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Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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## RESPECT FOR OUR OPPONENTS.

The Deseret News has drawn attention to the folly and wrong of attributing improper motives to public officers, simply because they belong to a political party opposed to that of the objectors to their policy. If the reasoning holds good, that a Democrat must object to the handling of public funds by Republican officials, it will be equally logical for Republicans to protest against the expenditure of public money by Democratic officers. On such a hypothesis public business would be brought to a standstill, and distrust and suspicion would paralyze all official effort.

Does any sane partisan cling to the notion that his political adversaries must of necessity be dishonest? Is it not possible that men can differ with each other, in politics and in religion, conscientiously? If a member of one party desires to be credited with honor, integrity and sincerity, must he not concede the same virtues to members of other parties? Bigotry, intolerance and dogmatism ought to be obsolete in these days of intellectual and moral advancement. They are out of place and time now. They belong to the dark ages. They ought to be banished from the hearts of men and women in modern times.

We find the following in the Springfield Republican, and commend it to the consideration of extremists in both the great political parties of this progressive nation:

"Curious practice, that of the partisan, of damning half the people of the country. For the margin is not very close on the popular vote in any national campaign, and yet the partisan on either side does not hesitate to stigmatize the whole opposite party as a compound of knaves and fools. Of course, if this were the case on either side the nation might as well give up as worthless,—but there is just as much reason to believe it true of one half the people as of the other half, so that nearly the whole population is under an identical arraignment,—it being agreed to accept the existence of a saving remnant, like the ten just men in Sodom. Let us have a little common sense, and a trifle of respect for our neighbors, even in political heats."

## REPEATING OLD FABLES.

The Pioneer Press, published at St. Paul, Minnesota, is in many respects a good newspaper. But it has on its editorial staff a pronounced anti-Mormonist of the old, bigoted brand, impervious to the force of the most palpable facts of history, and oblivious to the developments and evidences of later times. The shattered remnants of early romances about "Mormon" leaders, are gathered up occasionally and revamped for editorialists in the Pioneer Press, and the silliest stories and most absurd burlesques of "Mormon" doctrine find a place in its columns, stamping it as a back number in the lists of modern journalism.

The latest effort of that paper to give "information" to its readers on "Mormonism" is put forth in some answers to correspondents in reply to the question, "How did the Book of Mormon originate?" The Press proceeds to relate, in detail, the particulars of the defunct and decayed old Spaulding story, so familiar to a former generation, and which found its way into all the terrible tales about the "Mormons" for half a century.

It is not surprising that certain sectarian preachers repeat the absurd story, to account for a book which puzzles them because they will not yield to the evidences of its authenticity. But we confess to some amazement that a newspaper claiming to be up to date, will persist in publishing so palpable a falsehood as that the Spaulding myth was the origin of the Book of Mormon. It was always a matter of conjecture, suspicion and contradictory assertion, refuted by well known facts and without anything substantial for a basis. But the discovery of the manuscript written by Mr. Spaulding, and its deposit in the library at Oberlin College, Ohio, particulars of which ought to be known to editors who read, and are acquainted with the news of the world, has so completely demolished the theory once relied upon by superficial minds, that the Book of Mormon was concocted from that manuscript, that it has been entirely abandoned by all opponents of "Mormonism" except the densely ignorant or unscrupulously dishonest.

For the benefit of the Pioneer Press, supposing it values its reputation for ordinary sense if not for extraordinary veracity, we will briefly state the facts about "The Manuscript Found." That was the title of a story purporting to give an account of the landing in America of a shipwrecked party of Romans, who found here hospitable barbarians whose origin is not stated. Early in the first part of the nineteenth century Spaulding endeavored to have his story published. He died before accomplishing this desire.

An apostate "Mormon" named Hurlburt, who had been expelled from the Church for unchastity, hearing about the manuscript, sought out Mr. Spauld-

ing's widow and by promises of reward if it suited his purpose, obtained it for publication by E. B. Howe, who issued an anti-Mormon pamphlet; but the manuscript, not being what was expected, was lost sight of, and Mrs. Davidson, Spaulding's widow, never received anything, not even the return of the manuscript.

