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Y. M. AND Y. L. M. I. A. CONFERENCE.

SALT LAKE CITY, MAY 20, 1903.
Y. M. AND Y. L. M. I. A. CONFERENCE.

The 31st General conference of the Young Men's and Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Associations of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in Salt Lake City on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 30, 31, and June 1, 1903.
On Saturday, May 30th, at 10 a. m., a conjoint meeting of all officers will be held in the Tabernacle.
Business meetings will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 30, and June 1, for the young men in the Tabernacle of the L. D. S. university, and for the young ladies in the Fourteenth ward assembly room, and general public meetings in the Tabernacle on Sunday, May 31, at 10 a. m. and 2 and 7 p. m.

All officers and members of the associations are requested to be present at all the meetings, and a cordial invitation is extended to all the Saints to attend the Tabernacle meetings.
Special rates on all railroads. See announcement in newspapers for details.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
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THOMAS HULL,
General Sec'y., Y. M. M. I. A.
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ANN M. CANNON,
General Sec'y., Y. L. M. I. A.

THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER.

We devote much space today to the old canard revived on Sunday by Rev. D. J. McMillan, D. D., of New York. At a morning service in this city, he spoke of the alleged liberality of the "Mormon" Church in supporting the freedom of religious opinion, and asserted that not very long ago it was unsafe for a man in Utah to say he was not a "Mormon." To substantiate his statement he repeated the story he told many years ago, to the effect that when attempting to preach in Sanpete county he had to take "a Bible in one hand and a pistol in the other," for the "Mormons" had declared "they would never allow the feet of a Gentile to tread the sacred soil of Sanpete county." He affirmed that this was true, and further that "they would not sell a Gentile any thing to eat if they could get out of it. If a 'Mormon' did sell us anything he lived in mortal dread of the consequences."

This story about the Bible and the pistol was told by McMillan first when on a visit to the east, after teaching school in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete county, for some time, where he had a number of "Mormon" pupils. It was published in the Rocky Mountain Christian Advocate and copied into other papers. He did not expect it would reach the folks in Sanpete county, but on his return it was brought to his attention, and he publicly declared he did not write the story, but promised to deny it in print. This promise, we understand, he never fulfilled.

The story was not new. It did not originate with him. He plagiarized it, as he has other anti-"Mormon" stories and arguments. It had been used several years before by Rev. J. P. Lyford, a Methodist minister at Provo, who was an associate of the notorious Rev. G. M. Pierce, who fell into dire disgrace with his own people subsequently. Lyford gathered in considerable money in a tour of the East on the strength of this canard. How much McMillan collected by his adoption of the story we are not able to state. Lyford's story was fully refuted.

That there was not a word of truth in the terrible tale—unless for dramatic and subscription effect either of both of them put a pistol in his pocket, that he might be able to say he went into the pulpit armed—was well known to the people of Utah at the time and can be testified to by hundreds at present.

The facts in the case are that when D. J. McMillan taught school in Mount Pleasant, Sanpete county, and traversed business there for years. Non-"Mormons" traveled through the settlements there and had never been molested or refused food or shelter. The very caricatures who maligned the "Mormons" in that way had been treated by them with the utmost kindness and hospitality. To the sin of lying was added the sin of ingratitude on the part of the religious hypocrites, who proved themselves to be of the same class as the prototypes of old, when Jesus of Nazareth denounced as "wolves in sheep's clothing."

him and a quiet congregation listened to him. No pistol appeared, nor was there any occasion for such a weapon. Gentiles as well as "Mormons" attended. Affidavits from several of them were obtained as to the facts, after the falsehood told by McMillan appeared in print. We reproduce some of them in another part of this paper today. To these are added the statements of eye-witnesses made since Dr. McMillan repeated his wilful and shameful untruths. We could fill the columns of the "News" for several days with evidence of the preacher's turpitude, but we think what we have brought forward will suffice, at least for the present.

Reference was made to the Sanpete story, in the Tabernacle on Sunday afternoon in this way: The speaker had been handed a small pamphlet by Dr. McMillan in which, among other untruths, it was asserted that according to the "Mormon" faith, Luther, Calvin, Baxter, Bunyan, Knox, the Wesleyes, etc., were all impostors. The speaker showed that the "Mormons" entertained no such an idea, but believed that all who sincerely worshipped God and sought to benefit their fellowmen would receive their reward. He went on to express a doubt as to the story told in the pamphlet about the alleged conversion of "A 'Mormon' Priest," because the writer of it had promulgated a sensational story about his having taken a Bible in one hand and a pistol in the other when preaching in Sanpete many years ago.

