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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 4, 1900.

OUR DUTY IN POLITICS.

The political campaign of 1900 is now in motion, and the armies on either side are marshalled for the fray. The fight is really between the two great parties of this nation, the other small companies of political contestants cutting little or no figure in the fight, as those that are at all formidable have either retired from the field, or fused with one or the other of the mighty hosts which will struggle for the mastery.

The people of Utah having divided on political lines, and allied themselves with those great parties, will of necessity partake somewhat of the spirit of strife, and do their best for the side which they wish shall win. We hope, however, that their participation in proper motives, and carried on in a manner which will be satisfactory to their own convictions of what is right.

The abuse and misrepresentation of opponents is not justifiable under any circumstances. If our foes resort to it, we are not freed from blame by adopting their tactics. The majority of the citizens of this State are under sacred obligations which preclude falsehood, injustice, retaliation and revenge. To say that politics may be conducted on different rules of rectitude than in business or religion, is to deny the principles which we have given our entire adherence.

We urge the consideration of this resolution upon the minds of our friends, everywhere. If we differ in our views as to the best policy to be pursued, and the best men to shape it and conduct it in this nation, let that difference in opinion and sentiment be so held and acted on, that the rights and feelings of our opponents will not be trampled upon. We will meet them after the smoke of the battle has been wafted away, and should not take such a course in the heat of the controversy, that we will feel ashamed to look them in the face and clasp them by the hand.

A fair fight for what each side believes to be right, need not involve acrimony or the distortion of the views and utterances of those whom we believe to be in the wrong. Give the opinions of the other side as they would express them, then refute them fairly if possible. That is the most complete kind of victory. To misrepresent what another advocates and then attack it, is the ordinary style of party polemics, but it is disgusting and doomed finally to failure.

Be fast to all. Stay by the truth as you understand it with a willingness to be convinced of error, and treat your neighbors as you desire to be treated yourself. That rule will hold good anywhere and everywhere, and should prevail in politics just as much as in the ordinary or extraordinary affairs of civil existence.

IS THIS CHRISTIANITY?

The reports of atrocities committed by Russian and French soldiers in China are horrifying in the extreme. A distinguished American general, when asked to about the clash of armies, responded with the saying, "War is hell." But in modern times it has been supposed that war has been deprived of some of its terrors, more civilized methods being pursued than formerly, and certain regulations being understood and enforced in mitigation of some of its cruelties. These, however, seem to have been ignored in the treatment of the unfortunate Chinese people by the troops of Russia and France.

Each of these nations professes to be Christian. Not perhaps in the theological sense of the term, but in the meaning usually attached to it, as in opposition to heathenism and barbarism. But the heathen brutalities that disgraced the assaults upon defenseless men, women and children not personally engaged in fighting the allied armies, are not outranked in savagery by the darkest hordes of either hemisphere.

It is gratifying to know that American troops were not engaged in the shameful and inexcusable orgies that followed the capture of the Chinese city. It is no wonder that there should be such an intense feeling of abhorrence against "Christian" foreigners, as prevails in the empire about to be divided among, or supervised by the great powers. Such riots on civilization and blood-murders on the face of pretended Christianity, as the French and Russian atrocities at Tien Tsin, make one wonder whether that name, which has an influence upon the lives and character of the nations that take shelter under its sacred name.

BRESCI, THE REGICIDE.

The reason Bresci was sentenced to life imprisonment instead of death, is that the Italian law inflicts capital punishment only upon traitors, and

Bresci's crime was not characterized as treason, but murder.

In this country it is difficult to recognize the wisdom of such a law, but it must be remembered that in Italy the murderer condemned to imprisonment for life has almost no chance of a pardon. He is effectively non-existent as far as society is concerned.

