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DECISION IN THE CHURCH SUITS.

JUDGE ZANE rendered his decision this morning in the three suits involving the question of the escheat of certain pieces of real estate which belonged to the late corporation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The decision is in favor of the Government.

Judge Zane holds that the Temple block was worth the full amount of $50,000 when the law limiting Church holdings to that amount went into effect; therefore the pieces of property now in dispute are forfeited under the laws of Congress. He also seems to hold that the Church did not have any legal right or title in these pieces of property until the incorporate law came into operation.

In regard to the Garde House property, however, he inclines to the opinion that it is a parsonage, and that the Church is entitled to it under the exemptions made by the Edmunds act. But he is bound by the decree of the Supreme Court, which included that property in the forfeitures.

As to the value of the Temple block, it seems to us that the Judge is mistaken if he places it at $50,000 in 1862, when the limiting act of Congress was passed. There was no market then for real estate, and a purchaser could not have been found at any such figure. As to that, and other pieces of real estate in question, it seems to common folks that if the Church did not have property rights in them in 1862, there was no cause or reason for the passage of the law limiting churches to $50,000 holdings. If the Church held the Tithing Office grounds in 1862, then they are exempt from the operations of the law, which could not be retroactive. If the Church held no right to real estate at that time, what was the object and purpose of the law limiting the rights of the Church in this respect?

Of course the Judge of the District Court is bound by the decree of the Supreme Court, and he could do no better than decide in accordance with it. But his views of the patronage matter are valuable, and are consonant with justice and the plain meaning of the act of Congress.

The opinion of Judge Zane is marked with his usual acumen, regard for existing rulings and strict interpretation of the statutes. A new trial will be asked for. In case this should not be granted, an appeal will be taken. The Supreme Court of the Territory may modify its former decree. But it is more than probable that the case will have to go up again to the Supreme Court of the United States, before the matter will be finally adjudicated. And it is to be hoped that, by some competent means, justice will be done at last, so that the precedent may not be established in the United States of governmental seizure of property belonging to a religious association.

CORRUPT JOURNALISM.

THE complaint of the Santiago correspondent of the London *Times*, about the false news sent from Chile by American reporters, is not unfounded. The rush for the first place in the journalistic race and the struggle for "scoops," often lead the lively news gatherer to the lines of invention, and he supplements a paucity of facts with big patches of fiction. The story of the blowing up of the "Baltimore" was, no doubt, a reporter's romance, without truth and without reasonable excuse.

There are so many fabricated items of alleged news telegraphed all over the civilized world, that doubt is cast upon the entire service of press dispatches. Everybody here is familiar with the falsehoods that for many years were sent over the wires concerning Utah affairs. And every now and again lying dispatches cause a temporary sensation, unsettling people's minds, agitating the money market, and often causing business disasters. A dispatch will come in the morning only to be contradicted in the afternoon, and the papers which print them are often wrongfully blamed, either for publishing false news or for filling up their columns with contradictory telegrams.

We view this falsification of news, like the preparation of bogus "interviews," as positively criminal. The perpetrators of these infamies ought to be severely punished. There should be a law in every State and Territory to reach such cases. The law of libel does not meet them. There might be some difficulty in proving malicious or deceptive intent, but such a law would have the effect of checking the evil and making it disreputable and dangerous to thus mislead the public.

In addition to this, it would seem that every respectable newspaper, for its own reputation, would set its face against false dispatches and manufactured interviews." They only tend to lower the tone of the papers to which they appear and lessen their reputation for reliability. No person should be retained in the service of a decent journal who is guilty of manufacturing news, wilfully misrepresenting facts, or putting into the lips of public men under the guise of an "interview," words they never uttered and of attributing sentiments to them which they never entertained. American journalism needs great purification, and it is time that the work was commenced.

SILENCE THE WAR CRY.

THE correspondence from Chile in the London *Times*, on the trouble between that country and the United States, which appears among the cable dispatches today, has very much of the ring of truth about it. The statements will be very generally believed by the people of the United States who have watched the progress of affairs at Valparaiso. We have believed from the first that this government was being dragged into unnecessary hostility with the people of Chile through the injudicious course of its diplomatic representative.

It has been evident since the overthrow of Balmaceda that Minister Egan was not in perfect accord with the congressional party, and that his presence in Valparaiso, instead of being conducive to peace between the two governments, was a constant source of annoyance to the Chilean authorities. Whether this ill feeling is just or unjust on the part of the Chileans has little bearing in the case, so long as the complaints are against Mr. Egan personally and not the government which he represents.

