simply do not think of the hindrance they cause to others; they will no doubt do a little thinking on this point, and reform and show that they are not entirely destitute of good manners.

We think that the rule of so many minutes for a talk should be enforced, and that would bring to time the selfish class first mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Or, if prolonged beyond the time limit, make the dues double. That would, possibly, effect a radical change. We would not advise a too rigid regulation, but think a hint should at least be given to "phone monopolists, that they had better 'break away' and give some better talker a chance. Time is precious to some busy people, and it often happens that a hurry call is imperative. With the large number of connections had in this city we believe the operators and the company are doing well and giving excellent service, and our strictures are for the long conversationalists rather than for the telephone company.

PACKERS LOSING TRADE.

A London dispatch states that British sailors have refused to eat American tinned meat, and that the Admiralty has directed that Australian and Argentine products be provided the men of the navy instead of American brands. This is said to be a result of the recent packing-house revelations. It will no doubt, be news to the general public to learn that the men employed in the navy, who, as a rule, dare not call their souls their own, have had the courage of kicking against the bill of fare, and that their protests have been heeded. That is unusual. We fancy, however, that the almiralty would not need a very strong excuse for withdrawing its patronage from Chicago houses in favor of Australian concerns. And the recent reports about American methods, whether exagger-

ated or not, certainly furnished the excuse necessary.

But aside from this, the English public is almost as much interested in the conditions of the packing houses in this country, as are the people here. Consular reports show that most of the products exported from the Chicago plants go to Great Britain. The figures for 1905 are:

	Total	To United Kingdom
Beef (canned)	\$1,484,614	\$ 927,449
Beef (fresh)	4,649,535	4,617,649
Beef, salt and cured	853,354	242,764
Bacon	5,647,398	4,376,602
Ham	4,231,712	3,477,907
Pork	2,421,954	1,533,637

That is to say, that of a total export of \$19,283,671 over \$11,500,000 goes to the United Kingdom.

Incidentally it should be mentioned that the reports concerning the sanitary conditions of the English establishments from which jam, bread, sausage, etc., are turned out, are no better than those of the American packing houses. In fact, similar conditions are more or less prevalent all over the world.

It is quite evident that the economic questions raised by the revelations recently made are of vast proportions. But what of the moral issues with which the commissioners did not deal? They are of still greater importance. If it is true that the various packing towns are morally putrid centers there will be no reform in the business methods, until there has been a moral cleansing out. In spite of the inspectors, who can be bribed, the dear public will be fooled and robbed, in one way or another, as long as the consciences are not quickened to a sense of right and wrong in business, as well as in other activities of life. Let there be a moral awakening, and the economic questions will be settled without any difficulty whatever.

EFFECTS OF RUSSIA'S FALL.

W. T. Stead calls attention to the fact that the revolution in Russia, which he thinks will surely come, will give a powerful stimulus to the movement in favor of the formation of the smaller states on the basis of nationality. The separatist movement in Hungary is mentioned as an instance of the effect of the disbanding of Russia. Should this succeed and the dual monarchy be broken up, there would be a lively struggle between the several nationalities for separation and independence. Fear of Russia has kept many small states together.

But the greatest result of the disbanding of Russia is the transfer of the predominant influence in eastern Asia to Japan, and the consequent awakening of China. For many years the European powers maneuvered for advantageous positions in China. They even fought for them. But the Japanese conquered and the peace of Portsmouth virtually transferred the superintendency of Chinese affairs to Japan. The effects were nothing short of marvelous. Already the Chinese are talking about "Asia for the Asiatics," and they mean it too.

Travelers in the Orient tell us of the remarkable transformation that has been effected. The people, no longer dreading the railroad, flock to them in immense numbers. It is said, indeed, that there is no parallel to the local railway passenger traffic upon fully established roads in China, except in the daily rush in and out of great population centers in Europe or America. Through the railroads people from different provinces are coming together, and they are commencing to realize that they are one people, with common interests. The way in which the Chinese take hold of the most modern branches of industry, and imitate western ways generally, is another sign of the change that has come. They are making rifles and artillery for their new army, and "it no longer astonishes one in China," says one author on the conditions there, "to see a Chinese electrician come to fix the electric lights or go about his other business. The common thing now is to see wealthy Chinese going about the foreign concessions in their motor cars, driven by native chauffeurs. Even the new woman has made her appearance. Recently I saw the young daughter of a high official riding a bicycle through a street in a foreign concession, attended by a servant on another wheel."