It has been proved that the death penalty has been no deterrent to the anarchistic plotters against kings and rulers. Lucheni, the assassin of the empress of Austria, was disappointed when he was not sentenced to die, he being ignorant of the fact that Switzerland has abolished that mode of punishment, and Bresci undoubtedly counted on a spectacular exit from the world, which would have made him memorable in the annals of murderous anarchism.

When all the circumstances are considered, the wisdom of the Italian mode of dealing with that class of individuals will appear. Bresci is now put out of harm's way. He is buried in oblivion. He will have to work for his living, such as it is, and the example of his confinement, as long as it is remembered by his associates, may be counted on to discourage many of them from following in his footsteps. The effectiveness of a law never depends on its severity, but on its justice and the impartiality with which it is administered.

EX-PRESIDENTS FOR PEACE.

President McKinley has requested ex-Presidents Harrison and Cleveland to act as members of the International board of arbitration, which is to settle differences between nations, as proposed by the peace congress at the Hague. The selection is certainly a most happy one, and it is to be hoped the gentlemen will accept the appointment. A greater honor can hardly be conferred upon any American citizen, and the two ex-Presidents are peculiarly adapted for the duties of that board, owing to their experience in international affairs.

The outlook is not bright for the practical usefulness of such a board, because the world seems at present to have been thrown into a spasm of war, but the reaction will come, perhaps sooner than expected, and the existence of a board of arbitration composed of the world's distinguished statesmen would materially aid the establishment of an era of peace, and prevent the recurrence of arbitration by force.

The great idea of which the Hague conference was the embodiment is destined to live and to spread, no matter what obstacles it may have to overcome. In the meantime the appointment of peace commissioners by our government proves that this country is in earnest about the matter. It proves that it is on the road to take the lead in a world movement which is in perfect harmony with its history and traditions. For after all, the destiny of the American Republic is not to excel in military glory, but in the establishment of peace and equal rights to all members of the human family.

LOOTING OF TIEN TSIN.

It appears from the reports that now come from the scene of trouble in eastern Asia, that the soldiers of some of the civilized powers have equalized things there, to such an extent that it is a question which of the two races, Mongolians or Caucasians, has committed the greater wrong. It looks very much as if the assassination and plundering which civilization came to put an end to, have been about cancelled by the murdering and looting indulged in by civilization itself. China cannot be owing very much, if the accounts are to be credited.

When the fight at Tien Tsin was over, there were 20,000 dead Chinamen, whose corpses were found—a number far too large for a day's battle. It can be accounted for only by the acceptance of the statement of Maj. S. K. Hooper, that the civilized soldiers "murdered right and left." The Mongolians may have slain their thousands, but the avengers must have killed tens of thousands, and that without declaring war in the regular manner. In fact, they seem to have joined the Chinese robbers who in the confusion and anarchy went forth to plunder and pillage.

For three days, it seems, the city was given over to the looting soldiers. On the first day the detestable business went on without restraint. Many of the soldiers accumulated stacks of goods by simply ransacking the city gates and holding up the best laden Chinese from the endless procession that flowed out. English officers, it is said, rode with their horses concealed under dry goods and soldiers slung bundles on their bayonets.

On the second day an effort was made to check the looting. The white thieves who were fighting with the Chinese people, or with one another, in the shops, palaces, and public buildings, were notified that all plunder must be delivered to the guard. It was explained that this order was given for the purpose of restraining civilians from getting the spoils which should go to the men who did the fighting. The official statement was that all seized loot would be sold, the proceeds to be divided among the soldiers as prize money.

The Americans, it is said, did not take part in any great extent in the looting, but for all that it is stated that a million taels' worth of silver and gold found its way to the American quarters, while "civilians made a general raid on the salt commissioner's treasure, and many succeeded in smuggling loads of silver bars through to the settlement." Others secured awards of curious and rich patterns and two-man guns; also stacks of clothing and other articles of great value left by officers in their flight, all of which were to be disposed of as spoils of war.

