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WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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THE EASTERN STORMS.

The winter season was certainly never inaugurated more furiously or destructively than this time. From all northeastern points come tales of ships crushed or cast ashore and destroyed, with great loss of life and property; of lumber structures along the beach being either swept away or destroyed where they stood, of trains being blockaded, street cars inactive and a general suspension of business. Of course we have not heard all of it, but enough is at hand to inspire the belief that we are on the verge of a severe and protracted winter, a season during which the Storm King will probably reign more high-handedly than he has for many years. We fall to find a parallel in our recollection of recent years when the season opened so inauspiciously; and if what is to come shall prove to be improperly indexed by what we already have, there will be abundant cause for rejoicing and thankfulness.

IS IT A POLITICAL PLOT?

GREAT local interest has been centered during the last few days in the latest side-show to the spoliation drama of which the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the victim.

The proceedings in relation to the property involved in the suits cannot, we should think, be affected by the present squabble, the case in that connection having passed through the Utah court and gone on its way to the Supreme Court of the United States. In that regard the Zane faction could not be admitted as principals or active participants. The ostensible object of the new phase of things is therefore claimed to be, we presume, to prevent the diminution of the property by the allowance of excessive fees. Whether that is the genuine aim of the movement is gravely questioned.

Mr. Hobson struck a keynote in that respect, when he broadly intimated that political ex-grinding had more to do with the matter than a love for the interests of education. Weight is given to this idea when it is considered that although excessive fees had been asked for, the granting of these demands was in the hands of the court, in whom the would-be intervenors do not appear to exhibit much confidence.

The political phase of this proceeding is also borne out by the fact that the filing of Judge Zane's in the nature of an assault upon the honesty of the Receiver and his attorneys, and necessarily of the Attorney General of the United States. In view of recent political events is it too much to expect that there should be a disposition in certain quarters to both produce and hasten desired official changes? Is it out of the way also to have an idea of the possibility that when it rains of old porridge certain parties should be standing ready with their dishes top-side up. Why the republican organ which has gone neck and heels in support of this latest phase of the robbery of a Church has already nominated Judge Zane and others for certain federal offices in this Territory. Is it otherwise than to be expected that efforts should be made to float the candidates into the seats for which they have been named?

Men who have once occupied positions of trust and emolument and it exceedingly inconvenient to be dropped out. Judge Zane has discovered this. He said as much during his presentation of his side of the question in court now considered. He has been hurt, and doubtless feels some degree of resentment. He gave somebody a terrific slap when he said that there was a class of men who fawned at the heels of those above them officially, but when the persons to whom this sycophantic disposition was manifested were removed from office they took occasion to kick them. If the Judge had not thought he had good reason to think he had been flattered and fawned upon when occupying a dignified position and metaphorically kicked after his removal, he would not have said as much. That he felt it keenly is evident from his remarks, and it is possible therefore that associated with the political ingredient revenge may also enter into this affair as an element.

In making the statement in relation to the fawning and kicking concomitants, we presume that Judge Zane did not imagine that he had made a discovery on general principles, but simply as related to his personal ex-

perience. In Utah Federal official circles, in their connection with the anti-Mormon political clique, the same thing has been repeated over and over again. The Governor is an instance of this. Before the presidential election he was in certain quarters lauded to the skies, being made the object of fulsome adulation; since that event there has been maintained in respect to him in the same quarters a brilliant and continuous silence.

We have observed that when the clique is up to a political game of backgammon, its organ at once either flies into a passion or indulges in expressions of injured innocence and insulted purity when such a thing is intimated. The latter method is resorted to in the instance in point in reply to the soft impeachment thrown out by Mr. Hobson.

A good many symptoms indicate that sympathy for the cause of education is not the disease with which the movers in this matter are affected. They are not willing to take any risks of a pecuniary character. The objection to filing a bond to secure the payment of costs should the proposed investigation prove a failure is significant in that direction. Like Artemus Ward in his willingness to risk the lives and best blood of all his wife's relations in the cause of his country, they are more than willing to bleed the fund comprised of the Church property in controversy to the last dollar, all for the cause of education, you know.

