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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 10, 1904.

A HAPPY OCCASION.

The gathering of Smiths at the Bee-

hive house on Tuesday evening, at

which about two hundred of the fam-

ily relatives assembled, was a very

joyful occasion. It was held in com-

memoration of the birthday of the mar-

tyred Patriarch, Hyrum Smith, be-

loved brother of the Prophet Joseph.

who died together, associated as they

had been through life, sharing each

others perils and dangers, as well as

their joys and blessings in the great

latter-day work to which they were

mutually consecrated and devoted.

The lamented Patriarch was born at

Tunbridge, Vermont, Feb. 9, 1809. His

history has been recorded in the annals

of the Church. He readily accepted the

Gospel as revealed to his younger

brother, the Prophet, and was closely

associated with him throughout his

life, cordially supporting him through

all the tribulations of his ministerial

career, and acting for several years as

his Counselor in the Presidency of the

Church.

Brother Hyrum, as he was affection-

ately called, was noted for his upright,

temperate, pure and virtuous life and

his uncompromising course against evil

and vice. As a Patriarch his blessings

were highly prophetic and full of

comfort to the Saints, and he stood

high in their estimation for his firm,

steadfast and noble character. He

lived and died a Saint of God, stay-

ing with his brother to the last, un-

flinchingly, while the bullets of his

assassins were raining upon him. He

was faithful to the end, and is min-

istering with his beloved brother in the

cause of salvation in the spheres be-

hind the veil.

The commemoration of his birth into

this world was a happy occasion, and

it is matter of great congratulation

that one of his sons—John the Patri-

arch, now occupies the position he filled

when on earth, and another is the pre-

sident of the Church, in the es-

tablishment of which he devoted his

whole life and energies. Brother Hy-

rum lives in the hearts of many thou-

sands of Latter-day Saints, and his

purity and greatness in time and in eternity.

THE PROPER PURPOSE.

We are surprised that some of the

members of the City Council suffered

themselves to be catechized, not to

say "bullied," by a representative

of a paper that seems determined to

foster ill-will and create obstruction

in our municipal affairs. The impudent

questions which a few of them have

replied to, as reported in a morning

paper, were of a nature that would have

justified a request that he attend to his

own business and leave them alone.

The public acts of public men are

open to fair criticism. Their private

opinions and reasons are their own, and

are not proper subjects of impudent

and pressing query. There is a line

that should be drawn in such matters

and people are under no obligation to

permit it to be crossed by anybody.

We notice that the councilman from

the First Ward states that he was in-

correctly quoted by the morning pa-

pers, when he was made to say that

none of the so-called Republicans on

the Mayor's list voted for him. But

he adds:

"What I did say was, that I did not

recognize the names of any who voted

for the Republican ticket as a whole.

I wish you would make this correction."

We copy this that he may stand in

the light he makes for himself. Now

the query is, How does he know in

what way the newspapers for appoint-

ment voted at the last election? The

interviewer had the gall to ask one

gentleman the question, and was very

properly turned down, as he should

have been in other attempts at in-

quisition.

The whole controversy seems to turn

on a very unsound theory and that is,

that all appointments to office are in

the nature of rewards for political ser-

vice. It is vicious in the extreme and

ought to be stamped under foot for

good. Municipal office is for municipal

work, and fitness and ability

should be the recommendations to fa-

vor. Reward for vice-peddling and the

popular work in partisan strife should

not be the purpose in view, but the

welfare of the city and the faithful and

proper performance of duty ought to

be the great desideratum.

CANNOT PASS.

A correspondent asks:

Is the House Black Sea dock in

position to pass through the Dardanel-

les to the Black Sea? It is believed up

the world with anxiety.

The subject referred to in this ques-

tion really is a long and interesting story

of European diplomacy. By a treaty of alliance between Turkey and Russia, entered into in the year 1833, the Porte undertook to close the Dardanelles to the warships of all nations, whenever Russia was at war. But this agreement did not suit the rest of Europe, and after a few years it was laid aside. After several years of internal contention Europe found it necessary to interfere between the Sultan and his rebellious pashas, and one of the results was a general agreement that the Dardanelles should be closed to the warships of all nations, except when the Porte should be at war. The Paris congress after the Crimean war, in 1856 ratified this agreement and went one step further, neutralizing the Black Sea. Both Russia and Turkey agreed not to maintain any warships or even armaments there. When, however, France was temporarily rendered "hors de combat" by the war of 1870, Russia declared the agreement about not maintaining warships in the Black Sea, null and void, but the ancient agreement that the Dardanelles shall be closed to all warships, still remains in force. Turkey is the guardian of the straits, and is supposed to see to it that the treaty is not violated. However, some time ago Russia obtained permission from the Sultan to send three ships through the straits, provided they were not armed. This was, of course, done as a "feeler," to ascertain whether public opinion in Europe would permit of a breach of the treaty. Undoubtedly the Sultan was notified quietly that the experiment could not be repeated, for a second request for permission to pass the Dardanelles was at once refused.

