POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH

is published every Wednesday and Saturday at $1.00 a year, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE, by The Telegraph Publishing Company, of St. John, a company incorporated by Act of the Legislature of New Brunswick.

E. W. McCREADY, Editor.
S. J. McGOWAN, Bus. Mgr.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Ordinary commercial advertisements taking the run of the paper, each insertion, $1.00 per inch.

Advertisements of Wants, For Sale, etc., one cent a word for each insertion.

Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths 25 cents for each insertion.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

All remittances must be sent by post office order or registered letter, and addressed to The Telegraph Publishing Company.

Correspondence must be addressed to the Editor of The Telegraph, St. John.

All subscriptions must, without exception, be PAID FOR IN ADVANCE.

AUTHORIZED AGENT.

The following agent is authorized to canvass and collect for The Semi-Weekly Telegraph, viz:

Wm. Somerville.

Semi-Weekly Telegraph

ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 28, 1904.

ANOTHER ALDEMANIC BLUFF

Nearly a year ago St. John, horrified by an unparalleled disaster in a Chicago theatre, decided to set its own house in order, and, as a first step, to ascertain the condition of public buildings here, with regard to public safety. An extensive and careful investigation was made by a committee whose members were told to report upon things as they found them, without fear or favor. They did so. They knew that the duty might have unpleasant results, and that the owners of some of the fire-traps in this city would blame them for calling a spade a spade. But they did the work assigned, and did it fairly well. There was, at that time, an aroused public sentiment which would have countenanced drastic action had Mayor White and the aldermen struck while the iron was hot.

The committee submitted a list of public buildings of several classes, and made specific recommendations in regard to each. The report was far from severe, yet, though it was not published until the Chicago horror was becoming a memory, it revived a public determination that men responsible for unsafe buildings should make them safe, or close them, and that the usual delay would not be tolerated, no matter whom or where the shoe pinched. The beautiful theory was that by applying pressure upon all who were mentioned in the report, the more dangerous cases could be attended to without singling them out and "submitting their owners to seeming hardship."

"Seeming hardship" is a cock that fights valiantly in the Common Council, as we shall see.

It is a matter of common knowledge that the Council, and the safety board, instructed the inspector of buildings to see that the special committee's recommendations were "carried out"—all the time knowing that the inspector in some cases would be helpless for lack of backing, and in some helpless because the law did not cover the abuses specified. That he could do nothing in some cases rendered the inspector practically powerless in all. He asked for advice and for new legislation. The Mayor and aldermen had put the burden of the thing upon the inspector, and had fallen asleep. He partially awakened them for a few minutes by replacing the responsibility upon them. Then—more slumber.

In a word, although conditions in most cases are as bad or worse in St. John than they were when the report of Messrs. Clark, Kerr and Wisely was submitted, midwinter has come again and nothing effective has been done.

This is essentially an unpleasant question, and it becomes necessary to employ plain language in discussing it. It becomes necessary to say that Mayor White and the aldermen can, today, close the doors of many places of public accommodation, resort and entertainment whose owners have not made them safe, and that this action could have been taken on any day for more than six months past, or could have been used as a means of justifiable coercion in the cases referred to, but that the Mayor and the aldermen have preferred to make a puerile bluff and let it go at that.

If any man of voting age and intelligence does not think so, let him ask himself whom he would hold morally responsible tomorrow if a member or members of his family met death in any one of the buildings whose defects were described many months ago at the Council's request and to the end that the Council might act. He would hold the owner of the premises responsible primarily; but what would he say of the men who caused these every-day dangers to be revealed and specified, and then permitted them to continue until now without any effort at remedy that can truthfully be called an honest effort?

There is and always has been law enough to close any place of public resort which is a menace to life and which fails to meet certain fixed requirements. More law has long been needed, and there is no good excuse that can be offered for those who have not yet put in form the new legislation or the amendments which are required to fit the case.

But far worse is the failure to invoke the law already in force, and to permit thousands of human beings, thoughtless or ignorant of the risk, to imperil their lives as they do daily in many of the buildings officially branded "Dangerous" nearly a year ago.

