

PRICE FIVE CENTS

MARCH 19, 1904

EVENTS

PUBLISHER
WEEKLY



With the Poli-
ticians in
Parliament

The New
Slavery

Joseph Smith
and the Mor-
mon Church
(With Portrait)

The Metric
System

A Steel-Clad
Pavement

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EVENTS

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Vol. 7.

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EVENTS

Published Weekly.

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Vol. 1, No. 12.

OTTAWA, MARCH 19, 1904.

Whole No. 261.

Overlooking "The House."

THE debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne began in the House of Commons at Ottawa on Monday. There was a fair attendance of both members and the public but below rather than above the average and little interest was manifested in the proceedings. The address was moved by Mr. G. D. Grant in a manner to afterwards draw from both the leader of the Opposition and the leader of the House very warm praise. The seconder was Mr. Rivet of Hochelaga a new member who treated the House to a speech in two languages.

Mr. R. L. Borden, the leader of the Opposition, spoke for two and a half hours. His speech was strong in parts and very weak and rambling in parts. He made a mistake which is so enormous that we feel justified in dwelling on it for a moment. He left himself open to the shaft which the Prime Minister did not neglect to throw at him in the evening when he said that if he was as good at scrap book quotations as Mr. Borden he could recall many things. It was perhaps necessary to read what this

person and that person had said a year ago but that task is usually left to some of the back benches and it strikes the onlooker as unbecoming when discharged by the leader himself. Mr. Borden dwelt at length on the appointment of Mr. A. G. Blair as Chairman of the railway Commission in view of the fact that he had pronounced the Grand Trunk Pacific project to be "an unjustifiable squandering of public money." He held that it was inconsistent on the part of the government to certify by his appointment to the ability and good judgment of Mr. Blair in so important an office as the Chairman of the Railway Board after rejecting his advice on the Grand Trunk Pacific scheme and pronouncing it bad and his view narrow. Mr. Borden plainly insinuated that the government were afraid to let Mr. Blair loose in New Brunswick on the eve of a general election and that this was the motive underlying the appointment.

With respect to the proposal to amend the Grand Trunk Pacific contract he reminded the government that last session they had

told parliament that the Grand Trunk Railway Co. was absolutely committed and bound to that contract. Instead of the government holding the Grand Trunk to it it had been changed in the teeth of these declarations, though the government held as security \$5,000,000 of guaranteed stock.

Dealing with the Alaska boundary the leader of the Opposition blamed the government for allowing the British government any representation on the Commission. There should have been three Canadians. He did not think it would have been regarded as revolutionary had the government insisted on three Canadians. He charged the government with surrendering to the British foreign office, and also with neglecting to take advantage of the desire of the United States to repeal the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty and the reply of Lord Lansdowne to embrace the Alaska boundary dispute in the same settlement. He reproached the government for its leader's declaration that Canada had no interest in the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. Mr. Borden's other point was that the treaty should have been made subject to ratification by parliament. He failed to see how Canada could obtain any wider powers for treaty-making than she possessed at present. He was in favor of any treaty-making powers necessary to the development of our national life, but he could not agree to any demand which it was impossible for us to legally obtain. The closing point which the leader made was to contrast Sir Wilfrid Laurier's declaration of last session, that the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway scheme was urgent and could not wait, with the position now by which it was made to wait by the government itself.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied to the leader of the Opposition in a forty-five minute speech. He rose at nine o'clock in the evening and sat down at 9.45. He was in good form and in fact referred to his robust health. Speaking of the lateness of the session he said he hoped that parliament "would prorogue this year in time to go to the country" (here the members pricked up their ears) "and," he added "enjoy the fresh air in the leafy month of

June." In politics the expression, go to the country, has a different meaning from going to the seaside or to visit the old folks on the farm. The Prime Minister went on to rally the leader of the Opposition on the satisfaction he had expressed at the result of the bye-elections which Mr. Borden had stated reflected a reaction in the country. Sir Wilfrid failed to see signs of a reaction in the fact that out of twelve bye-elections the government carried nine. In his own province of Quebec the Conservative party had nominally disappeared. The name had been changed, and he likened that party to an old ship which had received a new coat of paint and had painted out the old name, the "Conservative" party, and replaced it with the name, the "Protection" party. They had thrown the captain overboard as well, and the old hulk was commanded from the shore by a junta. He declared that there was no party, no leader and no policy.