The entire affair is, we think a disgrace to civilization. The soldiers of Christendom were not sent to China to turn assassins and robbers, but to punish such criminals. The powers did not even declare war upon China, so that the proceedings were entirely without justification from any point of view.

It is a sound rule that a wrong committed stands against the guilty party until the one who was made the victim cancels it by perpetrating a wrong as

in matter of revenge. Then it is cancelled, as it were. One party has no well-founded complaint against the other, both being equally guilty. This seems to be very nearly the case in China. Civilization came there to sit in judgment upon thieves and murderers. But the judgment seat cannot be made out of stacks of stolen property, and judges cannot be chosen from the ranks of assassins.

Militarism is at best a relic of a barbarous age. But lately civilization has endeavored to put a veneer on it. This should be well guarded by the officers of the army, lest they turn the tide of civilization backward, to the untold injury of the entire race.

WOMEN AND THE STAGE.

Mary Shaw, the actress, in an article in the Criticon, takes the view that it is the women of this country who give the tone to the stage. So whatever she says the merits or demerits of the stage, should be credited, she thinks, not to the playwrights who furnish the plays, nor to the artists that interpret them, but to the ladies of the audience.

The argument is that, as only the plays that by experience are found to pay well, are presented, the audience really act as censors of the stage, and that as women form by far the largest part of the audience, they must take a large part of the responsibility for the character of the plays that are given.

If this reasoning is true, the American women have no cause for congratulating themselves on the result of their censorship. It is a notorious fact that many of the best paying plays are unworthy of the stage of a highly cultured people.

But is it true that the audience should be held responsible? Many people go to the theater simply to while away a few hours in congenial company, sometimes without giving any thought to the matter of the play. They would enjoy a good piece artistically rendered more than an ordinary play given by mediocrity, but they good-naturedly accept what is offered, without reflecting that their presence will be interpreted as a sanction of stage trash.

Were it possible to arouse the American public, and especially the ladies, to a realization of the fact that their duty is to act as censors of the stage, by remaining away from the immoral shows that make light of truth and virtue and glorify all kinds of sham, hypocrisy and crime, a reform would ensue. We do not believe the American taste is in harmony with a low grade theater performance. It is forced on the public much in the same way as its twin relative—yellow journalism.

That it is tolerated is bad enough, but the public should not be held entirely responsible for its existence. They often go to the theater without any idea of what they are going to see and listen to.

TAKE PASSPORTS.

Since the recent anarchist scare, Americans traveling in Europe are said to be scrutinized very closely, and those who do not carry with them passports or other means of easy identification are sometimes subjected to annoyances, which respectable tourists would rather avoid. Reports received at the State department lately show this to be a fact. Such annoyances can be avoided at the trifling cost of a passport.

There are many who go abroad from Utah, who remain in foreign parts for a considerable time. They would do well to arrange this matter before they leave. In some countries a passport is indispensable, while in others it will not be asked for. But it is never a detriment to have it, and at times it may be found convenient even where the law does not require a traveler to carry one. No American should go abroad without taking with him this evidence of good standing in the Republic.

DEFENDING THE TRUTH.

We are pleased to see the efforts of many of our missionaries abroad, to vindicate the Church and its members from the attacks of its enemies, through the public prints. In times past the press has been virtually sealed up against the advocates of "Mormonism," while the open door has been offered to their opponents. Lately, however, a more liberal spirit has been manifested, and there has been a disposition to permit something like fair play.

The inquiries that are being made as to the doctrines and purposes of the "Mormon" Church, have something to do with this change of front on the part of some newspapers. In spite of the misrepresentations which have been the chief ammunition of sectarian malignity, in their crusades against the "Mormons," there is a growing interest in the world toward the "strange people," who flourish in the midst of so much antagonism, and the ideas impresses itself on the public mind, that there must be something more than is generally understood, behind a movement that exhibits such extraordinary vigor and persistence. Therefore investigation is beginning to take the place of denunciation and reasoning that of ridicule.