The public in this connection will naturally scrutinize the conduct of (1) the owners or directors who defy or evade the law and ignore the constant danger to which they expose innocent people, and (2) the Mayor and aldermen who, having learned the full extent of these dangers nearly a year ago, connive at their continuance. If one owner or director does nothing, others will, not unnaturally, follow suit. But the Mayor and Council, who undertook to remove these menaces to life and who have not done so, will be held responsible by the citizens until this grave public wrong has been righted.

THE "BIG STICK"

When Secretary of State John Hay ordered "America" to be used as the official designation of the republic next door, the world laughed, and there was cause for mirth. When Theodore Roosevelt announced that he had assumed police jurisdiction over the South American republics, and inferentially over Canada, there was more laughter, though, truth to tell, Mr. Roosevelt is no great humorist, and meant what he said. That he did not see the humor of it should not have made it a whit less funny; yet it did.

Now comes Elihu Root, lately Secretary of War, waves the "big stick more strenuously than ever Roosevelt did, and boldly proclaims a protectorate over all the territory from Cape Horn to Alaska inclusive, excepting Canada pending our good behavior and that of Great Britain. This is Mr. Root of the Alaska Boundary Commission, a candidate for the presidential nomination, and the man today for whose wisdom of all others Mr. Roosevelt has most respect. To us in Canada Mr. Root is a locquacious and braggart Yankee upon whom serious thought would be wasted. Yet it is just as well to recall the fact that this man is a great figure in the United States, that he is the most powerful figure in the immediate Roosevelt circle, and that his words are not only taken seriously but will be applauded by nine-tenths of the people in the United States who see them in print or who hear their substance.

In the light of Mr. Root's bombastic speech, which he and most Americans regard as not at all bombastic but simply natural, the "America" of John Hay, and the policeman role of Mr. Roosevelt assume a new significance. The theory of these men, who are just now dominant in their own country, is that the United States has the power and the right to give the law to this hemisphere, and that any challenge of this right or power is to be met by a bluff, and, if that prove insufficient, by recourse to arms. These are the men who plan to have, and who will have, the second fleet in the world within fifteen years to lend weight to their notions of right and wrong as applied to North and South America. "Walk softly, but carry a big stick, and you will go far," used to be the Roosevelt doctrine. Mr. Root would increase the size of the stick, and would not be particular about the velvet quality of his footfall. The attitude is both humorous and insolent.

It is humorous because we in the Dominion believe no untoward happening will ever bring us within the scope of American frenzy or folly or aggression. But it is insolent, too, because within a generation we have seen, on several occasions, how some incident fired two nations with a passion which might have led to war; and there is in this latest bombast of Root's a reminder that, in certain circumstances hinted at, Canada might be regarded as a tempting hostage for the purpose of influencing Great Britain's course in matters of vital concern. We know, too, that the great nation beside us has the faults of suddenly acquired riches and power, among which are unstable judgment, vanity, aggressiveness and a vast number of inhabitants ever ready to subscribe to some folly cunningly presented as right or necessary or expedient.

CHRISTMAS ADVICE

Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who is a liberal distributor of words as well as wealth, issues a Christmas message to Scotsmen the world over; and while the advice he gives is trite, it is also sound, and it will be read by many and heeded by some. Mr. Carnegie's Christmas thinking is materialistic. It is optimistic too. His position and his record lend weight to words that would seem commonplace in the mouths of many.

The first of the canny ironmaster's precepts is "Be thrifty." Don't get into debt, he urges, or, if you are in, get out as soon as you can, honorably. He tells every Scot to think about freedom from debt, the ownership of a home, and a life insurance policy. He suggests that a certain portion of every Scot's income be set aside, to be applied at stated intervals to these ends. He points out that the Chinese, though regarded by many as an inferior race, believe that all debts must be paid at the end of the year, and that, frequently, Chinamen who cannot begin a new year debt free, kill themselves rather than live and forfeit an honorable position among their friends. Mr. Carnegie does not mean that the Scot in debt ought to kill himself because he cannot pay all he owes on December 31, and says so, though there is no great reason to fear that his countrymen will meditate self-destruction because of the example he cites. That would not be canny. He reminds everyone that much money is thrown away, that little sums which slip through the fingers of the unthinking, while small in themselves, would, if saved, contribute considerably toward self-respect and home comfort and happiness.