With regard to the appointment of Mr. Blair he justified it on the ground of fitness. He still believed that Mr. Blair made the mistake of his life last session when he failed to rise to the occasion and when he used language that was not worthy of him, but the Prime Minister declared that he himself would be unworthy of his trust if he allowed personal resentment to interfere with the discharge of a public duty, and he considered that duty to be the appointment of the best available man in Canada.

Dealing briefly with the treaty-making power the Prime Minister said that the demand for fuller powers had been a plank in the policy of the Liberal party for thirty years. In 1870 Mr. Huntingdon had introduced a resolution, in 1882 Mr. Blake had introduced a resolution, in 1892 Mr. Mills had introduced a resolution. Fuller treaty-making powers would be subject to the approbation of the King and would not carry the power to make and conclude war. In warm language he pointed out that the Alaskan Treaty was ratified by the British government against the repeated protests of the government representing the people of Canada. He desired the power to initiate and carry on to the end the negotiations leading up to a treaty.

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The Alaskan Treaty, which had resulted so badly for Canada, was negotiated by the British Ambassador at Washington.

Sir Wilfrid announced that the High Joint Commission dealing with questions at issue between Canada and the United States would not meet again if it depended on Canada preferring a request to the United States. On this point he said:—

It is not the purpose of the Canadian government to go to the United States for favors of any kind whatever. If it pleases them to reopen these negotiations and have better relations we are always ready to receive their advances and to meet them; but we have nothing to ask from them. We want to be on good terms and are ready to negotiate with them on fair terms; but we shall not take the initiative in any new enterprise, or with regard to these old negotiations.

Speaking of the tariff Sir Wilfrid declared that they would not look at the United States for an example but would look to the conditions, the necessities, and the interests of the people of Canada alone, and, to use a famous Canadian phrase, "we will paddle our own canoe."

It is safe to say that this expression, which is one of the commonest and almost exclusively Canadian, will become a campaign cry on the question of the tariff. Sir Wilfrid Laurier read from the Montreal Star, which he declared to be "the chief Conservative organ in Canada," a statement that the Canadian tariff should be revised and established on the lines of the United States tariff, and the expression, paddle our own canoe, taken along with the declaration of the Prime Minister as to having no favors to ask of the United States and no negotiations to propose, will stand for the declared policy of the Laurier Administration, to have done with the United States and to go on strictly attending to our own business.

During the discussion of all these weighty matters a Ministerial member was observed with bent head peering through spectacles at a thick bundle of bank notes resting on his left knee and which he was carefully counting and sorting out over and over. He is one of the members who

seldom takes any part in the proceedings of the House, outside of the divisions. Big guns might talk of big subjects—relations with the Crown, with the United States, with England, the incorporation of Newfoundland, the tariff—these and a hundred others were not to be compared for one moment with the number and denomination of that roll of bills. To his mind the main thing was his bank account, and the time for attending to it was when he was sitting as a representative of the people acquainting himself with matters of state.

Mr. W. F. Maclean showed his independence of parliamentary etiquette by taking the floor immediately after Sir Wilfrid Laurier had spoken. What he took it for Heaven only knows. His senior and leader, Hon. Mr. Haggart, was ready to continue the debate on the address, but Mr. Maclean started in to talk about municipal rights, Ontario politics, the tariff, our system of government, and Hudson Bay. The cold silence maintained on his own side of the House did not deter him. As an example of the irrelevancy of his remarks he was found reading from the tail end of some book written by Dr. Bourinot to show that the government was responsible for private bills just as much as for public bills. Mr. Maclean is old enough to know that Dr. Bourinot was no authority on such subjects. The doctrine and usage are directly contrary to what Mr. Maclean sought to show. Todd is a recognized authority, and it is laid down there as follows:—"The peculiar responsibility which attaches to Ministers of the Crown in matters of legislation is confined for the most part to the initiation and control of public business. As regards private bills an opposite principle prevails. To quote Sir Robert Peel:—"I must decline interference with any private bill and I cannot but think from the experience of every day that the principle on which Ministers abstain from any such interference is most salutary." A Chancellor of the Exchequer is quoted as follows:—"It is contrary to all established practice for Ministers of the Crown to give an opinion upon a private bill." Members of parliament should realize that Bourinot is no authority, except in matters of procedure.

