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Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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SALT LAKE CITY, JULY 12, 1901.

A JUST JUDGMENT.

The decision rendered by Judge W. C. Hall in favor of the defendants, in the case against the estate of the late Dr. John R. Park, as announced in the "News" of Thursday evening, will be received with general satisfaction by the great body of the people of this State. The attempt to wrest from its purpose the intention of the deceased to aid in the great cause of education, has been regarded with general disfavor. It has been well understood, for a great many years, that the ceremony which took place between Dr. Park and the complainant was solemnized solely with a view to relations in the next world, and was not regarded as a marriage in the common and legal acceptance of the term.

We need not go into the details of this peculiar case, as they have been already presented with perhaps too wide a scope of comment before the public. Whatever technicalities in the law the parties seeking to break the will of the testator may have endeavored to take advantage of, the intent of both parties to the religious ceremony which took place when the lady was supposed to be on her death bed, had then no relation to the obligations and duties of marriage for this life. It has appeared to us, all along during the controversy on this subject, that the position is sound, that the intent and purpose of parties to any kind of a contract must be taken into consideration, in order to reach a just judgment as to their meaning and effect.

With the friends of Dr. Park who were intimate with him and his career, there is not the shadow of a doubt as to his intention, when he consented to take the place which he was requested to assume by the bedside of the girl then supposed to be dying. He meant to act simply as one of the parties to a marriage for eternity, according to the rites of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Of course it might be argued that eternity comprehends and includes time. In ordinary instances this might have some weight in argument, but the circumstances surrounding the incident were peculiar, and it was only to secure to the invalid that status which she believed was necessary to her complete happiness and exaltation in a future state, that Dr. Park took the position which he was requested to occupy.

Judge Hall has taken some time to look into the momentous case submitted to his judgment, and to inform himself fully as to the bearing of judicial interpretations of the law bearing upon the question, and has arrived at a safe and we believe a sound conclusion, which will be so regarded by nearly every one who has taken an interest in the contention that has arisen. We congratulate Mr. Stewart and all associated with the defense on the judgment that has been rendered. Now let the will of the departed be carried into effect, and let the unpleasantness that has arisen over the endeavor to partially defeat his intentions be banished as soon as possible.

INJURIES TO THE FOOT.

A number of fatalities have occurred in Utah and elsewhere during the past few weeks, occasioned by injuries to the foot. Tetanus, or lockjaw, has been the consequence and death the result. There have been cases of similar accidents to those that befell the persons who have died from their effects which, having been attended to promptly and skillfully, have not resulted fatally, but the parties have recovered. Running a rusty nail into the foot has long been regarded as very dangerous and liable to produce the dreaded disease known as lockjaw. Whether the extreme heat has had anything to do with the development of this disorder after the injury has been sustained, we do not know. It is quite likely, however, that the temperature may aggravate the symptoms and aid in the progress of the disease.

Great care should be taken by people when in or near any old building which is undergoing repairs or demolition, it is better to avoid trouble than to find a way out of it. But when an injury of the kind described is experienced, immediate medical attention should be obtained. The wounded foot should not be left without proper treatment, and the most skillful and reliable aid should be secured. We have known of instances when immediate soaking of the injured member in hot water, and the subsequent repeated application of sweet oil and turpentine have effected a permanent cure. This remedy could be applied at once in cases where no skilled assistance can be obtained, or during the time when it is being sought for. The wound should be spread open so that the turpentine may reach it fully.

Boards ought not to be left lying around with nails protruding. The nails should be removed at once when boards are taken down. Persons who

create the danger arising from such carelessness as is common are liable for damages to injured parties.

Lockjaw is a very terrible disorder. It may be considered the effect of extreme nervousness and excited imagination. However that may be, it is an unpleasant fact in human experience, and having proved fatal in a number of recent instances, it is well that a warning should be raised, so that caution may be exercised and people may avoid the cause and thus escape the effects which are so greatly to be deplored.

PRESIDENTS OF QUORUMS.

We have received the following letter from a reliable source, and as it is of interest to many in the Church we publish it with reply:

"Editor Deseret News:
"Are the deacons, teachers and priests' quorums to be presided over by a president chosen from among them and set apart to this office, or does the Bishop simply call some one to act for him in presiding over these quorums?"