Incidentally the iron-king makes the shocking accusation that his fellow-Scotsmen drink altogether too much. Especially is this true of the Scottish workingman, he says. The laborer in the United States, Mr. Carnegie finds, earns twice as much as the laborer in Scotland, and does not spend half as much for drink. "There is," he says, "one subject which, when mentioned, causes a Scot to hang his head—intemperance. This should not be. Let us all resolve to free our beloved Scotland from this stain that causes her sons to blush."

But, after this (one hopes unwarranted) thrust at the bibulous Scot, Mr. Carnegie waxes most cheerful. The old days, he asserts, were as nothing to these. If some conditions are bad now, they were much worse of yore. The days to come will be even better. If we but lift ourselves out of today's turmoil, he says, and take a clear look backward, "we are amazed at the rapidity with which we are pushing onward and upward, and filled with glorious visions of the days to come. Let us keep this in mind to encourage and make us joyously grateful that since all grows better all is well."

Good words, and good advice after all. Those who have neither homes nor life insurance, and who might have if they were frugal, will find Mr. Carnegie's suggestions useful. It is easy to give advice, but it must be said for Mr. Carnegie that he has not only given but taken it, and that not only he but thousands are the better for his wisdom.

A CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

It is dull politically. Two public meetings were held last night, one by each party. The candidates spoke, and their efforts were seconded by spell-binders of standing and ability. But if both audiences had been placed in one hall it is doubtful if there would have been 100 voters under the roof. Those who did attend, in all probability, were men who decided how they would vote before the conventions were held.

Santa Claus and General Apathy, in a word, have put the politicians to rout, with election day only a week away; and unless some party conjurors arise during the next few days and inject a large quantity of ginger into the fight, the vote will be wondrous small.

There is some effort at an interchange of hot shot between the belligerents, but, lacking audiences and public interest, the effect to rally the rank and file of the parties along the firing line in anything like full force, seems hopeless. Fortunately some of the ammunition used against Alderman Maxwell hits the Common Council, and serves to direct attention to that body, which must give an account of its stewardship before many months. There is surprisingly little talk about politics, and probably that is the case because the contest cannot greatly affect government or opposition.

THE "GENIUS" OF BEGGARS

There was real genius in the "crust-throwing" act invented by a German and brought to this country by a French beggar, in which the operator first throws a crust in the mud of the streets and, a minute later, rushes out, picks it up from under the horse's feet, and gnaws it ravenously until the attention of the kind-hearted spectators are so insistent that he needs to use both hands to take in the money they offer him.—New York Evening Post.

The Post is led into what seems an unseasonable expose of the tricks and frauds of street mendicants, the excuse being the appearance, in Everybody's Magazine, of a series of articles detailing the experiences of a Mr. Theodore Watters, who turned beggar for a day in order that he might learn for himself the truth about street beggars in New York, and the credulous and charitable class upon whom they live. Mr. Watters might have secured all requisite information from the Charity Organization Society, which employs competent men to follow, expose and arrest professional beggars who figure largely in the criminal class of the metropolis. He would have been told by the Society that the man or woman who gives alms in the street is not only encouraging idleness and crime, but is encouraging the increase and perpetuation of a species of "graft" that has gained amazing proportions.

Mr. Watters, however, preferred to investigate on his own account. He "made up" as a beggar, and for one hour held out his hat to passers-by. He said nothing—simply looked miserable and appealing. The result was $1.17 in nickels and pennies. Not bad for an amateur, but the professional would scorn such returns for an hour's "work." While the amateur was begging, a professional artist, who simulated palsy, crawled along two blocks, from Fourth Avenue to Sixth Avenue. The seemingly hideous journey occupied three hours. The "afflicted" man, when arrested at Sixth Avenue, was found to be physically well. And he had $28—all of which, he admitted, he had "picked up" during his progress across two blocks.

