

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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## THE YELLOW PERIL.

The persistent war talk which predicts serious difficulties between this country and Japan revives interest in the "yellow peril" predictions that were so common a few years ago. It was the German Emperor who, in his allegorical painting, called attention to the probability of the existence of such a peril and the necessity of unity for common defense. Since then the subject has been the theme of numerous writers for the press. It is significant that just now British statesmen are actually taking notice of rumors that represent Germany and the United States as having an agreement for united action, in case Japan should make a move against the white race. This, certainly, is one of the extraordinary signs of the times.

We are not disposed to exaggerate the dangers of an Oriental invasion. Nor can we side with those who see in the forecasts of a future peril only pessimism. The very fact that the Oriental races have survived their long period of lethargy proves their health and vigor, and who knows but that they are all the better equipped both physically and mentally for renewed activity because of their sleep, as he who wakes in the morning is prepared for work because of a night's quiet repose? Who can say that the long inertness of Asia does not betoken the quiet gathering together of energy for new and vast enterprises? As a contributor to the Inter-Nation Magazine puts it, one need not be a mystic to reach this conclusion—it is the end to which common sense, to say nothing at all of the scientific spirit, inevitably leads one. Nature does not perpetuate means for which she has no further use; when their ends are accomplished they are practically obliterated, leaving behind them at best but the vaguest reminders. The fact that the venerable nations of the East have escaped such obliteration must profoundly affect the consciousness of all to whom the destiny of the human race is a study.

There is certainly nothing irrational in the supposition that a "yellow peril" is among the future possibilities for which the entire world must be prepared. And if it is to be, it is very probable that the avalanche will sweep over the Western hemisphere, as well as the eastern. But one thing is certain. Such a calamity will not come, as long as western nations are true to their calling and do not sin against the light they have. It was when the Old World rejected the truth and sank into idolatry, sensuality, selfishness and bigotry, that the "candle-sticks" were removed, and Asiatic hordes overran the once so highly favored countries. Huns and Vandals, Saracens and Turks, all seemed to be specially prepared for the mission they filled as veritable "destroying angels" pouring out the "vials of wrath" of the Almighty upon guilty nations. As for us, say, as the western world remains true to its calling, there is no danger of a new incursion of strange races. The real "yellow peril" is therefore the peril of sinking below the moral standards of the Gospel of Jesus. It is the peril of the worship of Mammon. It is the peril of strife and contention, and of the persecution of the humble followers of the Nazarene. There is no other overwhelming peril to nations, than national sin and transgression.

## THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD.

An official utterance of the Head of the Roman church is always of more than ordinary interest. His recent address on the occasion of the appointment of new French bishops is no exception to the rule. He said, in part:

"More than ever now the church can be compared with a ship buffeted by the waves in the midst of the ocean. But our faith does not vacillate in the least. Indeed, we are more sustained by our belief in the efficacious assistance of Christ, who, when the time to succor us comes, will rise and command the wind and sea to go down so that the perfect tranquility so much desired will beam on us."

The pope spoke for the vast religious body of which he is the recognized spiritual leader, and his faith and confidence in the future are admirable. What he said, however, of the large and influential church of Rome certainly is true of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Its course has always been over a stormy sea with wind and waves against it; but in the darkest hour the Master has always been near, and on his word calm has conquered the rolling billows.

One reason why the Church always encounters opposition is this, that the world considers its existence as an intrusion, a menace. The god of this world is not willing to see what he regards as his kingdom invaded by the followers of Prince Emmanuel. For that reason, wherever the true Church is established, the forces of darkness are immediately set in motion, and fire and sword, prisons and racks, slander and abuse are employed in opposition to the progress of its influence upon the children of men. Even where toleration and freedom are the legal prerogatives of citizens, the true Church must be prepared to maintain its rights. The world is perchance willing to grant Church members the privilege of singing and praying, and reading and preaching, as long as they do not bring forth truth and apply it to the affairs of every-day life, and to public affairs. If they do, they find enemies. When Paul preached about righteousness, temperance, and judgment, folly

trembles, and Festus declares him insane. They do not want the interference of heaven with the affairs of earth.

