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SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 11, 1901.

THE HIGH SCHOOL QUESTION.

The Board of Education took a wise step in accepting the prompt offer of Governor Wells on behalf of the State land board, tendering the use of the old University buildings for the High school. The disastrous fire and explosion which destroyed so much valuable property, damaged the building in which the High school was held, so that an adjournment was necessitated.

It appears that the ten years' lease of the property contained a provision for its cancellation, in case of fire destroying the premises in whole or in part. There have been many objections to the long lease of the building, which is not considered fully suitable for the purpose. Whether those complaints are well founded or not we are unable to decide. But the Board of Education will now have the opportunity to settle the question, of a return to those premises or a permanent occupation of University square.

The buildings which served the purposes of the University for many years are being put into proper order for the High school, and we are of the opinion will be found well adapted to its needs. Its occupation temporarily will fairly test that point, and if it is found to answer the end in view, arrangements will probably be made for its permanent ownership by the Board in behalf of the school system of the city. The High school must be maintained in its present efficiency, with an eye to its future advancement, and the acquisition of University square will probably be found the best available means of attaining the object in view.

THAT BAPTIST RESOLUTION.

According to reports which have been published, the Baptists in convention at Provo, Utah, passed a resolution, urging Congress to adopt the anti-polygamy amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which has been for some time agitated by religious people, under the false impression that polygamous marriages are common in this State. The resolution was passed in haste near the close of the session. It caused some inquiry and its adoption was largely due to the statement reported to have been made by one J. C. Andrews, of Murray, to the effect that "he had been told by persons who had reliable information, that one of the Apostles had recently taken an additional wife and probably some of the Provo people knew of other cases."

It is on just such groundless rumors that hasty people base conclusions which suit their disordered fancy and harmonize with their biased desires. Somebody told somebody else, who told the Murray preacher, who told the Baptist convention a story that is utterly false, and so that body passed a resolution which makes all its members appear like a lot of dolts or irrational zealots. Think of the argument, too, that perhaps some of the people of Provo may know of other cases, like that originating in rumor and repeated by a clerical scandal-monger!

The convention was addressed during one of its sessions by the moderator, on the text: "Are we asleep?" He might well descant on that query, for the resolution adopted has the characteristics of an idle dream. "The growth of polygamy through our western states" which it speaks of, is either a wild hallucination of a wilful perversion of the truth. There is no such growth. On the contrary, there is less of it in these western states by far than in the Eastern states, and every informed person knows that what is left of it here is growing less and less every year.

It is strange that these religious assemblies will expose their ignorance or their mendacity, whenever there is an opportunity to touch on anything relating to the "Mormon" Church. But it is a fact, that all the fierce hostility resulting in mobocracy and murder, arson and assault, against the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has orighated from similar sources to this latest ebullition of the Baptist convention. Woe unto the hypocrites and hirelings who bear false witness against their neighbors, for retribution will overtake them as sure as that truth will triumph and justice will prevail!

A CITY REBUILT.

The recuperation of Galveston, Texas, which was almost entirely destroyed by hurricane and tidal waves about a year ago, is one of the marvels even of this wonderful age. The work of reconstruction began as soon as the people remaining could get their breath after the fearful catastrophe, and business was at once resumed, with a vim and united energy that are highly commendable and characteristic of American enterprise.

The Galveston News, which has been a potent factor in the rehabilitation and progress of the port, published a big edition of thirty-six pages on the 1st inst., and its advertising columns exhibit the energy and push of the business people of that city, and also their appreciation of the aid afforded by a live public-spirited journal, up-to-date and devoted to the public interests.

That paper gives many interesting particulars of the immense business transacted in a year in that Texas port. They are too voluminous to copy in detail. But we glean from it the following salient facts: The storm property loss at Galveston was placed at $11,000,000. The amount of money expended in rehabilitation since the storm up to date is $3,000,000, while improvements are under way or contracted for to the value of $2,000,000. The amounts spent for rehabilitation in different lines are given as follows: Building and repairing of homes, $600,000; wharves and shipping facilities, $1,250,000; church property, $60,000; mercantile buildings, $300,000; public buildings, $50,000; manufacturing plants, $400,000; municipal property, $27,000; convents, asylums, hospitals, etc., $250,000; United States government property, $96,000; railroads, telegraph, telephone and oil, $375,000; school property, $90,000.

