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**THE BROWN TRAGEDY.**

The shooting of former Senator Arthur Brown, by Mrs. Bradley, in Wash- ington, is the climax of a tragedy in many acts and scenes, the sad details of which are more or less familiar to the Salt Lake public. It is not neces- sary to dwell upon them here. In all probability the earthly career of the victim of the assault is soon ended, and he will have to answer for his deeds in the flesh before the bar of the eternal Judge from whose decrees there is no appeal. It is best to forget, if possible, the sins and shortcomings of the dead, except for the lessons they may con- vey to the living.

And one of the great lessons of the misdirected life of Arthur Brown is this, that it does not pay to transgress the laws of God relating to chastity. No other sin has caused so much mis- ery, so much bloodshed and murder as the violation of those laws. This lesson has been imprinted upon mankind re- peatedly, since the beginning of his- tory, but it is one that some are apt to forget. The fate of the antediluv- ian world, of Sodom and the other cities of the plain, of David, of Herod, and numerous others, illustrate the fearful consequences of sex-transgres- sions. Especially the young should notice such lessons, and make a valiant fight for virtue, against temptation.

It matters not how brilliant a young man may be, or how many advan- tages of education he may have had; it matters not what his opportunities may be; if he abandons the paths of virtue, and persists in a course of lust, his life will be a failure. "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?" These questions are from the Proverbs of Solomon. They express eloquently the views of the wisest of mortals on the dangers of yielding to the tempta- tions of lust. How timely is the exhor- tation of the same inspired author: "Let not thine heart decline to her ways, (speaking of the "strange wo- man") go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded; yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death!"

**A WOMAN ON UTAH.**

One of the false impressions the anti-"Mormons" have endeavored to create is this, that all non-"Mormons" in Utah are in sympathy with their despicable plots. This is far from true. Many men and women here, though not belonging to the Church, are sick and tired of the strife that was started in the interest of personal ambition. They realize that the con- tinuation of the crusade is against the material interests of the State. They condemn the underlying motives and the methods as unfair and unworthy of American gentlemen.

We are again reminded of this fact by a correspondence from Evans, Utah, published in the Dallas, Pa., Post, of Nov. 16. The writer is a non-"Mormon," a lady who has taught school in Utah, and who is as well qualified to explain the conditions here, as any of the tools that are paid for disseminating falsehoods. The writer says one drawback to the val- ley in which she lives is the lack of farm-laborers, but this condition, she adds, cannot last many years more. Then she continues:

"After thinking people have had time to look into the real annals of the Mormon persecution, it will be found that, like other religious persecutions, it has set the people who are progres- sive, generous and kind hearted be- fore the world in their true light. I am a non-Mormon, and I have lived here most of the time for four years, and I say in all candor that it is and has been for sixteen years just as hard to take a plural wife with the sanc- tion of the Mormon Church in Utah as it would be to take a plural wife with the sanction of the older ortho- dox churches in Pennsylvania. Big- amy surely exists in all the other states, and I suspect it does not always skip Utah.

"It is true that the women (all now getting toward or beyond middle age) who were plural wives previous to 1890 have clung tenaciously to the fathers of their little ones, and that being the case, the fathers would not cast the mothers off, but, in separate homes, have housed, clothed and fed them all, and educated their children, and given them the right to a father's name, a father's protection, and a father's means."

The correspondent then reminds her readers of the Pollard-Breckinridge case, and asks whether the country is cognizant of a Fourth avenue in Chi- cago, and equally dark blots in other cities. She speaks of the light-col- ored negro children that are born yearly, and "the traffic in girls," and then says:

"And yet the whole artillery of the United States government, and the veritable wagon loads of women's pe- titions have been turned away from the terrible crimes, horrible and over- increasing crimes mentioned above, and trained upon a fast passing away remnant of old men and women, all the men over fifty and many past seventy!"