Some time after this Mr. L. L. Rice and Mr. Winchester bought the publishing establishment of E. B. Howe, in Painesville, Ohio. The Spaulding Manuscript was among the books and papers and with them was taken by Mr. Rice to Honolulu, where it lay lost to the world until the year 1885, when Mr. Rice came across it when looking over old papers. Later he presented it to James H. Fairchild, then president of the Oberlin College, who was on a visit to Honolulu, to be kept in the library of that institution, and there it is today, open to the investigation of the public.

In a recent visit to that college, Mr. Le Roy Snow of this city was shown the manuscript by President John Henry Barrows, D.D., who said to him: "Mr. Snow, it is all humbug to say that the Book of Mormon has any connection whatever with the Spaulding Manuscript. I have read and compared them both very carefully and am fully convinced that they are not in any way connected with each other. There is not a proper name or an incident in one that resembles a name or incident in the other, and not only is there no resemblance in the reading matter, but the styles used in the two books are also entirely different."

"The Manuscript Found" contains 172 pages, and the narrative, though in no wise a continued story, may be divided into three parts. First, an account of the arrival in America of a crew of twenty Roman citizens. This account occupies the first half dozen pages of the manuscript. Second, an amusing and ridiculous description of the rites, ceremonies, manners and customs, and amusements of the natives of America. This completes the first half of the manuscript, on about eighty-five pages. The third part, which occupies the entire second half of the manuscript, relates a romantic love affair, with which the story ends.

It was alleged when the story was first started, that neighbors of Mr. Spaulding who heard his work read and afterwards learned about the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, recognized the name names in both. They were mistaken. Here are the important proper names that appear in the manuscript, none of which are found in the Book of Mormon:

Fabius, a Roman, Captain Lulan, Sailors Tom Crito and Trojanus, Emperors Labarmack and Rambock; Kings Brombal, Hadokam, Bambo Sombal, Chango, Vilipoon, Numapon and Ramuck; Princess Moenrod and Elseon; Drefolek, a prophet, Hamack, the seer; High Priests Lambon Kato, and Lakoon; the wise man, Baska, or, Lo-baska, the emperor's counselors, Hamul and Taboon. There are also the names Ramoff, Theiford, Hamkin, Boakim, and Labanko.

The following rivers are mentioned in the manuscript. Nothing like them is in the Book of Mormon: Suscawah, Deliwah, Selota, and the Ohio. Three large cities are given the names: Owahon, Tolonga and Gamba. The principal nations of American natives are: The Delivares, or Delewans, the Michigans, the Siotans, or Siotians, and the Kentucks.

If the editor of the Pioneer Press wants to satisfy himself on this subject, and to give real information to inquirers, he can obtain a printed verbatim copy of The Manuscript Found, by sending twenty-five cents to the Deseret News office. He can then compare it with the Book of Mormon, and he will find no resemblance whatever, but will learn the fact that it would be as reasonable to believe that the Bible was made up from Gulliver's Travels, as that the Book of Mormon was concocted from The Manuscript Found.

People who desire to arrive at the truth concerning the only accurate account of the origin of the American Indians, and the builders of the cities and temples and mounds that amaze the archaeologists and explorers of the present day, will have to give attention and credence to the testimony of witnesses to the divine origin of the Book of Mormon, and its translation into the English language by the gift and power of God.

But if they cannot bring their minds to accept modern revelation and inspiration, they can at least yield to the force of the indisputable evidence, that demolishes entirely the stupid Spaulding story to account for the origin of that remarkable book. And just writers for the public, when they perceive their error, will acknowledge it frankly, if not for the public good at least for the sake of their own reputation.

