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THE POLITICAL SIDE SHOW.

Idaho papers are throwing ridicule on the attempt of certain political aspirants, who have spoiled themselves in both great parties, to make anti-Mormonism the chief issue in the present campaign. The purpose of the chief plotter, who is using some very disreputable tools to effect it, is well understood in both of the partisan camps, and its failure is confidently anticipated. Some of the public speakers ignore the pretended "issue" altogether, while others allude to it in no complimentary terms.

As to the slogan sought to be aroused over the polygamy bugbear, several challenges have been offered for proof of the assertions concerning its prevalence. These have been made against the charge that new plural marriages have taken place. The fact of their occurrence is denied, and proof, if any there be, has been demanded. This is the point made by the chief speakers opposed to Duboisism and the defamation of the State and its officials.

In pretended response to that challenge, a notorious informer has published a list of twenty names of persons who are alleged to be living with their plural families in Idaho. They are all old cases. The charge of "polygamy" cannot be preferred against either of them. There is nothing new in the assertion that they have the reputation of being polygamists. Most of them have been considered as such for from twenty to forty years. The list, therefore, is no real response to the challenge. Yet it is being paraded as a great sensation. It only causes a smile of derision on the faces of the people of Idaho, unless it may be a few newcomers and imported eastern "spellbinders."

The alleged affidavits of the spotter amount to a complaint in which the deponent swears, "That he is informed and believes that" such and such a person "is cohabiting with more than one woman as his wife, not being legally married to the same." This, it will be seen, is not an answer to the challenge. It is only an evasion. It is parading something that is not denied and that is permitted to gradually and quietly subside, for reasons that have been advanced and admitted, and settled in the public mind for years. The complainant does not appear to know anything himself as to the particulars of any specific case by which he could substantiate the charge, but merely swears that "he is informed and believed" so and so. Alarming and wonderful, is it not?

The Idaho Statesman (Republican), which for some time appeared to be under the influence of the chief anti-Mormon agitator, takes no stock now in the movement of the feeble wing of the party that has become divided because of it, and after publishing the list already referred to, says editorially of "The Side Show":

"As the average person observes the performance being indulged in by the Democratic leaders, to divert attention from the national and state issues of this campaign, he is reminded of what he used to see, when as a boy, he went to the circus, recollecting cutting up vicious wild animals, show men who vociferously proclaimed the merit of their attractions to the crowd surging past to see the real performance."

"It is all rather amusing to those who understand the entire situation. The crowds going into this show grow larger daily, and as this becomes more apparent the side shows are so much more diligently proclaimed."

"It will not be news to a single reader in Idaho that polygamy is being practised. That has been known for a long time. The extent of it and the relative age of the cases are points upon which there is much dispute, but the people are not worrying their heads about those matters in this campaign."

The Boise Capital-News (Democratic), after describing the character of the list and its maker, thus comments upon it, editorially:

"It is a cheap dodge and shows the straits to which the A. P. A. managers in the state are driven, since no one has ever denied the existence of polygamy had its origin before 1880, and Bishop Dodge and others named in the list have publicly acknowledged the fact. There is not a new case mentioned and if only twenty polygamist families can now be found in the state, it simply proves that the practice is dying very rapidly, and disproves the statement of the Dubois people that there are hundreds of cases, new and old."

"Did not Senator Dubois know that cases of polygamy existed in Idaho, when he said in the United States senate, less than two years ago, that polygamy (new polygamy, as he expressed it), was dead? Has Mr. Owen unearthed a single new case or a case

in which the alleged polygamous marriage was contracted since 1897?"

That is the point to be kept in view. And that is what the disturbers and revivers of old contentions fail to meet, except by queries and innuendoes, but endeavor to divert public attention therefrom. James H. Brady, chairman of the Idaho Republican Central committee, has been explaining the situation in his State to the Portland Oregon, papers. In the Evening Telegram of that city appears a long interview with the gentleman, as to the probable success of his party in Idaho in which the annexed paragraphs appear:

"The Democrats are making their fight on local issues alone. Senator Dubois in his addresses does not even attempt to deal with national issues. We have the state thoroughly organized, and the press is with us."