"It has been noticed that there is not uniformity in regard to these things in some of the wards of the Church. The passage in the D. & C. Sec. 107, verses 85 to 88, is also construed differently by different parties, some claiming the Bishop to be the president of all three quorums and others asserting from the reading of verses 87 and 88 that the Bishop only presides over the priests' quorum.

"If you can fully answer these questions through the columns of the 'News' I am persuaded it will be appreciated in a great many settlements of the Saints. CORRESPONDENT."

We are surprised to learn that there is any diversity of opinion in regard to this very simple matter. The reference made by our correspondent is unmistakably clear. There is to be a president of a quorum composed of twelve deacons, a president of a quorum of twenty-four teachers, and also a president over a quorum of forty-eight priests, who is to be a Bishop. The Bishop with his counselors, it is true, presides over all the lesser Priesthood within his jurisdiction. But the President of the Church presides over all the Church, over every quorum, council, stake, ward, society and organization. Yet each of them has its own presidency. It is so with the quorums of the lesser as well as of the high Priesthood.

In the revelation giving the various officers to the Church, in Nauvoo, the Lord mentioned "the president of the teachers and his counselors," and also "the president of the deacons and his counselors" as well as "the president of the stake and his counselors."—Doc. & Cov., sec. 134, v. 142. This shows that each of the quorums in the Church has its own presidency. And these officers are always of the number composing the quorum over which they preside. Thus, as three of the ninety-six elders making up an elders' quorum are selected and ordained to be its presidency, so three of the twenty-four teachers, and three of the twelve deacons composing the quorum are called and ordained to preside over it.

A president and two counselors form the presiding authority in each of the Church organizations, after the pattern of the First Presidency, and also of the Holy Trinity, which is the grand, governing and controlling power of the universe.

PASSING OF THE YANKEES.

Occasionally it is pointed out that the population of France is dwindling away, and there is much speculation, on that account as to the future of that country. But it appears that a similar condition prevails in our own New England states, where the native population is not maintaining its numerical strength. It is claimed that in Connecticut, for instance, the deaths among the native population exceed the births, and that the natural increase is chiefly due to the inhabitants of foreign extraction.

This, says the Springfield Republican, is true of the country districts as well as the cities. In forty-one back towns, peopled largely by natives, the deaths exceeded the births last year by 240. In the cities of New Haven, Hartford, Meriden, Waterbury, New London, Norwich and Bridgeport, the births from native-born parents numbered 3,393, while the deaths of native-born numbered 4,227; among the foreign-born births were 4,227 and deaths only 1,867—there possibly being an error in the duplication of the figures, 4,227, but in any event, for the whole state, the native births numbered 8,229 and deaths 10,283, and the foreign births 8,219 and deaths only 3,678.

The suggestion is made that the fact may be accounted for, partly, on the ground that so many strong and healthy persons are continually leaving the east for the west, and that is no doubt true. But, for some reason or other, there seems to be a tendency in most civilized countries toward an abnormal decrease of the birth rate, due to a moral condition which cannot but cause deep concern. There is no remedy for this either, except a moral awakening, such as we read of took place at Nineveh at the announcement of divine wrath upon that large and prosperous city. Human laws are powerless to change that condition, unless by law an entire reconstruction of the human society can be effected.

SERVED HIM RIGHT.

The story is told of a New York girl who refused to marry a man on account of his brutal treatment of a horse. She had kept company with the fellow for five years. One day the two were out driving together, when the horse was overcome by heat and fell down in the road. Then the young man lost his temper and lashed the animal without mercy. The horse ran away, and the driver was fined \$10, and as he did not happen to have that sum with him, the lady paid the fine and sent him a note stating that she did not care to have anything more to do with a man who could show such brutal cruelty to a dumb animal.

We hope the story is true, and also that the young lady will keep her sensible resolution. We hope a good many girls will follow this example, until the lesson is sufficiently imprinted upon the young men of this country, that only he who is of a kind disposition, merciful to the animals, and morally strong, is worthy the position of the

head of a family by the side of a good, loving wife. If girls generally would note the disposition of the boys with whom they keep company, and be careful in their choice, there would be fewer unhappy marriages than there are now. But cruelty to animals is but one feature of a young man's character, that should make him suspicious in the eyes of a young woman. Boys that neglect their duties in the home, and are given to loafing, smoking, gambling, drinking, swearing, etc., will not make good husbands, unless they can be turned away from these evils, and be made to walk in other paths. Many a girl agrees to unite her fate with such in the vain hope, that after the marriage, there will be a change. This often proves a serious mistake. The change should take place first. And we fancy that the probability of a young man losing the respect of every young girl, would be a mighty inducement to most of them, to put away their evil habits, and walk in the paths of rectitude until that becomes the second nature. Were there many girls as sensible as the New York girl referred to above, a great reform work would be going on among the boys, and in time there would be many more better men than there are now.