"The many rewards of large sums offered and guaranteed by men of great wealth for proof of any plural marriages sanctioned or performed by the Mormon Church since 1890 are all unclaimed.

"As the government said, polyga- mous marriages must stop, and they surely have stopped, why air the 'has been' mistakes of this Church any more than the mistakes of the Puritans who hung witches, outlawed Catholics and Quakers, and banish- ed the good Roger Williams?

"Utah is a good land, and a free

and a loyal one, and we reasonable non-"Mormons," who came here to en- joy the privileges their pioneer hard- ships made possible, who have been so kindly treated by the descend- ants of those very pioneers, resent these persecutions and falsifications more than the "Mormons" themselves, because they are used to misrep- resentation and it causes no surprise, no matter how monstrous the untruths.

"Yours truly,  
 "MRS. ALICE P. BISHOP."

To those who take an interest in Utah conditions, the testimony of non-"Mormon" women ought to be of the utmost importance. Very few of them, if they were to speak the true senti- ment of their hearts, would have any- thing but condemnation for the per- secutors who want to use the law as a club with which to down their alleged enemies. The law never was intended for that purpose. The ma- chinery of the law was made to meet the ends of justice and not to further the plans of those who have no object in view but the gratification of ambi- tion and revenge.

**A HANDSOME VOLUME.**

Some years ago there appeared from Alfred Lambourne's pen a charming tale of mountain life with tender threads of love and romance twining through vivid descriptions of life and scenery in the rugged west. The story was called "Piet" and was written in prose with the poetic touches which our well known artist so deftly weaves into his word pictures. Mr. Lam- bourne has recently turned this prose tale into verse, retaining the simplicity and charm which distinguished the early narrative and adding to it many dainty touches of imagery which en- hance the work. This has been made into a Christmas volume which makes it a most handsome and suitable gift book for the season. The story is chiefly that of the love of a young girl and youth of the mountains, the latter a prospector who dwells amid the mountains in a lonely cabin sur- rounded by "Babel lights" of moun- tain peaks whose fastnesses inclose them on all sides. Here the young people learn to know and love each other, and the simple story is made vivid by descriptions of the scenes amid which they live. But the haunt- ing terror of the mountains "the snow- slide," is forever upon them, and with this motive the author weaves a thrilling story of the descent of the dread monster carrying blight to the young lives which make the central theme. Then, when pity is para- mount comes the fortuitous climax in which all ends happily both for the characters and readers, whose Christ- mas ideal could not but have been jarred by the pervading sorrow of the seeming end. This note of joy and the recurrence of the Christmas tune which sounds throughout the story, creates that necessary chord of cheer which alone fits the Christmas season. The story, and the dainty volume with its illustrations of rugged moun- tain scenes, to say nothing of the real- ity atmosphere of the west exhaled from its pages, makes it a very ap- propriate season's gift. The book, which is on sale at the Deseret News Book Store, is handsomely bound and has many beautiful illustrations. It is printed on the most expensive paper and will therefore be an ornamental and valuable addition to any library.

**THE MOHAMMEDAN WORLD.**

According to statistics published in the Mohammedan World Today, the en- tire Moslem population of the world is estimated at 232,966,170. This number is somewhat smaller than some former estimates, but it is considerably larger than the estimate by M. Fournier de Flaix, who gives the total of the fol- lowers of Mohammed as only 176,834,372. It is a little larger than the es- timated total of Roman Catholic wor- shippers, which is given as 230,565,533, and exceeds the membership of the Protestant churches, which is estimat- ed at 143,237,625.

The greatest number of Mohammed- ans are found in India, the total being over 62,000,000. The Mohammedans of China are estimated at 30,000,000. In the Turkish empire there are supposed to be about 12,000,000 and in Persia nearly 9,000,000.