In a recent issue of the New Zealand Herald, published in Auckland, we see that this subject is being discussed in that far-off region. A mild controversy has been going on, S. L. P. Rimmer, the latter attack "Mormonism" and the former defending it. We clip the following from that paper, and show the manner in which Mr. Hardy meets the assaults of his antagonist, whose efforts are not at hand, or we would cheerfully give both sides of the argument. Writing from Mount Albert, Chas. Hardy says:

"Mr. Rimmer proceeds to make a statement which is quite irrelevant to the question at issue, viz., the Mountain Meadows massacre. A very old man—over 70—there is a growing interest in this to draw a red herring across the scent. But to the 'statement.' When I was living in the United States," says Mr. Rimmer, "I was connected with the Mormon Church, and the 'Mormons' when they came East to buy goods, endeavored to force the issue they dealt with to promise their vote against any law being passed to put down polygamy in Utah, on threat of taking their orders elsewhere. In reply to this, I beg to say that when I

was living in the United States such a statement would surely be laughed at. The idea of a mere handful of people, comparatively speaking, like the 'Mormons' attempting to influence the legislature of the United States through the bribery of electors? This is, indeed, absurdity. But here, by-the-by, we again have the 'Mormons' as usual, condemned for the alleged actions of private individuals. Let us, however, assume, for the sake of argument, that a number of 'Mormons' were so foolish as to demand votes with their goods. Eastern merchants would be certain to demand gold pro quo, and the silly 'Mormons' would have to pay for their merchandise than it could have been bought for elsewhere. For this reason, they would be unable to compete with other respectable merchants, and the end of the matter would be an end to their merchandising.

"Mr. Rimmer assures us that 'these things were also publicly stated from platforms in Chicago, which I have heard myself; no 'Mormon' was able to contradict them.' Mr. Rimmer very honestly assumes that 'Mormons' are able to attend all and sundry platforms throughout the length and breadth of the United States to contradict statements, the absurdity of which ought to be self-evident to a reflecting mind. He must imagine that life with the 'Mormons' is one long holiday, and that their name is legion. The misrepresentation of the 'Mormons' in the press can only be compared to the misrepresentation which the 'Christians' and 'Jews' suffer in China, or to the misrepresentations which the English people suffer through the French press at their respective antipathies. Then were the early Christians justly treated with scorn and contempt, for they were a sect 'everywhere spoken against.'"

"From whence have the public derived their views of 'Mormonism,' but from the anti-'Mormons' only? The exigencies of American journalism admit, for instance, of the same correspondent being a local contributor to one or the other score of newspapers, and widely different views in politics and religion, and the indignation so widely printed throughout the United States, and copied into the English and colonial press, has often its source in the personal animosity of a few individuals. Yet, notwithstanding all the clamor which 'Mormonism' has endured, its growth, if slow, has been constant. It has often been wounded, but it can never be destroyed by the hands of slander and vituperation, for its inmost spirit is as pure as the perpetual snow of the highest peaks of the Rocky Mountains."

The New Zealand Herald is to be commended for its fairness in giving place to Mr. Hardy's communications, and he is to be congratulated for the style of his reply. We hope our Elders abroad will endeavor to obtain the aid of the secular press, in presenting the truth which they are sent forth to advocate and defend.

QUAKER PROTEST AGAINST WAR.

English "Friends" have issued the following document, published in The Christian Commonwealth:

We believe that the Spirit of Christ will ultimately redeem national as well as individual life. We believe, further, that, as all alike in history above the human means will be the faithful witness borne by Christ's disciples. It has been well said, "It seems to be the will of Him who is infinite in wisdom that light upon great subjects should first arise and be gradually spread through the faithfulness of individuals in action, and are the true foundation on which his empire now rests. It is difficult to set limits to the strength which would possess if her national character and policy became fully Christian. But if sacrifice and loss were her portion, her service to the kingdom of God might even become the greater for her suffering."

