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REMEMBER THE AMENDMENTS.

The attention of the voters is again called to the fact that they are supposed to express, on election day, their mind and will on two important subjects. One relates to the support of high schools. It is, whether a constitutional amendment ought to be adopted, making it possible for state funds to be used for the partial support of local high schools. As the law now stands, such schools can be supported only by local taxation, and the consequence is that some school districts are more highly favored than others in the matter of higher education, because their financial resources are greater, and that hundreds of young men and women are thus deprived of such education because of their financial inability to attend the educational institutions in the more highly favored districts. The question is simply this, whether the State should undertake to offer all the young men and women an equal opportunity of pursuing their studies after they have left the district schools, by giving the State board the authority to come to the assistance of the less favored districts in the maintenance of high schools. The voters should make up their minds on this important subject before they enter the booths on election day, so that they can vote intelligently and with a full understanding of what is involved in the question.

The other subject, which is equally important, relates to the exemption of mortgages from taxation. According to the law, as it now is, mortgages held by money lenders outside the State are not subject to taxation, while those that are held by local capitalists are taxed. The object of the framers of this provision of the law undoubtedly was to add to the sources of revenue of the state, while at the same time encouraging outside capitalists to make investments in Utah. But it appears that the arrangement has not been satisfactory. Governor Cutler in his thoughtful statement on the question, that appeared in the "News" Wednesday, says: "This position places a premium on deception and dishonesty." And we believe it is generally understood that the tax is very often evaded, while when it is paid, it is paid by the party who is the owner of the real estate mortgaged, and who therefore pays a double tax. This is another question upon which the voters should prepare themselves to express their views on election day.

ORIGIN OF INDIANS.

The interesting announcement is made that the Peabody Museum has about completed preparations for an ethnological expedition to South America, the object of which is to collect all possible information about the Indian tribes on the eastern side of the Andes mountains. The trip is to occupy about three years, and the members of the expedition are Dr. W. C. Farnabee, instructor in anthropology, who will be the leader and chief scientist of the expedition, and two assistants, Louis J. de Milhau, and J. W. Hastings. A physician will be selected to go with the party, and Mrs. Farnabee will accompany her husband. The main work will be among the tribes living on the head waters of the Amazon and Parana rivers. There has been no previous expedition of this sort from America, and the region is practically unexplored. The specific objects of the work will be to collect all possible information bearing on the origin, the customs, language, manner of life, physical characteristics and mental advancement of these tribes. It is hoped to make a complete collection of their weapons, utensils, clothes, literature, art—in short, of everything that may contribute to our knowledge of these races.

Of particular interest is the announcement that the scientists of this expedition will pay particular attention to the language and dialect of the Indians they are to visit, in the hope of finding the key to the origin of all the aborigines of America, since language is one of the reliable indications of race descent. Three years for an investigation of that subject is a short time. Ten years would be a brief period. But a beginning can be made, and if the science is further pursued, great results will be achieved. To the Latter-day Saints the opening of the records of the past of these continents, by the hands of impartial scientists, is of more than common interest, since they confidently expect and firmly believe that true scientific research will aid in the establishment of the authenticity of the Book of Mormon, just as archeology has corroborated the historical parts of the Bible, and silenced doubts as to their accuracy.

The history of skepticism is very instructive. As early as 1753 scholars commenced to suspect two documents in Genesis, the so-called Elohistic and the Jehovistic. A called Elohistic writer was supposed by Hupfeld in 1833. In 1855 De Wette advanced the theory that the Deuteronomy was written 400 years after Moses. Graf and Wellhausen insisted that what they called the Hexateuch, after having arbitrarily added the Book of Joshua to the Pentateuch, was the work of a number of writers who lived after the Babylonian exile. And these, they maintained, invented the ritualistic service and the priesthood in order to give dignity to Judaism. After having thus disposed of the authorship of the old records, it was easy to cast aside all statements

concerning Moses, Joshua, Samuel, the Psalmists, and the prophets. But lately archeology, aided by philology, has come to the rescue of assest truth. Inscriptions corroborating Bible history are accumulating. Countless misunderstandings, upon which infidelity formerly used to build strong objections, are being cleared up and erroneous interpretations are being corrected. In this way sciences have been doing good service to the believers in the Bible, and there is no doubt that they will perform an equally important service to the believers in the Book of Mormon.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