A LOST ART.

A dispatch from Des Moines says the governor of the state has paroled L. R. Dawson, in order to save for science the lost art of making Damascus steel. Dawson, it is said, has spent a lifetime endeavoring to discover the secret of that art, and he, finally, succeeded. In the early 80's he perfected his process, and a company was formed for the purpose of manufacturing the steel.

But then a young man eloped with his daughter and married her, and Dawson killed him. He was tried and sent to the state prison, and he took his secret with him. Fearing that confinement and his advanced years would suddenly terminate his life, the company—so the story goes—began to seek for Dawson's release. Rather than that the secret should be lost to the world, Governor Shaw made use of his official prerogative, and the prison doors will swing open to the old inventor.

The Damascus steel has a peculiar streaked appearance. It has great elasticity, but is particularly well adapted for the manufacture of swords and other cutting instruments, on account of its capacity for taking and retaining a very fine edge. It is claimed that by the method discovered by Dawson, Damascus steel can be made cheaper than the ordinary steel. It may be a question whether the early ancestors of the Anglo-Saxons were not familiar with the art, since mythology often makes reference to swords of most remarkable cutting and penetrating power.

And this reminds one that the world still has evidences of arts once known to man in the dim past, but now forgotten, notwithstanding our boasted advancement. One of these evidences is found in the great Egyptian pyramid. Those who have studied it with the utmost scientific care, find that as to orientation and leveling, it is more perfect than any other structure in the whole world. Its foundations are so anchored into the solid rock, that nothing but a rupture of that can shake it. The jointing is so perfect that the huge blocks forming the courses were once supposed to be one solid mass. There are, in the judgment of Prof. Flinders Petrie, no mechanics today in existence, who could do that piece of work, as it was done by the pyramid builders. Their tools were superior to those of the present day, and their knowledge of astronomy, geometry and mathematics must have been as accurate as that of present scientists, perhaps more so.

Such facts are significant. They prove that mankind, in its early ages, when freely partaking of divine inspiration, was raised to a most exalted level of perfection in every branch of knowledge and industry. They indicate that the true cause of decline from this level is the loss of such inspiration, and they point to a future time of still greater perfection, when true knowledge, from the eternal fountain of light, shall flow freely and cover the earth, as the water the bottom of the vast ocean.

ENFORCING THE LAW.

Down in Kansas City they have a little Sunday-saloon-closing question. They have a Law and Order League there that insists on the laws being enforced, and it has been fighting for the revocation of the licenses of those who violate the Sunday closing ordinance. And a committee of the Ministers' Alliance is assisting the league in its efforts. The Rev. Dr. Hopkins was chairman and made an appeal to the court to maintain the laws of the land, not to make an exception in favor of or against saloon men, but to treat them as they would any other business man and when they violated the law by selling liquor on Sunday, to take away their right to do so. The Rev. Dr. S. P. Neel and the Rev. T. P. Haley, the other members of the committee, also spoke on the same line. Dr. Neel calling attention to the tragedy at Troost park not long ago as a result of the violation of the Sunday closing law. Dr. Haley said that the saloon had as much right to operate as any other business under the law, but it must keep the law; that they took their licenses under the restriction that they should not operate on Sunday or sell liquor to minors; that the statute required the holder of a license to have a good moral character and that men that violated the law had no such character and licenses should be refused them.

To lower the temperature—place the thermometer on ice.

England is still pushing the war in South Africa. She should pull it off.

It's a cool day down East when the thermometer doesn't go above the 100 mark.

The late Senator Kyle has been succeeded by Mr. Kittredge. The K's have it in South Dakota.

Happy in Switzerland. She has no

navy to maintain in these days when the nations are navy mad.

In future the Central Park commissioners will be more chary about granting chair privileges to ring favorites.

Sending American granite to England looks much like sending coals to Newcastle, but it isn't the same thing by odds.

A party of scientists from the American Museum, New York, have just discovered some fossil horses in Texas. Mustangs, no doubt.