The police and the Society's agents do not arrest beggars who have some occupation or who offer something for sale, unless the suspects are known to be frauds. The Post tells of "one gray-bearded 'wheezer' who bent over a broken-down hand organ, transported in a dilapidated perambulator, making a picture of dejection beyond the power of a painter to put on canvas, who was found, on investigation, to be the owner of a row of houses in Hoboken." "Wheezer" is the technical description of the man or woman who puts his or her seeming misery on view and uses some melancholy musical instrument as an excuse for asking alms. The more cunning of these beggars are protected by "lookouts," who warn them of danger and collect their recipts every hour or so, that they may not appear suspiciously prosperous if arrested, or, that in any case the money collected shall not be "lost."

The Society's agents follow up these professionals with considerable ingenuity. They frequently find men with "fake" injuries and children whose limbs have been burned with acids by their elders to produce an apparently grievous hurt, the sight of which is intended to melt the hearts of those to whom it is shown. Bank books have frequently been found in the possession of such prisoners. Mr. Watters found that, while many give indiscriminately believing that some of the recipients must be honest, "a penniless man, even if not entirely deserving, can be not only saved from hunger and cold for a night or two, but maintained in missions and free lodging houses almost indefinitely. It is not those in need of help who make the most of the opportunities for securing it."

Yet such an article proves that New York, particularly at Christmas time, is a most charitable city. The alms given in public indicate that, in the aggregate, vast sums are bestowed through other channels upon the really deserving. And those who give freely and intelligently according to their means are blessed as well as those who receive.

A BANK MERGER

Our Montreal despatches confirm the report that the Merchants' and Royal banks have consolidated. The Witness, discussing the question before there was definite knowledge that the consolidation had been effected, thus explained the causes which seemed to make a combination necessary:

"Bank mergers and rumors of bank mergers have been current for some time, and, * * * it is felt that in this case gossip has not been idle indulgence. A well-kown Montreal banker stated yesterday that in general way amalgamation was inevitable owing to the present competitive system in force in Canada. This gentleman pointed out that nearly every town or village in Canada, and more particularly in the Province of Ontario, is entirely overrun with banks and bank branches. From this gentleman's point of view the only solution is amalgamation of the banks best suited to do business with each other. The rumor that the Merchants and the Royal would combine has neither been denied nor confirmed, so it is reasonable to presume that some consideration has been given to the scheme of union. It should be particularly understood that these combinations, if they really are desired by banking interests, are not contemplated through any weakness of resources, but rather to the unqualified strength of any two participants, for their mutual benefit."

The proposed capitalization of the reorganized institution bears out the Witness' views.

A CURIOUS PLEA

The Russians, apparently, are going to explain the Dogger Bank outrage in several ways before the North Sea tribunal. The tragic occurrence that brought two nations near a war would develop humorous features if the Russians are in earnest in regard to one of the pleas suggested—which is that the Baltic fleet was attacked and had to defend itself. Before the enquiry is over the Russians, if they had their way, would doubtless prove that the British tried to scuttle the Baltic squadron, and should be made to pay a heavy indemnity for their treacherous attempt to aid Japan. It is charged now that some of the fishermen who landed at Hull after the Dogger Bank outrage were plied with drink by Russian agents, and that they made "sworn statements" of a wonderful character. They are "said to have said" that they saw torpedo boats concealed among the steam trawlers just before the Russians opened fire, and to have made other confusing statements consistent with the theory that the outrage was of British or Japanese, and not Russian, origin and execution. What sort of drink and other inducements these mariners had is not yet clear, but presumably it will be shown that they saw no torpedo boats until after they came ashore and consented to drink at the expense, and talk for the benefit, of the Russian agents referred to.