Waiving the technical points of diplomacy, we cannot conceive what purpose the United States could have in thrusting upon the people of Chile a case for whom they harbor a personal dislike. We cannot see what this government can hope to gain through an arbitrary or dictatorial policy with Chile. No power can so well afford to be not only just but conciliatory in diplomatic transactions as the one that is able under any probable exigency to dictate terms of settlement.

The United States besides being able to do this with Chile has every incentive to avoid a broil with a sister republic. Now, when the cause of republicanism is passing through one of its most critical trials, it should be the particular business of this government to be an exemplar of peace and the advocate of the weak in the general struggle for human right.

The statement made by the *Times* correspondent, that Chile has no hostile feeling against the United States is probably not altogether correct. But if such hostility does exist the more reason there is for the United States to have a man of consummate tact and wisdom to conduct its negotiations.

The idea that Chile would deliberately cultivate war with this government, is on preposterous that we refuse to believe that a little skilful diplomacy would not secure a satisfactory adjustment very much better than gunboats.

The rumor published today of the government's intention to send more men-of-war to Valparaiso in case a speedy apology is not forthcoming, will not be pleasant reading for any patriotic citizen of the United States or true friend of republicanism. The conditions do not appear to require any such precipitous action.

REFORM IN INDIA.

WHEN or how nose rings became articles of adornment among Hindoo women it is difficult to find out. But that they have been such for centuries is universally known. What is more, the custom has prevailed among the belles of the higher and richer castes, and has been religiously observed. One ring was usually worn at the left side, the other suspended from the central cartilage just over the upper lip. The origin of rings in the nose is suggestive of brutal treatment to women in primitive days. One would think so, judging from the use made of the ring in the noses of oxen and other animals. But do not European and American women wear rings in their ears? Has this custom also a barbarous origin?

The women of India, have now resolved to abolish the nose ring. For that country this is an important reform. It is questionable whether American women would so readily abolish the ear-ring. The hole in the left nostril is, however, still decorated with a flower of some kind, while that of the central cartilage has been allowed to fall into disuse. Accounts do not state what led to this radical reform among the Hindoo ladies, but it is stated emphatically that the change has been achieved. Perhaps when the secret history of the reform is known, it may be traced to an attack on the Russian influenza or American grippe among the people of that country.

VIGILANCE COMMITTEE THREATENED.

IT will be observed by the following, from the San Francisco *Chronicle*, that that city is in danger of witnessing another scene to some that were so notoriously famous on the Coast in days gone by:

"Within the past week there have been no less than six deaths by violence in this city, all of which may be denominated murder in the popular sense of the term, if not in a strictly legal sense. Some were murder with premeditation and malice, and some were killing in anger or under some provocation, real or fancied, but there is, for the purposes of this article, no need of drawing fine-spun distinctions.

"When we earnestly desire to call attention to is this, that there is a growing tendency in this city to believe that the machinery of the law either is not adequate to the prevention or due punishment of crime, or that the authorities are disposed to be remiss in enforcing the acts of justice. The people of San Francisco are losing faith in the efficacy of courts and juries and prosecuting officers, and are coming to believe that if one accused of crime can but secure a certain amount of dollars he is practically secure from punishment.

"This belief has nothing to do with the grand jury questions which have been so prominently before the public of late. It is no delay in investigating charges or hearing in discussions which is undermining the confidence of the people, but delay in bringing men to trial who are charged with crime, and additional delay in carrying into execution the sentence if a verdict of guilty is rendered.

"The suspension of this line of conduct seems to be hard to frame. Blatant or legal methods and processes will be encouraged to beget an undue admiration for methods which are clearly illegal, but which, under analogous conditions have certainly proved effective. In plain words, this city is beginning to think vigilance committee very seriously, and if this epidemic of murder be not checked it will not be possible to answer for the consequences."

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REVIEW.

HENRY CLEWS in his report for the week ending November 7th, 1891, says the Stock Exchange still keeps dull and stagnant. Much of the dullness is attributed to election excitement. The report that Russia had prohibited the export of all cereals produced little or no effect, simply because it was neither confirmed nor denied.

The advance of the Bank of England rate appears to have stiffened the money rate on the Continental bourses, and as that measure was doubtless intended to divert the westward drain of gold from London to the European centres, it may be expected that the German Reichsbank and even the Bank of France will soon follow the example of the Bank of England as a measure of defense.

London finance is subjected to a new and by no means insignificant strain by the outbreak of what appears to be a serious form of revolution in Brazil. Argentine matters are also complicated. The distress in Russia will necessitate the remittance to that country of the bulk of the recent loan negotiated in Paris. Under ordinary circumstances much of this money would have remained in Western Europe. Taking the foreign situation as a whole, Mr. Clews thinks it is more suggestive of future trouble than of support to the American market.

