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"DOMESTICS AND MORMONISM."

The Atlanta Constitution publishes a long article headed as above, in which an explanation is given of the scarcity of domestic servants in all the large cities and towns of this country. There has been for some years a universal complaint of this dearth of help in the house, but the cause for it is now revealed for the first time. It is declared in this article that it is chiefly occasioned by the secret work of "Mormon" Elders, who have been diligently applying themselves to making converts in the kitchen. The story is to the effect that:

"The conversion of these servants has gone on quietly and been managed with skill. In fact, no converts of modern times have carried on campaigns in the field with greater ability, tact and energy than have these Elders who have gathered their recruits from the kitchens of the land, and left the country with them secretly and silently."

Stories are told of ladies who have discovered tracts and pamphlets and larger works on "Mormon" doctrines in the kitchen, and of one who actually met an Elder distributing that kind of literature who promised to return in a week for the book and converse on the subjects it contained! The tenor of the whole article is to convey the idea that "Mormon" missionaries are especially engaged in converting women, and more particularly domestic servants who, when won over to the faith, are taken care of comfortably until they are shipped to Utah where they are taken under contract of marriage.

This kind of work is said to be going on not only in New York, Chicago and other American cities, but it is stated:

"From England come fewer domestics every season, and the work of the 'Mormons' in England is said to be the cause. Many English converts to the 'Mormon' Church pass through New York on their way to Utah, but it is becoming more difficult every day to hire English servants."

All this is very funny to people who understand the condition of affairs in this State, where there are more men than women as the census demonstrates, beyond a doubt, and where there is as great scarcity of female domestic help in proportion to the population as in other parts of the United States. What makes the article to which we refer still more ludicrous, is that it appeared originally in the New York Sun. That paper is supposed to exercise some care in the selection of matter for its own columns, and it is surprising that such a mass of stuff was permitted publication in that journal.

It ought to be known by this time in editorial circles, that "Mormon" missionaries are engaged in preaching the Gospel, according to the tenets of their Church, to all people who will listen to them. That even in the days when plural marriage was permitted in Utah there was never any special endeavor to convert one class of society, or one sex above another. The statistics of immigration have demonstrated this fact beyond any fair dispute, and now when that practice has entirely ceased, there is still less excuse than before for the notion that "Mormon" proselytism is chiefly devoted to the conversion and gathering of women to Utah.

If there were any truth in the stories that have been told concerning the conveyance of girls and young women from different parts of the world to the valleys of Utah, this State would have an immense majority of the fair sex. Yet, as we have said, the number of males is in excess of that of the females, and this disparity has been shown by the official census whenever it has been taken. Salt Lake City today is suffering from a scarcity of domestic service as much as any other city of its size in this country. There is even now a talk of endeavoring to obtain Japanese servants to supply the demand. Our daily papers incessantly publish advertisements for hired help of this kind, and the wares demanded are evidence of the dearth of female help for the household.

It seems that the old fallacious idea concerning the purpose of "Mormon" preaching still prevails even among intelligent people. It is fostered by the influence of anti-"Mormon" ministers, whose craft is in danger from the work of the Elders with whom they find themselves unable to cope in a fair field of controversy. Stories are circulated of the most absurd and groundless character by a hireling clergy, in order to deter people from listening to our missionaries and investigating the doctrines which they are sent forth to promulgate.

The Atlanta Constitution, which copies the article from the New York Sun, takes to task the ministers of the Christian denominations for their neglect and lack of zeal, in comparison with the "Mormon" missionaries who are engaged in the fields of labor opening up in the South. It says:

"These 'Mormon' missionaries present shining examples of real zeal. Without money, without friends, and practically without encouragement, they invade the field which the Christian churches have neglected and proceed to make converts and to build up a 'Mormon' influence

and arrange for the propagation of 'Mormon' doctrines. They tramp their weary way through the State, find out the neglected neighborhoods and proceed with zeal and a plausibility which Christian ministers might very well copy, to sow the seeds of their doctrine in minds that are glad to have an opportunity to exercise their faith in some direction."

As to the kind of opposition the "Mormon" missionaries have had to meet, the Constitution makes the following deprecatory remarks:

"In some parts of the country, the zeal of these 'Mormon' missionaries has made them the victims of violence, but there is no argument in violence. You cannot prove that a man's doctrines are false by murdering or abusing him. This has been discovered long ago, and old denominations of Christians have about come to the conclusion that persecution in the name of religion does more harm than good."