But the Church does not need to apologize for its existence, or its activity in righteousness. It has a perfect right to teach and rebuke and warn the nations. That is its divine commission, to which it must be true or suffer condemnation.

Church members do not lose their rights and responsibilities as citizens by joining the Church. It remains their duty to exercise all their influence in order to secure and maintain good government. There are times when neither Church members, nor ecclesiastical officers, can be silent with a good conscience. There are times when it becomes necessary for them to rally in behalf of common honesty, social purity and civic righteousness, and they need not apologize to the world for taking a stand in favor of public morality. They would be cowards, if they were to shrink from doing their full duty.

From the beginning the church has exercised a powerful influence upon the affairs of the world. The first followers of the divine Founder of the Christian religion did not hesitate, for instance, to preach the doctrine of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. The Apostle Paul exemplified this doctrine when he took under his protecting care the poor, runaway slave, Onesimus, pleading for his liberty as a "brother."

The result of this doctrine was the gradual modification of the social structure. When slaves were admitted to the Lord's table on an equality with their masters, slavery was virtually doomed, and the separating walls between castes, or classes of society, were broken down. By the application of the same doctrine, woman was elevated to the status of friend and companion of man. The duty of caring for the poor and aged received new force from the teachings of the first Apostles of our Lord, and thus the church became an influence upon the affairs of the world, and this will go on until the whole world is remodeled according to the pattern of the Master and the great ideal is realized, which is that the kingdoms of this world must become the Kingdom of Christ.

## A PARALLEL.

The mouthpiece of anti-"Mormonism" in this city could not resist the opportunity offered by the present activity in real estate of making a slurring reference to "Mormon slowness." And yet, all that this city, not to say the entire Intermountain region, has, and is, today, is, in the first hand, due to the enterprise, loyalty, industry and perseverance of "Mormons." It is true they could not build "skyscrapers" in 1847, or for many years after their first arrival here. But they did what they could. They planned some buildings that still are unsurpassed in magnificence; they constructed roads and bridges, and lines of communication and conquered obstacles of numerous kinds. The problems with which capitalists and architects are struggling now are child's play, if compared to the problems that were overcome here by "Mormon slowness." It is to that "slowness" that the critics are indebted for every temporal blessing they enjoy in this highly favored region.

A friend of the "News," a well known business man, in a communication to this paper, suggests that the "Mormon" business men in the early days possibly did not have money enough to build skyscrapers; hence, he says, with pointed sarcasm, it is a relief to turn from these "one-story 'dobes'" they built, and view the magnificent skyscrapers erected by the millionaire mine owner and chief proprietor of the anti-"Mormon" sheet. To quote:

"How the towering buildings at 132 to 140 Main street impress the stranger, especially when he is told that they are owned by the millionaire owner of the Tribune, the true exponent of progress! And how about the multi-millionaire partner of the Tribune proprietor? Now, the splendid four-story buildings decorating Main street, which he erected! How the 'some-of-it' blocks rear their massive two-story walls to awe the Sanpeter! Ah, here is your true 'American' spirit of progression for you! No old-time one-story 'dobe' for him. And then go down a little further and see the crowning achievement of all! That magnificent two-story building, erected on one of the most valuable and desirable business sites in all the west! When a multi-millionaire tore down a four-story building, erected forty years ago during 'unprogressive' 'Mormon' times, and in its stead erected a two-story business block—if he had done nothing else during his life-time, he certainly, by that one act, earned immortality. You may search the entire records of every town between the Missouri and the Pacific coast, during the past 30 years, and you will not find a parallel of any one tearing down a four-story building and putting up a two-story one in its stead. That was left for a multi-millionaire true 'American' to accomplish in this twentieth century."