Imports for September show a decrease of $14,400,000 compared with last year, while American exports show an increase of $14,900,000. This is the beginning of a course of the foreign exchanges which is destined to continue to bring gold to New York and create an ease in money which can hardly fail to produce favorable results in Stock Exchange values later on.

THE CAR COUPLING QUESTION.

AN interesting report comes from the committee of national railroad commissioners now in session in New York, which was appointed to secure congressional action upon the question of uniformity in car couplers and other railway attachments of similar importance. In the judgment of President Hains of the American Railroad Association, who addressed the committee yesterday, there are 1,500,000 freight cars in use by the railroads of the United States, and 1,000,000 of them are still fitted out with the old style link and pin coupler.

There is some disposition to attribute this condition to a tendency on the part of railroad manipulators to stick to whatever is cheapest, without any regard to the lives of employes. We do not believe this to be just. The fact that to change the couplers on 1,000,000 cars involves an outlay of twenty to twenty-five million dollars will excuse the railroad companies from tasty experiments or independent action in that line when the general adoption by other companies of some different patent might necessitate another overhauling of their entire system.

The question is a proper one for legislation, and if a law were passed, specifying and requiring a given principle to be carried out in the coupling arrangements the country over, we believe the railroads would readily adopt it. The fact that about 8,000 persons are injured annually in the coupling of cars gives the subject a national importance.

CURRENT COMMENT.

ED. Schandelt, of Jamaica, New York, is as pected to die. The cause of his condition is that he failed to take the advice of Josh Billings, who said: "Never monkey with a loose axe." He made several unsuccessful attempts to take the boss saw route as a means of suicide, by placing his head repeatedly in contact with the implement, as it whirred at full speed. He was fearfully lacerated, but at last accounts was not expected to live. The dispatch which narrates the circumstance claims that the method by which Schandelt sought to take his life is new in the annals of suicidal attempts. This is an error. A few years since a man entered the planing mills of Taylor, Romney & Armstrong, this city, placed his head in contact with a belt and cut a zip in his small intellect to the brain. He was laid up in St. Mary's hospital for several weeks, but finally recovered.

The action of Councilman Pickard, at last night's session of the City Council, in withdrawing his motion for the suspension from office of Marshal John M. Young, was the best step he could take under the circumstances. As a matter of course this action includes the withdrawal of any intention on the part of Mr. Pickard to push an investigation into the causes which led to his making the motion for suspension in the first place. The fact that the gentleman, as acting Mayor, gave the Marshal a written order directing the latter not be molest the keepers of bad houses, is one that Mr. Pickard can afford to allow to drop out of sight. No showing that he might be able to make against the Marshal would wipe out that order.

No trace of the murderers of Ed. Callahan, who was killed and robbed on State street last June, has yet been discovered, so far as the public are aware. Do our local contemporaries mean to say that the police have been "in hot pursuit" during the last five months?

Facts that are being daily unearthed in this generation are drowning the ingeniously constructed characters and invented incidents of fiction into the shade of forgetfulness. Instead of being fired with indignation at the barbarities of old Spaniards for his stone of poor Simba, in Dickens' immortale Nicholas Nickleby, the reading public may turn with loathing from such recitals as the newspapers give of the doings of Rev. Samuel Cutten, rector of Carragh, Kildare, Ireland, in charge of an orphanage. Only think of this minister putting a child in a cold bath and saving it in the open air all night, covered with ice, which were found frozen to the dead body of the poor thing in the morning. This treatment was applied as punishment to the child. This was infinitely worse than Old Squeers feeding his pupils on sulphur and treacle. It was but one of numbers of instances of cruelty perpetrated upon the innocents by the clerical scoundrel. He is the worst kind of murderer, as he subjected his victims to slow torture by semi-starvation processes, to extract moneys and perfect part of the appropriation made for the orphans.

We have before commented upon the fact that when Dom Pedro was deposed, it was announced in Brazil that there should either be a republic in that country or there would be anarchy. We remarked that there was a fair prospect of anarchy. That situation has been virtually reached. A republic has been tried. That has practically disappeared. Fonseca now assumes a dictatorship. A number of persons have revolted and declared their independence. This is negroism—an advanced stage of anarchism. Bloodshed seems to be inevitable. Fonseca is evidently what is vulgarly called in this country, "a tough hombre."

