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## THE CHURCH VINDICATED.

Some of our contemporaries, commenting upon the final disposition by the United States Senate of the case against Senator Smoot, make the distinction that, while the Senator was vindicated, the Church was not. This is, of course, true as far as it is true that the Church was not on trial. The Senate was not called upon to give any opinion on the doctrines or practices of the Church. That is a matter entirely foreign to the domain of the Senate. And so far, the Church was not an issue.

But the decision was, nevertheless, a vindication of the Church. The allegation of the conspirators was that, though Senator Smoot was personally treacherable, he was a member and official of a law-breaking, treasonable organization, and for that reason he ought to be excluded from the division of Congress to which he had been elected. It was also alleged that his election was irregular, because effected by undue pressure upon the electors. Had there been any truth in these charges, the Senate would, we believe, have voted to expel the Senator from Utah. His moral status would then, in the opinion of the senators, have justified adverse action on his case. But, after a most thorough investigation, the Senate found no justification for expulsion on the grounds alleged, or any other grounds, and for that reason the vote was a glorious vindication of the Church. It was equal to saying to the crusaders, Your charges are not true. In fact, it was said in so many words, that the only charge that had been proved was that Smoot is a "Mormon," and that is no offense.

Thus the Church was vindicated and the conspirators confounded. But our Christian friends need feel no alarm on that account. The victory will not be the signal of any unlawful aggression. The Church has no other mission than the proclamation of the gospel of peace and good will to the children of men. It has been long enough in the school of adversity to learn humility, as well as implicit faith in final victory for the cause of truth.

## MR. ROCKEFELLER'S MONEY.

The Colgate University, Hamilton, N. Y., will not accept a cent of the Rockefeller donation of \$25,000,000 for educational purposes. This is the official announcement in behalf of that Baptist institution. It is also announced that other eastern colleges belonging to that denomination will refuse Mr. Rockefeller's money.

The sentiment behind this decision would not criticize. But what would the result be if all "tainted" money—all money made by morally questionable business methods was eliminated from the contribution boxes of schools and churches? How much would be accepted, if all would-be contributors were first examined as to their business integrity? To draw an illustration from local circles: How much money would anti-"Mormon" crusaders be justified in accepting from the various sources, if the contributors first were required to reply truthfully to the question: "How did you get it?"

It is a mistake to suppose that all multi-millionaires are dishonest, or that only they are proper subjects of censure. The fact is that the less successful business man may be as dishonest, as crooked and as unscrupulous in his dealings with his fellow-men as the one who is more successful. The size of the pile made is no criterion. A big fortune does not prove correspondingly deep depravity; nor does the absence of wealth prove unspotted honesty. It follows, that the sentiment which demands the rejection of Mr. Rockefeller's money should, if consistency is not to be thrown to the winds, require an examination into the business honesty of all would-be contributors. The half dollar of the corner grocery man who cheats his friends every day in various ways is as much tainted as the big check of Mr. Rockefeller.

The example of the Master should have some weight with the Baptist trustees of colleges. He did not refuse to be entertained by Zacheus, though this man was a chief among the publicans, and very rich. He had nothing to say about "tainted" money, but He impressed upon His hearers the truth that He was come to seek and save that which was lost. In accordance with this principle, when anyone manifests a desire to do good, he ought to be encouraged, and not condemned.

Mr. Bryan asserts that "it would have been better to return the money to the people to whom it belonged directly." This suggests the important question, how? If the country has \$5,000,000 inhabitants, \$25,000,000 divided equally among them would give each about 37 cents. How could the distribution be made? Or, if some of this money belongs to people outside the United States who may have bought it of Mr. Rockefeller, how could they be found and given their share? It is easy to suggest that the millions be returned to the people to whom it belonged directly, but how is this to be done?

During the Moslem dispensation every fifth year was a year of jubilee, and an adjustment was made of property conditions. Debts were wiped out and

land was restored to the original owners. But modern laws do not recognize a year of jubilee for the distribution of property to the people "to whom it belongs."