We can express only admiration and astonishment at the vigor, determination and energy displayed by the people of Galveston, and the hope that continued success will attend the enterprising and lively paper, which gives to the world some idea of the wonderful work that has been accomplished, since the city by the sea was engulfed in the waters, that buries in destruction so many precious lives and so much valuable property.

AN ERA OF ANARCHISM.

When prominent anarchists find themselves cornered, they always maintain that anarchism is not responsible for the murderous deeds of some of their disciples. What these do—such is the claim—they alone are responsible for. Anarchism, they say, does not teach violence in any form. Miss Goldman now reiterates the old story. Czolgosz's act, she says, was foolish, probably inspired by the misery he perceived around him. But it cannot be charged to the teachings of anarchism, any more than murders committed by members of various religious or political societies can be traced to the tenets of those organizations.

This reasoning appears plausible, but it is nevertheless a fact that since 1894 there has been a regular epidemic of assassinations by persons claiming to be anarchists. President Carnot of France was stabbed in that year by the Italian, Pietro Santo. The Spanish prime minister, Canovas, was stabbed by another Italian, Rinaldi, in 1897. In the same year President Borda of Uruguay was assassinated, and the following year President Barrios of Guatemala. In 1898 Empress Elizabeth of Austria was stabbed, while walking from a hotel to Geneva, Switzerland. King Humbert of Italy was shot in 1900, by Bresci, while at his summer residence at Monza. And now the President of the United States is stricken down by an anarchist assassin. This is a long list in seven years, and it furnishes evidence enough that there is war between the anarchists and existing governments.

It is true that the lives of monarchs and rulers have always been more or less unsafe. But previous to the outbreak of this anarchistic epidemic of assassination, the assaults were nearly always directed against tyrants, and were guided by political opponents, or insane cranks. Czar Paul was murdered on the instigation of Russian nobles. Napoleon III was frequently the object of assaults by people who desired the overthrow of the empire. The cruel assassination of Czar Alexander was inspired by Russian political conditions. But there is no political movement behind these anarchist murders. They occur, for all that is known outside anarchistic circles, as a result of an existing lustre to strike terror to society. Empress Elizabeth was a good and noble woman. King Humbert was a popular monarch, ever anxious to do good to the people. And it is superfluous to say, that President McKinley stands, both as a statesman and a man, in the front ranks of the greatest and noblest. Why then were all these selected as victims of vengeance? When everything is considered, anarchistic teachings and teachers cannot be exonerated from responsibility for the sanguinary deeds.

The time is opportune for a thorough consideration of the aims and teachings of these people, and for the restriction of the dangerous promulgation of the doctrines inimical to government. If it becomes necessary for the citizens to give up some of their rights to free gatherings and free utterances, they will gladly do so. Organizations that exist for the purpose of improving its members, or the building up of the commonwealth would not lose anything by restrictions that make it impossible for treasonable societies to flourish. The world is face to face with an epoch of anarchism and must act for the preservation of that liberty, which revolutionary anarchists evidently are entirely incapable of appreciating and enjoying. To strike down the miserable tools that lend themselves to murder is not sufficient. The real assassins are those who inspire them to the fearful work, and against these society must erect its defenses.

NOT A USELESS APPENDIX.

At the recent assembly of medical lights in Denver, a leading surgeon of that city is said to have made the statement that the vermiform appendix is by no means the useless part of human anatomy it has been supposed to be. He states that it has a distinct secretory function to perform, serving as a lubricant to the intestines, and that interference with it must result in sickness and disorders, some of which may prove fatal.

If the Denver doctor can prove his assertion, the common impression as regards that always mysterious and sometimes troublesome appendage must be changed. Usually, whenever there was something the matter with it, it has been removed. If it is a necessary part of the body, medical skill will be directed towards efforts at saving it, and only when this is impossible, will the knife be applied.

The appendix in question has often been relied on as a proof of the evolution of man from a lower animal. It has been pointed to as a relic of the time when our remote ancestors were ruminating and therefore needed an extra stomach, or when they lived in the water and had use for a special reservoir for air. All sorts of surmises have been indulged in as to the true origin of the peculiar organ. The discovery of its true function disposes of all such guesses. And it must be admitted that the probability is very much in favor of the Denver surgeon's statement.