It is gratifying to know that in spite of the misrepresentations that continue to be made concerning the work of our Elders in the United States and in foreign lands, and in face of the violence which occasionally is experienced in their endeavors to spread abroad the principles of their faith, success attends their efforts, and honest people embrace the Gospel which they go forth to teach.

The idea that they are recruiting officers, endeavoring to induce people to forsake their homes and come to Utah, is as incorrect as the notion that their labors are specially directed to the conversion of women to "Mormonism." Their calling is to preach faith in God, and in Jesus Christ, repentance of sin of every kind, and baptism by immersion for the remission of sins, with the promise that all who thus obey the commandments of God shall receive the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands, and the gifts of that Spirit as enjoyed by the Saints of old.

This Gospel of the kingdom is as much, but not any more, for the kitchen as for the parlor, for the peasant as for the prince, for the male as for the female, for the preachers of all sects as for their congregations, for editors as for their readers. If the Elders meet with more success among the poor than among the rich, the fault is not theirs; for they endeavor to reach all classes of society, and they are in that respect not different to their Master, who was rejected by the learned and the wealthy, but "the common people heard Him gladly."

It would be well if the leading papers of the country would learn a lesson from the admission of the Atlanta Constitution, and sense the fact that not only does mobocracy or any kind of violence fail to prevent "Mormon" proselytism, but that absurd stories, ridiculous inventions and malicious misrepresentations of their doctrines and intentions, will also prove futile, and demonstrate the folly of those who make and publish the falsehoods.

PRISON LABOR.

The experiment of making imprisoned hobos in this city pay for their board and lodging by work on public roads is likely to collapse as the conclusion was reached that their labor was not worth its cost. But if that argument is to be followed out, the incarceration of that class will also have to be abandoned, for it does not pay, if only the immediate result is considered, to keep a lot of idle prisoners, the citizens paying for their maintenance, without receiving anything therefor.

A graver objection than the expense is raised nearly everywhere against prison labor, and that is the competition of such labor with that of the free citizens. Many consider it more economical in the long run to give the wards of the community their maintenance free of charge to them, and leave all the honest work there is to be done to the honest workmen. It is thought had economy to put prison labor in competition with free labor.

Probably it would be better for the individuals themselves, and for the community too, if the prisoners could be kept employed at something useful. Idleness is an enemy of morality, and certainly not conducive to reform. The question of prison labor is a complex one, and should not be decided on the ground of its expenses alone.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The Manila dispatches call attention to the fact that the past week was one of great losses to the Filipino brigands. It seems the Americans rendered incapable of further depredations so less than one thousand of that class, while their own losses were only nine killed and sixteen wounded.

It is evident from the accounts that the insurgents are broken up in small bands, operating independently of one another, and as best they can. It seems that the majority of Aguinaldo's followers have constituted themselves "generals," leading from a dozen to a hundred, or more, bandits upon enterprises of robbery and murder. Of course that kind of "warfare" may go on indefinitely, just as do murder, robbery and other forms of lawlessness in every country under the sun. Its suppression will have to be the work of the civil government through the execution of laws suitable for the existing conditions.

It is a sad fact that after so many months of arduous campaigns in the islands the necessity for still further bloodshed exists there, owing to the policy of hatred for which it is believed Aguinaldo is chiefly responsible. But as long as the necessity exists, it must be met. This country is responsible to the nations of the world for the establishment of peace and order in the Philippines, and it is this responsibility that still demands some efforts, some sacrifices. In the end these will be crowned with success, and when finally the time comes, that these now disturbed islands shall be the homes of peaceful citizens, happy in their enjoyment of American freedom, and American culture and prosperity, the present struggle will be regarded in its true light, as the new birth of a nation, just as when the sun breaks forth through the clouds, we rejoice at the storm, which, while present, was a cause of discomfort. A happier day for the Philippine archipelago is evidently about to dawn.

DEWEY AND LABOR.

Some Chicago workmen seem to have an entirely wrong idea of their duties. The latest evidence of this is the announcement by some labor unions that Admiral Dewey is expected to review the parade on Dewey day from a "union" platform. That is, the unions will blacklist him, if he patronizes a stand erected by contractors with which the labor unions are at odds. And the broad hint is thrown out that he cannot afford to ignore the labor unions, if he is a candidate for the Presidency.

