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THE TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.

The baptism of three ladies in New York City, mentioned in the press dispatches a few days ago, has been followed by the baptism of Miss Elizabeth Dickinson, some particulars of which will be found in telegrams published in another part of this paper. There is nothing extraordinary about all this, but it has occasioned a great deal of excitement in the East. The young lady last-mentioned occupied a prominent position in one of the fashionable churches, and was secretary of its Christian Endeavor society, and her conversion, with that of Mrs. Blair, who was president of the society, aroused the ire of the pastor of the church and formed the subject of many articles in eastern papers.

It is pleasing to see that the ladies who have been subjected to so much hostile criticism have the courage of their convictions, and are not to be browbeaten and frightened away from the truth which has become clear to their understanding. It is in this spirit that the majority of the people who embraced "Mormonism" among the various nations of the world met the opposition which was arrayed against them. The greatest antagonism came usually from the clergy of the different religious sects. In notable occasions near relations and intimate friends were aroused to anger and sometimes to hatred. Employers often turned men and women from their work and sought to injure those whom they could not convert. In not a few instances mob violence was added to ridicule and misrepresentation, and the very name of "Mormon" set popular fury into a flame.

The people who in their native lands accepted the principles proclaimed by the Elders of this Church, and who gathered to these valleys because of their faith in the Gospel and the testimony they received of its truth, are not to be turned from their fidelity to the latter-day work by persecution or contumely of any kind. It is not for any ulterior purpose that they have cast their lot with the Latter-day Saints, but it is because of their integrity and devotion to the great latter-day work for the redemption of mankind.

It is difficult to make the ordinary preacher or editor who comments on "Mormonism" understand that this term does not mean or imply "polygamy." When the doctrine of plural marriage was promulgated it was but one of the features of doctrinal teaching in the Church, and since the practice has ceased through submission to the laws of the land, "Mormonism" stands separate and apart from the subject that so greatly agitates the common "Christian" mind, and signifies a creed that cannot be assailed from any standard of morality that is set up in modern society. The doctrines enunciated by Mormon, the prophet, who, on this continent, hundreds of years ago, compiled the record called after his name, did not advocate or defend the marriage system which for a time prevailed among a portion of the people of Utah; therefore the term "Mormonism" does not philologically or in any other way imply "polygamy."

Among the newspapers which either fail to understand or are wilfully determined to misrepresent the "Mormon" Church, its Elders and its doctrines, is the Press of Troy, New York. It was to be expected that something bitter and malicious would be said on the subject to the Gotham agitation, by that paper. In a recent issue is quoted at length some nasty remarks from a New York journal, and made its own comment in this language:

"And it is a fair and not uncharitable inference that polygamy is prevalently the real motive of the women who become Mormons. They are generally uneasy spirits, dissatisfied with their domestic relations, or adle-pated unmarried females, who fancy it is better to be one of a flock of 'wives' than to be a wife at all."

"Women of virtue and common sense treat Mormon missionaries and their mission alike with contempt."

The silliness of these paragraphs is as prominent as their venom. The women who at any time entered the plural family relation were few in number, compared with the hosts of married and unmarried ladies who have accepted the doctrines of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and remained true and faithful to them in spite of such attacks as these made by the Troy Press. The women of "Mormondom" have nothing to fear in a comparison with any of their sex in Christendom. It has not been "dissatisfaction with their domestic relations," but dissatisfaction with the conflicting creeds and unchristian doctrines and practices of so-called Christian sects, that has influenced so many women as well as men to receive the truths embodied in that which is commonly called "Mormonism." To become "one of a flock of wives" is now an impossibility in Utah. During the early years of the Church it was not possible because the doctrine was not taught or practiced. The editor of the

Troy Press has become blinded by his own perversity, and does not seem able to perceive his own lack of common sense in the light of indisputable facts.

As this great religious movement, dubbed "Mormonism" by its opponents, makes its way in the world, as it will no matter what may be done against it, the fact will force itself upon the densest preaching and writing minds, that the principles promulgated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are to be considered unassociated with the plural marriage question, and that the popular methods of attacking them will have to be thrown aside, and something more cogent and plausible than the stupid cry of "polygamy" must be brought forward, or those scriptural, rational and scientific doctrines will overwhelm modern theology, and win to the ranks of this Church not only the good and true among the "common people," but the brightest, best, most valiant, virtuous and stable among the great churches of the world in all the nations of the earth.