The breaking up of Russia means that new conditions are coming into existence in almost every part of the world. And Russia herself, it seems, is destined to pass through a baptism of blood and fire, after which ordeal she may be ready to take her place among the other nations and work out her salvation along entirely new lines.

The wide-tire ordinance has a hard road to travel.

Mr. Bryan and the Longworths seem to be dividing the honors.

It isn't for British jam pots to call American beef kettles black.

Between Packingtown beef and British jam, give us the beef every time.

"I told you so," and "I told you so," are the comments in the Hope case.

Hon. Joseph Chamberlain has just three scored and ten. May he score again.

Having been acquitted, Admiral Rojestvensky again is prepared to lead a forlorn hope.

Those letters in the Hartje case will prove to be the handwriting on the wall for somebody.

One of the first requisites for growing old gracefully is not to dress ever lamb fashion.

Setting fire to the dry grass in the canyons is not the way to make a blaze of glory.

When a politician goes after a colored policeman's scalp he simply goes wool-gathering.

The keynote of the campaign in the Keystone State this year seems to be fusion and anti-fusion.

When Cossacks will not fire on mutin-

ous cavalymen it behooves the Czar to put on his thinking cap.

If Harry Thaw were not immensely wealthy it is more than doubtful if any alienist could have been found to have held that he was insane.

To make "The Jungle" up to date, there should be a new edition, including the inspection law, and copious notes and an index by Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson.

An Amherst professor says that fortunes may be considered as swollen beyond healthy limits which yield from \$3,000,000 to \$20,000,000 a year. What a swell time owners of these swollen fortunes could have if they would.

Turkey objects to having the United States legation at Constantinople raised to the status of an embassy. The objection probably is owing to the fact that she would have to raise her Washington legation to the same status, which would entail more expense. In diplomacy one must always follow suit.

HEROES OF MURDERERS.

Kansas City Journal.

A strange psychological element in many human beings finds a strong fascination in the horrible and the grotesque. Let a man or woman be on trial for murder with a list of the elements of gory accessories, hinting at side-lights of scandals and unholy intimacies, with red stained daggers and bloody garments and the courtroom will be crowded with morbid spectators craving their necks test one ghastly horrible detail escape them. But let the case be one in which one friendless laborer kills another with pickaxe and nobody cares. In the first instance the prisoner becomes a hero or a heroine and flowers and maxillins sentiment follow. Somebody starts a movement to secure a respite from the governor and in nine times out of ten the ends of justice are defeated.

BILLION-DOLLAR SESSIONS.

Hartford Courant.

Once there was a Congress that was bitterly railed at on the stump by the wellbladders of the "outs" as a billion-dollar Congress. A contemporary points out that this present session seems to have come within \$100,000,000 or so of being a billion-dollar session. If we go on expanding and multiplying, creating departments, bureaus and commissions, loading the proper work of the states upon the general government, digging through isthmuses, etc., the arrival of the billion-dollar session is merely a question of time.

THE KAISER'S FOURTH.

New York World.

When the Kaiser presented to the United States the graven image of his illustrious ancestor, Frederick the Great, it was received with proper ceremony. Now that his heir, the prince of Hohenzollern, the birthday of his own living image in a grandson for the Fourth of July, he can rest assured that the day will be celebrated in this country as long as the Hohenzollern dynasty lasts. Such courtesies cement the good relations between nations. European royalty has too long neglected them.

Boston Transcript.

The birth of the kaiser's grandson on the Fourth of July makes it possible that in time the German empire and the United States will be celebrating a national holiday at the same time. At all events, July 4th now goes on Germany's list of days to be remembered, and the youthful Wilhelm's birth belongs with the events which are collected under that date in the diary of notable events, in addition to the overtopping event of the birth of the American nation.

THE CHEMIST AT WORK.

New York Press.

It is now some twelve years since Sir William Crookes predicted that chemistry would eventually step in and play an important part in the furnishing of our food products. Sir William's prophecy has been fulfilled, though not in the way he imagined it would be. The revelations by various state and municipal investigators in regard to the food supply of all sorts sold in the markets, the facts brought out in the discussion of the pure food bill and the exposure of the "Jungle" horrors show that the chemist has stepped in with both feet.

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