The President of the United States was once given to understand that he could not lay the corner stone of a post-office in Chicago, unless he became a party to the force of joining a labor association, and now the union question is to be dragged into the Dewey day celebration. Labor unions for the mutual protection of its members are in a position to do much good, but by such proceedings as those connected with the parade, they will necessarily lose the esteem in which they are held by the public.

Admiral Dewey might properly reply that when he sailed into Manila bay and earned glory for the American flag, he did not stop to think whether his paraphernalia were the products of union labor or not. The absurdity of raising that question in connection with the celebration of that event is too apparent.

The matter has a serious side, is labor so scarce in Chicago that it is necessary for respectable workmen to make a fight for the privilege of laying a few planks on which to stand to view a parade? Are laborers in our large cities reduced to the necessity of struggling for a little piece of work, as are the dogs running wild in the oriental streets, for a bone? And that in a time of general prosperity, when trade is more lively than it has been for years, and the activity in the various industries is the subject of daily congratulations? Something must be wrong when, under such circumstances employers and employees are quarreling in public. And this is of general interest. The laboring class is one of the main supports of the State. Its welfare is the welfare of the public. The State that has the most intelligent, well-paid, and most independent laborers has the best chance of obtaining and retaining influence among the nations of the earth.

THE SULTAN'S DELAY.

European diplomats are said to watch with keen interest the progress of the negotiations with Turkey for the payment of the damages agreed upon, on account of the destruction of American property in Asia Minor. The supposition in Washington now is that the Sultan is about to fulfill his long delayed promise to settle the matter, and there can be no doubt that this will be the final outcome, if the United States insist with sufficient firmness on the cessation of further procrastination.

Turkish rulers have acquired the habit of dodging the European diplomats for years at a time. It has been possible for them to do so, because of the mortal fear in Europe for the reopening of the so-called eastern question. But this is no factor in the American rule of conduct. Some years ago it was suggested to seize the part of Smyrna and collect enough duties to cover the damages asked for, and this plan may be again contemplated, provided Germany, or Russia, does not object to such a proceeding.

At all events the United States government cannot now back out. The money demanded must be paid, and the money promptly the better. Not only does the dignity of the nation demand this, but for the safety of American citizens, who may reside in Turkey or travel in that historic country, it must be made a rule that what is unjustly taken from them, must be paid for. That will insure them protection in the future.

The plea that the Sultan is no more responsible for the outrages of the Kurds than would the American chief executive be for the depredations of Indians is absurd, for the simple reason that, as was amply proved, the Armenian massacres were religious persecutions commenced after due instructions from Constantinople, if not from the Sultan himself, from some one standing near the head of the Ottoman government.

The Sultan is probably willing to settle with the United States, but Mohammedan rulers have their difficulties to overcome. It is a question whether they, for conscience sake, can pay out anything for the support of a "Christian" cause, except upon compulsion. It is probable, that the delay in the payment is necessary on the part of the Sultan, in order to call for the compulsion which will justify him in handing over the money. There must be some reason for a proceeding which is common to every ruler of the Turk.

The present sultan is described as an amiable gentleman, who has never broken a promise. And yet, he follows closely in the steps of his predecessors when concessions of one kind or another have to be made to western potentates. There must be some reason for this and undoubtedly it can be found in their religious tenets. Turkish diplomacy would be better understood, and would look perfectly natural too, were the ethics of the Koran more fully known.

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

The latest advices from Calcutta are everything but reassuring. Official reports say that the misery existing in the famine district is now simply unendurable, while the relief is inadequate. The domestic animals are dying out, and there are not enough left to perform the necessary work in the fields, and in order to remedy this, the government is seeking to induce human beings to work in the fields instead of the animals used for that purpose. It is not entirely uncommon in the Orient to see a human being—nearly always women—harnessed to a plow together with a donkey, but such sights are the exception. It is a mark of extreme poverty. The fact that the Indian government is contemplating such an expediency proves the extremity to which the famine-stricken people have been reduced. It proves that they have sunk to the lowest depths of poverty. With starvation and sickness in their

midst, the people naturally become dissatisfied, rebellious and lawless. The dispatches show that in some places the natives are commencing to feel uneasy, and to attack the Europeans. At Shapur, it is said, a crowd murderously attacked a party of soldiers, the other day, and that the assailed soldiers were rescued with difficulty.