An announcement from London, which deserves a passing notice, is to the effect that Russia is seeking rapprochement to Great Britain. This is inferred from the changed attitude of the Russian press in the matter of the foreign policy of the country. The *Novoye Vremya* is said to have commenced to advocate an Anglo-Russian understanding with regard to Persia. The paper is said to have gone so far as to chide certain hotheads who still dream of a Russian port on the Persian gulf, which might become a second Port Arthur. The advances, it is said, are not unfavorably received in London.

If the Russian government is prepared to give up, voluntarily, its former policy with regard to Persia, and to enter into an understanding with Great Britain on that subject, the aim must be to obtain some compensation elsewhere for the retreat from the Persian gulf, and it is natural to suppose that the energy expended on expansion in Asia will be concentrated nearer at home, perhaps in Turkey. From the time of Peter the Great, down to the present occupant of the Russian throne, every Russian sovereign has sought to enlarge his country's boundaries at the expense of Turkey. They have watched the Sultan with eager eyes. Constantinople has always been the ultimate goal of their ambition.

At present the Sultan is reported as being near death's door. The nominal heir is a prince, over sixty years old, who has always lived in obscurity. Very little is known of him. Recently he had an apoplectic stroke. If Abdul Hamid should suddenly be called by death and this weakling be appointed to succeed him, the probability is that anarchy and chaos would be the result. Various candidates are supported by different cliques, and revolutionary forces are at work in Turkey, as in nearly every country in the world. The time is certainly opportune for the Russian government to prepare for an eventuality that may be near at hand, and to have an agreement beforehand with an influential power, like Great Britain, as to the best policy to pursue in case of general confusion in the Balkan States.

German influence has for several years been almost paramount at Constantinople. The Kaiser and the Sultan have exchanged costly gifts as tokens of mutual regard, and as a consequence Germany has secured valuable concessions and as valuable orders for war material, and the policy of the Sultan for many years has been shaped at Berlin. Great Britain may have some reason for accepting Russian propositions looking to an agreement between the two as to the future policy of Turkey, since the British government naturally regards the growth of German influence with some apprehension.

Russia, however, should attend to her own internal affairs first, before looking out for avenues of expansion. As long as the Russian government permits its representatives and hired tools to stain Russian soil with the blood of inoffensive victims of prejudices and bigotry, and as long as it stubbornly refuses to listen to the just demands of its citizens for liberty and equality before the law, it can hardly expect that a government like that of Great Britain will join it in an alliance. The time has hardly come for the lion and the bear to lie down together. Russia should attend to her internal affairs first.

RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.

The recent accident on the Pennsylvania electric line to Atlantic city, by which so many lives were lost, was all the more deplorable because it is freely admitted that it could easily have been avoided. Eastern papers claim that but for the universal impatience which has caused "making time" to be the first duty of a motorman, the train could not have plunged into the thoroughfare. Accidents of a similar nature are really too numerous in this country. Congress should appropriate the necessary means for a thorough investigation of the entire subject of railroad accidents, with a view of finding the remedies that may be needed. Accidents will always happen, but it should be possible to decrease their number somewhat.

The German government has taken the initiative in the direction here suggested. That government has taken possession of a section of railroad track near Berlin, and there a series of railroad accidents of every description will occur, by governmental order. The purpose is to test every variety of misplaced switch, every possible defect in wheels, axles and car equipment, and then there will be a grand head-on collision of locomotives. These performances are arranged so that engineers and railway experts may study ways and means to prevent many of the accidents that are incidental to railroad traffic. This is not a matter of philanthropy only. It is also a matter of economy. The German railways, it is said, lose one million two hundred and sixty thousand dollars annually, through damages. Effective safeguards would therefore mean a substantial saving to the companies every year.

Quo vadis, Ute?