We are pleased at the prospect of material growth now before the city. The healthy development of Salt Lake means increased prosperity to the entire region of which it is the business center. It is particularly pleasing to notice the fact that the activity in business came so immediately after the defeat of the un-American party, whose leaders have been in the habit of claiming the credit for prosperity and development. It shows what value business men place upon their frothy proclamations. It proves that they cannot stop the wheel of progress, though they may retard its speed. What would the possibilities of this region be, if strife were stilled and public affairs honestly administered?

## CO-OPERATION.

These are the days, says the New York Mail, when consumers organize. It appears that New Yorkers have commenced organizing, in order to fight successfully high rents and dear meat. If they are successful, there is no reason why they should not extend their usefulness and fight exorbitant prices on every commodity. It has been proved that meat boycott, for instance, can bring the prices down, and organized effort as a general rule is pretty sure of success.

When the time comes that consumers unite against extortion, a great many of the present problems will be solved. There is no reason why flat-dwellers who may be dissatisfied with rents and accommodations, should not unite and build a magnificent structure and own it themselves, instead of paying for

one in monthly installments and never own a brick in it. The plan of united ownership of homes has been tried in larger cities of the Old world and proved a pronounced success. In the same way, there is no reason why a number of heads of families should not combine and own tracts of land upon which to produce various kinds of food needed every day. If it is found that producers take an undue advantage of consumers, the simple solution of that question is intelligent co-operation, by which the consumers become producers, and in all probability such co-operation will be found one of the necessities of the future.

## SMOKE AND VEGETATION.

The smoke nuisance is referred to in a recent report by Consul-General D. F. Wilber, of Singapore. He says there is a great boom in the planting of rubber throughout the Malay peninsula. Many of the plantations are in the vicinity of mining districts, and the young trees have been seriously affected by the calcining of arsenical ores. The report of the United Planters' Association of the Federated Malay States for 1905 says: "This process of treating arsenical tin ores is one that has become a most serious source of danger alike to the health and comfort of the community and is a menace to all surrounding vegetation. The effect is said to spread for at least 10 miles, and we are aware that at least five miles from the main center of calcination operations the jungle is destroyed." It is further stated "that the government is taking strong measures and forbidding the calcining of arsenical tin ores unless done in proper furnaces which will concentrate the arsenic, so as to prevent the fumes becoming a danger to health, comfort and property."

The latter information is of local interest. It should be noted that wherever poisonous fumes are emitted in large volumes the vegetation suffers, and a conflict between the various interests is inevitable. Efforts to save the agricultural, or horticultural interests do not prove hostility to mining interests, as alleged by a morally irresponsible sheet. A note should also be made of the fact that the government of the Malay states has taken strong measures forbidding the injurious operations of the smelters, unless they are conducted in "proper furnaces" which will concentrate the arsenic. This would indicate that there is a remedy against threatened danger, and if this is correct, there need be no conflict between the different interests.

## Murder and electric lights will out.

The anti-Mormon organ never calls a rich man a Jack-Mormon.

Oregon has no debt. No wonder it is often called the Mossback state.

Councilman Mulvey to Chief Sheets—What's a city ordinance, between friends?

Small bills are said to be scarce. They are never so scarce as large ones, though.

Senator Bailey has fallen on rather evil days. He is issuing explanations and statements.

Pneumonia more than anything else seems to be booming in Goldfield just now.

Soon Salt Lake will be crying aloud, "My burden of prosperity is heavier than I can bear."

It is pleasant to read of the indictment of land pirates. It is unpleasant from another point of view.

The school election being a thing of the past, the decks are now cleared for the Christmas "News."

As yet Professor Burgess has not stood before kings but he has been received by Chancellor von Buelow.

"Pick your friends," said Mr. Rockefeller in a recent talk to his Sunday school class. Pick or "pluck?"

An American citizen of Japanese birth would generally be superior to an American citizen of African descent.

Those who complain of the proposed increase in the price of milk organ, a "savage attack on greatest industry to get water in cold, freezing weather."