In reply to this mild reference to the canard, who was not named, one of his supporters, in a pious rage at a meeting on Sunday evening, intimated in strong terms that the Tabernacle speaker was "a liar" and that all were "liars" who accused Dr. McMillan of lying. It may not be of any use to call the reverend and pious pulpiteer's attention to the affidavits and testimonials furnished in today's "News," but we will suggest to him that a simple denial of McMillan's unsupported statement, in view of the evidence of its untruth, would scarcely justify such an attack as that made on Sunday evening. And further, we would remind our contemporaries that the "attack" was made by Dr. McMillan, not by the preacher who denied its truth. Nor are the statements we now print an "attack" on the individuals who published direct falsehoods, but are merely given in rebuttal of the malicious and libelous attacks repelled to. And it will not nullify their force or their importance to call the witnesses "liars."

Harpers' Monthly Magazine for October, 1881, contained an article by C. C. Goodwin, in which the McMillan fable was repeated, with the further monstrous falsehood that President Brigham Young, at a meeting in Sanpete, ordered the people to kill McMillan. The editor of the Deseret News wrote a reply to these fabrications, but Harpers' would not publish it, and it was printed in the Deseret News and followed by the affidavits we reproduce today.

The occasion of the attack on the "Mormon" people at that time, was the endeavor to have them all disfranchised, and which was partially successful, as the passage of the Edmunds Act of March 22, 1882. A similar spirit in a somewhat similar endeavor, prompts the present secularist outburst and fusillade prepared for the Presbyterian assembly at Los Angeles. We do not wonder at its virulence, for we have had to meet it for a great number of years and in many places. And we ought not to wonder at the amazing falsehood of professed ministers of religion when treating "Mormonism," for they appear to think that to fight the "Mormons" is a pious enterprise, justifying the use of the vilest weapons.

How any one with a conscience can resort to such methods in opposing an unorthodox creed is a marvel. But if it is true, as the old Presbyterian creed intimates that the elect will be saved, no matter what they do or do not do, and the others will be damned no matter what good works they may perform, a mere matter of conscience will not count or interfere with those who claim to be the elect.

Of one thing we are sure. Truth will triumph in the sequel. Falsehood will serve a temporary end, but it will ultimately fail. And he who knows the hearts of men and discerns their intents and purposes, will judge a righteous judgment and turn the everlasting and efficient light of truth upon the words and works of all. We leave our detractors in His hands and have no fear of the consequences and the result.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

Pennsylvania's new libel law, about which so much has been said lately, provides that civil action may be brought against any newspaper published in the state, to recover damages resulting from negligence in the ascertaining of facts when making publications affecting the character, reputation or business of citizens. Hereafter every newspaper must print the names of proprietors and editors, and they are to be held to account for everything published.

The Pennsylvania papers, as well as others, opposed the law on the ground that it would give the slyer lawyers an opportunity to bring petty suits, and cause publishers endless annoyance. On the other hand it was urged that reputable newspapers would have nothing to fear from the law, while the others had carried their attacks on citizens to an offensive and dangerous point.

As is often the case, there is truth on both sides of this controversy. It is extremely dangerous to curtail the liberty of the press, but that liberty presupposes that the press is in the hands of responsible persons. No others can use that liberty without injury to themselves and others. It may be necessary to grant the liberty to use a razor, but unless the person enjoying that liberty is sound, his liberty must be restricted. Neither a mad man nor one with murder in his heart can be treated with a dangerous weapon, however useful that may be in the hands of persons of a sane mind.

And this is the complaint, that a number of publishers, instead of using the press for the furtherance of principles, use it for partisan and personal purposes. They claim that their object is only to spread wrong, and to promote virtue, and by such pretence they hope to ob-

tain public support. But this is false; if they expose any wrong-doing at all, it is not their own, nor that of their friends, with which they ought to be most familiar, but that of opponents; and not for the purpose of aiding right to triumph over wrong, but for the sole purpose of obtaining the spoils of office. There is a good deal of pretence and hypocrisy about it, and there can be no doubt that this is an evil that calls for attention. It is difficult to see, however, what remedy there is, that would not be as bad as the evil.

Sometimes it is claimed that no innocent party was ever injured by the yellow press. But is that so? It was openly charged that the malicious and persistent attacks upon the late President McKinley were, to some extent, responsible for the tragedy at Buffalo. And the charge has never been successfully refuted. Certain it is that the attacks ceased as soon as the fatal bullet was fired. His assassins could have made no more direct confession of the infinite wrong they had committed, than by lauding in death, him whom they had calumniated in life.

Undoubtedly the Pennsylvania law will be tested in the courts. The American people will not tolerate gag laws; on the other hand, they do not desire liberty abused. There is a medium between the two extremes, and that should be found.

DIVORCE AND POLYGAMY.

Under this caption the Kansas City World of May 14, in a leading editorial discusses a current subject, and comes to the logical conclusion that the polygamy practiced in this country under the existing divorce laws, is a greater evil than any violations of laws, that have been charged against citizens of Utah. The World says:

"The clergy of the Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist churches in this country are alike interested and a joint committee representing the various churches is to meet in Los Angeles, Cal., May 23, to recommend some uniform attitude for ministers to take regarding the remarriage of divorced persons. It is quite certain that as a result the line will be more closely drawn."

