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SALT LAKE CITY, JUNE 8, 1903.

WHO WAS "ATTACKED?"

Our contemporaries have been indulging in a great deal of fiction relating to an alleged "attack" on Rev. Dr. J. E. McMillan, D.D. of New York, by Elder Penrose, and the comments of the Presbyterian preacher on the purported "attack." For the benefit of the reading public we will state the facts concerning this matter, so far as they have been substantiated by reliable evidence.

In the first place, no "attack" has been made on Dr. McMillan, either by Elder Penrose, or any other member of the "Mormon" Church. It has not been explained, yet, by any of the papers or individuals that have said so much about that "attack," of what it consisted. Nor are they able to do so, because it cannot be made to appear, by any fair construction of language, that there has been anything in the nature of an "attack" upon the gentleman, during his visit here on the way to or from the assembly at Los Angeles.

Further, the doctor emphatically denies having used the words attributed to him in reference to Elder Penrose, and explains that "the Bible in one hand and pistol in the other" story was to some extent at least, told "by way of metaphor." He does not claim, now at any rate, that he ever exhibited such weapons in the pulpit. Now, as to the Sunday services on May 23rd:

In the morning the Dr. preached in a local church and, according to the Monday papers, repeated the old and exploded Sanpete story about the Bible and pistol. He emphasized as true the terrible tale about his life being in danger when preaching in Sanpete twenty-eight years ago. In the afternoon the speaker in the Tabernacle incidentally defended his Church against the error published in a pamphlet, to the effect that the "Mormons" believed that all the great reformers such as Luther, Calvin, Knox, et al were impostors. He showed that, on the contrary, the Latter-day Saints regarded them with honor, as they did all persons who sincerely promulgated their beliefs and led mankind to believe in God and Jesus Christ. The speaker went on to mention other statements in the pamphlet, which he said bore the name of a New York D. D. (without mentioning the name) and which he doubted, because of the story which the author had told about being under the necessity of taking a pistol as well as a Bible into a pulpit in Sanpete.

It appears that the Dr. was incensed at this, and retold the story in the evening. Whereupon some affidavits that were published at the time of its first promulgation were reproduced in the Deseret News, accompanied by present statements from former pupils of Dr. McMillan, refuting his tale of a gun, and completely upsetting it. The romance had not the merit of originality, as it was plagiarized from the fiction published a few years before by a Methodist preacher named Lyford, then located at Provo.

Now it will be seen by all fair-minded readers that the "attack," originally and by repetition, came from Dr. McMillan, and that all that has been said and published about it has been by way of refutation. It matters not whether the story was metaphorical in the start, or like Dr. Liff's falsehood about Senator Smoot, told "by way of pleasantry." It was an "attack" on the "Mormons" of a quarter of a century or more ago, and the evidence is overwhelming that there was no occasion for any preacher to go armed, either into the pulpit or anywhere else among the "Mormons" in Sanpete.

And, further, the proof is positive that the great story that has been uttered to McMillan, that "no Gentile should be permitted to set foot on the sacred soil of Sanpete," was sheer fiction, because about one-fourth of the population of Mount Pleasant when he taught school there was composed of Gentiles.

Now, we do not care anything about the stupid story, any further than we do not like the public to be misled as to the character of our people, who are peaceable and always kind, generous and hospitable to strangers who act with any semblance of decency. But we think our contemporaries are not doing fairly in the little breeze of controversy that has arisen, by harping so much on the alleged "attack" on Dr. McMillan, when nothing of the kind has been attempted. On the contrary, after his alleged personal remarks and his revamping of his old story, the only revenge we took was to publish, without charge, a notice that he would preach in the Westminster Presbyterian church on Sunday evening, and to furnish a reporter to take a sketch of his sermon. We wish him no harm and have only sorrow for him and his associate "crusaders," in their violent attacks upon "Mormonism" and the "Mormons."

FORCES OF DESTRUCTION.

And still the reports of calamities are coming. The entire year has been a carnival of death, and the ghastly procession is still passing.

Some have an idea that there are no

more calamities than usual; only, they seem more numerous because of the greater facilities with which news now is obtained and spread broadcast. But this reasoning forgets that newspapers and newspapers are not institutions of yesterday. For a great many years they have kept the daily records of events, and especially of the great tragedies of the world, with almost perfect accuracy, and by this very record, it is evident that we are passing through a period of time in which the beam of destruction is exceptionally active. In this country, all during the winter, people perished in landslides and storms and with the first appearance of spring came floods, by which life and property were destroyed.

Against the forces of nature that cause many of these disasters, man is absolutely helpless, but floods can, to some extent, be prevented by proper precautions. High levees and embankments are recommended as the surest remedy, and it would seem too easy to call the attention of the nation to the necessity of providing permanent protection in the United States. National aid should be given for the building of such embankments, or of canals and levees, and for the planting of trees where the country has been denuded of its natural protection against inundations. Such enterprises would be as necessary as the building of warships or canals.