But while Russians may be wonderfully impressed by these grog-born stories, the serious commissioners who constitute the court will insist upon having the awkward facts. It will be shown, no doubt, that the Russian squadron, when it opened fire, was many miles off its proper course, and that, had a torpedo boat raid been planned, the torpedo boats would not have attempted to intercept the fleet where the firing occurred—and where it had no business to be—but at another point, on its proper course, many miles away. It will be shown, too, no doubt, that the Russian search lights were turned upon the trawlers before the firing was begun, and the naval experts will inquire how competent officers, if sober and calm, seeing steam trawlers close by under the glare of the search light, could mistake them for torpedo boats, which they in nowise resemble. Inquiry may be made—even if it be vain—as to the state of discipline on the Russian ships during the hours previous to and including the firing, and why the warships, after sinking and scattering the boats, steamed on without making inquiry or rendering assistance. British reviewers expect testimony proving that the Russian ships hit one another during the excitement, and that there was evidence of a disgraceful panic and lack of war-time cruising precautions.

The Russian attempt to play the role of the injured innocent is not likely to be highly successful.

A PRETTY LIVELY SORT OF LAW

Chapter 22, Consolidated Statutes; Respecting Liquor Licenses; Section 23: In any case where the license commissioners of any license district do not think fit, or are unable to grant a new license to any applicant who has been licensed during the preceding twelve months, or any part thereof, they may, nevertheless, by resolution, provide for extending the duration of the existing license for any specified period of the year, not exceeding three months, at their discretion, upon payment by the applicant of a sum not exceeding the proportionate part of the duty payable for such license for the then next ensuing year; and such license, when a certificate of the extension aforesaid has been endorsed thereon, under the hand of the inspector for the license district, shall remain valid for the period specified in the resolution of the license commissioners, and not other.

Section 59—Any member of a board of license commissioners, or any inspector, officer, or other person, who, contrary to the provisions of this chapter, knowingly issues, or causes, or procures to be issued, a license, or a certificate therefor, shall, upon conviction thereof, for each offence pay a fine of not less than $40, nor more than $100, and in default of payment of such fine, the offender or offenders may be imprisoned in the county jail of the county in which the conviction takes place, for a period not exceeding three months.

So runs the law. The government candidate for the city has expressed the view that this law is good enough for everybody, if it is enforced to the letter. That would mean that as the law calls for seventy-five licenses only, and forfeits the licenses of those who persistently violate it, any attempt to license eighty saloons in St. John is unsafe, for, no doubt, the government candidate in this matter holds the government view. So, no doubt, do the commissioners and the inspector. They must, in fact. Perhaps, then, the inquiry in court will develop the discovery that the extra licenses have been issued, or extended, in order to keep certain deserving families out of the poor house. Upon this being established, a charitable city will at once see that it is necessary to give all applicants a license, or set aside a fund for the maintenance of persons whose genius fits them only for a business in which a cruel law denies them an opportunity to operate.

An awkward feature of the situation is that if the extension of licenses is stopped, some people may insist upon every section and sub-section of the act being enforced to the letter. In that case—though such a demand would be logically sound—there would surely be a pretty kettle of fish.

Well meaning reformers perhaps will argue that the law should be enforced as a whole, or not at all, and will add that, good or bad, the law should be respected until the people change it. Possibly all hands concerned will maintain that strict enforcement is what they want. If they do, the commissioners might take them at their word, and put on the screws everywhere. And then what would happen? All in all, the appearance of the commissioners in court may have unexpected and far-reaching results. If these interested will read the act carefully they will see that it is, in reality, quite a lively bit of legislation, and chock full of curious possibilities.

AWKWARD

Mr. Elihu Root's interpretation and expansion of the Monroe doctrine, to which The Telegraph devoted some space recently, has created quite a stir among British publicists. The London Times' comment indicates that the new American role may become an awkward one. Says The Thunderer:

"It has been asked whether the American people are to become the debt collectors for Europe. Certainly not, so long as they do not interfere with other people who want to collect their own debts for themselves; but if for their own ends they threaten war against a European nation collecting its own debts, by the only means at command among South American republics, then they must play the policeman under the penalty of figuring in the eyes of the civilized world in a much less respectable part."