"The Democratic party has attempted to force the so-called Mormon question as the sole issue of the campaign in Idaho. It is not an issue at all and cannot be made such. To the best of my judgment and those of my friends who are posted on this matter, not a single polygamist marriage has occurred in the State of Idaho since the manifesto of President Woodruff, four years ago."

"Taking everything into consideration and the fact that the Democratic party under its present leadership refuses to meet us upon a single national or state issue, there is little wonder, indeed, that old-time Democrats who pin their faith to the doctrines of Jefferson, Jackson, Calhoun and other great leaders refuse to abide by the modern Idaho article. Many of them will vote their electoral ticket and then will vote the straight Republican state ticket."

The manner in which demagogues and slanderers are conducting their war against the "Mormons" in Idaho and in Utah, puts them beyond extended notice by respectable people and should be the means of defeating their scheme, as we believe it will. In both States there will be but few voters who will be influenced by the floods of falsehood, libel and indecency that have been turned into political channels. Decent and self-respecting citizens will pay no attention to the slush, but will quietly make up their minds what is the right thing to do for their country, their State and their party, and refuse to be turned from their course by any amount of special pleading, scurrilous assertions, impudent threats or partisan predictions.

SITUATION IN ITALY.

As a matter of news, the statement that a number of leading ecclesiastics and laymen in Italy have evoked the head of the church there to revoke the order forbidding Catholics in that country to take part in national politics, is of the greatest interest. It means a change of policy, that may have far-reaching consequences.

The restriction referred to dates as far back as over thirty years, to the time when the papal chair was deprived of all temporal possessions. The injunction was given as a powerful protest against what was regarded as an outrage against the great Catholic church, not to be submitted to. The order has been so generally obeyed that the country has suffered loss, as always will be the result, when a considerable number of its intelligent citizens are disfranchised, or abstain from participating in public affairs. Should the policy of protest be adopted, the government will be the gainer.

The supposed dangers of Socialism are a factor in this movement. The governments of the world, after years of experimenting, and experience, are slowly arriving at the conclusion that they need the aid of the moral forces of the church, for the building up and strengthening the defenses of modern society. The petition is from Catholic citizens, but there can be no doubt that it means that the Italian government is holding out the olive-branch to the church. For it is the government that is anxious about the growing influence of the Socialists. And thus, once more, the victory in the long struggle in Italy is within the reach of the occupant of the papal chair. It is the victory of "passive resistance," always slow, always sure.

MOVING FOR PEACE.

A Washington dispatch announces that the acting Secretary of State has dispatched a note to American representatives at foreign courts, with a view of bringing the powers together in another peace conference. This is, we presume, in fulfillment of the promise made some time ago by the president, to the representatives of the International peace congress.

It is not to be expected that a second gathering similar to that at The Hague, will finally usher in the millennium, by removing all possible obstacles. But it may materially aid in the establishment of the conditions preliminary to universal peace.

One of these preliminaries is a permanent parliament of nations. As matters now stand, there is, really no international law, no universally accepted principles of right or wrong. And as long as there is no international law, there can be no arbitration except upon more or less arbitrary rules. There is, for instance, no legal enactments according to which the controversy between Russia and Japan can be adjusted. There are many such questions between nations that appear impossible of an equitable solution at present, and therefore are merely held down by the weight of guns and armies.

The peace movement recognizes this fact. Its friends demand that a regular international congress composed of representatives of the various governments be arranged, to meet at definite intervals, to consider complex international interests and to make recommendations which would become law when ratified by the nations thus represented. Since 1875 thirty-three international congresses have been held, three of these in Washington, and one in Mexico. These have considered matters relating to postal service, weights and measures, laws of war, sanitation, quarantine, commerce, etc. These congresses meeting irregularly have grown more and more quasi-legislative, and treaties and conventions are often based on their action. What is aimed at now is the establishment of a Stated World congress, at first only advisory, but gradually increasing its

powers and evolving a code of international law. Then gradual disarmament will follow. A small armed international police force will then be established. This may not do away with the use of militia or with the possibility of civil war for an indefinite period; but it will end, in a comparatively short time, the barbarous wars of which humanity now is sick.