In nature's handiwork nothing is without its special use. Nature, through lapse in its creations, never is aimless. Everything, as far as known, exists for a purpose, and the inference is usual that this is universal and holds good even as to such products of nature about the purpose of which man is ignorant. That the real use of an obscure member of the human system should have been unknown so long, is really not surprising, if it is remembered that only comparatively recently has science found out the functions of the heart, the lungs, etc. Nor would it be surprising if anatomists should at last arrive at a correct understanding of the role given to every part of the body in the great work of its development and preservation. Science, once led in upon the correct path, is advancing rapidly and for every step, is rewarded with new important discoveries.

FRENCH FANCY OF INVASION.

The French Lieutenant Colonel Delaunay is of the opinion that the recent army maneuvers in France have proved that an invasion of Great Britain by French troops is not only practicable, but comparatively easy. And it appears that he has been influenced enough to say so in a French journal. He takes the view that Napoleon was doomed to failure when he planned an invasion, because he had no steam engines at his service. Otherwise he would have passed the British ships. It is different now. Delaunay feels confident that the French fleet is fully able to engage the attention of the entire British fleet in case of a battle in the channel, during which nothing would be more simple than the disembarkation of French troops by a series of well-guarded transports, and once on British soil, the troops could forage for food supplies and therefore would not be burdened with a commissariat.

A rear admiral in the French navy is said to have endorsed these views. "Every officer in the French navy," he declares, "is fully convinced that an invasion is practicable in spite of the jeers of the English, who are lulled by a sense of false security. The landing of our troops on the English coast is a matter of a single moonless night."

The invasion of England by France is a subject that appears to be hard to down in French naval circles. It pops up, like Hamlet's ghost, at intervals, suddenly and unexpectedly. But it is evident that the talk is doing no good. It engenders bitterness between the two nations.

The probability is that even if a war should break out between the two countries, neither would invade the other. A French army in England, or an English army in France, would be cut off from its base of supply, and easily fall a prey to a defending army that could be mobilized on short notice. Germany could invade France, because it was strong enough to guard the roads in the rear, but a different problem would present itself when the protecting deep lies between two combatants. In South Africa, a small people, and poorly prepared for war, has been able to offer resistance for nearly two years to an army of over 250,000 men, fully equipped with all the modern appliances of war and with an unbroken communication with its base of supplies. What kind of resistance might a small French army of invasion expect from a population of over 40,000,000? The Boer war should have taught French colonels that the story of an invasion of England is better told in a romance by Jules Verne, than in a serious magazine article.

A burning question—How did the Oregon Short Line building fire originate?

It is said the Devil is not so black as he is painted. Czolgosz is blacker than this photographs paint him.

The doctors declare that the President is "out of the woods." May he soon be out of bed and back in Washington performing his official duties.

The European governments have determined to keep an eye on the anarchists. It would be much better to keep a ball and chain and Oregon boot on them.

Emma Goldman has had a loose rein for several years past but now the police and the people have said: "Whoa Emma," and Emma will come to a full stop.

When one of the High School teachers reached the scene of the Oregon Short Line building fire, she ran up to the principal and exclaimed: "Oh, Mr. Eaton, tell me, did you save my skeleton?" Most people are anxious to save their souls rather than their skeletons from fire.

There should be a thorough and rigid investigation into the cause of the explosion in the Oregon Short Line building. It may or it may not have been "chemicals." If the cause was "chemicals" it should be known just what they were. The term "chemicals" is entirely too vague to be accepted as a sufficient answer to a grave and serious question.

To the lay mind the determination of the President's physicians not to perform an operation for the removal of the second bullet will seem a very wise one. When President Garfield was shot, for weeks and weeks his doctors were probing for the bullet they never found. They had a scientific indicator to locate the bullet, but the indicator was always pointing in a direction that proved to be the very opposite of the one in which the bullet lay. It was subsequently discovered that the indicator had been deflected by the steel bed springs. It is by no means certain if there had been no probing General Garfield would not have recovered. But that as it may, certain it is that the President is getting along splendidly, and the doctors are not probing for the bullet. The doctors have done much for the President, and the people are grateful, but his splendid constitution is doubtless doing more.