The Detroit conference of the National Congress of Mothers gave the question of prominent place in its discussions. These estimable women took a narrow view of the matter, however, and contented themselves with demanding uniform laws, without defining the law as it ought to be, and with denouncing polygamy in Utah.

"Uniformity of divorce law is certainly to be desired; provided the uniform law is good. But if, to secure uniformity, there must be such concessions all around as to result in looseness, the result might be even worse than it is at present."

"It is to be regretted that the mothers were not more definite in their demands. Denunciation of polygamy in Utah, where legal polygamy no longer exists, is hardly to the point."

"Denunciation of the consecutive polygamy, which legally exists in every state in the Union outside of Utah, would have been more timely and effective."

"Indeed, of the two, consecutive polygamy, as carried on in all the states, under sanction of law, is more productive of present evil and immorality and more dangerous to the future of the nation than the illegal polygamy that may be carried on in violation of the laws of Utah."

"Statistics have shown that more than three-fourths of the divorces in the United States are procured for immediate remarriage to another person already selected."

"What condition could be imagined with a stronger and more fatal tendency to undermine the home and to cause to be held lightly the ties that should be held as the most sacred on earth?"

"Courtship and engagement of persons already married is a crime and a scandal, to which the law should no longer be an accessory. The abuse of the land need to worry less over supposed polygamy in Utah than over this open, legalized consecutive polygamy that is going on in every state."

"Mothers may well look with dread upon the future of their daughters while a polygamy so widespread and a morality so lax prevails outside Utah and is finding its victims in annually increasing thousands in every plane of society."

the Philippines. The troops used to fight insurgents. Then it was rebels, then ladrones, and now it is fanatics. Next!

Another consumption cure has been discovered, this time in Germany. Notwithstanding the cures, consumption, like the little brook, goes on forever.

The President captured Nevada hands down. A man who had marched up San Juan hill should be able to take a little state like that without much trouble.

"So strong is Rank of England note paper that a single sheet will lift a weight of 100 pounds," says an exchange. That's nothing. One little piece of it, just the size of a bank note, will carry 45,000.

Dr. Hadley of Yale may be an up-to-date, progressive college president, but he has some very old fashioned ideas. He refused, when requested by a committee of union laborers, to call off the undergraduates of his university, who were driving trucks in strikers' places. And added insult to injury by saying that the Constitution guarantees a man the right to sell his labor. Strange man is President Hadley.

Colonel A. A. Pope is again at the head of the bicycle interest. Of the country, and he intends to put it on its feet again. It is easy to tell how he will do it. Once asked what was the first essential to success in selling a good thing, he answered, "Advertising."

"What is the second essential, then?" "Big advertising!"

"And the third?" The reply came in a thunder tone:

"Bigger advertising!" And he was right. Patrons of the "News" realize this.

THE RUSSIAN CRIME.

New York World.

Not when Weyler's word was wreaked upon the hapless Cubans, not during the dark days of "punitive expeditions" in China, not from Congo swamps when the grimest atrocities were done in the cause of trade, have recent years revealed such tales of horror as come upon unimpeachable authority from the scenes of massacre in Russia. Soldiers and police protecting the perpetrators of unimpeachable crime, babies sacrificed in the drunkenness of slaughter, sordid greed of gain the main motive of the outrage—these details lay upon Russia a heavy responsibility. She seeks vaster territories, the guardianship of weak peoples, the "white man's burden." She must first set her own house in order, stop the outrages and so punish those most guilty that reputation will be impossible, or stand content with a generous response to the world, unit for wide dominion.

Chicago News.

If Russia is to clear itself of this fearful stain of organized murder and prove its right to be ranked among the civilized nations it must show that it has really the power to arrest the recurring outrages which are driving the Jews from the country and which have resulted this week in the enforced exile of 37,000 Jews from Kiev alone. It is clear that the late proclamation of religious freedom to be regarded as anything more than a mockery and a trick, he must punish the perpetrators of these heinous crimes and protect the survivors among his suffering Jewish subjects.

Chicago Record-Herald.

The situation is simply intolerable, and it explains the enormous emigration of Jews from Russia during late years. These wretched down-trodden people came to us just as their brethren did from Roumania, which is the border from Bessarabia, and much the same provocation is given for a protest to the offending authorities in the case of Russia, which is the border of the land need to worry less over supposed polygamy in Utah than over this open, legalized consecutive polygamy that is going on in every state.

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The 80c Quality on sale this week, per yard 57c
The \$1.00 Quality on sale this week, per yard 69c
The \$1.25 Quality on sale this week, per yard 83c

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Regular price 65c, reduced to, per yard 38c
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Regular price \$1.00 reduced to, per yard 64c
Regular price \$1.10, reduced to, per yard 72c

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Regular price, \$1.00, cut to, per yard 74c
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AND EACH IS A BONA FIDE CUT FROM THE LOWEST OF LOW REGULAR PRICES. THEY ARE ALL 50 INCHES WIDE.
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