London complains of a disgraceful scene at a prize fight. As if a prize fight ever were anything but disgraceful.

The Indiana man who killed and dressed ten sheep in half an hour certainly can lay claim to being a clever cut-throat.

It is said that Cornelius Vanderbilt wants to go to Congress. If the "commodore" were alive it wouldn't take him long to pluck that "bee."

The Shah can stay his European tour out. The chief of the rebellion in Persia says he never meant to overthrow his ruler. Being in a dungeon now, he can't.

The Iowa man who shipped his wife's body as household goods doubtless would defend himself by saying she was the most precious piece of furniture he had had in the house.

The only trouble with the Pekin refugee's story of what the empress dowager did in the alleged council at the palace in Pekin, is the puzzle as to how the refugee learned all about it.

The French officer who refused military honors at the burial of a suicide, because the dead man abandoned his post in the face of an enemy, has an apt as well as gentle way of designating suicide as cowardice.

Glasgow now has over a hundred persons under surveillance because of the plague. Considering the vast population, this is a comparatively small number, and shows how vigilant are the officials there.

Those Chicago muleteers who struck on a British ship, and ran away before they could be arrested, had enough acquaintance with the mule to be out of range of the "kicking" when the other side got into operation.

The powers are endeavoring to induce the Russians to stay in Pekin. Doubtless the Czar would have his troops stay there permanently if the others would retire. It isn't the occupation of Pekin

that he objects to, but that he has to have so much European company.

An aeronaut has crossed the English channel in a balloon. That doesn't say he will ever be able to repeat his feat in safety. There are too many contrary winds between England and France to make the balloon route popular to excursionists.

Would-be purchasers think the prices for Utah lambs will be much lower in a short time than now, with the prospect of a 1. d winter and shortage of feed. But the owners are hopeful that the feed situation will improve at least to the extent of keeping up good prices.

The Czar and his aunt have had a quarrel over the latter's insistence on playing roulette and baccarat. The Czar may stop the games in high society, but the odds are against him compelling his Dutch aunt either playing or quarreling when she takes a notion.

That Miss Bailey, the Kentucky horse-woman, is more clever than a railway official when it comes to handling a runaway, was proved at Pleasant Bay, on Monday evening. Her deed was one of remarkable skill and courage, but without the really sensible method in the emergency.

It is said the German Kaiser will not withdraw his forces from Pekin, if he has to mobilize the whole German army to do otherwise. By the time Russia, Britain, Japan and France have their say, the Kaiser will conclude that even the German army is not big enough to hold the Chinese capital against the wish of the four powers named.

The foreigners in China want Pekin destroyed. Will they suggest what good can be accomplished by a wholesale destruction of property, in uncivilized fashion, that cannot be reached by a less wanton procedure? Looting and burning the city would not be an evidence of the ability of the powers to hold the place if they wanted to; it would rather convince the Chinese that they had to burn it because unable to retain it against a Chinese force.

Complaints come from London that America is not standing by Great Britain in the Chinese crisis. By the way, Britain did not stand by America when Admiral Kempf refused to pre-empt hostilities at Taku. Besides, the United States has quite enough responsibility in not going further in China than to unite in protecting common interests there, and especially those that affect this country. The quarrel of European powers over their Chinese policy is not Uncle Sam's play.

The discovery of the Great Salt Lake, says the Springfield Republican, has often been ascribed to Jim Bridger, of frontier fame, and W. E. Curtis has repeated the tale in the Chicago Record. But a forty-niner writes to the Record that Carver, in his very interesting "Travels in North America," between 1790 and 1800, visited the lake and described it, as well as the country he went through. This is the first known description from eight, though it was mentioned so long before as 1693 by La Fontaine, who got his information from the Indians. In 1848 Fremont explored and described it, and it was then that Bridger first saw the lake. The Record's correspondent has an impression that the Great Salt Lake was once known by the Indian-Spanish name Timpanogas.

IN CHINA.