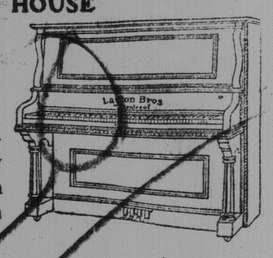
Mr. Root—even Mr. Roosevelt—accepts the role of American policeman, but when a dispute arises what will the coerced South American republic, or the very possibly dissatisfied European creditors have to say as to that policeman's sense of right and justice? Suppose the European creditor should refuse to accept the verdict? Europe will scarcely accept the policeman's judgment as final in all cases, and the mere declaration of the "doctrine" in this form threatens new complications in the relations of European nations with the debtor republics. The Times, however, affects or holds the belief that Mr. Root's scheme will work out all right. Further, it welcomes the immense expansion of the United States navy, "which is to assist Britain in keeping the rest of the world in order," and cannot, therefore, be too powerful. Any other view might be awkward, of course, and would not prevent the naval expansion in question. But the theory that the United States is taxing itself for the sole purpose of becoming Britain's partner in the world-police business is not very convincing. The United States idea is to get strong enough to lead the world, and to make such leadership pay immensely.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50c.

CANADA'S LEADING MAIL ORDER PIANO HOUSE

PIANO PRICES



The rich tone, good workmanship and great durability of our Pianos, coupled with their low price, stamp them positively the best value ever offered.

UPRIGHT GRAND PIANOS, guaranteed for 10 years, from - - $195

CABINET PARLOR ORGANS, fully warranted, from - - - $55

Any instrument shipped without charge for 10 days free trial. If not satisfactory we will bear cost. Full particulars of our easy payment plan and Art Catalogue sent on receipt of postal. Address

LAYTON BROS., Dept. I, 144 PEEL ST., MONTREAL

Have You Seen Our New Grade of

EXTRA STRONG WRAPPING PAPER

In Natural Color

Especially suited for Dry Goods. Best wrapping for large parcels. Stocked in three sizes. Made to order in any size.

SCHOFIELD BROS., Selling Agents, The E. B. EDDY CO., Ltd. Hull Paper Mills.

D. R. JACK'S QUEER FELLOW-PASSENGERS

(Continued from page 1.)

The "Articles of Faith" before alluded to were in the main of such a character as might be readily subscribed to by a member of any Christian church. As they are too lengthy for insertion in extenso here, the following extracts may be of interest:

2. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.

4. We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: (1) Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; (2) Repentance; (3) Baptism; by immersion for the remission of sins; (4) Laying on of hands for the Gift of the Holy Ghost.

7. We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, etc.

10. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion will be built upon this (the American) continent; that Christ will reign personally upon the earth; and, that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisical glory.

11. We claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own consciences, and allow all men the same privilege.

The Articles of Faith from which the above selections were made, and are from the writings of Joseph Smith, the first "prophet" of the Mormon church. An additional article which does not bear his signature in the standard works published, but which was read at the service, was in substance as follows:

We believe that all those who accept the teachings of the Mormon Church will be saved, and that those who do not will be damned.

A later enquiry of one of the party as to who Mormon was, and what the objects of the present migration were, elicited the following information: Liverpool was the primary objective point of the journey, and here a branch of the church has been established. From this point the present party will scatter throughout Europe, having in view the command to preach the Gospel to all the world.

The Whole Game Explained.

Mormon, so it is stated, was the father of Moroni, who in turn appeared in the form of an angel before Joseph Smith, then a youth of seventeen, on the night of September 21st, 1823, and instructed him as to some of the Divine purposes in which he was to take a part; that a record engraven on plates of gold, giving a history of the nations that had previously lived upon the western continent, and an account of the Saviour's ministrations among the people on this land were hidden in a hill near by; that with the plates were two sacred stones known as Urim and Thummim by the use of which men in olden times had become seers, and that through those instruments God would enable Joseph to translate the record engraven on the plates.