In the United States, Mohammedan colonies are being formed in several places by immigrants from Moham- medan countries. They are said to be very highly valued as unskilled la- borers, because they are willing to work anywhere, and do almost any- thing, for comparatively small wages. It is said of them that they never strike. They are temperate and in- dustrious, and are therefore well liked by employers. It is not impossible, therefore that a Mohammedan "prob- lem" will arise in the future, if laborers from Mohammedan countries are en- couraged to come here and are pre- ferred in American establishments to the American laborers.

Mr. William E. Curtis, the well known correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald, in a recent communication to his paper, tells a little story on the authority of Rev. Mr. Hoskins, who has charge of the missionary printing office at Beirut. Mr. Hoskins said that a merchant from Damascus went to Liverpool to live, leaving at home a large family of wives and children. In Liverpool he married another wo- man and lived with her there for seven years, the Liverpool woman not being aware of his Damascus family. When he returned to Syria he was accom- panied by his English wife, who, when she heard of his Damascus establish- ment, refused to go with him. So he built her a beautiful home at Beirut, where she lived in comfort and luxury. In the course of time she met his Da- mascus family and learned to love them, whereupon they all came down to Beirut and lived together in her beautiful house. Then she went to Liverpool for niece, to be the wife of one of her husband's sons. This young girl is said to have had a rather stormy career. Her husband was shot dead, and at the age of thirteen she was a widow, and finally she became the wife of the slayer of her husband. The story gives some insight into Mohammedan family life and Turkish conditions, as well as human nature. It is only fair to say, though, that polyg- amy is not the chief doctrine of Mo- hammedanism. One principle by which it gains so many converts that it rivals the so-called Christian churches is its

"fatalism" which may be expressed as an acknowledgement of the Divine hand in all earthly affairs. That ap- peals to the mind of the Oriental, and by this it becomes a force in the de- velopment of the world.

It is useless to pave sidewalks and not provide decent street crossings.

The difference between a trade and a profession is in the size of the charges.

The trouble with Wall street is over confidence in the gullibility of the peo- ple.

Pity the United States senate tomor- row. Burrows is going to speak for hours.

You can't touch pitch without being defiled nor coal lands without being indicted.

Every farmer flatters himself that he did more than any one else to make the bumper crop so big.

Between the "yellow peril" of the orient and that of Hearstism, give us the oriental variety every time.

A New York woman uses phono- graphs in her crusade against noise. This looks like piling Pelion on Ossa.

There doesn't appear to be any "gen- tleman's agreement" between Edward H. Harriman and Stuyvesant Fish, Jr.

Mayor Schmitz says that all his trou- bles are caused by his enemies. Isn't he giving his enemies too much credit?

Dr. William Osler has arrived from Oxford. The sixty years old club should arrange to give him a great re- ception.

If he hadn't sent that letter to the President, people would have forgotten that there ever was such a man as Bellamy Storer.

If the Germans are wise, and such is their reputation, they will think twice before they introduce Chinese coolies into their land as laborers.

There is no better proof of the coun- try's prosperity than the fact that thousands are recrossing the Atlantic to spend the holidays in "the old home."

Mr. Bryan is reported to be making more money than his salary would be if he were President of the United States. Yet he would that he were President at the lesser salary.

The Pullman car porters have asked that they be paid sufficient wages to en- able them to dispense with the custom- ary tip. Not even the Pullman com- pany with its surplus millions could af- ford to do that.

The New York World terms the ex- citement in San Francisco over the question of Japanese children in her public schools, "a tempest in a teapot." What a remarkable teapot it must be. Something over seven months ago there was a great earthquake in that same teapot.

"It would be presumption for a man to decide whether he would accept a nomination for the presidency that has not been offered to him; but I cannot see how any patriotic American could refuse such an offer, unless the burden upon his physical system would be greater than he could bear," says Dr. Woodrow Wilson of Princeton. What more evidence is wanted that the bee is beginning to buzz?