The dispensation of the fullness of times has only commenced the magnificent work it is designed to accomplish. It will go forth to every part of the globe, it will spread light and truth among all peoples. It will attract the thoughtful and sincere in every place and every grade of society. The slanders that have been told against it and its leaders will eventually aid in its victory. The honest in heart, when their eyes are opened to the falsity of its antagonists, will be the more ready to drink in its sublime truths and be led by its illuminating spirit. It is the religion of the future, it will win its way until it conquers all opposition, and its virulent and malicious antagonists will either repent of their wickedness and folly, or go down to ignominious defeat and disaster. The truth will triumph and error will be over come.

A HEBREW EXPOSITION.

Among the notable expositions to be held in the near future is that of the American Jewish Historical association, which will come off in New York during the winter of 1901-02. The initiative for this was taken at a meeting of the society held in Philadelphia last December, when a committee was appointed to consider the advisability of the plan. This committee has reported favorably, and the exhibition will take place, Dr. Cyrus Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, is president of the committee in charge of the affair.

The intention is to exhibit historical records bearing on the history of the Jews in this country, including letters by Columbus to Spanish Jews; invasion records; Washington's letters to Jews; portraits, miniatures and prints of American Jewish celebrities, historical relics; photographs and prints of Jewish synagogues and institutions; manuscripts, autographs, works by American Jewish artists and other subjects of interest. It is also proposed to collect and publish a biography of Jewish Americans that will include collections of all books written by Jews in America or pertaining to American Judaism. Then there will be relics of colonial and revolutionary times, and all sorts of objects illustrating Jewish life in this country, from the earliest times.

The exhibition should be one of great interest. It should be an object lesson of what Judaism is today compared to what it was anciently, both socially, religiously, and politically. It should afford the thoughtful an opportunity of comparing its present synagogues and rites with the temple of Solomon and the magnificent service of that wonderful building, and its present literature with the admirable compositions of David, Isaiah and Hosea. It should be a reminder to the Hebrews of the possibilities yet before them as a nation with a mission in the world, and thus inspire them to further effort, to attain the position which was assigned to them long before their dispersion.

POLAR EXPLORATIONS.

Interest in polar expeditions is revived, by the numerous plans now laid for exploration of the unknown regions, both in the northern and southern parts of our planet. And the impression is becoming general that the problem of reaching especially the North Pole is no longer unsolvable. Since Nansen and the Duke of Abruzzi succeeded in approaching within speaking distance, as it were, there seems to be no reason why that, too, should not be covered, under favorable circumstances.

The experience so far gained in the Arctic regions justifies the expectation that the goal will be reached. It has been found that ships can be built to withstand the ice, and that food can be brought along in sufficient quantities to keep a party of explorers for years. Nor has the severity of the winter any terror for men lodged in comfortable quarters, and employed in the performance of various duties. The value of dogs in the polar service has also been established. With the knowledge thus obtained, explorers can make their preparations and count on final success, although allowance always must be made for unforeseen contingencies and accidents.

Of first interest among the explorers is Lieutenant Peary, who has been north since 1898. But little news has been obtained from him the last year, but when heard from in the spring he was preparing to start over the ice toward the Pole, and it would not be surprising to learn, in the near future, that he actually has reached the goal.

Another explorer who will be watched with interest is Mr. Baldwin, an American who has much experience in the Arctic and who is backed by a wealthy New Yorker. He expects to proceed, this summer, to the east coast of Franz Josef land, and from there proceed with sledges to the north. He is said to have four hundred Siberian dogs, with an ample supply of food, and every convenience for travel in the cold north.

This summer should be favorable for polar explorations, if the hot wave that has struck the earth reaches those latitudes. It should make the climate there more congenial and facilitate the northern progress. But even if the Pole

is reached, the achievement is likely to be of little practical value. The Polar region itself cannot be much different from the surroundings that have been explored. There can be no large continent there, as at one time was supposed. Still, to reach the North Pole has been the ambition of numerous explorers for years, and when that ambition finally is satisfied, the South Pole will be next.

TO RECLAIM LAND.

The leaders in the movement for the irrigation of the arid West are planning to secure from the next Congress legislation in favor of the gigantic project. And it is believed that there is fair prospect of success. The principle itself has come to be recognized as correct, and it should therefore not be impossible to formulate a plan upon which the different interests can unite. There are now in Congress, it is claimed, many strong advocates of irrigation, from New England, and the Atlantic coast as well as from the West.