## HEED THE PETITION.

It is not to be wondered that the citizens of San Juan county are aroused over the movement tending to the pardon of Charles Rotha, the double murderer, who is now serving a life sentence in the Utah state prison. The crime was a particularly cruel one, almost wholly without a mitigating circumstance. To turn such a man loose in the community in which he was ever a bad character, and in which he shed the blood of the girl whom he maltreated and abused when she lived with him, and followed and slew when she sought refuge in the shelter of another, and who died with her, would, as the protesters say, "be a travesty on justice."

Not only do the former acquaintances and neighbors of the convict raise their voices against his release, but they are equally opposed to a commutation of his sentence in any form. These people are not of the thoughtless type, but represent the best elements of San Juan county. They include the sheriff, ex-sheriff, county commissioners, treasurer, justice of the peace, foreman and members of the jury that returned the verdict against the prisoner, and Ex-Representative Redd of the Legislature, and other prominent residents of that section. They know to the letter, what manner of man Rotha was, and close their petition to the board of pardons with this statement: "We feel that the killing of Tibbets, as well as that of Mrs. Rotha was one of the most atrocious brutal and premeditated murders ever committed in the state."

## ARE THEY WORTH KEEPING?

The Atlantic Georgian argues in favor of disposing of the Philippine islands at the earliest convenient moment. We are reminded of the fearful troubles those islands have caused the country and also of the "menace" involved in their possession. On this point the Georgian says:

"And the menace which recent conditions have called to our minds, we trust sincerely, not lose its mission and its diplomatic education in purporting this country to get rid of the Philippines at the earliest possible moment, and at any reasonable consideration under which we can drop this 'Old Man of the Sea' from the shoulders of a great and content Republic."

This, in plain words, means that we ought to let the fear of Japan influence us to give up the Philippine islands to whatever foreign power that may stand ready to accept them. It is difficult to believe that any patriotic American will accept without argument, such a proposition.

It may be true that the Philippines have caused some trouble, and that the islands are not worth fighting for, if only their commercial and strategic importance is considered; but, is there no other point of view? If by keeping those islands under the Star-spangled Banner, American civilization with all its blessings of both a spiritual and material nature, is thereby brought to five million souls of human beings, educating them, perhaps, for a future mission of freedom to the Asiatic nations, then the Philippines are worth keeping, whether they pay in dollars and cents, or not.

## SOME MORE COMMENTS.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger approves the decision of the United States Senate in the case against Senator Smoot as follows:

"The outcry was great, and the simple question was, Should a Senator in law and in fact, entitled to his seat under the Constitution and laws, be thrust out of the Senate because many people wanted to get rid of him?"

"The Senators had the courage to disregard the clamor and to abide by their oaths. The Senate thus encourages us to believe that we have not yet got to the point of supplanting psychology by the simple duty to govern mobs, for the law of the land."

The Manchester, N. H., Union merely makes a statement as follows:

"The final decision by the United States Senate in the Reed Smoot case was rendered by so large a majority that it may well be permitted to rest. It is to be kept in mind that Senator Smoot is not, and never has been, a polygamist. He married Alpha M. Eldredge, September 17, 1884, and has been the husband of one wife. It is to be noted, also, that the members of the Senate did not divide on partisan lines. Although Senator Smoot is a Republican, three Democrats voted against the resolution for expulsion, while nine Republicans gave it their support. There have been four years of discussion and almost no end of petitions. The Senate has taken final action by a very substantial majority, and the case may best be considered as closed."

The Washington Herald characterizes the crusade as ill-advised, and commends Senator Smoot's address in his own behalf. That paper says:

"We have no doubt the Senate's decision will be approved by a majority of the American people. The fact that Smoot was ill-advised, and failed to impress the people with a sense of the Senator's unworthiness, throughout it all, Mr. Smoot maintained a dignified calm and a well-bred reserve. When, at last, he did raise his voice in his own behalf, he delivered a very frank, manly, and safe speech, completely refuting all of the harsh and damaging allegations filed against his personal integrity and his political and religious sincerity and faith. His statement was convincing. Perhaps more so than any evidence submitted."

