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SALT LAKE CITY, - MAY 11, 1903.

A MUSICAL MAY TREAT.

The concert in the Tabernacle tonight is to be the event of the season. The musical talent that has been secured is of the very best the State affords, and the program is of unusual attraction. The presence of Miss Ramsey will of itself be sufficient to draw a great audience, the fame of her vocal achievements having been sounded in both hemispheres. Miss Fisher is a well known artist, and her numerous admirers in this city will be anxious to judge as to the progress she has made in her eastern experience. Other features of the entertainment are also of uncommon interest, and a perusal of the program will certainly create a desire to attend and enjoy the musical feast prepared for the public. As the proceeds will be devoted to the good cause of keeping our city schools open till the end of the term, the friends of education will want to patronize the prize-worthy effort of the Commercial club, to combine pleasure and profit in aid of so worthy a movement. This grand concert will be a notable May event.

TO REDEEM THE ARID LANDS.

Guston's Magazine for May contains an illustrated article from the pen of C. E. Wantland, formerly of Salt Lake and now of Denver. It deals with the important subject of irrigation, agriculture in a comprehensive and pertinent manner. The enactment of the National Irrigation act is explained, and the far-reaching effects of it at any point, as Wantland is able to describe them. People who are interested in the question of the redemption of the arid region and the semi-arid lands of the great West, will read the article with more than ordinary satisfaction. The concluding paragraph, showing the probable results of the expenditure by the government, of the funds to be devoted to works which will turn the trend of population from the cities to the fields, we here append and commend the entire contribution to the notice of the friends of irrigation throughout the country.

"Possibly some time in the future a national irrigation day will be celebrated. When the supplies needed in the new and old lands across the Pacific are shipped from the valleys opened up by Uncle Sam's ditch diggers; when the great new states are developed and the worthy landless men of eastern cities are transplanted to the landless lands of the mountain states, possibly it will be said that Providence had something to do with the national irrigation agitation (which started in Utah, the land of small homes), and that at the critical time, when western men had forced the fight to the front as a national issue, and the West had grown stronger in the Senate of the United States it was fortunate that there was in the presidential chair a man who knew the West as well as the East, who recognized the justice of the great cause and had the courage to throw his full strength into the fight for the national irrigation act, declaring: 'Successful homesteading is but another name for the upbuilding of the nation.'"

SOME LIGHT ON ANTI-MORMONISM

In Nordstjernan for April 15, we receive a communication from a Sister Maria S. Peterson, written from Eskilstuna, Sweden, March 25, 1903. The letter is of general interest.

It appears that the writer some time ago embraced the Gospel and came to Utah. Here she found herself unable to stand the trials incident to the change from the old country to the new, and during this time she was found by unscrupulous persons who led her astray and finally sent her back to the old country as a soul that had been lost in "Mormonism," but recovered by his enemies.

Sister Peterson now says, in her letter to Nordstjernan, that she knows that the Church is the Church of Christ, and that the Saints were in no wise the cause of her apostasy. Long articles appeared concerning her in the anti-"Mormon" press, but she says, she did not write all of them, but her name was used by the professional traducers of the Church. As for the Saints, she says, they treated her well. She accuses the forgiveness of all for having caused the enemies to slander the Church, and she testifies to them that the object of their enmity is the true Church.

There are a number of persons and publications that make it their business to "fight Mormonism." They care not what weapons they use. Sister Peterson's letter reveals some of their methods. They even forge lies and use the signatures of other persons, to give them currency. The wonder is not that so many have prejudices against the Church. The great wonder is that it still lives and exerts an influence in the world. "We wish its origin not divine, it would long ago have been buried under the rubbish that the world has been heaping upon it. That it has risen above it all, proves that it is true. Truth alone can conquer all obstacles. Falsehood may live and flourish for a time, but not long. Truth alone lives forever."

A SIMPLE EXPLANATION.

A reader of the Desert News in Kansas desires an explanation through these columns of Luke vi, 25; which is as follows:

"For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women, there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he that is least in the Kingdom of God is greater than he."

This has been explained in the "News" before, but we repeat the explanation because others besides our correspondent have asked for it, and people do not always remember what they read.

THE FRANK DISASTER.