## THE DECLARATION OF WAR.

While not an unexpected development, the announcement that Russia and China are at war is startling in its character. This refers to the situation as it relates to those powers alone, apart from all others interested. Fighting has been going on for nearly a month, and it had come to be regarded as a probability that the allied powers would work together for the pacification of China, and then would make settlement on a future policy. Just when this view was given further confirmation by the victory of the allies at Tien Tsin, there comes the statement that China having invaded a Russian province, the Czar has accepted the action as a declaration of war, and has handed the Chinese minister at St. Petersburg his passports. This procedure virtually breaks any concert of action among the powers, since, whatever the others may do, Russia and China are formally at war.

Of course others will not keep out. Germany already has expressed her determination. In the assertion by Emperor William that he will not rest till the German flag floats over Peking. Whether he or the Czar gets there first may have an important bearing on whether or not the German flag will fly as the Kaiser has indicated. But Germans will fight the Chinese, and now that Russia is acting independent of international law, Germany must do so too.

Then there is Great Britain. The

caus belli there is parallel to that of Germany, and Lord Salisbury cannot keep his government out where the questions have gone in. Combined action by the Internationals was best for England, but the latter must now act independently for her own interests. The situation in Africa catches England at a disadvantage; and this is rendered more serious by difficulties in India, where there is fear of an Afghan uprising, but where the menace of Russia on Afghanistan is the greater peril. But even handicapped, Britain is crowded by this latest move into action directly against China, in which she probably will be joined by Italy and Japan.

France is involved, too, though the French have been trying to postpone a war, at least till the Paris exposition closes. But French interests in Asia are large, and can be preserved now only by antagonism to China; though the extent of this may be measured by French aspirations for a further slice of Chinese territory.

The United States and Austria may keep clear of the actual war status, while fighting for the maintenance of their respective interests. They have no territorial designs on China, hence can limit their operations to the line of defending their citizens and of exacting indemnity or inflicting punishment for injuries received. If the announcement from Paris today, as official, be true, that the legations in Peking are safe, it greatly relieves the necessity for warlike procedure.

The action credited to Russia, and the war declarations expected to follow from other nations, would, in connection with the possible rescue of Americans in Peking, materially effect the course of this nation towards China. Such a combination of events would preclude warlike action by the United States, and would require that it make no interference for preserving the territorial integrity of China. The war would go on, with this nation free from any serious complication therewith. That would be the natural sequence of the conservative policy followed by this government up to the present.

As to the results of a war on China by the powers which probably will engage in it, there is no doubt of Chinese defeat. The empire has an army of a million men on what is called a war footing, but only one-tenth of that number are foreign-trained and capable of fighting as they have done at Tien Tsin. This opposition can be overcome by either of the great powers of Europe, or by Japan. The great question is what the victorious powers will do with, or to, each other when China is defeated.

This latter event, which now seems to be a certainty of the near future, is full of startling probabilities and deep concern to the nations. It brings the European powers nearer to the anticipated "great war" than ever before. Indeed, it makes it almost impossible to avoid. Nations quarrel quickly over spoils, and in this case there is every incentive for clashing each other. It brings Russia and Britain into a clash at every point, with other nations scarcely less concerned in hammering each other to pieces. Russia's action in disarming the Chinese minister seems to be the removal of the last prop that has prevented a terrific crash involving both Europe and Asia.

The American people can regard themselves as being just close enough to this turmoil to keep clear of it without much trouble. They watch the course of events, and ponder on the wonderful workings of a destiny which saw the Czar of the Russias inaugurate a scheme among the so-called Christian nations to bring about a reign of universal peace, yet beheld him as the first of those rulers to be assailed by a ment, the announcement that Russia and war is poured out upon all the important nations in the Old World.

