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THE PIONEER TOWER PLANT.

More words seem to be sufficient means of conveying to the mind the vastness of the enterprise now being established in Ogden canyon and valley. Its description in language can paint the picture in its magnificence. A visit to the scene of operations and an inspection of the stupendous work that is being wrought out adds to the conception of what is being done but it must remain for the future, when the manufacturing, agricultural and other enterprise great in themselves yet fortunate to this greater one, shall be in full and healthy activity, to reveal in the grandeur and beneficence to the people of Utah, and to award its promoters the high meed of praise which belongs to them as benefactors of mankind.

The visit on Wednesday of prominent officials to the plant of the Pioneer Electric Power company in Ogden canyon is an occasion for calling special public attention to what is being done. The description of the scene there, as given in our local columns yesterday and today, ought to bring renewed hope and faith to the minds of those who repose confidence in the future greatness of Utah as an industrial center in manufactures, agriculture, mining, and all the departments of productive labor in which human energy and skill find scope for development. In Ogden canyon, where for ages a large and beautiful mountain stream has poured its pure and sparkling waters into the valley below, the strength and the life in these waters is now to be harnessed and utilized for man's benefit, and the hour for the actual accomplishment of the work is at hand.

It was but until recent years that the wonderful developments in electrical science made possible the utilization of the forces of nature that for centuries have been lying dormant in that mountain gorge. But with those developments the marvelous possibilities now at hand came into clearer view. Men who have pioneered thought and action in the opening up to settlement and prosperity of the Rocky Mountain region, were inspired with conceptions of a grand project for utilizing the resources of Ogden river for the building up of this commonwealth and instituting an enterprise which would add a material stay to the wealth, prosperity and progress of the State. The Bancroft condition before them made the accomplishment of so great a task seem almost supernatural. "Hard times" were present in their full force as great as felt by the panic of 1893, and any attempt to raise the desired amount of capital seemed to promise nothing but failure; millions of dollars were needed, yet not a tithe of it was in apparent reach. But the demands of duty—a sacred duty that was higher than any obligations to self—were that action must be taken; the necessities of the people required a new development of home enterprise which only unfaltering faith and sublime devotion to the people's welfare would contemplate. In this crisis these pioneers and leaders gave still further proof of their qualifications for leadership; shoulders were put to the wheel with a determination to triumph, and the work was begun.

The difficulties in the way of accomplishing the task were not overestimated; but by dint of persistent faith and energy they were overcome, with the result we see today. The Pioneer company is on the threshold of sending the powerful electric current, not only throughout the mills and factories of Ogden, but to cities within an area of a hundred miles; to Salt Lake, Provo, Park City, Bingham, Mercur and elsewhere; in the counties of Weber, Box Elder, Morgan, Davis, Salt Lake, Utah, Tooele, and possibly still others. There it will be ready to aid in the operation of mills, mines, factories, railways and other enterprises for home development. Even this brief glance at the field stimulates minds of the mind to more complete. No less powerful Pegasus is required; a greater force to the heritage than is the Power company's work, in the people of this locality and in Utah for the demand for the water power for pumping, the electric current was diverted by nature in Ogden canyon it had to be taken.

The bringing into use of Ogden waterpower, with the possibility of another $1,000 when needed, is the greatest lesson of the Pioneer Electric Power company's enterprise; but it is not the only great one. By the construction of the tower dam, which is now done on the mountain itself, the water level is raised to a height of eighty feet; the upper canyon road is overwhelmed, and it is necessary to have two other roads along the mountain sides, to Eden and Huntsville, in Ogden Valley, a vast reservoir is formed, covering nearly 5,000 acres—an immense and beautiful mountain lake to be the home of vast quantities of the finny tribe. With the lake thus formed, and which provides a constant stream for power through the pipe mains extends for miles to the canyon, there is also provided a never-failing supply of irrigating water for the valley below. This will insure the perfect cultivation 20,000 acres of land now lying idle for lack of irrigating facilities. Here is means of subsistence for tens of thousands of people above the number now dwelling in that region. It is a glorious opportunity for the laborer, the gardener, the contractor, the mechanic and the farmer.

Surely the contemplation of these things and the beneficial results that must follow the inauguration of such an enterprise will fill the people with pride and joy at the progress indicated and the prosperity that must attend it in the way of opening new avenues of life for the steadily increasing population of the State. And surely the people of the State will begin to realize the great triumph of abiding faith and energy over the difficulties of three years ago, when the company was first organized.

One other word should be added regarding an item of work in Ogden canyon by Weber county. The canyon is one of the most picturesque and beautiful in this mountain region. Weber county has given it the best canyon road in all its part of the country—equal to the best macadamized road in the valley. For more than five miles it is a perfect boulevard, on which there is plenty of room for passing teams, and with a gentle slope that has scarcely a variation in the grade, so evenly and so well is the work done. It is at once a convenience and a comfort to all who have occasion to use it, and they are many. For the most excellent work the commissioners and people of Weber county deserve praise in their field of operation as do the Pioneer company's promoters and workers in theirs.

MORMONS AND THE COLORED RACE.

The Deming, New Mexico, Headlight makes mention of the Twenty-ninth United States infantry—the regiment of colored troops which has been abolished at Fort Bayard—coming to Fort Douglas, Salt Lake City, and says:

Mormons never thought much of the children of Ham, and it has been one of their doctrines that the soul of a negro could never reach the celestial of future bliss. The regiment will probably be ordered away in the course of a couple of years.