The Raymond Chronicle of May 4, published at Raymond, Alberta, gives a full account of the lamentable disaster, by which the little town of Frank was destroyed and many lives blotted out. Frank, the Chronicle says, is built directly under the frowning limestone cliffs of Turtle Mountain, one of the first of the Rockies to be named in entering the Crow's Nest Pass. So close is the base of this precipice to the town that at seasons the sun goes down there at a little past noon. Along the base of this cliff and parallel to it crops out the coal seam, the mining of which during the past eighteen months has caused the town to spring into existence.

The Chronicle thinks that a still worse catastrophe may happen there at any moment. This fear is based on the fact that what has come down is but a small part of the mountain; and that more of the huge mass may follow it. Should this happen, the consequences, it is said, will be terrible, paralleling on a small scale what befell Herculaneum and Pompeii. "Already," says the Chronicle, "the small planes clinging to the inequalities of the face of this mighty cliff are slanting outwards, showing that the limestone is straining at its bonds and anxious for the leap that will throw it far miles down in the prairie, blotting up the Crow's Nest Pass beyond repair of men. At Cowley, ten miles below the case of the settling mountain, and at Blairmore, two miles above it, the North West Mounted Police have drawn a danger line and established a cordon and none are allowed within the valley between these points."

WAS NOT PREPARED.

St. Louis was, evidently, not prepared this time, to care for its visitors properly. From many directions come complaints on that score. The New York Mail and Express says that the governors of Indiana and Colorado were gravely displeased because of official neglect to welcome them or provide quarters for them. Governor Odell's party was laid up for two hours in a freight yard, and when it alighted had something to do with the national irrigation agitation (which started in Utah, the land of small homes), and that at the critical time, when western men had forced the fight to the front as a national issue, and the West had grown stronger in the Senate of the United States it was fortunate that there was in the presidential chair a man who knew the West as well as the East, who recognized the justice of the great cause and had the courage to throw his full strength into the fight for the national irrigation act, declaring: "Successful homesteading is but another name for the upbuilding of the nation."

The experience thus gained by the fair managers and the fair city, should be turned to account, for the benefit of the fair visitors next year. If it is not, the visitors themselves will profit by it, and stay away. Sufficient hotel accommodations must be provided for, and reasonable prices charged. There should be no attempt at robbery. Official guests should also be entertained properly. The public will watch with interest any steps to remedy the defects that became apparent at the time of the dedication. Failure to do so, will result in a great loss to the fair.

ELECTRIC RAILROADS.

The question of running railroad trains by electricity instead of steam, has been discussed lately. The plan has appeared feasible, particularly in countries that have an abundance of waterfalls where power can be generated, and where the distances are not so great. Cornelius Vanderbilt takes the view that electricity as a motive force on railroads is financially impossible. He sets forth his reasons. In the North American Review, Railroads, he argues, depend for the bulk of their revenue upon freight. Therefore he dismisses the consideration of comfort and convenience of passengers and considers simply the question of economy in transportation. Here he finds that the cost of installing electrical equipment could not be met by any saving in operating expenses.

The opposite opinion is also argued in the Review by de Murali, an engineer, who has had much experience in this field, having been engaged in installing electric traction in Switzerland. M. de Murali asserts that at present about 100 miles of track can be economically supplied with power from a central station. Over such a system the loss of power is about 40 per cent. That is, for each horsepower required by the locomotive, the central station must produce about one and two-thirds horsepower. On this basis and using the figures at which electric power is usually sold by big plants, he finds that the rate of cost of motive power under the electric system would about equal the average rate of expenses for the steam roads. The rolling stock, includ-

ing locomotives, he assumes, would cost about the same under either system. But saving can be made, we are told, in several directions. On roads operated by steam, at least 5 per cent of the motive power is needed to haul the tender, with its dead weight of coal and water. The electric cars have no such tenders to haul. Another large saving, he says, would be made in the case of switch engines, which now must keep steam up all the time. Under the electrical system they would draw power from the station only when at work. Other savings would be made in the wages of firemen and wipers and in the cost of repairs. M. de Murali does not confine himself to generalities. He calculates that the New York Central would save about \$4,000,000 a year, and the Pennsylvania railroad about \$5,000,000, by using electricity instead of steam. If this calculation is correct, the annual saving would warrant the change, it would seem.

Undoubtedly electric cars would be much more pleasant to the passenger. The smoke nuisance is also great enough to be considered in this discussion. The trouble, however, with electric cars is that they are not reliable always. Sometimes the power gives out at the most exasperating moment. Railroad traffic should be secured against the caprices to which electric lines seem to be subject.