A congress such as that contemplated by the peace conference does not need to wait to assemble until the combatants in Asia shall be pleased to shake hands across Manchuria. It should be convened as soon as practicable. It might exercise an influence for good upon the present situation.

In this connection it can be stated that the Dutch government has been criticized for moving so slowly in the matter of the erection of a palace of peace, after having accepted Mr. Carnegie's generous offer. A site has now been chosen, and in due time, that grand monument to the great thought of the age, will be reared. It may not be finished for many years, although when the money is already on hand, there need be no unnecessary delays. But it will certainly be finished by the time the nations will really be in need of such a palace.

AN INTERESTING ENGINE.

They are talking about running an engine from New York to California Without a Stop. Under the caption, "A Modern Miracle," the Worcester Gazette says the Manufacturers' Record of Baltimore sets forth the advantages of a new locomotive which is being manufactured for the Southern Pacific railroad under what are known as the Hoadley-Knight patents. The trucks and framework are being turned out by the American Locomotive works at Schenectady, the Corliss Engine company of Providence is building the Diesel internal combustion equipment and the General Electric company will construct the electrical parts. The locomotive will use oil as a fuel, but so economically that it will be possible to make the run entirely across the continent without replenishing the stock of fuel. The locomotive, it is said, is exciting the liveliest interest among railroad men.

The Peace congress is called rather softly.

What the czar needs is to be saved from his friends.

Rojestvensky will never be a beneficiary of the Carnegie hero fund.

Oyama and Kuropatkin are simply taking the "rest cure" for a few days.

Thus far the campaign has resembled a Quakers' meeting more than a whirlwind.

Rojestvensky's explanation of his attack on the North sea fishing fleet is rather fishy.

Judge Parker will speak in three states. This shows that he can change the state of his mind.

It's a pretty kettle of fish that the Russian squadron has got by firing into a British fishing fleet.

Kuropatkin has been promoted to commander-in-chief. His career indicated that he should have been retired.

There are enough international complications now in sight to keep half a dozen Hague tribunals busy for half a dozen years.

As the Russian and Japanese armies are now facing each other at close quarters, both will naturally put on a good face.

During the fall campaign no one, man or horse, has made a better record than Major Delmar. In fact, he may be termed a clipper.

The deer season in Maine opens auspiciously. Already one hunter has been shot in mistake for a deer. The short and simple annals of this man say that he leaves a widow.

The statement of the attorney of the Standard Oil company regarding its business connections cannot fail to convince the public that that struggling corporation is the most innocent and most maligned institution in all this broad land of liberty.

In his charge to the new minister of the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, Rev. Dr. Theodor Cuyler said: "It isn't the office of the pastor to furnish literature to the press." Splendid admonition but choke full of heresy according to many modern ministers.

It took a mandamus from the supreme court of Kansas to compel the board of education of Coffeyville, that state, to admit the children of a negro. In Utah negro children are admitted to the schools the same as white children, and Utah makes no pretension of being the friend par excellence of the negro like Kansas does.

"It seems to me you have advanced with your experiments further in the direction of securing good laws restricting the traffic of intoxicating liquors, without too much interference with individual liberty, than we have in England," says Mr. James Bryce, commenting on the liquor question in the United States. It is Bishop Potter's subway saloon that has elevated the saloon in this country.

The Czar is fully up to the advantages of our marvelous civilization. He is said to have ordered a moving picture machine, which is to furnish him scenes of the war. This is a decidedly more pleasant way of going to the front than the old-fashioned one, and it would have been impossible, but for modern inventions, to indulge in such imperial sport, without danger to the skin. The censors may be depended upon to pass only the most pleasant pictures

**KING PETER'S APOLOGY.**  
New York Evening Sun.  
The recent pilgrimage of King Peter of Serbia to Zitcha would seem a charming little comedy. But it has its pathetic side. In Serbia alone could we look for such a picture, for that is a land where the absurdities of our modern romances of the Zenda type are outdone. Could anything be more charming than his majesty going to a pilgrimage of penitence with Maslin, Danzyan and Mischich, the nobles who took so prominent a part in the murder of King Alexander and Queen Draga? It is not for that murder that they seek to mollify an offended saint, but to apologize for Peter's act in being crowned at Belgrade.