Hands across the sea—Crocker's and McCarran's.

There seem to be some taxes in the wheat trust investigation.

San Francisco has its disadvantages but it is a "boss" town to live in.

Mr. Hearst has almost lost his voice. That comes from crying in the wilderness.

London claims to have the best police

force in the world. But New York has the "finest."

If they sell diseased beef up in Vermont what of Green Mountain maple syrup?

The President is hunting turkeys in Virginia. He must be looking forward to Thanksgiving.

Don't forget to study thoroughly the proposed constitutional amendments. They are important.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., told his Bible class that the cry of the people is for a man. Is it rather not for manna?

An Illinois schoolman has returned a borrowed watch after a lapse of fifty-five years. It probably wouldn't go any longer.

Uncle Sam's soldiers are to be tagged so that they may be identified. The soldiers always have been and will be tagged by the rifle.

A New York policeman, with his skull fractured, did his regular police duty for twenty-four hours. That fact alone is evidence that his skull was cracked.

"Lord" Scully, who left a fortune of nearly a hundred million dollars, disinherited all his daughters. If his object was to arrange a first class fight for his money he probably builded better than he knew.

Professor West of Princeton has declined the tender of the office of president of the Massachusetts institute of technology. For more than a year this high office has been seeking the man.

The following, from a missionary writing from St. Paul, Minn., is appreciated: "The 'News' is a dear friend to the missionary, and we rejoice in its success. Its circulation means the spread of truth."

Attorney-General Moody says that the railroad rebate is the mother of trusts. Mr. Havemeyer says that the tariff is. Their paternity seems doubtful, and like Topsey it may be that they were never born but just grewed up.

Secretary Root's speech at Utica, in which he handled Mr. Hearst without gloves, was the speech of the New York campaign. He spoke as the representative of the President and of very fact shows that Hearst is a cause of alarm and worry to his opponents. His prominence and seeming strength are cause for wonderment.

And when Secretary Metcalf flirts out all about the treatment of Japanese school children by the San Francisco school board the President will be in a better position to communicate with the Japanese ambassador on the subject, but it is doubtful if he will be in any better position regarding relief. It is a knotty problem he has to deal with and just at present there seems to be no solution for it.

The Royal Hawaiian Band appears this evening and tomorrow afternoon and evening at the Tabernacle, and we trust the public will accept those accomplished musicians and singers liberal patronage. Their concerts at Salt Lake last summer attracted immense crowds and were greatly enjoyed. Their re-appearance at the Tabernacle affords the music-loving public of this city another opportunity of listening to this famous musical organization, now on the way back to the beautiful island home.

Our esteemed friend the Logan Journal is unduly exercised about the alleged interference of the Deseret News in politics. There has been no such interference. The "News" has taken the liberty of suggesting to all interested in the establishment of good government the propriety of doing what is right, according to their best judgment, and to cease slandering and vilifying political opponents in order to gain converts. If this does not express the correct attitude of an independent newspaper, pray, what does? Is it "fair and square" to read between the lines and make unwarranted deductions, for selfish purposes?

A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE.

Hugo Munsterberg in McClure's. No living language can become today the vehicle of intercourse for the whole civilized world, and it is absurd to look for such a thing. The acceptance of any language, were it English or French or Spanish, German or Dutch, Russian or Japanese, would immediately not only crush the pride of the other nations but would give to the favored people such an enormous advantage in the control of the political world and such immeasurable preference in the world's market that no healthy nation would consent to it before its downfall. For that reason . . . the chances were never worse; the spirit of strenuous, yet friendly rivalry between the nations in the markets of the world was never more wide awake, and the feeling of national honor was never purer and nobler.

THE AMERICAN GIRL.

Jesse Lynch Williams in the *Outing* Magazine. A good deal has been said about the American out-of-door girl. She is seen at about her best, I think, at a college football game. Of all the women of all the outdoor crowds in the world, so far as I have had the opportunity of looking them over, these animated faces are the loveliest. Two old bachelors, who are not very ancient, and who always go to games together, have an interesting scheme for deciding which shall pay for the dinner which concludes their day's fun; they bet on which color will be sported by the greater number of pretty girls. So, as the crowd passes by, they solemnly check off each two girls in turn, according to her colors and her countenances. That evening they toast all of them.