Salt Lake City is on the eve of either a boom or a bust.

Cotton at ten cents a pound is more than king; it's "it."

Russia's strides in Manchuria are made with seven-league boots.

If those Bulgarians just keep on throwing bombs there will be an explosion some day.

Captain Pershing's column has killed one sultan and nine dattos. In military parlance, Column right.

A Bay City, Mich., woman shot two men, killing one. This shows what a woman at bay can do.

A British blue book on Venezuela has been published. It makes things look rather blue for Venezuela.

The love of Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Bryan for each other is not quite like that of David and Jonathan.

Senator A. B. Lewis' latest mining enterprise is the greatest and most majestic he has ever undertaken.

Bulgaria is not to have her way in Macedonia. She will now have time to learn to labor and to wait, a lesson she much needs.

Chicago claims to have a genuine sea monster, caught in the Pacific ocean. The remarkable thing about it is that it is only claimed to weigh twelve pounds.

Congratulations to the East Side Push. Push is what most people lack, and if the East Side High school boys go on as they have begun they will never lack it.

The other day executive clemency was extended to a prisoner in the Leavenworth penitentiary just six days after he had died. This shows what red tape will do for a man.

The concert at the Tabernacle this evening for the benefit of the schools should be well patronized and no doubt will be. It is a noble cause. There should be a concerted move on the part of the people to make it a success.

Says the Philadelphia Record: "So long as we shall persist in keeping the Mormons in the Territories out of the Union, because they are Mormons, we can hardly consistently object to the act of the German government in expelling Mormons from Germany. And if we did object we might be asked to look after our own knitting."

R. T. Crane, the well known Chicago manufacturer, has gathered a vast amount of data from heads of commercial and industrial houses to prove that college graduates are not given the preference in these lines of activity, and his deduction is that the higher learning is a "handicap" to the young man. Never having had the benefit of a course in logic at college, Mr. Crane's deductions are illogical.

Rumor is busy with an extra session of Congress, to be called as early as October. It seems that it is by some considered necessary that an extra gathering be held, for the purpose of ratifying the Cuban reciprocity treaty, and also in order that a new currency bill be either passed or well advanced before the time of the regular session.

Some people think the business of the country will soon demand a permanent Congress, and many indications point in that direction. The regular sessions are always too short for the business in hand.

The East Side Push, published by the East Side high school of this city, was issued on Saturday with four thousand copies, the purpose in view being the maintenance of the high school and grammar grades to the end of the present term. This is a laudable object and is worthy the support of the people of this city. The paper is very creditable to the students and teachers of the East Side high school, by whom the entire contents of this eight-page publication has been collated and prepared.

Kindness to animals is expected of all people and not often is the expectation disappointed. But to treat a dead dog with the same respect and to lavish upon its burial a human being, is simply disgusting. The Associated Press sends out from New York this: "Lying in a rosewood coffin, his head resting on a pillow of flowers, the body of Tyrus a harlequin Great Dane dog was borne away to the dog cemetery at Scarsdale, followed by a procession of nine automobiles that carried about forty mourners." He died of Bright's disease, it is said, and a large granite monument is to mark his last resting place. There are the things that wealth and leisure and little common sense bring.

CLEVELAND'S CANDIDACY.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch. In the city of St. Louis, in the state of Missouri, the hot-bed of Stoneism and Bryanism, Cleveland got a tremendous ovation, and the old familiar slogan of "Four more years of Grover" was again heard in the land. We do not believe that anything short of a political miracle could put Mr. Cleveland in the White House again, but the days of miracles are not past in politics.

The Houston (Tex.) Daily Post. It matters not what may be said to the contrary, Mr. Cleveland is a candidate, and there are powerful agencies even now at work in his interest in this state. These agencies are yet in the "secret" stage, but gradually feeling their way, but at the opportune time should that time come—they will be heard from in no uncertain way.

The Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier.

Henry Watterson would probably go mad, and we tremble to think what would happen to William Jennings Bryan. Just the same, however, we wish it were possible to place Mr. Cleveland at the head of the party in the next campaign. That is where he belongs, that is where he should stand, and there is none other who can take his place.

IN MANCHURIA.

Worcester Spy. Accurate information as to what is going on in China outside the great centers is difficult to obtain and for that reason too much stress, no doubt, is often placed on unconfirmed stories. That the Times correspondent, who from long experience should have learned how to judge as to the trend of feeling in China, is able to speak in a fairly confident manner, inclines one to believe that the real state of affairs in China may have been unintentionally misrepresented.