AIDED LYNCHERS.

A lynching was perpetrated last summer at Wilmington, Del., and it was proved that the barbarous crime was, to a great extent, due to a sermon preached by a Wilmington minister, who, in the pulpit, advocated murder. The indignation created by the appeal of the minister was quite general, and an investigation of his conduct was demanded. Some of his ministerial brethren have now "investigated," but they have found cause for no more decided action against him, than a rather mild censure. In fact, it is so mild that the gentleman regards it as a vindication of his murderous sermon. They admitted that his discourse tended "to lessen reverence and respect for constitutional authorities entrusted with the maintenance of civil law," but no penalty was attached to that serious offense. No wonder if lawlessness in the most barbarous forms flourish! The clergy could lend a helping hand to the civil authorities in the maintenance of law. If they array themselves on the side of the mob, as in this instance, the consequences will be deplorable. Murder is taking hold of the human heart. Murderers are becoming numerous in the land. Some of them are placed on a high pedestal as heroes. The Caina are no longer always fleeing from public view. But preachers and teachers should most earnestly maintain respect for law and proper authority. If they do not, they are simply aiders and abettors of lynchers.

TWO INTRICATE PROBLEMS.

The wife-beater has for a long time presented a most difficult problem. It has been discussed with more or less sense, by jurists, editors and others. The husband-beater is another problem.

From California comes the report of a lady who occasionally uses her husband for a punching bag, and in another western state, it is said, an athletic woman throws bicycles at her lord and master. These cases are paralleled by one in Chicago. The husband in this instance applies for divorce and makes his grievances public. He says that during four years of matrimonial experience he has frequently been beaten with shoes, and at the breakfast table he often had to dodge dishes and other missiles skillfully aimed at his head. Husband-beating is a problem different from the other.

Fortunately the judge before whom the Chicago case came, solved it in theory at least. "It is the duty," he said, "of the husband to make the wife obey. He should exercise a corrective sternness where necessary, and show that he is master of the house. It is not necessary to beat her to accomplish this. Take hold of her sharply; make plain the facts that she is exceeding her wifely obligations, and impress upon her the fact that the man is the ruler of the house to the extent that precludes any right of violence from her."

There! A Daniel come to judgment! Now for a judge to solve the wife-beater problem in the same way!

In politics there are a great many butts-in.

The war correspondents have not waited in vain.

The cotton pit begins to look like the bottomless pit.

Really it looks as though Uncle Sam was aching to get into the ring.

Peter of Servia has a new cabinet. How long 'ere it will peter out?

It is to be hoped that the ground hog is getting his fill of weather.

Japan believes that in the pending war the battle will be to the point.

Motiv for the combatants: Do what is right and let the consequence follow.

Japan has added a very important chapter to the influence of sea power upon history.

When death summons a man he always responds, no matter what he does in other cases.

The Russo-Japanese preliminary being over, the world awaits, in sporting parlance, the main event.

The Court has been singing a tune.

Something in the recession line would be appropriate just at present.

How the Sultan must enjoy this war in the far east! It gives him a respite and rest that are much needed.

Of the sea fight at Port Arthur and Russian naval prestige it might be said, "Sic gloria transit Monday."

At Port Arthur Japan has gone on the theory, "Thrice armed is he that hath his quarrel just, but four-fold armed is he who gets his blow in first."

"Does civilization shorten life?" asks a writer in Harper's Weekly. It does among barbarians and savages whenever they run up against the "resources of civilization."

A number of members of the constabulary at Vigan, Luzon, have deserted, taking their rifles with them. But what can be expected of the natives of the far east but that they will revolt?

Mayor McClellan declines to follow the precedent set by the late Abraham S. Hewitt and kiss the brides whom he unites in marriage. He says he is too young. When he gets old he will see the folly of his youth.

Mayor McLane says that from her ruins a grander and more beautiful Baltimore will arise. He might have said that she would arise "Phoenix like" but he did not, for which public thanks are due him.

"Men must be trained," says the President. No doubt Solomon had some such idea as this in mind when he said: "Train up the child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

U. S. District Judge De Haven has decided that Indians cannot be arrested and punished for killing game on the reservations, out of season. It begins to look as though the white man had no laws that the Indians are bound to respect.