J. Ogden Armour, a Chicago multi-millionaire, brought a large quantity of jewels into the country without declaring them at the New York custom house and now he has had a duty of $13,000 imposed by treasury officials in Chicago. Mr. Croft, surveyor of the port of New York, was "asked how it was that $12,000 worth of jewels brought abroad could be brought through the rigid inspection practised by the customs officials on the New York piers without being discovered and taxed. He said that such a thing could not happen in the case of persons who were not known to be above any smuggling attempts. With a tourist so well known as Mr. Armour, in fact any one who is known to the inspector to be above reproach, the examination of baggage is largely a matter of form, and is not at all searching; that is, the declaration of the passenger is taken in good faith, and the contents of his trunks are not dumped out on the pier." Mr. Croft shows he is sadly lacking in the sense of humor when he says such a thing as smuggling could not happen in the "case of persons who were not known to be above any smuggling attempts," and he gives it as an explanation of how jewels on which the duty was $13,000 were smuggled in by one "above suspicion."

THE DANISH WEST INDIES.

Baltimore Sun.

It is quite probable that the government of Denmark, as reported in a dispatch from Copenhagen, is willing to sell the Danish West Indies to the United States. Denmark has been ready for many years to part with these dependencies, provided that the money consideration tendered in exchange for the transfer of title is sufficient. It is understood that the government of the United States has for several years been prepared to pay a sum not exceeding $4,000,000 for the islands of St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John. It is represented in the Copenhagen dispatch that the American offer has been increased to $4,250,000. Except for strategic purposes and as a "military necessity" it is doubtful whether the Danish West Indies are worth even the expenditure of a dollar.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Germany took a look at the property and made inquiry as to the price expected. But Denmark received an unofficial intimation that whenever a sale was made it must be to the United States, or there might be a difficulty in making the transfer. Then began a new series of dickerings, news of which was sent from time to time from Copenhagen and as regularly discredited from Washington. Recent reports from Danish sources intimated that the only difficulty was the price, Denmark wanting at least the $5,000,000 promised by Secretary Seward, and President McKinley's state department offering less than $4,000,000. From the last Copenhagen dispatch it would seem that Secretary Hay had made a compromise offer which has been accepted.

New York Mail and Express.

The Danish West Indies are an important station on the road to either a Panama or a Nicaraguan canal. If the canal is to be Nicaraguan, there is another station on the road which the United States may some time have to look at. This consists of the little St. Andrew or Old Providence group of islands, which lie exactly off the mouth of the San Juan river of Nicaragua and command the entrance to the future canal. They have no good harbor, but they possess a roadstead which is capable of being made a good harbor and coaling station. If the canal itself is not to be fortified they would be simply a necessity to the United States in case of a war with a European power.

New York Evening Post.

We find in the columns of a morning contemporary, which advocates the annexation policy, an argument for the purchase of these islands for the sum of $4,000,000, this being "the amount expended by Denmark on account of the islands since the time when, on account of the collapse of their sugar industry, they ceased to be self-supporting." In other words, we are to relieve Denmark of the burden she is now carrying, and take it upon our own shoulders for the future, and pay $4,000,000 for the privilege of doing so. Such a scheme, addressed to a banking-house as a matter of business, would be considered a sign of dementia.

Chicago News.

In one way, alas, the purchase will serve to give added force to the Monroe doctrine as a principle binding upon European powers. The purchase is a clear manifestation of this government's determination to be supreme in Central American waters and to allow no other nation to secure a new foothold which might impair its supremacy. With the possession of all the important strategic points in that vicinity the United States is in clear possession of a sphere of influence which no other power could with reason assume to ignore.

AMERICA'S FUTURE.

Philadelphia Record.

It has been several years since we have heard from our old friend, Professor Suess, of Austria. Although a geologist rather than an economist, he has been widely advertised as an expert authority on economic subjects and was one of the mahatmas of American bimetallists while the financial controversy raged so fiercely in the United States. Professor Suess now comes forward with prophecies on another subject. The American "trusts" are conspiring to effect the commercial conquest of Europe, and he is satisfied that they will succeed unless steps are promptly taken to prevent them from accomplishing their terrible designs. The Americans are now selling so much more than they buy, and the balance of trade in our favor is so immense, that even with a speedy defense Professor Suess argues that the political units of middle Europe will be unable to beat off this menacing intruder.

Rochester Post-Express.

"Surveying international relations as a political philosopher," Professor Suess discovers that while the French revolution was due to the abuses of the privileged classes, the present situation in international trade is due to a revolution in material conditions. Neither of these statements is disputable, but what connection there is between the two, we are at a loss to guess. Certainly there is no parallel between the cause that brought on the French revolution and the cause that has brought on the American competition that terrifies Professor Suess. The influx of American goods into European markets is not in consequence of an oppression of any kind or of any policy of aggression.

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