Boston Transcript.

That vast province is in about as unsettled a condition as were the western plains before the advent of the white man, and he predicts that it will be as great a boon to have a settled government in possession as it was to our great untried section. Russia secured this commercial outlet to the world by "as legitimate a treaty as that by which we are to place the Isthmus of Panama. China had no business to go back on that treaty, and in doing so she has changed the conditions that it is not easy to re-establish them."

Los Angeles Times.

We trust that Russia and Japan will succeed in settling that little difficulty over the question of Manchuria so that public attention will not have to divide itself when the race comes off for the America's cup.

San Francisco Call.

It is pitiful that the government of the czar should deliberately choose to tarnish his good name at a time when the world looked favorably upon it for initiating the Hague conference in the interest of justice and peace. It is to be feared that hereafter the real Russia will be seen in Finland, in the violation of a solemn treaty and the violent suppression of an ancient people, rather than in the effort to promote the peace and good fellowship of the world.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The National Magazine for May gives its readers nine stories and a forty-page World's Fair Dedication Souvenir. The magazine reviews the history of the Louisiana Purchase, tells what has been done in that vast region during the last century, and forecasts its future greatness. The writers in the souvenir are Senator Allison of Iowa and President Francis, Vice President Chouteau, Secretary Stevens and Edmund S. Hoeh of the Exposition staff. Notable features of the magazine are: "The Genius of America," by Charles Ferguson, the celebrated economist; "The Building of the Panama Canal," by Peter Mac-Quarrie, story of what he found at the isthmus, where he went recently for the National Affairs at Washington and Editor of the National Geographic Magazine, by Lillian Bell, Julian Hawthorne, Jeannette L. Gilder, and Mary Bacon, and with European views; and the criticism by Oscar Pay Adams, Agnes Repplier, Mary E. Wilkins, and Katharine Lee Bates on the immortal women novelists—Jane Austen, George Eliot, George Sand, and the Brontës. There are also many drawings illustrating "The best new things from the world of print."—Walnut St. Philadelphia.

Conclusions so startling as those reached by Dr. Wallace's fortnightly article on "Man's Place in the Universe" could not go long unchallenged, and the April number of the Fortnightly brings a prompt reply from no less an authority than the Savilian professor of astronomy at Oxford. Prof. Turner's article is reprinted in the Living Age for May 9. A notable comment on a notable article is Prof. Harnack's "The New Testament as a Christian Revelation," which also appears in this number.—Living Age Co., Boston.

Will Carleton's Magazine for May opens with a hymn, sung by the Hugenots, 300 years ago, during their sufferings at the hands of persecutors. There are numerous other features of general interest.—Everywhere Publishing Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.

In the National Geographic Magazine for May, Cyrus C. Adams' illustrated article on "The United States. It is one that every American should read. Other illustrated contributions to the issue are: "The Conquest of Bubonic Plague," the Philippines; "Improvements in the City of Manila," "American Development of the Philippines," and "Benquet—the Garden of the Philippines." Other articles deal with "The British South Polar Expedition," "The Work of the Bureau of Forestry," etc.—National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.

"The Utility of an Academic or Classical Education for Young Men Who Have to Earn Their Own Living, and Who Expect to Pursue a Commercial Life" is the exhaustive title of a little book of about 100 pages, by R. E. Crane. The author has gathered the opinion on that subject of a number of people. His own view is that "the world is the best college for acquiring the knowledge of the human nature—good, bad, and indifferent." The book is well worth reading.—Chicago.

The contents of the April number of The West Virginia Historical Magazine are as follows: "Jost Hite, the Pioneer of S. Laidley," "Edging and Shepherd Families of Md. and Va."

S. Gordon Smyth: "Augusta Men in French and Indian War." Jo. L. Miller, M. D.: "Cramp and Logan." M. Louise Stevenson: "The National Road." G. L. Cranmer: "Virginia Soldiers at Fort Pitt, 1783." O. S. Decker: "Rev. John Clark Bayless." Lon K. Ponge.—Charleston, W. Va.

The anniversary number of Keramic Studio, a magazine published for the potter and decorator, is a beautiful specimen of that artistic publication. It gives a great many valuable instructions on the art in the interest of which it is published.—Syracuse, N. Y.

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