



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

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PROMISES.

Promises, like money, are very convenient in business transactions, but, unless fulfilled, unavoidable excepted, they soon depreciate more rapidly than greenbacks. And this depreciation is not the worst feature, for the repeated breaking of promises destroys confidence—so slowly gained, so quickly lost. Doubtless much promise breaking arises from mere thoughtlessness; in such cases a little care is all that is required, and will amply repay the giving. This class is the only one we expect to benefit by calling their attention to a bad habit for those who recklessly promise at random and make little or no effort to fulfill must be reformed, if at all, through learning that their promises will not be taken.

It is rather singular that occasion for comments on breaking promises should be found among those whose faith requires their yea to be yea and their nay to be nay, but so it is. Human nature is weak, and dwellers in the mountains are not an exception. But we came here expressly to do right, and to be further taught and practiced in righteousness, for the accomplishment of which a carelessness about promises stands sadly in the way.

Promptness and reliability can be learned without the expense of schools, can be comprehended at an early age, observed daily, and are fraught with rich reward. Promising at random and performing at leisure, or never, tends, aside from the wrong, to greatly disturb the proper working of the social machinery. Should the DESERET News, when the mill furnishes paper, fail to be published promptly and regularly its subscribers would be entitled to complain, and would deem themselves unjustly dealt with. But are they all careful to promptly comply with their expressed and implied obligations to the News? Many loads of wood and coal have been promised, fall work is done, the weather is fine and the roads good in several directions, we have waited patiently, have been compelled to pay much money for coal and wood or do without, and now request that promisers—one and all—of coal and wood so far deal justly with themselves and the News Office, as to at once fulfill their coal and wood promises, before rough weather makes compliance still more irksome.

Besides the loads promised, any amount of wood and coal will be very acceptable from all who intend to pay their subscriptions and other indebtedness in those articles; and the sooner it is delivered the better for those who haul and the greater the benefit to the office.

AMUSEMENTS—THEIR USE AND ABUSE.

There is a class of persons who look upon everything more hilarious than a smile twisted into a half-grin, as savoring of blue-fire and the essence of sulphur, who deem music, except of the most lugubrious character, as under the especial patronage of the Evil One, and consign amusements of every description to a locality where brimstone is said to be served out *ad libitum*. There is another class who make frivolity their most serious employment, who

seem to have no other object nor aim in life but hunting after amusement. Every novelty that is likely to excite gratification in senses blunted by repletion is eagerly sought after. The theatre, the ball-room, the race-course, the opera-house, the gaming-table, and the multitudinous means invented to satisfy this inordinate craving, are eagerly and constantly explored for excitement, amusement and the gratification of warped tastes and perverted propensities. Both these classes are extremes. They have but few representatives among us. Specimens of the Aminadab Slek class are not very plenty anywhere, for there is a greater liability of running to an extreme in pleasure-seeking than in pleasure-hating. But, both are wrong. There is a golden mean between all extremes, which is reached in the wise use of those things that minister to man's comfort, peace and happiness, and avoiding their abuse.

Recreation and amusement are necessary for the healthful action of the mind and body. We eat to sustain our corporeal bodies; we sleep to refresh our wearied systems. The claims of these requirements are imperative. We must eat, or die. We cannot help sleeping if we would. But with exercise, recreation and amusement it is different, though the results are in a degree the same. We can pursue a sedentary occupation for years and avoid taking exercise, till the substructure of our constitution is sapped away and we become prematurely aged and feeble, unless consumption steps in and settles the matter in an off-hand way, laying the foolish abstainer from healthy exercise in an early grave.

We might eat till our senses became almost bestial with gluttony. We might doze away in bed till our thinking powers became as thick and cloudy as a Newfoundland fog. We could indulge in exercise, to the neglect of our mental powers, till we could almost rival some of the stronger animals of the brute creation in muscular power, yet remain children in vigor of mind. All this has been done, is being done, and will continue to be done by certain human beings until they learn better: so with amusement.

The mind can toil and labor, labor and toil, eschewing recreation and amusement till morbid fancies seize upon the brain, misanthropical peculiarities make themselves manifest, and the whole mental fabric ultimately totter to ruin, sinking into helpless imbecility. On the other hand, amusements can be sought after and enjoyed till every sense becomes palled, every appetite cloyed, and, as the physical powers of an individual addicted to strong stimulants become enervated and prostrated, so the mental powers become morbidly weakened, till they require something of a strong sensational character to excite the least degree of interest. Sir Charles Coldstream still lives in his numerous prototypes.