**Kansas City Star.**  
It may not be presumptuous to take the side of the Dely against such an imposition as that of the recent anointment of the king of Serbia as a ruler by divine right and as the special representative of Christ before the Serbian people. Such charlatanisms, together with the assumed sanction of Providence upon the Russian conquest of the east, can be judged by Providence without flinching and impertinent assistance. But because of its reflected injury to humanity there may very well be a mundane protest against practices which end to discredit Christianity.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

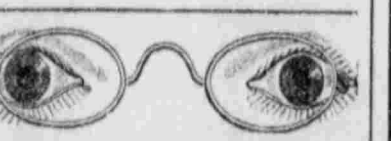
It is not unlikely that the Russian soldier in the ranks has no idea of what part of the world he is fighting in. He is "not to reason why"; he simply obeys orders. He boards a train for an hour or a month, alights, goes there, comes here, stands up, unquestioning, to be shot at, and is nearly as machine-like as the gun he fires. Oscar King Davis, the war correspondent with the soldiers of the Mikado, has written especially for The Youth's Companion an article, published in the Oct. 27 issue, on "The Armies in the Far East." In this he describes the traits and characteristics of the soldiers of both opposing armies as he has observed them in camp and field. -Boston, Mass.

The Century Magazine for November has for frontispiece a fine, colored reproduction of Saint Gaudens Statue of General Sherman. The opening article is a scientific paper on "The Evolution of the Horse in America." Other features of interest are: "The Brain of the Nation," Gustave Michael; "The American Horse-Woman," three drawings by Urquhart Wilcox; "The Man who Forgot," a story, Alice Sedgwick; "A New Occupation: The Welfare Manager," Lillie Hamilton French; "Gilbert Stuart's Portraits of Men: Judge Stephen A. B. Jones," Henry Wolf; "A Leader of the Tibetans," A. D. Baker; "An Impossible Possibility," a story, Elliott Flower; "Keat's Poem, 'To Autumn,'" text and facsimile from the author's manuscript; "Our Modern Blue-Jackets," R. F. Zogbaum; "The Peacocks of Japan," "Tableaux," Yel. Theodora Ozaki; "Within the Enemy's Lines," a story, Edward Rollwood; "A Dinner of Herbs," William Hayes Ward; "Down the Flume with the Sneath Piano," a story, Bailey Millard; "A More Love-Song," Edward Barron; "Tiger and Jones," picture in color, by Charles R. Knight; "A Diplomat's Recollections of Russia" (1892-4), Andrew D. White; "Japanese Devotion and Courage," Oscar King Davis; "Art, the Pursuer," Edith M. Thomas; "To the Barberini Rees," Martha Gilbert Dickinson, and "Miss Harriet's Extravaganza," a story, Florida Pier. Announcements for 1905 are of special interest. The Century Co., Union Square, New York.

The opening page of the November Success brings to mind the fact that Thanksgiving is once more rolling round, and that we must prepare for the festive turkey. Strickland W. Gillilan, the president of the American Humorists, contributes a poem to this page. "The World's Fair as a Progress-Promoter," by Walter Wellman, gives the reader in a very short space a splendid idea of what the St. Louis exposition means to the advancement of civilization and industrial progress. E. N. Sweet, Jr., contributes an interesting article on the manufacturing of currency at Washington. Vance Thompson contributes the sixth of his startling "Diplomatic Mysteries," "The Plum Tree," by David Graham Phillips, is presented in its second installment. It is a political romance of unusual quality. Joaquin Miller, the poet of the Sierras, contributes his latest poem. It is entitled "True Greatness." Dr. Marden's editorial deals with the practical subject, "Where Does Your Energy Go?"

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