Representative Newlands' plan is that the public lands in the arid regions be sold and that the proceeds be deposited with the United States treasury in a fund to be known as the irrigation fund which shall be used solely in irrigation work. Another plan provides that a complete survey be made first of all the arid lands, to be paid for by money obtained from sales of the land. The survey being completed, it is proposed to commence irrigation, starting upon lands owned by the United States. When an area has once been irrigated the cost of the irrigation is to be added to the price of the land, so that, when the land is sold the government will reimburse itself for the money it has expended. Where private lands are irrigated by the government the cost of the work is to be paid by the owner of the land. The estimated expense of irrigation is about 50 cents per acre.

Either of these plans would probably work well. Either of them, when carried out, would mean to this country the conquest of an empire.

Holland is a much smaller country than the United States. But it has a scheme on hand as gigantic as this, comparatively speaking. That country is about to turn the Zuider Zee into dry land, and reclaim an area valued at \$100,000,000. The project is to build a levee, fifteen miles long and six and one-half feet wide, constructed in water between eleven and twelve feet deep. Land reclamation by engineering skill, is worthy of our civilization. And the possibilities in this line all over the world are almost unlimited.

ANOTHER ROAD THROUGH ASIA.

Though the trans-Siberian railroad is not yet entirely completed, there is some talk of establishing a competing line through southern Asia, through Asia Minor, Persia, Baluchistan, India, Burma and China, German capitalists, supported by Emperor William, it is said, are interested in extending the already existing lines, through the valley of the Euphrates to El Kuwait, on the Persian gulf, a distance from the Bosphorus of about 1,700 miles.

From there the road would have to pass through Persian territory to Baluchistan, and it appears to be a question whether that can be done without the consent of Russia, since the Shah has given the "Czar exclusive rights to rail" road building through that country. But if that obstacle can be overcome, the rest of the enterprise is looked upon as comparatively easy. Five hundred and twenty miles of road through Baluchistan would connect the line with the Indian railroad net, which extends to the Chinese frontier. Then there are 1,600 miles to cover through the Yang-tze valley to Shanghai.

The line is looked upon as a formidable rival to the Siberian railroad. It will traverse more fertile, prosperous and more densely populated countries than the northern line. It will also be a rival to the Suez canal. Every section of it ought to pay well from the beginning, while the Siberian road must depend largely on the future development of much of the territory through which it passes.

The Siberian road was planned as much for military and strategic, as for commercial purposes, while the southern road presumably is thought of entirely for its commercial possibilities. There should be ample room for two railroad lines through the vast Asiatic continent. Both are needed for the development of the resources there existing, and bringing Asia's millions closer to the nations that lead the onward progress of civilization.

Europe breathes easier. Mr. J. Pierpont is on his native heath once again.

Should old acquaintance be forgot? Like many other things, it all depends on circumstances.

The hot spell is the best time to read novels that tell of deeds that "make the blood run cold."

Mr. Carnegie complains that he cannot digest his food. Yet he has no difficulty in assimilating millions.

The old fields of Texas have been "salted." But the Rev. Jernigan still holds the record for "salting." He "salted" the ocean.

There never was a more beautiful day than the Fourth was. The temperature was perfect and the air full of life and vigor. No June ever had a rarer day.

The leader of the gang of highway-men's club that held up the Great Northern flyer is said to be a member of the notorious Worry gang. Then he doesn't belong to the Don't Worry club.

In turning over the military government of the Philippines to Gen. Chaffee, Gen. MacArthur said: "I beguile all my troubles to you." And a great inheritance it is that Gen. Chaffee gets.

Throughout the country yesterday two hundred and forty-nine children were injured by toy pistols. That many deaths from lockjaw will result from these injuries is most likely. In our own city toy pistols are exposed for sale and with impunity although it is

against the law of the State to sell or give them away.

"I think I can safely say that I hardly think Evans will be continued as commissioner," says Gen. Sikes. That think-hardly-think approaches Don Quixote's reason of the reasonableness of the unreason.

Porto Rico is all ready for free trade with the United States, her assembly having unanimously passed a resolution in favor of it. When it shall have been established a short while the people of our own country will see in it the same blessings that they see in free interstate commerce. Free trade with Porto Rico will be the forerunner of free trade with Hawaii and the Philippines.

John Fiske, the lecturer and historian, is dead. He was at the time of his death America's foremost historical writer. His most famous work is "The Discovery of America," a work that rivals Parkman's in its fascination. His work in research does not equal Bancroft's, though it may be said to approach it. He had immense learning, while his linguistic attainments were little less than marvelous. Twenty years ago he was famous as an expounder of Darwin. As a lecturer he was very brilliant. There is no one in the American literary field who can fill his place. Then he died so young, only fifty-nine. Freeman was but a year older when he died.