Says the Chicago Mail: "Tomorrow morning the Hon. Carter H. Harrison will make his bow to the people of Chicago in the new capacity of editor-in-chief of a metropolitan daily." Carter is a vigorous old gentleman, but this latest step of his life indicates that he is anxious to retire at an early day from earthly scenes and circumstances, unless he is simply being put up as a conspicuous editorial dummy.

There is a gentleman of this city who has one way of settling political difficulties. He seemed to be thoroughly pickled in the acetic vinegar of his plan, which is disfranchisement. He ran as "Liberal" candidate at the last election for delegate to Congress from Utah. Disfranchisement was his political battle cry. It did not take, and he got fearfully and wonderfully left. But he still rides the hobby, being evidently the victim of a timid infatuation. Evidently if he had his way the greater part of the people of the American continent would be disfranchised. In proof of this, we insert the following—in reference to Brazil—from the paper over whose editorial columns he presides: "We can understand this because, in point of fact, not one out of ten of the men of Brazil ought to be ever given permission to cast a ballot, because they have no conception of government, at least no conception of a free government or the restrainments that ought to be upon men when they are given the privileges to rule themselves." After reading that, what is the use of saying anything derogatory about Dictator Fonseca?

NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

Col. Dodge says that the Rio Grande Western will be extended to San Francisco.

The United States produced 1,000,000 pounds more pig iron in 1890 than did England.

Goldwin Smith is a became deliverance at Toronto strongly favored annexation, saying that it was the inevitable destiny of Canada.

Twenty-nine States have the Australian ballot system in force now at elections. The law is not identically the same to all places.

There is trouble among army officers of the department of the Platte. It is supposed to be over the management of the new Indian soldiers.

Chamberlin, the horse which bore the only survivor of the Custer massacre, died at Fort Riley, Kas., on the 10th inst. He was 29 years of age.

A number of stockholders have been disobedient of the Farmers' Alliance of the Union Pacific. It is said that more will follow. No cause assigned.

At Shelbyville, Ind., a current of electricity prevailed in the business buildings which injured several persons. It is not stated how it originated.

Major Hardin, an army paymaster, was robbed of $5,500 at San Antonio, Texas, on the 5th inst. Two discharged soldiers are suspected. One is under arrest.

Mexico means to surpass its exhibit at the Paris Exposition by those which it will have at Chicago. Congress has appropriated $50,000 for preliminary expenses.

Last year there was a potato famine. This year 60,000 bushels of the root were allowed to lay in the ground in one district of California, because it would not pay to dig them.

Dr. Craigen, county physician of Cumberland, Md., set several stitches in a cut received by a citizen of that place. The man had no money, and the doctor then cut open the wound again.

Jay Gould and J. J. Ingalls entered life about the same time. Gould had a patent screwdriver to start with. Ingalls had a good fund of knowledge. Now one owns a great part of the earth, the other is a salesman looking for work.

On the 9th inst. there was dedicated to the memory of Garibaldi at the Villa d'Auray, where he died, a monument designed by Bartholdi. The heart of Garibaldi, preserved in alcohol, was deposited in a little vault at the foot of the monument.

At Courtland, N. Y., the waiter girls of a large hotel struck. Girls were imported from Canada to fill their places. The New York girls attacked the newcomers and beat them fearfully. One New York girl got two Canadians in a corner and pummelled them prize ring fashion.

Edna Hickson, an old colored woman, who was a slave on the farm of Joseph Hickson, Monticeo county, Mo., sued the estate of Hickson in the Missouri courts for $1440 wages for twenty-five years. She was never told that she was free until her master died and she was then told that she could stay with the family. The Court of Appeals granted her half the amount.

At Glengardiner, N. J., a few days ago, a woman was tarred and feathered. Now the details of the barbarous proceeding are breaking out. The chief actor spoke vauntingly of his diabolical work. He says that he helped to tear her clothes off, and then apply tar to her body. Another man named Lick applied the feathers. In the annals of ferocious fiendishness, perhaps, this is one of the most aggravated, heartrending and diabolical outrages ever perpetrated on unfortunate womankind. Well might Glengardiner, and the whole State of New Jersey blush for the shameful act.

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20 pieces 36 inch Colored Serges, former price 60c., now only 45c.; all wool.

Satin Louis, 500 yards, at 95½c., reduced from $1.45.

Satin Louis, 250 yards, at $1.35, valued at $2.00.

Camels Hair Effect Novelties, 40 in. wide, at 90c., would be cheap at $1.00.

$150 Novelty Capes, Paris made, at $65.00. A rare bargain.

Black Gros Grain Silk, 300 yards, 23 inches, at 55c., regular price 85c.

Satin Rhadame, 500 yards, 20 inches, at 87½c., real value 90c.

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