The New York Evening Sun calls the decision a vindication of the Senate, rather than of Senator Smoot, or the Church. The Sun says:

"There was no proven charge against Smoot. Every attack made upon him resolved itself into this: that he was prominent in the Mormon Church, which had in the past committed the polygamy. Smoot needed no other vindication than that which was afforded by the protracted hearing of testimony in the proceedings that were instituted over three years ago with the Senate

resolution of Jan. 27, 1904, authorizing an investigation into Smoot's title and right to a seat. Certainly yesterday's vote was not a vindication of Mormonism, for not Mormonism but Smoot, was on trial in the Senate investigation. What was vindicated yesterday was the Senate itself, whose courage and intelligence were put to the test in the final relit that settled Smoot's place in that body. Tremendous pressure had been brought to bear on the Senate to adjudge Smoot unfit to a seat. Rarely if ever, has such a bulk of petitions poured in on the upper house, backed up by such a quantity of well-meaning sentiment and fervent prejudices. Religious and other organizations that have always been a potent influence with the law-makers exerted that influence diligently against the Senator from Utah, and there was, apparently, some reason to fear that the Senate might yield to the pressure and expel Smoot, not for his own acts, but for the acts of others, even at the cost of setting up a most extraordinary and dangerous precedent."

Some of the leading journals are silent upon the Senate vote. Undoubtedly their silence means endorsement, for if, in their opinion, the Senate had deviated from its sacred duty they would not have failed to lift their voice in protest.

## OGDEN PLAGIARISM.

Without circumlocution or mincing words in the way of introduction, the Deseret News desires to charge direct a couple of Ogden newspapers with the persistent practice of clipping articles from this journal and using them as original. Frequently from two to a dozen items a day are thus cribbed and given a Salt Lake date line, and sometimes boldly marked "Special," conveying the impression that they are either telegraphed or telephoned from this city. It is theft pure and simple, and the papers guilty of the wrong know it as well as we do. That the innocent may not suffer under suspicion, we will say that we have not found the Journal to be in the list of the offenders.

Perhaps the free and indiscriminate use of our news service by our contemporaries without so much as "by your leave, sir," is intended as a compliment to our ability in the news gathering line, but we fail to see it that way, and from what we have observed are inclined to no other view than that there is intention to profit by that which costs us big money to secure. Journalistic courtesy is one thing and professional plagiarism another. In this warning the plagiarists shall be named, but unless there is a cessation of the custom they shall be publicly proclaimed.

No Standard Oil for Texas; just native crude oil.

Shonts and Stevens—scouts who have Wallace fled.

"The growler must go," says the Atlanta Constitution. It does in the prohibition states.

According to Mr. Harriman, Mr. Stuyvesant Fish was weighed in the scales and found wanting.

Five thousand dollars' reward for the arrest of Walker, the absconding cashier. Here is a chance to get rich quick.

In the matter of building the Panama canal the President proposes to do his own bidding and not somebody else's.

Hoke Smith of Georgia has been suggested as a presidential candidate in 1908. The right of suggestion, like the right of petition, shall not be denied.

If the new president of the University of Chicago, Professor Henry Pratt Judson, succeeds as well as Dr. Harper did, he will be one of the most successful financiers of the age.

Application for the Carnegie medal for Alice Nielsen has been made. It seems that, after all, there are possibilities of new ways for advertising for operatic and theatrical stars.

Edna Goodrich doesn't call Evelyn Nesbit Thaw a liar, that privilege being restricted to members of state and national legislatures, but she says so in effect. It might be called a "pretty" quarrel.

Senator Patterson predicts government ownership of the railroads. It may be but it surely will be sidetracked many times, will learn many head-on collisions and will learn what ditching means.

The general secretary of a Baptist college is reported to have said that no college of that denomination in the east would accept any part of the Rockefeller educational fund. Never refuse a gift or a nomination until it is offered.

For many years the portrait of Washington, which occupied a conspicuous place in the American embassy at Paris and was seen and known by many visitors, has been replaced by a large portrait of Ambassador McCormick, presented by McCormick to the embassy on the eve of his departure from Paris. The ambassador does not seem to have learned what is good taste in the land of good taste.