Our merchants, clerks and business men generally, may find healthful amusement in witnessing theatrical representations where the grave and gay are judiciously blended, and the eye that melts at deepened pathos glistens with awakened mirth as the power of comedy is exerted, tickling the fancy and provoking care-dispelling laughter. So, too, our artisans, our laboring-men, our wives, mothers, sons, daughters and sisters can find in them innocent enjoyment, mirth and instruction—a genial change from the labors, toils and cares of every-day life. But, if our theatre were open every night as in other and older cities, it would be ruinous to fortune, morals and health to follow it up night after night, losing sleep, neglecting business and contracting irregular and often intemperate habits.

Dancing can be indulged in occasion-

ally with benefit to both health and mind. But nightly balls extended till the first glance of day lights up the eastern horizon would ruin health and enervate all who indulge in it. Music, both vocal and instrumental, dancing, theatrical representations, and other means of amusement and recreation, can be indulged in moderately and be healthful to both mind and body; but to follow any or all of them to excess is unquestionably injurious.

In this connection, we may point to a peculiarity of our society to which sufficient attention is not at all times paid. We look forward with growing confidence to the time when in all the settlements of the Saints every man we meet will be "a brother and a friend." But that time is not yet. And a little of the care that is manifested in places where society is still more mixed than it is here, with regard to the young, and especially females, when going out to places of public amusement, might be exercised. In the world, families that claim to hold a respectable position in society would not permit their younger members, nor females under any circumstances, to go out for an evening's enjoyment or recreation, without the attendance of a male protector to guard them from insult, and keep the young from the association of disreputable characters. Is it not becoming necessary that this should be done to a greater extent here? With the mixture of elements that make themselves manifest and felt in our streets, and infuse themselves, to an extent into our places of public amusement, we can recommend it to parents and guardians. And, in closing, we would say, keep your sons and daughters from any place which an angel would blush to enter and purity would turn away from with covered face.

HOME ITEMS.

POST OFFICES IN UTAH.

Great Salt Lake City.

DAVIS COUNTY.

Stoker (or Bountiful or Sessions),
Centerville,
Farmington,
Kaysville.

WEBER COUNTY.

South Weber.
Ogden. (Mail matter for Plain City and
Slaterville is sent to Ogden.)
North Ogden.

BOX ELDER COUNTY.

Willard (or North Willow Creek.)
Brigham City.

CACHE COUNTY.

Mendon,
Paradise,
Richmond,
Wellsville,
Millville,
Providence,
Logan.Franklin. (Mail matter for Paris or any place
in Bear Lake Valley is sent to Franklin.)

CEDAR VALLEY.

Fairfield, (or Camp Floyd or Fort Crittenden.)

SUMMIT COUNTY.

Coalville.
Parley's Park. (Mail matter for any place in
Provo Valley is sent to Parley's Park.)

G. S. L. COUNTY.

Union,
Draperville.

UTAH COUNTY.

Lehi,
American Fork (or Lake City.)
Alpine,
Pleasant Grove (or Battle Creek.)
Provo,
Springville,
Spanish Fork,
Payson. (Mail matter for Piontown is sent
to Payson.)
Spring Lake Villa.
Santaquin,
Goshen.

JUAB COUNTY.

Mona,
Salt Creek,
Chicken Creek.

MILLARD COUNTY.

Round Valley.
Fillmore,
Petersburg,
Cove Creek.

BEAVER COUNTY.

Beaver. (Mail matter for Minersville is sent
to Beaver.)

IRON COUNTY.

Paragonah,
Parowan,
Cedar City.

WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Harmony,
Toquerville.

KANE COUNTY.

Virgin City,
Dancans Retreat,
Grafton,
Rockville,
Springdale.

WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Harrisburg,
Washington,
St. George,
Santa Clara.

SANPETE COUNTY.

Fountain Green,
Moroni. (Mail matter for Mount Pleasant,
Fairview, and Coalville is sent to Moroni.)
Fort Ephraim,
Manti. (Mail matter for Fort Gannison is
sent to Manti.)
(Mail matter for Mill Creek, Mormon, Tooele,
Grantsville, Little Cottonwood, Big or South
Cottonwood, West Jordan, Fort Herriman, E. T.
City, Richville, Stockton and any place in
Rush Valley is sent to Salt Lake.)