A contemporary asks in reference to the Mayor's appointment of a Fire Chief "Are not fires put out by water?" Sometimes they are, sometimes not. How about a Devine power with plenty of Wood for the engines, with an Early run and a Vail against the heat?

Uncle Sam is about to turn his attention to San Domingo and straighten things out in that hotbed of anarchy. Physical force is to be used while moral suasion will not be invoked at present. It looks as though this plague spot was, at last, to be wiped out.

The New York Mail and Express says that Rabbi Silverman expects the Millennium to commence in this century. His idea is that before the end of this century, swords will be beaten into plowshares and the repeal of militia laws—in short, by the complete triumph of the Hague tribunal idea.

January's fire record for the United States and Canada was \$21,790,200, and this is said to be the worst for that month in many years, and the worst for any month since May, 1901, when the Jacksonville disaster occurred. And yet there had been no great fires during that month. The terrible conflagration at Baltimore will make the February record appalling.

Report comes from Christiania, Norway, to the effect that Ibsen's health is gone. A Vienna doctor who has visited him, says that "he had practically lost his speech." The doctor says further: "Also his faculties are impaired. His loss of memory is particularly noticeable. In consequence of these defects he cannot work. Ibsen is, in fact, completely broken up. He presents the picture of a helpless old man."

According to the decision of the supreme court of North Carolina, it is unlawful for mobs to rotten-egg a person. The court has awarded the victim damages to the amount of \$4,500. Some years ago one Mr. Seawell was the Populist candidate for governor in North Carolina and visited the town of Shelby as a substitute for Senator Marion Butler, who was killed for a speech. The speaker aroused his hearers and was followed to the railroad station by a crowd of indignant opponents. Here they hurled spoiled eggs at him, and struck him several times. Some of the assailants were employees of the railroad, and he sued the company, with the result that he obtained a verdict for \$4,500, or \$300 for each egg that hit him.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

New York Evening Post.

A very prompt and conciliatory reply to the last Japanese note might have secured peace. The delay at St. Petersburg has strained things terribly, and is more provocative than an unfavorable answer. In view of the actual movement of troops towards the Yalu and the preparation of the fleet at Port Arthur for sea service, all the negotiations of several months past—in both sides—look like playing for delay with a view to arming for an effective first blow. Policy and humanity alike should have dictated the waiting game to Russia, yet whatever might be the technical cause belli, we believe that the civilized world would hold her aggressor. Till the first shot is actually fired there is always hope of an agreement, but the events of recent days have sown that hope very thin.

Los Angeles Express.

Japan says she does not need the good offices of any other country in connection with the job of skinning a bear. All the allied powers would be willing to hold aloof if they thought the Yankees of the Orient could make good.

New York Evening Sun.

The theory advanced by the Novosibirsk, a St. Petersburg newspaper, that responsibility for a Russo-Japanese war would rest on the shoulders of the United States, is amusing. The appointment of consuls in Manchuria seems to have prompted it. According to the Russian organ, the United States has an unapproachable aspect, and is the first step in a plan to expand the globe was to send Mr. George Kennan to Siberia, in spite of the Russian government, to

milder man than Mr. Kennan was ever connected with such a conspiracy against mankind. No doubt if his ramblings were followed it would be found that he brought on the war with Spain and contrived the rejection of the Hay-Herran treaty at Bogota as a first step to the absorption of South America by the United States.

Kansas City Star.

Not long ago a high Russian official declared that in case of war with Japan there would be no sea fighting, but that Russia would employ Fabian tactics and wear out Japan in a land campaign. This policy seemed plausible for the reason that Japan's fleet was regarded as more than a match for Russia's Asiatic sea forces, and for the additional reason that, for a time, at least, Russia would have the advantage on land. The maneuvers of the last few days have been essential war movements, and they are interesting as indicating the policies to be pursued in case of actual hostilities.

New York Mail and Express.

The western world believes that Japan will give a good account of itself if war comes. It will never be able to put Russia out of Manchuria, but neither is it likely that Russia would be able to prevent Japan from seizing Korea. And Japan can better afford to let Russia possess itself of Manchuria by open conquest than to take the moral consequences of a spiritless consent to the latest Russian aggression in the Japanese neighborhood.

Springfield Republican.

If war comes, it is likely that Japan, in the strict technical sense, will be the aggressor, since the situation would compel her to assume an offensive military attitude. Russia has no military reason to begin hostilities; she is in possession and desires to stay undisturbed where she is. It is another question how she got there. The merits of such a controversy are, of course, not to be determined by the petty noise as to which side may fire the "first shot."

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