The fight as it stands is quite interesting to people looking down on it, and the implied impeachment of the Attorney-General is one of the conspicuous features of it.

THE PAY OF WITNESSES.

YESTERDAY afternoon Judge Sandford rendered a decision in the case of Kelsey vs. Pyper, which is of some importance to the holders of witness' certificates, issued prior to March 8, 1888. On that date the Legislature passed a law fixing the mileage of witnesses in Territorial criminal cases at twelve cents per mile, one way, and creating court commissioners whose duty it is to draw upon the auditor of public accounts in payment of witness' certificates, when found to be correct.

Mr. Kelsey had some witness' certificates showing the number of miles traveled, and demanded that Commissioner Pyper issue a warrant on the auditor at the rate of twenty cents per mile, which was the mileage fixed by law at the time the witness rendered service. The Commissioner held that the law creating his office and appointing him thereto, only provided for twelve cents per mile. Mr. Kelsey applied for a mandamus to compel the Commissioner to draw his warrant at twenty cents per mile, and on a hearing of the matter yesterday Judge Sandford decided that the new rate of mileage could not be applied to service rendered before the new law went into effect; and that to give the new law such an application would be to make it *ex post facto*, and impair the obligation of a contract.

Hence the per diem of witnesses who rendered service before March 8, 1888, will remain at \$1.00 and their mileage at twenty cents; but since then the per diem is \$2 and the mileage twelve cents. This point was raised in the House during the debate on the bill but no amendment was made thereto curing its *ex post facto* and unconstitutional features.

FAR FROM CREDITABLE.

THE proceedings in the examination of John Groves, charged with unlawful cohabitation, reflect no credit upon the U. S. Commissioner before whom they were had, nor upon the assistant U. S. District Attorney. We have special reference to the treatment of the witness M. A. Williams, the reputed plural wife of the defendant. In a later aspect of the case it seemed to be shown in evidence that she is probably the legal wife of Mr. Groves.

In either status the witness should have been protected by the court, upon its own motion, from some of the questions put by Mr. Clarke, on the ground that a witness cannot be compelled to testify in a way to produce self-crimination. This protection was all the more necessary, as the defendant in the case was not represented by counsel. If the allegation that the witness is the plural wife, be correct, then she would, by an affirmative answer to the questions of the government attorney, regarding her sexual relations with the defendant, be liable for fornication. If her relation be that of legal wife, as appeared to be shown near the close of the examination, then the attorney had no legal right to ply her with questions that would render her infamous. Such was the character of his interrogation as to whether she had had sexual commerce with a number of men. Besides the fact that the rights of the witness were not adequately protected in a legal sense, there did not appear to be any special recognition of the fact that she is a woman.

The fact that the witness was not permitted to consult with any one

during her examination only added to the aggravation of the wrong to which she was subjected. It was a conspicuous feature of the proceedings also that the defendant several times asked leave to advise the witness to speak right out and tell the truth, but he was promptly suppressed. It is presumable that at a preliminary examination especially, which is not like a regular trial, the elucidation of facts is the principal object sought, that the court might ascertain on that basis whether there be probable cause to hold the defendant.

This instance is a departure from the generally dignified and consistent course of Commissioner Norrell, and it is on that account all the more noticeable. He has usually aimed to conduct proceedings in accord with the spirit of the law.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Lengthy and Comprehensive Document.

AN ELABORATE REVIEW

Of the Condition of the Nation
as it is.

FOSTERING MONOPOLIES & TRUSTS.

And Neglecting the Laborer and
Producer.

POLITICAL ECONOMY IS WELL EXPLAINED.

The President Does not Recede
from His Farleft Position.

A WORD ABOUT POLYGAMY

Our Relations with the World at
Large, Etc.

To the Congress of the United States:

As you assemble for the discharge of the duties you have assumed as the representatives of a free and generous people, your meeting is marked by an interesting and impressive incident. With the expiration of the present session of the Congress the first century of our constitutional existence as a nation will be completed. Our survival for one hundred years is not sufficient to assure us that we no longer have

DANGERS TO FEAR

In the maintenance with all its promised blessings of a government founded upon the freedom of the people. The time rather admonishes us to soberly inquire whether in the past we have always closely kept in the course of safety and whether we have before us a way plain and clear which leads to happiness and perpetuity.