In the meantime, the stricken people need the financial assistance of their fellow citizens. This should be given promptly and generously.

AFRAID OF EMIGRATION.

Report has it that the German emperor is very much distressed because so many young Germans are leaving the fatherland before they have served their term in the army. If the truth were known, it is probable that one reason why "Mormon" missionaries are expelled from Germany could be found in a similar fear on the part of the German public authorities. We presume the clergymen, who are the real opponents of the Gospel and Gospel messengers, have persuaded the authorities that the "Mormon" missionaries are secretly preaching emigration. This, of course, is false, as every missionary abroad has instructions not to encourage Saints to leave their native countries. But the speaker of a "Mormon" missionary preaching emigration, cleverly gotten up by plots, hypocrisies, is enough to create a prejudice against the Elders among the officials of state. In the meantime, the governments that are afraid of losing their young men should look after immigration agents, and sub-agents, who hoodwink European countries and enlist emigrants, being paid so much a head for their work by the steamship companies. That is a business which should be restricted some, to great advantage.

COST OF WAR.

The British war office, recently, gave out a statement showing the cost of the little war Great Britain has waged from 1895 to 1901, in Africa and Asia. The official expenditure in 1895 cost about \$6,000,000. The Ashanti campaign of 1895 and 1896 cost about \$1,000,000. The campaign of 1896-7 in Mashonaland and Matabeleland rolled up expenses of almost \$12,000,000. The campaign in the Sudan from 1896 to 1899 caused an expenditure of over \$12,000,000. The expedition to the northwest frontier of India in 1897 and 1898 used up about \$13,000,000. The Ashanti campaign of 1900 called for an expenditure of over \$2,000,000. On these little wars, therefore, in six years, about \$50,000,000 was expended. To this sum should be added \$20,000,000 spent in China in 1890 and 1891, and about \$1,000,000 that is said to have been the cost of war in South Africa. All told, these wars have called for an expenditure since 1895 of something like \$135,000,000. It is no wonder that the governments are slow to decide to engage in big wars, when they look over the cost of even the smaller military expeditions.

The figures published again remind one that there is no more important matter before the public at present than the question of whether arbitration may not succeed war. The progress of the peace idea will depend on the gradual education of the masses, and the creation among them of a correct understanding of the folly and wickedness of war. When such sentiment prevails, there can, under modern conditions, be no war. Even the vast preparations for war, which some insist are necessary for the preservation of peace, are a folly, and a mistake. Were all the money spent on military matters, invested in the reclamation of the waste lands and canals, and other useful enterprises, the world would be different from what it is now. But this is coming. Already the English-speaking nations feel that a war between them would be a calamity for which neither our government nor the British government, would care to assume the responsibility. And the same may be said in regard to hostilities toward any other large power. As this sentiment grows, arbitration will become the natural recourse of contending nations.

At the recent peace meeting at Lake Mohawk, among the delegates were 20 judges, 20 preachers, 40 men engaged in educational work, including five presidents of colleges, 25 editors of magazines and newspapers, and half a hundred men of large business interests. That shows how the peace idea is gaining ground, among people that create and mould public opinion.

A STUDY IN SUICIDES.

Professor Bailey, of Yale, has studied the grim subject of suicide, and arrived at certain results. He collected data about 10,000 cases in this country, from 1887 to 1901, and he found that, of this total, 4,554 were unmarried; 4,507 married; 678 widowed; 138 divorced; and the status of 182 was unknown. Of the entire number, 7,741 were men and 2,259 women. As to the modes of suicide, he found that shooting was most popular among men and poison among women. The table is as follows:

Drowning	800	490	310
Shooting	2,347	2,890	267
Poison	2,750	1,831	919
Gas	810	683	115
Jumping	668	468	308
Hanging	473	250	123
Miscellaneous	952	759	200
Totals	10,000	7,741	2,259

The figures, to be absolutely correct, should embrace every case, or very nearly so, that occurred in the given period. But even as they here stand, they tend to prove that unmarried life is not conducive to happiness. Of those who are unmarried, widowed, and divorced, 4,841 took their own lives, while the married suicides amounted to 4,507. It is a gruesome subject to study, but the searcher for truth cannot turn back, though the path alone which he must tread, is forbidding in the extreme. Professor Bailey also notes that Monday is the day preferred by a great number for their exit from this world, and that the hour from 9 p. m. till midnight seems to be the favorite hour.

In Indiana all is fairbanks in love and war.

An course of prevention isn't worth an ounce of radium.

When it comes to "baiting in," the goat leads the procession.

As the waters recede, the people of Kansas have grounds for hope.