The Headlight is altogether wrong in its statement of Mormon doctrine; there is nothing in the teachings of the Latter-day Saints to justify the assertion quoted. The Gospel taught by the Saints embraces in its redeeming and saving powers all the race of men, whether it be Ethiopian, Mongolian, Polynesian, Indian or Caucasian; and the membership of the Church includes colored people of the Ethiopian as well as of other races. There is no occasion for misconception or evasion upon this subject, for one of the articles of faith of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints reads:

We believe that through the atonement of Christ all mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS.

People are accustomed to looking back to the dark, benighted ages of mankind, when the strong mainly succeeded by preying on the weak and, when human life and liberty were sacred only in so far as upheld by the sword. We often contrast the present with that blood-soiled past and glory in the advancement of civilization, the triumphs of reason and humane sentiments.

In the same way cities are often expected to behalf of savages, who have not yet been brought under the mild influence of our superior nineteenth century civilization and morality. They must be rescued, it millions of collars can do it.

It would be extremely interesting to know with what sentiments the wild and savage of the Congo race would regard the daily accounts of the murderous doings of the civilized world and also what the verdict of future ages there will be, when in the retrospective they examine the records of 1896 ago. For years now the daily press has chronicled deeds of human beings, on the very borders of civilization, which for refined cruelty and savage barbarity equal the worst in the annals of man. The authorities of constitutions in Africa and Indian tortures on the natives are more than equaled by affairs outside of the mountains in Vogue in Africa. Of the former it may be said that they have slain their thousands while the Turks ruthlessly have slaughtered tens of thousands.

But the Turk alone is not responsible for his war for humane methods. Advices from the Philippine Islands where Christian Spain has had an opportunity of demonstrating the exalting power of modern civilization, have proven that humanities there is little better than barbarism. The Spaniards institute and kill the unfortunate that fall into their hands, and the rebels retaliate in kind. No quarter is asked for, and none is given. It is not war, it is wholesale murder that is going on in one of the most beautiful spots of this earth, that might be an Eden, but not human beings otherwise drawn.

On Formosa a similar condition prevails. The Japanese have for the last half century been under the civilizing influence of modern civilization, and now, by virtue of a war, they have obtained an island formerly not theirs, and they are overrunning it with fire and sword. Their policy seems to be to exterminate the population in order to make room for themselves.

Is there any proof needed that something is radically wrong either with human nature or with human education as hitherto conducted, or with both? The daily records of carnage, of strife, of brutality, of selfishness, furnish that proof. For nineteen centuries the doctrine of the brotherhood of man has sounded upon earth, and from the beginning the decrees of the Almighty against the wanton destruction of His creatures have promulgated. With what result? It may be doubted whether the condition was more deplorable at the time when, according to record with the Almighty regretted that he had given man an existence on the then young earth. "And I my brother's keeper?" seems to be the stale question of those entrusted with the highest power among the nations, and accordingly they all take the part of spectators of the terrible drama enacted in various parts of the earth.

There is, however, ground for hope in this very fact. History teaches that at the most critical periods the Almighty always has interfered. This will undoubtedly be repeated. Day will follow night. The sooner the measure of iniquity is filled up, the sooner a readjustment will take place, and the next great chapter of human history will be brighter. There are already many signs of the approaching day, and the greatest of all is the opening up anew, as in ancient times, of communication between heaven and earth. That means a new era—the victory of right and the redemption of that which is good in human nature.

CATHOLICS AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The discussions as to the friendliness or unfriendliness of the Roman Catholic church to the public schools of this country is bringing out information as to decrees of a comparatively recent date issued by Roman authority on the subject. One of these, just made public, is said to have been given to the hierarchy at a convention of bishops and archbishops of the church in New York in 1892, at which Cardinal Gibbons spoke for the pope as follows:

We strictly forbid any one, whether bishop or priest, and this is the express prohibition of the sovereign pontiff, through the sacred congregation, either by word or by threat to exclude from the sacraments worthy parents who choose to send their children to the public schools. As regards the children themselves, this sole condition applies with the greatest force.

The presumed necessity for promulgating such an order would be that some church officers were, under a sense of their religious duty, exclusing parents and children from the sacraments because of support given the public schools; and that, in consequence, the Catholic church was being charged with an enmity to those schools, which charge it sought to avoid. Hence the decree. In support of the prohibition quoted, reference is made to section 130 of Mgr. Sarnelli's instructions to the archbishops, which reads:

When there is no Catholic school at all, or when the one that is available is little fitted for giving the children education in keeping with their condition, then the public schools may be attended with a safe conscience, the danger of perversion being removed remote by proper care in moral and preeminently religious instruction that is to be left to the conscience and judgments of the ordinaries.

Section 131 of the same instructions has the following, which with the above quoted one are interesting significance as showing the trend of sentiment at the Vatican in relation to public schools in this country:

For the standing and growth of Catholic schools, it seems that care should be taken that the teachers prove themselves qualified, not only by previous examination before the diocesan board and by a diploma or testimonial from it, but also by a licence by the same from the school board of the state, awarded after successful examination.

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OUR MILLS ARE RUNNING NIGHT AND DAY ON ORDERS FROM THE EAST.

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