Chicago Times-Herald.

The Associated Press dispatch which tells of the looting of Tien Tsin is a warning revelation of the brutalities of war, its frightfully demoralizing influence, its sacrifice of all the decencies of life to unrestrained passions. What it gives as a recital of fact should be construed by every interested government as a summons to impose an iron discipline upon its soldiers. Let us say, at least, that if Chinese cities are to be wrecked and plundered, if the discipline of the empire is to be wantonly demolished by vandals, if all property, private and public, is to be put at the mercy of these robbers, then men who wear the uniform of the United States of America and fight under the Stars and Stripes must not be found in such company.

Chicago News.

Whoever triumphs, or whatever conditions of peace or war may obtain, it would seem to be fairly certain that trouble is coming to the grand old man of the east. To be sure, persons best acquainted with the oriental character do not lose sleep on the earl's account. They say that this elderly nobleman has a long head for calculating the main chance, and that when the winning wagon finally emerges from the dust it will be seen on the front seat. Nevertheless, at present the best exemplar of the strenuous and vicious life is to be found dozing under the awning of a western warship in Chinese waters.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

But is it not altogether probable that our nation may gain more in the future, by limiting its present demands to the amount of actual losses incurred by our citizens—or even by paying those losses out of the American treasury—than by insisting upon some stupendous sum which might in justice be exacted? Some example of moderation might certainly be needed to restrain the greed of European states. We cannot afford to add to China's difficulties the paralyzing influence of a drained exchequer. "Human good will and an expanded trade with the empire will in the long run amply compensate us for moderation now."

Worcester Spy.

Russia and the United States will be the two leading nations of the world at the end of the coming century. But the Russia of 2000 will be vastly different from the Russia of 1900. And the Russia of the future will owe not a little to the liberal and intelligent rule of the present Czar, who thus early in his reign has done more than has been done by any czar since Alexander II liberated the serfs.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

This state of things cannot continue much longer. There is no longer room for doubt as to the attitude of Russia and Germany. Germany is proceeding on the assumption that the murder of its minister was an act of war and that there cannot be the slightest doubt that it means to make that murder an excuse for fresh seizures of Chinese territory. Russia is conquering Manchuria, and will hold it whatever the other powers may say. The powers may "confer," but Russian troops will nevertheless transfer Manchuria from the Chinese to the Russian empire.

Troy Press.

Speaking broadly, there are anything to hinder the United States getting out of China and there is no way from those dangerous "entanglements" alliance"

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Z. C. M. I., T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

against which Washington solemnly and prophetically warned his people? The American legation is saved and not sacrificed, yet complex and bloody situations are inevitable which will lead this country to gain by more war in Asia, more bloodshed, more horror, more taxes?

San Francisco Chronicle.

A few weeks ago the advocates of the "open-door" policy in the Orient, were banging away at Russia, and demonstrating to their own satisfaction at least, that she was assiduously paving the way for the dismemberment of the Chinese empire, the ulterior object of such a course being to shut out the rest of the world from the trade of that part of China which might fall to her. These critics were all sure that Great Britain would prove an unyielding opponent of Russia's policy of dismemberment, and that the United States would stand shoulder to shoulder with the British in their efforts to preserve the integrity of the Chinese empire. Why they should have reached such a conclusion in the face of the cold shoulder which Lord Charles Bessford received from Salisbury on his return from China, they did hundreds of newspaper and review articles abundantly attest.

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Following telegram just received:

"19 Paid. Chicago, Ill., August 7, 1900.

"A. D. F. Reynolds, Manager, Underwood Typewriter for Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Washington, Ogden, Utah.

"Secretary of War, War Department United States Government, has just signed contract for one hundred and fifty UNDERWOOD Typewriters. WAGNER TYPEWRITER CO. "6.30 p.m."

It will be remembered The Navy Department last February purchased 250 Underwood Typewriters, which was the largest sale of typewriters ever made.

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