## BOTH SIDES MISREPRESENTED

Now that sufficient time has elapsed since the heavy campaigning and fighting of the British-Boer war to allow a calm review of the events of the conflict, it is of interest to note that accusations of barbarism made against each of the contending armies are shown to have exaggerated the facts, and in many cases to have been wholly misstatements. The charges of uncivilized practices in war were so numerous and pointed, and given with such apparent good authority on both sides, that inquiries were instituted, and the facts generally shown to be in accord with the following statement by a German Red Cross physician, Dr. Hildebrandt:

"I do not know of a single instance in which either British or Boer troops intentionally fired at the Red Cross flag. On both sides a frightful amount of lying has been indulged in, and I do not believe that such barbarities occurred. It is, of course, impossible to prevent ambulances from being occasionally endangered. At Jacobsdorp our hospital was twice under fire. The town lies in a valley, and is visible from the side on which the English army approached at a distance of 1,200 to 2,000 meters only. The Boers were placed in the gardens on the outskirts of the place. The English shot very badly generally too high, and it is not to be wondered at that masses of their bullets fell in the hospital. But, I repeat, I do not believe that either side willfully transgressed in this respect. I am also convinced that the stories regarding the violation of the flag of truce are mostly lies, and that where such violations occurred, misunderstanding was the cause. The English certainly had masses of dum-dum bullets in Natal, as the cartridges taken from the prisoners showed. By dum-dum bullets I mean all small projectiles prepared in such a way as unnecessarily to lacerate the wounded. I have in my possession four different kinds of such projectiles. But I am certain that such ammunition has not been given out since Lord Roberts' arrival. The Boers never used such projectiles for their Mausers. On the other hand, it is true enough that the English occasionally used the English dum-dum ammunition for the Lee-Enfield rifles which they had captured from the enemy. As to the plundering of farms, that has been carried on on both sides. War is not exactly a school of ethics. I have been robbed by English and Boers in turn."

The realization of this state of affairs will have a good effect on the friends of both the combatants. In Europe, and especially in Germany, the popular feeling was worked up against England by stories of British excesses and disregard of the usages of civilized warfare, since proved to be unfounded; and in Great Britain a like hostile feeling toward the Boers was created by the publication in the British

press of items purporting to show that the Boers were little better than barbarians, which items have been shown to be untrue.

The mutual knowledge and recognition of these misunderstandings and exaggerations, which is sure to come, will have a salutary effect in making the Britisher and Boer much less antagonistic than they have been. Neither is a very inhospitable or ungainly chap when it comes down to it, though each has his peculiarities which the other does not specially admire.

There is only one pensioner of the war of 1812 left. Long life to him.

"All roads lead to Canton," says the Worcester Spy. No; all roads lead to Peking.

Wiping out China's millions will be much such a task as sopping up the sea.

In Salt Lake people run away to get married. In Chicago they run away to get divorced.

The Gold Democrats have issued an address. They seem to have no use for anybody but themselves.

The price of seven grades of tea has been advanced. Tea-drinkers will have to swallow it and call it good.

Lieutenant Peary has reached the zenith of Arctic exploration fame. A relief expedition has been sent after him.

All Europe is anxious to be in at the death of the Chinese fox. But they will have many brushes before they get the brush.

All the answer that can be got from the Chinese minister at Washington concerning the condition of affairs in his country is, Wu.

The European concert has been transferred from Turkey to China. An additional instrument in the shape of Uncle Sam's life, has been added to it.

The French and German governments have issued orders forbidding the sale of arms and ammunition to the Chinese. Another case of locking the stable after the horse is gone.

The Chinese name Tien Tsin means "The Gate to Heaven." It has been evident for some time that it did not mean "the open door," whatever else it might mean.

It becomes more and more evident that China intends to have something to say about the partition of China. Heretofore the European nations have made no account of her. Henceforward the host, and hosts, must be reckoned with.

Li Hung Chang is suspected at all the European chancelleries of playing the part of a deceiver in his dealings with them. It is by no means impossible, but in his own country, if it be so, he will be regarded as a greater patriot and statesman to the extent he has successfully deceived Europe. The Chinese, too, seem to regard a diplomat as an honest man sent abroad to lie for the good of his country.

The renewal of Boer activity, says a London dispatch, is probably due to the effect of the crisis in China. This is no doubt true; and the more acute that crisis becomes the greater will be the activity of the Boers. With nearly a quarter of a million soldiers in South Africa, England has small resources in men to draw upon for service in China, unless she goes to India for them, which she now seems disposed to do. It was largely through her war against Napoleon that she lost her American colonies. Through the Chinese trouble she may lose her South African colonies.