Moroni appeared before Joseph a second and third time, and again on the following day, when the boy acquainted his father with what he had seen. Joseph repaired to the hill described in the vision, and with some labor laid bare a stone box containing the plates, but Moroni again appeared and forbade the removal of the plates for four years. In due time the plates were brought forth from their resting place of centuries, were translated by Divine power through the instrumentality of Joseph Smith, whose publication of the record has since been given to the world as the Book of Mormon, and accepted by the Latter-day Saints as a sacred guide.

From an initial membership of six persons, including Joseph Smith, his father and brother, the church grew to a membership of thousands during the lifetime of the prophet, notwithstanding persecution, which culminated in the martyrdom of the prophet and his brother Hyrum, then patriarch of the church, June 27, 1844.

Joseph Smith was succeeded in office by Brigham Young, during whose time the practice of plural or polygamous marriage was established by the church as a result of direct revelation. For ten years after polygamy had been introduced into Utah, no law was passed in opposition to the practice, but, in 1862, the government of the United States declared the practice unlawful and provided penalties therefor. After a bitter fight, and numerous appeals to the court of final resort, the church discontinued the practice of plural marriage, and, through its chief officer announced its action to the world.

A Canadian Colony.

Three hundred thousand communicants, including a colony in Alberta, Canada, are said to be on the rolls of the Mormon Church, and an active movement looking to greater extension would now appear to have been initiated.

In the standard works upon Mormonism Biblical teachings are so skillfully interwoven with the doctrines of Joseph Smith that almost plausable argument has been set up, but the absence of corroborative evidence as to the existence of the plates of gold, etc., somewhat detracts from the strength of the Mormon case.

An interesting feature of Mormon teaching is the theory with regard to the aboriginal races of the American continent. The many tribes and native races of America are stated to have been of common origin, having reached the continent in two migrations, commonly distinguished as the dark and the fair. All are stated to have been of Israelitish origin, the first movement, the members of which settled in the south, dating from a period soon after the fall of the Tower of Babel. These were in turn annihilated by the descendants of the dark migration, who were the ancestors of all the Indians in America today. The ruined cities of Central America are pointed out as the remains of the earlier or fair race, who were men possessed of a high degree of civilization, having long full beards, and being of an entirely different type from the present Indians or other native races.

Lack of space will not admit of a more extended mention of this movement, which has in view a more progressive policy upon the part of the Mormon Church in Europe. As, with but one or two exceptions the members, though earnest in purpose, are not men of striking personality or apparently of high education or magnetic force, but little will probably be heard of them by the world at large hereafter.

DAVID RUSSELL JACK.

The wife of a well-known naval officer in Washington recently advertised for a cook. Though the establishment presided over by the officer's wife is in accord with their undisputed social position, yet it is by no means pretentious, for the naval man has no means aside from his salary. Consequently, when one applicant for the position announced to the wife that her price would be $20 a month, she was told that such wages would be out of the question. The cook, not deigning to notice the remark, went on at length to give her superior qualifications, touching especially on her ability to get up smart luncheons and dinners. Again the lady of the house said that she would not pay $50 for a cook. Seeing that her determination was unalterable, the applicant for the place prepared to take her departure.

As she was nearing the door she remarked patronizingly:—

"I see! You are trying to live within your income!"

Twenty-five tons of molasses were dumped into the railroad water tank at Fairpoint (O.), in mistake for water, the water cars and molasses cars being mixed. Several locomotives took water before the error was discovered, but none of them got very far away before the heat in their boilers began to make taffy out of the molasses and the engines were rendered useless.

He—"Who was that gentleman I saw you with yesterday? Some friend of yours, I suppose?"

She—"No."

He—Only an acquaintance, then?"

She—"Oh, dear, no; he is only my husband."

No Breakfast Table complete without

EPPS'S

An admirable food, with all its natural qualities intact, fitted to build up and maintain robust health, and to resist winter's extreme cold. It is a valuable diet for children.

COCOA

The Most Nutritious and Economical.