The Portland, Oregon, Woman's club has unanimously adopted a resolution of condemnation and protest over the way District Attorney Jerome is cross-examining Mrs. Harry Thaw, and will forward a copy to Jerome at once. The resolution was introduced by Mrs. Abigail Scott Duniway, Oregon's noted woman suffrage fighter. The ground taken was that Mrs. Thaw is trying to build herself up in the world and live down her past, and that Jerome in undoing this work is acting wickedly. The Portland Woman's club doesn't appear to know just where it's going, but it is plain that it's on the way.

## SMALLER NEWSPAPERS.

Chicago Chronicle.

Nobody can predict positively what the "newspaper of the future" will be, although some gentlemen who never were in the newspaper business are prepared to tell us all about it in the 10-cent magazines. One thing, however, may safely be predicted by anyone, and that is that the newspaper of the future will not be any bigger than the newspaper of the present. The limit of size in ratio to cost of white paper has been reached by some journals which even now are either losing money

on every paper they sell or else keeping even by the narrowest of margins. Even with heavy advertising patronage it is clear that increasing size under such circumstances would be to commit financial suicide.

## WASHINGTON'S BIG FORTUNE.

New York World.  
If the "Father of his Country" were alive now, he might be denounced for his "swollen" fortune and be a target for public criticism as are other rich men. This is the view taken by Prof. Sparks, of the department of history of the Chicago university. "George Washington was one of the wealthiest. If not the wealthiest man of his time," said the professor. "He was worth \$500,000, which at that time was an immense estate. Yet he did not take a cent for his services in the revolution. He arose at daybreak, took a cup of hot tea, and rode over his plantation and returned at 9 o'clock for breakfast. Then he went fox hunting. He wore an eleven shoe and a twelve boot. He was six feet two inches tall, and his gloves had to be made to order on account of his big wrists."

## WHAT A BOY'S LIFE IS WORTH.

New York World.  
A new valuation on the life of a ten-year-old boy was made by a jury in the supreme court yesterday, before Justice Ford, in which Mary Netelsky was awarded \$3,958.33 for the killing of her son Harry. The boy was run over by a wagon owned by the Hudson Coal Co. of New Jersey, on Jan. 19, 1904. Verdicts in similar cases have run from \$1 to \$10,000. In charging the jury Justice Ford admonished them that if they found a verdict for the mother they could award only such sum as the value of the boy's service would be up to the time of his majority. The jury took fifteen minutes to consider the verdict and then awarded Mrs. Netelsky \$3,958.33.

## JUST FOR FUN.

A Limerick.  
A correspondent sends to the London Chronicle the following limerick from Limerick:  
There was a young person named Tate,  
Who invited a friend at 8.5.  
He dined at a tete,  
So I cannot relate a tete at 8.5.  
What Tate ate tete a tete at 8.5.

## A Famous Speech in the Douma.

One deputy in particular delivered a good speech in the Douma, and received the credit of it from all his hearers but one. That one was a well known professor, who not only recognized in it a celebrated speech of Robespierre's, but also remarked to the orator that an effective passage of it had been omitted.—National Review.

## That is the Game.

The trouble is in keeping up with the procession. When we build one warship, the other fellow builds two; and when we give \$1,000,000 subsidy, he gives two. Thus the clamor never ceases.—Ohio State Journal.

## In the Absence of the Boss.

Until Prof. Moore recovers from his recent accident any little eccentricities of the weather should be overlooked.—New York Tribune.

## One Exception.

"Why do you have everything in your wife's name?"  
"I don't. We have our children in my name."—Washington Herald.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The North American Review for February 15th presents an important and timely table of contents. In the twelfth instalment of his autobiography, Mark Twain gives a touching and charming account of the life of his older brother, Orion. Prof. Charles A. Briggs, D. D., D. Litt., contributes a very interesting article upon "The Real and the Ideal in the Pacific." In "Objections to a Postal Savings-Bank," George E. Roberts, director of the mint, shows why our present savings-banks are not the best of the country is much better than any postal savings-bank could be. L. Andrieux, the famous French publicist, contributes a brilliant appreciation of Georges Clemenceau, the French premier. In "A Plea for the Philippines" Gen. W. H. Carter, U. S. A., shows what could be done for the Philippines by means of a lower tariff and a different administration. William Dorsey Jelks, ex-governor of Alabama, analyzes "The Accutness of the Negro Question and the Ideal in the Pacific." 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