



TRUTH FOR THE PEOPLE

OLD SERIES—17TH YEAR.

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SPECIAL.

We hope to be able to give our readers exact location, street and number—and, perhaps, an illustration—of the residence we propose giving away in our Bible Competition, which will be found in detail in Publisher's Department in this issue. You can compete any number of times in this competition. Send in a dollar now with your answers to the Bible questions, and then another dollar with the answers a month or two hence, still another dollar, with answers, on, or before September, and you are all sure to get something valuable (perhaps the house), in addition to a continuance of the prize for another year, for the three years sent. Everything will positively be as stated. The opportunity of getting a fine dwelling-house, organ, tea set, or anything else valuable for so small an outlay may never occur again. TRY NOW.

WHAT TRUTH SAYS.

A building accident which occurred in New York the other day was extraordinary in many ways than one. In less than three hours a row of eight brick buildings, five stories high, fell ever like a row of bricks, without a foot of wall standing, nor hard a stick upon another. Fifty men at the time were buried in ruins. It appears that the contractor, whose name is Buddenseik, has frequently incurred the apparent displeasure of the authorities on account of the "skin" buildings he has been in the habit of erecting. He will be perished in the murderous course of being compelled to desist. Buddenseik, it is said, had reduced the "skin" buildings to a science, and on two or three occasions his buildings had collapsed before the workmen were out of them. The saddest and most regretful incident in the disaster was that the contractor was not included in the general destruction.

Loss to the business of the country during these disquieting times will be greater than many may now imagine. Thousands of men are being diverted from their regular business occupations either as soldiers or in some other capacity in connection with our public defence. Thousands have large business interests in the West, as farmers, manufacturers, or contractors, and to many of these the disaster means ruin. How much the regular interests of all kinds throughout our province, and those adjoining, may be affected it is hard to estimate. Coming, as misfortunes have, at a time of serious depression, the misfortune will be more keenly felt.

There was an error last week in intimating that the new Dominion Franchise Bill would give the right of franchise to the widows

and unmarried women. The bill as introduced by the Government proposed to do that, but it became evident that a considerable number of the Tory members are not as liberal on this point as the Premier, and so a vote was carried on Tuesday last nullifying that important reform in the new Franchise Bill. Sir John spoke earnestly in its favour but, it is said, when he saw so many of his usual loyal supporters would not follow him he weakened on the point and let things take their own course. In his speech he intimated that Mr. Gladstone was also personally in favor of female franchise but did not introduce it in his late Franchise Bill, fearing that opposition to that particular feature would jeopardize the entire measure. Quite a number of the Ottawa Reformers spoke and voted for the ill-fated clause, but their hostility to the Government is so well known that it would not have been safe to have carried far on them in a hard pinch.

It is possible that the clause may come up again and be restored to the Bill at some later stage, but the probabilities are against it, considering the opposition it is sure to encounter.

It is truly astonishing what a ready cry is raised by most men, even many Christian men—for war, and what contemptuous allusions are often made even by Christian Ministers, to anything that savours of a "peace-at-any-price" policy. Many a pulpit denounces Mr. Gladstone, because of the truly Christian horror he appears to have for war, and probably from the same pulpit earnest prayers go up in behalf of peace. The feeling is strongly abroad that it is a brave thing to show fight on the smallest national provocation. There is something painful in such exhibitions. Surely a Christian nation should not resort to war until all peaceful methods have been exhausted. Mr. Ruskin suggests that it was an ancient version of the Bible that taught: "Blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God," and that the modern version is: "Blessed are the war-makers, for they shall be adored by the children of men." There can be no doubt but "the spirited policy" of Beaconsfield and Palmerston was much more popular with a very great proportion of the Christian people of England than the peace-seeking policy of Gladstone.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have returned safely to England again after their official visit to Ireland. It is more than many expected. Their friends, large numbers of them, had great misgivings about their safety, but the Irish people, when depended on, as they were in this case, did not prove themselves so bloodthirsty as they are sometimes represented to be. There are, no doubt, many disaffected enough to do serious harm if a fair opportunity presented itself, but it has been demonstrated that this number is not nearly as large as some would have us believe. Had any real harm occurred to the royal heir it would have been a most unfortunate day for Ireland, as

the indignation of the world would have been against them, and many besides the really guilty ones would have been blamed. There has long been an impression prevailing that the Royal family have not given near as much attention to Ireland as it was judicious to do. Probably that impression is well founded. A Royal visit to Ireland each year, like that to Scotland, would, no doubt, please a very large number of the people and tend to soften down the feelings of thousands. The Irish are a sentimental people, and chivalrous to a large degree, and Royal visits are sure to please people of that stamp.

