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DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

Telephone 30.

A CHURCH N POLITICIAN.

Careful readers of the newspapers have no doubt noticed that there is a vast amount of talk as to how the people of New York shall show their appreciation of the work of Rev. Dr. Parkhurst in the matter of Tammany. It is universally admitted that to him is due more credit for the complete defeat of the Democratic organization than to any other man or all other men combined. During many months he made unrelenting war on municipal corruption to the national note of alls with contempt a friendly official or newspaper in aid him. But the reward of his perseverance came at last, and in the terrible disclosures of the Lexow investigation, he was not only vindicated, but the moral effect was so tremendous that the people rose in their might and whipped the offending party out of public office almost to the last man. No more signal instance of the instrumental accomplishment of a great purpose in so short a time was ever given. Peter the Hermit himself scarcely did so much again at fewer disciples in the very strongholds of Christian enthusiasm. While Dr. Parkhurst knew he had found a plague spot ripe for probing, he was not at every visit with victories, and hampered by narrow opposition, the reforms now instituted could go backward, and as the light began to penetrate the region of official iniquities, even defenders of the blight with one with very shame, until the exposure was at last able, with merciless thoroughness, to lay the hideous evil wholly bare.

And now, as has already been hinted at, the question with New Yorkers is, how shall the reformer be rewarded, how shall the great good which he has wrought be commemorated? There is not a politician nor a paper that does not recognize his splendid services. Without exception the better elements of the community agree that what was done has been well done; and all are full of gratitude. Some propose a monument to the man himself; others, the free gift of a townsmate of choice in which he may continue his exhaustless labors of watching and warning against evil; others again suggest the building and adornment of a home under his name for unfortunates; a score of other plans are mentioned, and one sinister modesty suggests that no other memorial is needed than the public determination to profit by past experience and keep the great city henceforth clean and free and pure from the vile abuses so unveiled.

The point in the whole matter which possesses most interest to the News, and probably to News readers also, is that up to the present no one has risen up in angry criticism of the church for having interfered in politics. The reverend gentleman not only fought his own World against Tammany from his own pulpit, but, following his brave example, a dozen or more other ministers more that number of imparty the fear for their discourses Sunday after Sunday, and especially the Sabbath prior to election, when almost every preacher in New York took up the refrain. Surely there was politics in all this, for if the sermons were straight and damp on Tammany, it was a direct assault for the success of the opposing party which "North American" was not only openly stated, but it was expected and it now acknowledged. The opinion appeared to be general that men who stand as ministers of righteousness have the right to know and the expression of their opinion on the matter of city and state government. It was regarded that to ignore such a question would be a duty. There was not even an intimation that in the sermons referred to they were guilty of "political partisanship." Very extreme the intense hatred of politics in attention holds that men in all walks should address themselves to the place one of duty point as worship, and they surround the only if ever inquiry in filling how the fields could be tied in the last adversary.

All the NEWS wishes is for Americans, and as a citizen and member of the church that has not participated with for the benefit of their fellows. Yet we recall with commendation that it is not to every long ago since eminent ministerial temperance leaders held up their hands in place horror whenever the word "politics" or "politics" was used by prominent men in the vicinity in the most general, patriotic and non-partisan sense.

BY TRUNK OR MEASURE.

Referring again to the metric system of weights and measures, a correspondent calls our attention to an article in the Sunday issue of the Chicago and Philadelphia Ledger (New York) which proves that as a matter of fact, that system is the only legacy recognized one in the country, as act of Congress in 1866 having made it law in the United States, at the same time establishing the exact relations between the metric and the part. The common system is wholly established by law or decree, is only and without coming from custom and popular use. The paper referred to goes itself on record against the innovation the NEWS asks for, but its strong reasons will hardly pass current with thoughtful people. In substance they are to the effect that "we know we are awkwardly, it does not seem at all natural to say that 'a mile is so and so as a measurement,' or to be at a loss to say how person or being 'thirty inches or a man?' With such a condition we have low advantage for the old system will be with."