The German emperor has ordered an American schooner yacht. Americans return the compliment by ordering schooners of German beer.

The Amalgamated association and the steel hoop and sheet makers if they cannot agree on the wage scale might compromise on the chromatic scale. This would produce harmony.

Mr. Carnegie refuses to consent to run for mayor of Greater New York. A very sensible determination. Skibo castle is a much pleasanter place.

The Kansas City Star has dispatches from Kansas saying that the Benders have been found again. Their crimes, committed more than a quarter of a century ago, stirred up the whole country, and almost every old man in the country, who wore seedy clothes and had a long beard, was arrested for old man Bender. But the old man was never found. The chances are that he is long since dead. The revival of the story of his discovery may be the result of the hot spell in Kansas.

At the annual meeting of the Rhode Island Society of the Cincinnati the other day a resolution was passed for the adoption of an original air or tune to the hymn "America." The idea of this is to do away with the singing of the hymn to the tune of "God Save the King." If the tune and words are divorced the chances are that a mess will be made of the matter. "What's the Fourth of July without the American eagle?" And what's "America" without the tune to which it has always been sung?

The inborn capacity of Americans for government was never better shown than at El Reno when the registrations for applications for Kiowa and Comanche reservation lands began. So soon as lines were formed the line at each both elected a captain and his directions at once became law, and no doubt any who disobeyed this unwritten law would have received rough treatment. Had there been the least necessity those who so readily elected a captain would have as readily and completely organized a town, county or state government. It all shows an instinct for order notwithstanding there is much disorder in our country. An American takes to political organizations as naturally as a duck takes to water.

FOR A LARGER TITLE.

Sokane Spokesman-Review.
It is now proposed to add "Sovereign of Great Britain" to the titles already carried by King Edward VII. This may be all right, but to an ordinary observer on the outside it would seem that his majesty already has about all he can stagger under in the way of titles.

Chicago News.

Whether or not it may be necessary to give the colonies larger concessions in the way of representation in imperial legislation, anything which will give concrete expression to the fact of empire and establish a sovereign figurehead to be made the object of traditional honors may be expected to unite more closely the federation. Possibly the Canadians and Australians would feel that they had a larger share in the interests and affections of a British emperor than they would have in the king of Great Britain and Ireland. The suggestion which was advanced some time ago that the heir apparent to the throne be called "prince of Australia" or "prince of Canada," instead of taking the traditional title of prince of Wales seems to have been made with the same end in view.

Chicago Record-Herald.
We may look upon this as the immediate impulse toward union, though it is far from being the only factor in the case. There has been a strong tendency toward imperial federation for a decade, an increase of the political importance of the colonies, a disposition on the part of home-grown Britons to drop some of their pretensions to superiority. At the same time there has been a remarkable growth of union sentiment based on race solidarity. The British parts of the empire had never been so closely drawn together as they were before the war began, and that riveted the bond.

HOT WEATHER REFLECTIONS.

Worcester Gazette.
It is suggested that the summer will be uniformly hot on account of the intense heating of the atmosphere all over the country by the recent hot wave. Even if this theory is sound, which is doubtful, it is probable that the trials we have just been through will make those to come seem tame in comparison. It is extremely improbable that there will be another heated period equaling or even approaching that just passed. Therefore, while it may be hot and muggy and uncomfortable, it will not be the worst of the season and will be more bearable by way of contrast.

Kansas City World.

Unhappily this section of the country does not escape the blighting effects of the heat upon the growing crops. Reports from the surrounding agricultural region show that the extreme weather has practically destroyed the corn and ruined the fruit crop. The wheat is, of course, safe, and the loss of the corn will not be the calamity that it might have been had the wheat been involved in the destruction. The drying up of the ranges has also affected the cattle product. Altogether the hot spell of 1901 had that in it which will command the attention of the oldest inhabitant for some years to come.

Kansas City Star.

The mixing of air of different temperatures produced the thunder showers that brought a welcome coolness. The causes of the stagnation in these great "atmospheric" eddies are not known. They are to be found in conditions on the earth's surface and in the mechanics of the atmosphere. Hot waves are broken when the "highs" and "lows" resume their normal journey across the continent. For then their gyrations send cold air from the upper regions to refresh the surface of the earth.

Boston Transcript.

The memory of the terrible infliction of heat which New York has passed through will not be effaced by any day or two of relief. The metropolis is really much frightened about this awful visitation, and of course many

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