## MASSACRE OF THE LEGATIONS.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.  
One hope remains for the legations at Peking—that the Chinese are holding them as hostages against demands intended to be made for the perpetual integrity of the Chinese empire. If that course had been conceived and put into execution, it would explain much of the mystery that now seems unintelligible. It would be quite in keeping with the oriental idea of strategy to inflict the Boer movement, protect the legations and other foreigners in Peking, conceal the facts, and scatter rumors of an atrocious massacre—with a clear, definite purpose to come forward, after civilization had felt the horror of the imaginary massacre, with an offer to deliver the prisoners, provided the powers would make certain guarantees looking to the perpetual independence of the Chinese empire.

## New York World.

We must now expect to hear from the millions of the Western world a hoarse cry for vengeance, deepening in intensity as the details of barbarism unspeakable at Peking come to hand. We must expect to see exhibitions of unreasoning anger. It is not in human nature to be calm in such horrible circumstances. And yet because the Western world is civilized—because enlightened reason has been having an ever-increasing sway over the primal instincts and passions—there will be in the minds of most of these millions, and especially in the minds of the leaders among them, what is called "the sober second thought." In this crisis it is the duty of all the leaders of civilization—of the statesmen, of the clergy, of the press—to voice this thought, to stand firmly by the tenets of civilization.

## New York Times.

The impulse of the moment is toward blind anger, demanding vengeance. It is an impulse neither safe nor just nor intelligent. There has been blindness enough in dealing with China, and the blindness of righteous rage will in its effects be no better than that of the greed that has too largely prevailed.

## Pecora Journal.

Since the news of the murder of the German minister the Journal has had no doubt that every one of the legations in Peking were either dead or would be killed. The contradictory stories that came from there, the Journal has been telling its readers, were sent out for a purpose. It was to prevent the assembling of too many European troops in China, and it was intended to prepare the world in a manner for receiving the awful news that would have shocked all humanity in such a terrible way had the real facts been divulged all at once. There is no longer any reason to doubt. The morning sun of the 7th of July was the last upon which the unfortunate foreigners ever gazed.

## SWITZERLAND AND ANNEXATION.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.  
The desire of citizens of Switzerland that their country should become a state of the American Union bumps up



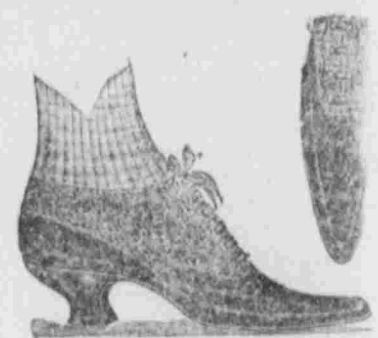
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against the Monroe doctrine, and the Monroe doctrine is solid. It does not shut the United States out of Asia or Africa, but it does shut the United States out of the European "quarter of the globe." However, it is pleasing to Americans to learn that citizens of Switzerland would like the country of William Tell to become a State of the Republic founded by Washington and Franklin and Jefferson.

## Baltimore Sun.

While its people (the Swiss) are thrifty and frugal and disposed to be a most desirable class of citizens, there appears to be small chance of their dreams being realized, since it is not likely that the United States would extend its imperialistic hand into the heart of Europe. That would mean no end of complications from which to extricate ourselves. The agitators among the glorious Alps have doubtless fallen into harmless pleasanties.

## Chicago Record.

The production of Swiss cheese, alpenstocks, yodels and edelweiss for export to the sister States of the Union would be profitable to the cantons, but the Swiss would have to recognize some obligation to their fellow-countrymen in the matter of charges, so that a tourist could afford to climb not merely to the top of the Matterhorn in the care of a guide, but down again. It is to be feared that when the Swiss come to consider all these things they will decide to retain their independence. If not, we may yet see the day when the senator from Switzerland will vote on the question of annexing some part of China, after the break-up is complete.

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