This is a serious phase of the Indian situation. Acts of violence are under such conditions often contagious. A spark of lawlessness in one place may kindle a large blaze, and it is a question whether the Indian government would be able to cope with a rising that might spread over several provinces. Predictions have been made recently of risings in India. It looks as if there were some foundation for the prophecies made.

Leading German financiers at a recent meeting in Berlin, decided to raise a fund for the relief of the sufferers, and started with a subscription amounting to \$20,000. Undoubtedly this example will be followed throughout Europe. In this country, too, various schemes have been suggested to raise means for the famine-stricken millions. It seems that what is to be done in this direction, must be done without delay.

How to handle Gen. Buller seems to puzzle the British more than the Boer military authorities.

"Human cattle" is to be given definite meaning in British India, where the officials are trying to arrange for native men to do the farm work of oxen.

The prolonged storm is getting to be too much of a good thing in some localities, and orchardists and stockmen particularly are wishing for a few days of warm sunshine.

The London papers say Mrs. Carter's play of Zaza is "coarse." As in this country, the people will flock to the play, to find out whether the papers are right in their characterization of the piece.

The report on the Montana senatorship case may be termed "a hot number." It is pretty severe when the United States Senate has to come to the relief of a State in that form in order to maintain its "good repute."

The report of British Indians attacking troops at Shapur will bring to mind Frank G. Carpenter's recent letter showing that the Indian situation was one of the greatest peril. It will take strong measures to prevent trouble there.

The Filipino rebels are broken into small bands, and judging by the record of the past week are suffering heavier losses in killed and wounded than before. They must soon see the futility of seeking to overthrow American sovereignty on the islands.

News comes of a great massacre of Chinese Catholics in China. The cablegram says thousands, and may be an exaggeration. But if there has been any considerable killing, it would seem to afford good excuse for interference by some of the European powers to render the situation more secure.

The labor parade in New York on Saturday night is to be composed largely of women. This tendency to bring the gentler sex to the front in "war" campaigns for various purposes is throwing doubt on the application of the term "gentler" to the feminine portion of such "armies."

The Chicago brass molders have had enough of the sympathetic strike in which they engaged to help the machinists, and have decided to return to work. It now becomes a question whether the other trades unions in the federation will expel the molders. The issue involved is a vital one to both parties, so far as sympathetic striking is concerned.

That Danish captain who wanted to buy British sailors by flinging to the breeze the Boer flag when his vessel was at Norfolk, Va., certainly made a success of his joke when the Britishers were so irritated as to complain to the American state department, which had to turn them down because it had no business to interfere. Some things that patriotism would not deign to notice are brought into prominence by pettishness, as in this case.

It is said that the United States may have to interfere with force to prevent Nicaraguan incursions into Colombia, because of a treaty to maintain peace on the isthmus. No great amount of force is likely, since the present Nicaraguan government does not care to give opportunity for action by Nicaraguans who would welcome a conflict in order to agitate for annexation to the United States.

CLARK'S CASE

Chicago Record.

The course recommended by the committee was necessary to the preservation of the dignity and self-respect of the Senate. Mr. Clark admitted that he had spent about \$100,000 to secure election to the office, the salary of which for the full six-year term amounts to only \$30,000. There was evidence in abundance that the expenditures exceeded \$150,000, and that some of the money was corruptly used. A scandalous condition of affairs was shown to have been caused in Montana through the efforts of the two rival millionaires, Clark and Daly, to buy their way into the United States Senate. In these circumstances the only thing the Senate can do consistent with its honor is to exclude Clark.

Chicago News.

In so far as the telegraphic reports give the proceedings of the Senate committee prior to the decision to report against the affluent member from the copper mine, it appears that there was a considerable reluctance in voting to oust Mr. Clark from the comfortable seat which has cost him such a lot of good hard money. The members of the committee did not go openly into that phase of the question directly; but the inference suggests itself fairly enough that certain of them had a secret misgiving about dealing so staggering a blow to a vested right.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Of course, the report of the committee will be sustained by the Senate, if the question ever comes to a vote. Possibly the senators may be spared the pain of voting upon it by Mr. Clark resigning. That would be a way out which many of the senators would greatly prefer, for it would be awkward if the

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