THE CHIVALROUS RED MAN.

Jesse Lynch Williams in *Outing*. Near the end of a brilliant match between our oldest university and the Carlisle Indians one of the Indian backs suddenly got away with the ball and was off down the field with nothing between him and the goal posts but one man. If the runner succeeded in getting by him it meant everlasting athletic glory for himself and perhaps a victory for his small college over this mighty institution of learning. The crowd in the stands had arisen, gasping in their excitement, as crowds always do at such moments. But just as he had almost gained the coveted line, that one man, a famous sprinter, brought the

runner down with a beautiful tackle. The stands rocked with relief, and the usual "piling up" of other players took place. As the two lay there together, the fair-haired representative of New England felt something fumbling, and presently became aware, at the bottom of the heap, that his right hand was being shaken. "Good tackle," muttered the Indian.

JUST FOR FUN.

The Grouch of an Echo.

City Visitor—Look here! What about that wonderful echo that the landlord advertised?
Hired Man—It's here, all right, but it hasn't been working lately. First, when he hollered, "Well, how are you today?" it would promptly shout back, "First rate, thank you!" By-and-by it began to reply in a grumpy voice, "None of your business!" At last it got to snarling, "Go to —, will ye!" and now it won't say anything at all. I don't suppose it's dead, exactly; I guess it's just got tired of light conversation.—Puck.

Principal (to home-coming salesman): How did you come to sell that fellow Smith, who is on the verge of bankruptcy, so many things and at such low prices?
Traveling Man: Well, I said to myself, "Now, if he goes bankrupt, then we shall lose so much money."—Wiener Salomonsblatt.

Elder Sister (to young one, who has the scissors): You mustn't play with pointed things, Effie.
Effie: H'm! Wasn't yesterday I saw you playing with the lieutenant's moustache?—Kleine Witsblatt.

Gentleman: I was a good friend of your late husband. Haven't you, perhaps, something which I could have as a memento of him?
Unconquerable Widow: What would you think of me?—Figaro.

Papa (to little Karl, who has taken his father's knife): Do you know the difference between "mine" and "thine"?
Karl: No, papa; it is very funny?—Floh.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Bohemian Magazine in its November number contains a large amount of material besides fiction. The magazine opens with an interesting department called "Here and There." It is devoted principally to little short stories about the leading writers, artists, players, illustrators, etc., and is accompanied by many full-page portraits heretofore unpublished. A new department has been added, devoted to "Little Travel Sketches." The first of these is a charming little story by Clayton Hamilton entitled, "The Road to Rome"; in the second, "Mr. Ruggles of New York Writes Home," an American business man gives his first impressions of London. The fiction is unusually clever—and there is plenty of it. Edwin L. Sabin writes a humorous story entitled "The Doctor's Grizzly." One of the best stories of the number is "My Friend, the Benchman," by Cecil Whitaker. Especially appropriate for the November issue is a political story by Harry Newton Gardner—112-114 Dearborn St., Chicago.

The *Outing* Magazine for November is made notable by the beginning of "Chester Bailey Fernald's new serial, 'John Kendry's Idea.' Among the other fiction of the number are a new story by Lawrence Mott, "Love in the Wilderness," one of the best stories Mr. Mott has done; a splendid outdoor story by Maximilian Foster, a story of the Maine woods, white-tail, entitled "A Waiting Game"; and "The Colonel's Arab," a distinctive tale by C. de Crespiigny. Among the articles, besides a new installment of Dillon Wallace's "The Long Laborer Trail," which grows more interesting as the story of Wallace's journey of hardship and loyalty progresses—there are two notable papers, one by Vance Thompson, and another by Jesse Lynch Williams. One of the most striking features of the number are the photographs and papers by experts concerning the Cambridge-Harvard race on the Thames, and the Vanderbilt Cup Race.—35 West 51st street, New York.

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