King George IV., great uncle of the Prince of Wales, made a prolonged visit in Ireland sixty-four years ago, and so well pleased was he with the good results that he declared, on leaving, his intention to revisit the country every three years, or, failing to do so, he would leave a recommendation to his successor to go often among the Irish people, as he would be sure of a loyal and enthusiastic reception.

The *Spectator* says that the old king never left his successor any wiser counsel than that. As an evidence of how the average Irish peasant's heart was warmed by King George's genial manner it is said that one brawny farmer, who had been in his company, was heard to say: "I was a rebel to old King George in '93, and I'd die now a hundred deaths for his son, because he's a rare king, and axes us how we are." The Prince of Wales is said to be inferior to his great uncle as a courtier, but few ladies have been so successful in winning the hearts of all with whom she may come in contact as the Princess of Wales. Her husband's popularity and success in Ireland and elsewhere, may be largely attributable to the grace and tact of his noble wife, who generally accompanies him on all public occasions.

There is a great agitation in Utah just now because of the successful prosecution and punishment of some of the polygamous Mormons. Polygamy has been against the laws of the United States for years, and there has been a great deal of denunciation of the system, but so far as the Mormons themselves were concerned, the law seemed to have no terror, simply because a Mormon under charge of the crime was tried by a jury of his peers—by men themselves guilty of the same crime, or in sympathy with it. Of course a jury composed even in part of such men would either disagree or acquit the criminal. Not long ago a new law was enacted providing that in cases of this kind men known to be in sympathy with polygamy are not eligible as jurors and may be challenged when called upon to act. Convictions can now be obtained in Utah where the evidence of polygamy is clear. Not long ago Budger Clawson was convicted and sentenced to a fine of \$500 and four months' imprisonment. Clawson appealed against the conviction to the supreme court of Utah, claiming that the new law was unconstitutional, but the conviction was sustained.

He then appealed to the United States supreme court—the highest and best legal tribunal—and the conviction was again sustained and there was no alternative left but to let the law take its course in his case.

Of course this conviction has brought great consternation in the camp of the Polygamists. It is now clear enough that hundreds of others are liable to a similar penalty, and what to do about it is causing great anxiety of mind. Another man has been convicted and sentenced, but seeing the fix he is in he is said to have promised to stop his unlawful mode of living at once and to make provision for the support of his "second family." With that understanding the sentence against him will not be carried out to its full extent. Whether others will arrange to escape prosecution in a similar way remains to be seen. It is greatly to be hoped that now that the courts have taken the matter in hand a clean sweep will be made of the disgraceful state of things so long tolerated in Utah. It looked at one time as though the nation would be powerless to stamp the iniquity out.

Gen. Grant is reported much better and stronger, and the prospects now are that he is going to get well again in spite of the assurances of eminent physicians that his case was a hopeless one. The doctors concerned are being a good deal laughed at about their mistake in his case; but it is well enough understood that a great many of the doctor's mistakes are no laughing matter. Whether the General "did not take his medicine regular," and so the case had not a fair chance of coming out as the doctors thought it would, or whether they were mistaken in regard to the nature of his disease, or whether he possessed a great deal more vitality than he was supposed to have, is not now of much consequence. The disease was supposed to be a cancer in the mouth, induced by habitual tobacco smoking, and the disease is considered all but incurable. The sufferer quit smoking, and appears to have quit in time to escape the usual penalty at such an advanced stage. As he is yet but sixty-one years of age, and possesses excellent physical powers, he may live many years. If his affliction will but prove a salutary warning to thousands of other habitual smokers, it may prove a great public blessing. Probably many a smoker will be much more careful in the future.

Summer is again at the door. The Queen's birthday is almost here. Plannings about the rate of holiday travel are again in order. This way, that way, every way the crowds propose to turn. Paris will take some, nay a great many. Cheap trips are tempting the most saving to be slightly extravagant "just this once." It will be something for a plain prosperous man with an ambitious wife and daughters to be able henceforth to refer to what took place when he was in Paris, and what he saw when floating down the Rhine. The cherished bit of fraud will be hugged to the bosom or rolled as a sweet morsel under the tongue.

They will speak of London and Windsor,