Just now the submerged tenth appears to be in Armored, Kansas.

Anthony Hope is won to wit. In due season look out for more "Dolly Dialogues."

The final round in the local postoffice fight seems to have been indefinitely postponed.

What a chance to throw mud the people of Kansas now have. But they won't do it.

Mr. Tulloch, like the village schoolmaster, "even though vanquished, he could argue still."

Victims of "get rich quick" concerns get experience quickly, and experience is always valuable.

One cause of the floods down east may be that so much water is being let out of various stocks.

The town of Randsburg, California, has been wiped out by fire. In Kansas they wipe the towns out by water.

Beginning September 1, Logan is to have free mail delivery. There is not a "go ahead" about it.

Prussia can expel the Elders if she so chooses, but it remains as true today as ever that "truth crushed to earth will rise again."

If the French Panama canal company had nothing to sell, as is asserted at Bogota, then Uncle Sam in buying it was sold.

The Dewey family in Kansas is in grave danger of being lynched. Anyway one in danger of being lynched is in grave danger.

All over the country the Fourth of July started earlier than usual. Already in Chicago Glorious Fourth festivities are being recorded.

The Oregon traveled fourteen thousand miles and went into a fight. The President traveled fourteen thousand miles and feels fit for a fight.

Some of those who have been involved in the postal frauds have already appeared in court. Eventually some of them may appear in stripes.

A dividend, from unexpended funds, is to be declared in favor of those who contributed to keep the schools open. Those who made the contributions never made a better investment.

A morning contemporary indulges in a grumble because the "south string of bathhouses" at Saltair were not moved sooner "over to the east side," so that bathers need not have to wade so far into the lake. Well, if that advice were to be followed, the "bathers" would not have to "wade" at all, but take a tramp over the sands away from either deep or shallow water. Before you grumble, get the lay of the land and also of the water!

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The June number of Cooking Club is filled with reasonable matter. Among other things there is "A Defence of the Cook," placing the responsibility on the consumer; a discussion of the servant food problem from the ready-to-eat food supply basis; a reminiscence of home-life in Virginia during slavery days; the continuation of a series of papers on "Jewish Cookery," with "Vegetarianism and Methods," with "The Hash of a Hundred Years." The "Cook's Helper" is a reasonable, practical recipes for everyday cooking, suggestions for smart, thrifty and economical, with recipes. This magazine makes a special effort to be a practical helper in kitchen and dining room—Goshen, Ind.

In the Red Book for June appear, by way of introduction, a number of photographic art studies, "Types of American Beauty," by Morrison. The list of contents is as follows: "A Point of View," David Graham Phillips; "A Club Comedy," Augusta de Buhna; "The Story of Saint Billy," Charles Meritt Williams; "A Borrowed Babcock," Mary and Hattie Dawson; "My Uncle John," Hayden Carruth; "Grag Matter," J. H. Donnelly; "A Captain of Industry," Richard Lindheim; "The Flying Carpet of Tomorrow," W. Bert Foster; "The House on the Hill," Lynn Ruby McKinnis; "No Story," D. H. Talmadge; "Crossed Wires," Edward Boltwood; "A Fabled Lake," Una Hudson; "A Gamble," Margaret; Margaret Busbee Ship; and "The Twin Ghosts of St. Pierre," David Burton—The Red Book Corporation, Chicago.

The list of contents of The World Today for June includes the following: Declaration of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition; "Three Notable Figures," Ex-President Cleveland, President Roosevelt and President David R. Francis; by Charles H. Dennis; "The Events of the Month," "The Apostolic Delegation at Washington," Walden Fawcett; "British Political Leaders," Eugene Parsons; "The Individuality of China," Edward Pomroy; "The Cuban Situation," William A. Salisbury; "The Drama," Ivan C. Waterbury; "Forests of Canada," L. C. Hobart; "The Good Roads Convention at St. Louis," Julia D. Cooper; "Reforming Children Without a Refractory," J. J. Kelso; "The Segregation of Deaf-mutes," Alexander Johnson; "Shakespeare's Portrayal of the Moral Life," Frank Chapman Sharp; "On the Survival of Bodily Death," R. J. Thompson; and "Trees of the Middle West," Samuel B. Green.

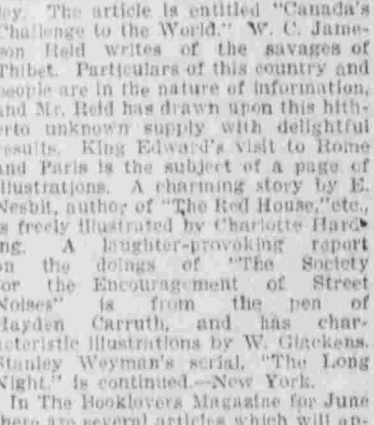
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