

of religion is the most deeply dyed of all crimes, and has ever been the most destructive to the best interests of society. The name adopted by these people, that of "Latter Day Saints," is of itself one of the most cruel caricatures of Christianity; for the practices carried on in Utah and the neighbouring territories have been equalled only in the dark ages, and in an *anti-Christian* church. If the American Government and people are powerless to stamp out the entire system, root and branch, then republicanism itself is a failure.

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M. Rassam, a celebrated achæologist, says: "If any one wants to be convinced how literally and truthfully the different prophecies about the utter destruction of Babylon have been fulfilled, he has only to visit that country and see with his own eyes the complete desolation of what was once upon a time called in Holy Writ 'the glory of kingdoms.' Indeed, the destruction of that city was so complete that one wonders whether the accounts given of its greatness and magnificence by different Greek and other historians were not rather exaggerated; but the words of God cannot fall to the ground, as Isaiah predicted that 'the beauty of the Chaldee's excellency shall be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah,' and again: 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen, and all the graven images of her Gods He has broken unto the ground.'"

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Tischendorf, perhaps the greatest of modern biblical critics, when first permitted to examine the Sinaitic manuscript of the bible in the Greek convent, sat up all night copying it, in his own words "deeming it impious to sleep;" and yet to-day, when a self-appointed "distinctive critic" lays rude hands on our bible, there are men found calling themselves *Christians*, who take off their hats and applaud.

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Light is thrown by an Aramatic phrase on the words used by Christ at the Last Supper, according to John xiii. 26: "He it is to whom I shall give a sop." In Aramatic the expression "to eat a sop" or "morsel" means "to betray" (as in Dan. iii. 8.) The words of Christ, consequently, imply that he to whom he gave to eat the sop was the traitor. Hence the point of the words in the 30th verse: "He then, having received the sop, went immediately out"—this being the beginning of the betrayal.

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The Jews in Servia, unlike the co-religionists in Roumania, enjoy full religious liberty. Russia intends to grant special privileges to those Jews who will engage in agriculture. The Russian Government Council of Education have ordered that hereafter instruction in Hebrew and the principles of the Jewish religion form part of the regular curriculum of all the middle-class schools in the St. Petersburg district.