Judge Marshall's decision in the smelter cases no doubt is, in the opinion of the great "American" party organ, a "savage attack on greatest industry."

Do what it will Chicago cannot make the crush on her elevated loops anything like the crush at the Brooklyn bridge. New York is still the metropolis.

Among the literary offerings for the holidays is a Christmas poem by Alfred Lambourne, entitled Plet, which will be for sale by the Deseret News book store. Mr. Lambourne has contributed largely to the art and literary products of Utah, but we understand this book is to eclipse his previous efforts, both from an artistic and literary point of view.

The greatest spelling match of all time is about to begin. The President says it shall be reformed spelling in public documents while the house appropriations committee, in its report, says that "hereafter in printing documents authorized by law or ordered by Congress or either branch thereof, the government printing offices shall follow the rules of orthography established by Webster's or other generally accepted dictionaries of the English language." Which will spell the other down?

An exchange is authority for the statement that a New York pastor has introduced vaudeville in his Sunday night services. His church is in the midst of a "Sunday-night-theater" district, and he has made up his mind that he isn't going to let the shows take his congregations away from him without a fight, and so he has introduced into his Sunday night services

a whistling girl and "The largest and most complete set of musical glasses ever played before the public." He is getting the crowds. But what are the crowds getting?

"It will readily be seen that the Americans had plenty of votes in each of two wards, the First and the Second, to elect their candidates by a handsome majority. But they were lethargic, and did not turn out to vote." \* \* It is unfortunate that the Americans did not arouse themselves and win the two other wards named, as well as the Fifth; for they had the votes to do it; and their good will toward an actual American school system is undoubted." So says the anti-Mormon organ commenting on the recent school election. Were it not so blinded by its hatred of the Mormons, the organ could readily see that the "American" voters did not care to change the Board of Education from a non-partisan to a partisan body. And they showed their good will toward an actual American school system by refusing to make it partisan and un-American.

## ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

J. F. Willing.

When there is so much imperfect vision, we can hardly be sure that our eyes are absolutely reliable. So we must learn to express our opinions humbly and with due respect for those of others; above all—having charity. A voice that habitually "sharps" or "flats" will spoil a choir, so an intolerant spirit will ruin the harmony of a household.

Henry Drummond.

Christianity wants nothing so much in the world as sunny people; and the old are hungrier for love than for bread; and the oil of joy is very cheap; and if you can help the poor on with a garment of praise, it will be better for them than blankets.

Anon.

An old man said that in reviewing his life he discovered, to his great surprise, that the best things in his character and in his career were the fruits of what he regarded as his failures and follies. These defects had wrought in him new wisdom, and had led to repentance and renewal of faith in God, and had thus proved sources of richest blessings and good. Probably the same is true, in greater or less degree, of every life. We owe more to our defeats, with the humbling of the old nature, the cleansing of motives and affection, and the deepening of trust in God, than we owe to the prouder experiences which we call our successes.

Northwestern Christian Advocate. It is probable that a good many of our prayers are like those of the minister of a certain rural Scotch parish who had been visited by a deputation of his people in time of drought to remonstrate with him for not praying for rain. "Weel, weel," replied the domine, "I'll pray for rain to please ye; but the feint a drap ye'll get till the change of the moon." We pray for a certain thing that seems to be much needed, but all the while we are saying to ourselves that it cannot be granted until "a change of the moon;" that is, until the so-called regular order is accomplished. That is not the way Christ prayed. He asked for what he wanted, adding only, "Thy will be done." It is not for us to say what God can or cannot do—we can only say regarding what seems easy or hard, "May His will, not mine, be done."

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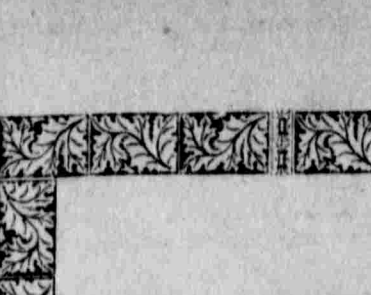
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