The main competition workshop for the advocate from the human body. The Hebrews and Egyptians took the length of a man's arm for the purpose, the Greek and Roman added the thumb, or span, the finger and the palm. These measures of primitive origin have been employed to affine all others until modern times, and yet the "awkwardness" would seem to be all on one side. Language as clear and concisely. It should be interesting to find persons who know how the United States standard is a wooden "yardstick," which was by decree of a British scale of three inches of a thousand. Engineers, surveyors and others by this government in 1814, and from this standard, rule or measure was made in 1821 and sent to the governors of the various states.

On one other hand the metric system has for its standard the meter, which, as every schoolboy knows, is a little more than three inches longer than a yard, and is one ten-millionth of the distance from the earth's equator to the pole, measured along a meridian line. In the minority of the government authorities at Washington to this day are those of the standards of weights and measures according to this system, which were established by a distinguished commission of scientific men representing the international forces of weights and measures, formed in Paris in 1872 by the great powers.

The improvement which the metric decimal system possesses over the one still in use in this country, but not disappearing entirely from continental Europe, would seem to be so manifest that it seems no argument. All that can be said against it is that it would be an innovation and for a while bewildering of introduction. But the people of Utah are essentially of the pioneering spirit, and as reformers are always convening gather on meeting the establishment of the best. We apprehend that the sneer so to be "awkwardness," and the suggestion that we must wait until others move, in its adoption, will alike fail to impress the metric system unfavorably upon this community.

ENGLAND MAKES A MOVE.

Judging from the latest reports from the seat of war in eastern Asia, the Japanese will not have an altogether easy task in marching on Pekin. Chinese dispatches deny that Port Arthur has fallen, and it also seems probable that the division marching on Moukden in Manchuria has met with more determined resistance than the settlers from Yokohama imply.

In the meantime negotiations looking toward a friendly intervention between the belligerents seem to be going on, and it is hoped an arrangement can be made satisfactory to all parties. This, however, is a more difficult problem than, superficially considered, it appears to be, as both the conditions exploitation of Japan and the wounded pride of China are well as the interests of the European nations must be duly weighed.

One of the most notable of the recent events connected with the war is the dispatch by Great Britain of warships to take possession of the island of Chinsan, or Chusan, the principal of the Chusan archipelago, near the mouth of Ningpo, opposite the city of Ningpo. This island has an area of 250 square miles and a population of 60,000 souls. Situated to the north of the Formosa channel and commanding the route to Pekin, it will be more a most important strategic point. On two former occasions the British flag has had to pass on this island, but without being able to retain it. The present seizure, however, would appear to afford a new opportunity of adding it to the British possessions. China is in the official mighty antagonist. Meanwhile the steady interventional hot transfer, are not to be disguised and rain. Europe is not to be a spectator, and at the same time only [illegible] a [illegible] of Chinese territory in consideration for services to be rendered. If the other European governments take the hint and volunteer their friendly services on similar conditions, peace will eventually rest China a great deal more than Japan is likely to succeed. It is interesting to observe that Japan gives notice of an understanding of this kind of diplomacy quite as to things as the Europeans themselves practice.

China, of course, not in a position to resist the aggressive of her foreign, but it is not impossible that the rivalry between them may involve them in serious trouble when the war is ended and the question of compensation for the nation comes up. Russia, England, France and Germany will watch each other closely to see that no one of gain undue advantage over the other, and skillful diplomacy will be required to prevent the sparks from the Asiatic war causing a European conflagration.

VERY FEW of those who make use of the word "[illegible]" are able to give a correct definition of the term or its origin. Answering a correspondent, the *Public* does give the original, but [illegible] the [illegible]

The word has a [illegible] history. It is a contraction of the Latin [illegible] which is itself an abbreviation of "[illegible]." The word is an old [illegible] "[illegible]." It is known to be [illegible] during the Middle Ages [illegible] and yet the "[illegible]" would seem to be all on one side. [illegible] Though [illegible] "[illegible]." It is used where the [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]