It has been suggested as a solution of the Japanese school question in San Francisco, that the present state law be repealed and a new one enacted, providing that an age limit be fixed for entrance to the several grades. Applying to all pupils, native or for- eign, such a law would violate no treaty, while it would prevent the ad- mission of grown Japanese, 18 years old or more, into the lower grades. But it is to be feared that if it leaks out that this is intended as a protec- tive measure against the Japanese, it will cause another wave of indignation to sweep Nippon.

**WHEN A GIRL IS OF AGE.**

J. F. Simmons, in Pictorial Review. In Nebraska a girl of age at sixteen. In the State of Washington she attains her majority at eighteen; but if her husband is of age, she also is, no matter how young she may be. This is a strange law, allowing the hus- band to control the majority of his wife. But marriage also brings our maid to her majority, no matter what her years may be. In Maryland, Ore- gon, Texas, Iowa and Louisiana, while eighteen is the age prescribed in Ar- kansas, California, Colorado, Dakota, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa (unless mar- ried), Kansas, Maryland (unless married), Minnesota, Missouri, Ne- braska (unless married), when it is sixteen), Nevada, Ohio, Oregon (un- less married), Vermont and Wash- ington (unless married).

**PRESENTS FOR MEN.**

The Home Magazine. For those fortunate enough to have men to provide for at Christmas there is a long list of things desirable that are not difficult to make. Among the practical gifts, the bath robe, smoking jacket or lounging coat, and pajamas can be fashioned at home at consider- ably less than the same quality would cost at the stores. Blanket robes, or those of Turkish toweling or heavy madras, are not much more difficult of construction than a night shirt. Many leather novelties are displayed at the stores, but the following table robe is easily made at home. The founda- tion is of dark green velvet, and the design is formed by strips of suede leather in three shades of tan. The leather is fastened to the cloth by glue, but for the same idea carried out in a cushion cover, machine stitching would be more practical. A "trifle" made from a glove top is a mirror tilt. A piece of leather nine by five inches rolled over cotton, and finished with loops and a long end to fasten to the swing screw. By its use the mirror can be held at any angle.

**THE CRAZE FOR KILLING.**

Hartford Courant. If the current shooting of husbands, of wives, of employers, of girls who will not be sweethearts, of men who are in the sweetest business, etc., in New York and other cities, goes on, this country will become known as the pas- sional land. Paris is no longer in it with New York in regard to outright murder. We believe that all of the rooms for homicide cases in New York's official hotel—the Tombs—are now occupied, and still lodgings of this sort keep com-

ing. Pretty soon they will be standing on the steps clamoring for shelter. Is it the mixed blood beginning to tell, or is it the sensational newspapers that for years have been collecting all such cases and dishing them up with portraits and poetry and all the other stimulating and suggestive fixings? We do not know; but it seems to us some- times, as we take in the metropolitan budget, that the fear of the law—not to say a word about respect for it—has about disappeared from among us.

**JUST FOR FUN.**

Increased Demand.

"I see the druggists say the demand for toilet soap is almost four times greater this year than last."

"Why is that?"

"The girls who use elbow sleeves have to use more to keep their arms clean."—EX.

Doubtful Application. Teacher—"What is the meaning of 'aperture'?"

Class (in chorus)—An opening.

Teacher—Tommy Smith, give a sen- tence containing the word "aperture."

Tommy—All the big stores have had their fall apertures.—Baltimore Ameri- can.

More Politic. "Why do you avoid making speeches yourself?" asked the friend.

"It's better to have some one else attend to the oratory," answered Sena- tor Sorghum. "In that way you can ascertain which of your opinions are unpopular and repudiate them."—Washington Star.

Gen. Phil Sheridan was at one time asked what incident in his life caused him the most amusement. "Well," he said, "I always laugh when I think of the Irishman and the army mule. I was riding down the line one day when I saw an Irishman mounted on a mule which was kicking rather freely. The mule finally got his foot caught in the stirrup, when, in the excitement, Pat remarked: 'Well, begorra, if you're goin' to git on I'll be gittin' off.'"—EX.

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