At a banquet held in Hotel Cecil, London, in honor of the Fourth of July, the Rev. Joseph Parker said that Great Britain and the United States held the peace of the world in their hands. Now it is a pleasant thing to see nations as well as brothers dwell in peace together, but this kind of talk can only be termed silly. It implies an alliance offensive and defensive when none exists; it also implies that the two countries are the dictators of the world. Such talk may become an imperial warlike sovereignty such as the Kaiser, but it certainly does not become a minister of the gospel. So far as holding the peace of the world in anybody's hands is concerned, it is in the hands of any third rate power that may choose to go to war and involve all the powers. China, weakling that she is, can precipitate a world war tomorrow if so minded, and no two nations could say, "Let there be peace," and there is peace. A fool might start a conflagration that all the wise men of Christendom could not put out in years.

THE FRENCH-GERMAN RACE.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The winners in the international automobile race from Paris to Berlin traveled over the course at an average rate of between forty and fifty miles an hour. Some of the machines were geared to travel 100 miles an hour, but it does not appear that any of the contestants had the nerve to let them out full speed. As it is these automobiles have outlasted every other road vehicle ever used. The result speaks volumes for the good highways of both France and Germany; and as those of the latter country are said to have been in inferior order, national pride is sure to be awakened in favor of their immediate improvement. Except on the asphalted thoroughfares and such carefully macadamized roadways as are to be found in our public parks, we have no roads in this country on which such a high rate of speed would have been possible.

Kansas City Star.

Nothing could be more thoroughly "French" than the fierce political agitation which has been created in Paris by the Paris-Berlin motor car race. The dream of reconciliation between France and Germany, when the flags of the two countries were entwined at Berlin, at the conclusion of the automobile race, was, alas, ephemeral and illusory. It was a momentary vision from which the awakening was rude and tempestuous. The notes of glad acclaim had scarcely died away in the German capital before the storm of wrath against the deadly and odious motor car broke in wild fury in Paris.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The evident invasion of public rights by this and similar tests in the recent past has aroused in France a spirit which promises to make this the last contest of the kind. Protesta in the chamber of deputies have been headed by the government and steps will be taken to limit by law the speed of automobiles on public roads. And this will work no hardship to the horseless carriage enthusiast. Tests of speed alone should be confined to race tracks. Hill climbing capacity, fuel consumption and like qualities can be ascertained without danger to the public. The sight of two or three motor vehicles tearing along highways at the rate of forty-five miles an hour seems to be calculated to disturb the peace of Europe.

Omaha World-Herald.

The collision between Germany and France since their most unfortunate quarrel thirty years ago has gripped the entire nation exceedingly, and every sign of a reconciliation between them has been noticed with intense satisfaction. They have not been able at the time of more pretentious events, such as naval maneuvers, exhibitions and the like, to reach the point of complete forgiveness, but the automobile race seems to have brought them to it. It is true that a French deputy said something harsh about going through Sedan, but his discordant remark appears to have had no attention, and from Paris to the French border and from the border of Berlin it has been the slogan of the flags side by side, the flagging of the Marseillaise and the thinking of the French by the Germans for what the French have done to develop the automobile.

WITHDRAWAL FROM CUBA.

New York Evening Post.

"The talk in Washington for a few hours after the news was received of the adoption of the Platt amendment by the constitutional convention at Havana, was all about the immediate withdrawal of the United States troops. It was simply the Yankee mental trick of leaping ahead of the facts. There will be nothing precipitate about the withdrawal of the troops. Too few are in Cuba, and the distance to be moved is too slight to make the undertaking a serious one. There will still be much to do before the 'stable' government on which everything further depends can be assumed to have been established.

Philadelphia Press.

No nation ever started out for itself under such favorable conditions. Order is asserted from the start. Independent, the island will at the same time have the powerful protection of the United States against rebellion started by would-be dictators at home or attacks from abroad. That is the one thing necessary to make the undertaking a serious one. There will still be much to do before the 'stable' government on which everything further depends can be assumed to have been established.

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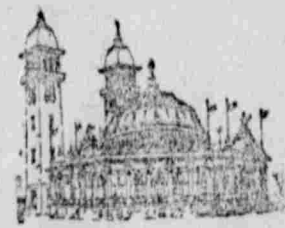
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