When the experiment of our government was undertaken the charter adopted for our guidance was the constitution, and departure from the lines there laid down is failure. It is only by a strict adherence to the direction they indicated and by restraint within the limitations they fixed that we can furnish proof to the world of the fitness of the American people for self-government. The equal and exact justice of which we boast as the underlying principle of our institutions should not be confined to the relations of our citizens to each other. The government itself

IS UNDER BOND

to the American people that in the exercise of its functions and powers it will deal with the body of our citizens in a manner scrupulously honest and fair, and absolutely just. It has agreed that American citizenship shall be the only credential necessary to justify the claim of equality before the law, and that no condition in life shall give rise to discrimination in the

treatment of the people by this government.

The citizen of our republic in its early days rigidly insisted upon full compliance with the letter of this bond and saw stretching out before him a clear field for individual endeavor. His tribute to the support of his government was measured by the cost of its economical maintenance, and he was secure in the enjoyment of the remaining recompense of his steady and contented aid to it. In these days the frugality of the people was stamped upon their government and was enforced by the free, thoughtful and intelligent suffrage of the citizens.

COMBINATIONS, MONOPOLIES

and aggregations of capital were thus avoided or sternly regulated and restrained. The pomp and glitter of government less free offered no temptation and presented no delusion to the plain people who side by side in friendly competition wrought for the ennoblement and dignity of man for the solution of the problem of free government and for the achievement of the grand destiny awaiting the land which God had given them. A century has passed; our cities are the abiding places of wealth and luxury; our manufactures yield fortunes never dreamed of by the fathers of the Republic; our business men are madly striving in the race for riches, and immense aggregations of capital outrun imagination in the magnitude of their undertakings.

We view with pride and satisfaction this bright picture of our country's growth and prosperity, while only a closer scrutiny develops a sadder shading. Upon more careful inspection we find the wealth and luxury of our cities mingled with poverty and wretchedness and

UNREMNERATIVE TOIL.

A crowded and constantly increasing urban population suggests the impoverishment of rural sections and discontent with agricultural pursuits. The farmer's son, not satisfied with his father's simple and laborious life, joins the eager chase for easily acquired wealth.

We discover that fortunes realized by our manufacturers are no longer solely the reward of sturdy industry and enlightened foresight, but that they result from the discriminating favor of the government and are largely built upon undue exactions from the masses of our people. The gulf between employers and the employed is constantly widening, and classes are rapidly forming, one comprising the very rich and powerful, while in another are found the toiling poor.

As we view the achievement of aggregated capital we discover the existence of trusts, combinations and monopolies while the citizen is struggling far in the rear, or is trampled to death beneath an iron heel, and corporations, which should be the carefully restrained creatures of the law and the servants of the people, are fast becoming the people's masters. Still, congratulating ourselves on the

WEALTH AND PROSPERITY

of our country and complacently contemplating every incident of change inseparable from those conditions, it is our duty as patriotic citizens to inquire at the present stage of our progress how the bond of the government made with the people has been kept and performed. Instead of limiting the tribute drawn from our citizens to the necessities of its economical administration, the government persists in exacting from the substance of the people millions which, unapplied and useless, lie dormant in its treasury. This flagrant injustice and this breach of faith and obligation add to extortion the danger attending a diversion of the currency of the country from the legitimate channels of business.

Under the same laws by which these laws are produced, the government permits many millions more to be added to the cost of living of our people and to be taken from our consumers, which unreasonably swells the profits of a small but

POWERFUL MINORITY.

The people must still be taxed for the support of the government under the operation of tariff laws, but to the extent that the mass of our citizens are inordinately burdened beyond any useful public purpose for the benefit of a favored few. The government, under the pretext of an exercise of its taxing power, enters gratuitously into partnership with these favorites to their advantage and to the injury of a vast majority of our people. This is not equality before the law. The existing situation is injurious to the health of our entire body politic. It stifles all patriotic love of country and substitutes in its place selfish greed and grasping avarice. Devotion to American citizenship for its own sake and for what it should accomplish as a motive to our nation's advancement and the happiness of all our people, is displaced by the assumption that the government, instead of being the embodiment of equity, is but an instrumentality through which special and individual advantages are to be gained.