THEATRICALS:—"A New Way to Pay Old Debts" was repeated on Wednesday and Saturday Evenings last, followed by "The Spectre Bridegroom" on the first named evening, and "The Siamese Twins" on Saturday night. We have no further note to make of the play than was in last week's issue. In the "Spectre Bridegroom" every body, on the stage was full of exuberance, which seemed contagious, explosive bursts and continued laughter greeting the performance throughout. Dickory is one of Phil's best characters; he did it justice. Of the "Twins" not much requires to be said. Dunbar and Maiben kept the house in a "roar" from the rising of the curtain till the "connection was dissolved," "the union repealed" and Sally discovered that the double husband wasn't come-at-able. We are pleased to note a steady improvement in Miss Alexander's playing. With care and study she will make a mark in her particular line.

Bulwer's great historical drama, "Richelieu" is on the bills for to night, and in it we should have a treat of no ordinary character. The name of Richelieu marks a most important epoch in French history. His great abilities as a statesman, his inflexible will, his vindictive character, his love of France, and the power he possessed of moulding men and circumstances to his purposes in the furtherance of his ambitious projects, all stamped the "Cardinal-King" as one of those extraordinary characters who appear on the stage of life but once in an age. Bulwer has drawn the character with a master-hand, and his creative and poetic genius is distinctly seen in all the characters that form the foreground of the grand historic picture which "Richelieu" presents. The play is worthy the fame of the author of "The Lady of Lyons." In dramatic effects and impressive pictures it far outrivals many of a modern class of plays which depend principally upon scenery and spectacular tableaux for their existence on the stage. We have heard it whispered that Richelieu is one of Mr. Lyne's best characters and presume that many will be as anxious as ourselves to see his rendition of it.

THE SOUTHERN MISSIONARIES.—A meeting of the brethren called to go to southern Utah, was held last week, at which it was decided to make two new settlements between St. George and the Colorado, and one at the most suitable point for a warehouse to receive merchandise. This, of course will be at, or near the head waters of navigation. Thomas S. Smith and Henry W. Miller of Farmington were appointed to superintend the making of the two settlements above named, and Anson Call to select a site for a warehouse. Brother Call named the 28th of the present month for meeting his company at St. George. Communications were read in reference to freighting up the Colorado river, and also the minutes of two meetings of the Deseret Merchantile Association.

THE CANAL.—At the Bishop's meeting on Thursday evening last a committee of eleven was appointed to draw up the necessary papers for the permanent organization of the canal company, preparatory to the thorough prosecution of the work. We have reason to believe that the committee will submit a petition to the Legislature, asking for the passage of an act to incorporate the company.

MEAT MARKET.—The Mayor and City Council have extended the market house 70 feet toward the east, and on the 14th inst. Messrs. Rosenbaum & Newman, who occupy 30 feet next East Temple Street, admitted the public to a display of meats that would be highly creditable in older and more populous cities. Beef, mutton, veal and pork, excellent in quality and neatly dressed, hung in profusion from floor to ceiling, ornamented with rosettes, fillets of suet and garlands of sausages, while the oak and marble grained block and counter and all else pertaining to the establishment, evidenced that the proprietors intend to meet the wants and tastes of the most epicurean and fastidious. Hundreds upon hundreds feasted their eyes upon the display on Monday, regaled the while by music from Prof. C. J. Thomas' Band, and on Tuesday the meats, etc., were put on sale.

SUPREME COURT.—The Supreme Court opened on Monday at 10 a.m.; two of the Judges were present, but there being no business before the Court it was almost immediately adjourned.

DISTRICT COURT.—The special term of the Third Judicial District Court commenced on Monday, Hon. John Titus presiding. There were present at the commencement of the proceedings, Patrick Lynch, Esq., Clerk, S. M. Blair, Esq., Attorney-General for the Territory, John D. T. McAllister, Territorial Marshal, Richard W. McAllister and William G. Goforth, bailiffs, Aurelius Miner and Wm. I. Appleby, Esqs., counsel for Joseph Holladay, were also present.

Mr. Miner, asked for a continuance in the case of the people vs. Joseph Holladay, till Tuesday at 10 a.m., on the ground that Mr. Holladay was much fatigued by traveling, and unable to appear. The continuance was granted, and the Court adjourned till Tuesday at 10 o'clock.

CITY IMPROVEMENTS.—The graded, curbed and paved water ditches and crossings are adding much to the appearance of East and First South Temple streets, and we trust the City authorities and Bishop Sheets will continue the good work as fast as funds for that purpose will permit, until at least the principle streets and water courses are improved in a style at once so beautifying, cleanly and water-saving.