THE ARROGANCE

of this assumption is un concealed; it appears in the sordid disregard of all but personal interest, in the refusal to abate for the benefit of others one iota of selfish advantage, and in combinations to perpetuate such advantages, through the efforts to control legislation and improperly control the suffrage of the people.

The grievance of these not included within the circle of these beneficiaries, when fully realized, will surely arouse irritation and discontent. Our farmers, long-suffering and patient, struggling in the race of life with the hardest and most unremitting toil, will not fail to see, in spite of misrepresentations and misleading fallacies, that they are obliged to accept such prices for their products as are fixed in the foreign markets where they compete with the farmers of the world; that their lands are declining in value while their debts increase, and that without compensating favor they are forced by the action of the government to pay, for the benefit of others, such enhanced prices for the things they need that the

SCANTY RETURNS

of their labor fail to furnish their support or leave no margin for accumulation.

Our workingmen, enfranchised from all delusions, and no longer frightened by the cry that their wages are endangered by a just revision of our tariff laws, will reasonably demand through such revision steadier employment, cheaper means of living in their homes, freedom for themselves and their children from the doom of perpetual servitude, and an open door to their advancement beyond the limits of a laboring class.

Others of our citizens, whose comforts and expenditures are measured by moderate salaries and fixed incomes, will insist upon the fairness and justice of cheapening the cost of necessities for themselves and their families.

When to the selfishness of the beneficiaries of unjust discrimination under our laws there shall be added the discontent of those who suffer from such discrimination, we will realize the fact that the beneficent purposes of our government depended upon the patriotism and contentment of our people which are endangered.

COMMUNISM

is a hateful thing and a menace to peace and organized government; but the communism of combined wealth and capital, the outgrowth of overbearing cupidity and selfishness which insidiously undermines the justice and integrity of free institutions, is not less dangerous than the communism of oppressed poverty and toil which, exasperated by injustice and discontent, attack with wild disorder the citadel of rule.

He mocks the people who propose that the government shall protect the rich and that they, in turn, will care for the laboring poor. Any intermediary between the people and their government, or the least delegation of the care and protection the government owes to the humblest citizen in the land, makes the boast of free institutions a glittering delusion, and the pretended boon of American citizenship a shameful imposition.

A just and sensible revision of our tariff laws should be made for the relief of those of our countrymen who suffer under the present conditions, and such a revision should receive the support of all who love that justice and equality due to American citizenship; of all who realize that in this justice and equality our government finds its strength and its power to protect the citizen and his property; of all who believe that the contented competence and comfort of the many accord better with the spirit of our institutions than

COLOSSAL FORTUNES

unfairly gathered in the hands of a few; of all who appreciate that the forbearance and fraternity among our people, when recognize the value of every American interest, and the surest guaranty of our national progress; and of all who desire to see the product of American skill and ingenuity in every market of the world with a resulting restoration of American commerce.

The necessity of the reduction of our revenue is so apparent as to be generally conceded, but the means by which this end shall be accomplished and the sum of direct benefit which shall result to our citizens, present a controversy of the utmost importance. There should be no scheme accepted as satisfactory by which the burdens of the people are only apparently removed. Extravagant appropriations of public money, with all their demoralizing consequences, should not be tolerated either as a means of relieving the treasury of its present surplus, or as furnishing pretexts for resisting a proper reduction in tariff rates. Existing evils and injustice should be honestly recognized, boldly met and effectively remedied. There should be no cessation of the struggle until a plan is perfected, fair and conservative toward existing industries; but which will reduce the cost to consumers of the necessities of life, while it provides for our manufacturers the advantage of freer raw materials and permits no injury to the interests of American labor. The cause for which the battle is waged, is comprised within lines clearly and distinctly defined. It should never be compromised. It is the people's cause.

It cannot be denied that the

SELFISH AND PRIVATE INTERESTS

which are so persistently heard when efforts are made to deal in a just and comprehensive manner with our tariff laws, are related to, if they are not responsible for, the sentiment largely prevailing among the people, that the general government is the fountain of individual and private aid; that it may