EVENTS

Published Weekly.

ARNOTT J. MAGURN, Editor.

VOL. 5. MARCH 19, 1904. No. 12

"CANADA has inherited no divine right to peace" says one of the British jingo papers in Ontario. Neither has Canada inherited a Satanic right to war. But Canada has within its boundaries a number of persons whose sole idea of a great nation is a nation with military glory. The triumphs of peace are far more to be desired than the devastation and desolation of war. Canada has no more use for a standing army than a hen has for teeth.

ACCORDING to official returns Canada's exports of minerals produced in the country reached high water mark in 1901, over \$40,000,000 in value. Ten years before, in 1891, the value was only \$5,784,000. Since 1901, however, there has been a steady decrease down to \$35,900,000 in 1902 and \$31,000,000 in 1903. Taking coal by itself, while there was a slight diminished export of Canadian coal in 1902 it rallied in 1903 and went a shade above 1901 so that the coal exports for 1903 of the value of \$5,450,000 was the largest in the history of the Dominion. Ten years before the value of the exports was \$3,115,000.

DR. GOLDWIN SMITH whose estimate of English politics is usually regarded as accurate, writes:—

Bye-elections in England are notoriously apt to go against the government, the reason probably being that when there is no critical struggle between the parties, voters feel at liberty to indulge their personal dissatisfaction with anything that displeases them in the policy of the Government. But at present there is a critical struggle between the parties, and the immense majority by which the Liberals have carried Normanton, in a labor district, seems to prove that labor is on their side. Mr. Chamberlain still has with him great landowners, who wish to raise rents, some

of the great manufacturers, and the Tory classes in general. He will not lack funds for his crusade. He is a skilful tactician, fertile in expedients, and unrostrated by scruples. But, on the whole, it is pretty clear that he has lost the game.

A NUMBER of papers are commenting on a published statement that during the 35 years from 1867 to 1901 there were 69 divorces granted in Canada as contrasted with 700,000 granted in the United States during the same period, and some Canadians are hugging the delusion that they are so much better than their neighbors. It is true that the divorce mania is much more prevalent in the United States than in Canada, but there are two facts which the brainy paragraphs have for the most part overlooked. First, the 69 divorces represent the parliamentary record at Ottawa, that is, 69 statute laws have been passed dissolving the marriage tie. But, four of the Canadian provinces have divorce judges and divorces are decreed by process of the ordinary law. In these provinces during the period mentioned hundreds of divorces have been granted. The second fact to which we have alluded is that hundreds, probably thousands of Canadians, have during this period procured divorces in the United States. Hundreds of Canadians have been divorced in the one State of Dakota. The statistics as to the number of Canadian divorces are, therefore, not available but they certainly run well into the thousands during the period mentioned. Very many persons in Canada in fact most persons, believe that parliament should delegate its power of granting divorces to a court of law in order to lessen the cost to parties who have a right to secure a decree. At present only the man or woman with a bank account can secure the remedy to which parliament says every person in the Dominion has a right. It is undoubtedly a case of one law for the rich and another for the poor, so far as the provinces of Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec are concerned. The other provinces grant divorces by means of provincial courts.

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A GENTLEMAN in Toronto whose daily work brings him into contact very largely with children writes to Events, under date of March 9, as follows:

I very heartily agree with what you write concerning the evil effects of detective stories on boy character. Nearly all our young criminals are addicted to that kind of literature and in my opinion it has played an important part in their downfall. I wish our statesmen and officials could realize the force of what you say as to the supreme importance of protecting youth from moral contamination.

IN the House of Lords a week ago last Thursday Lord Beauchamp, Lord Rosebery, Lord Spencer and Lord Goschen all pressed the government for details of any offer of preferential trade made by the colonies. The result was that the Morning Post said next day that Lord Lansdowne was compelled "by the exigencies of party politics to declare with undue emphasis that Ministers would oppose any suggestion of preference at the present time."

UNDER the local option provincial law the question of applying total prohibition of liquor to the municipality of South Norfolk, Manitoba, was submitted to a vote the other day. There were cast in favor of prohibition 300 votes and against 287 but the by-law was defeated as it required a three-fifths majority. It would evidently be very hard when the population is so evenly divided to enforce such a law.

THE Ottawa Citizen explains to an inquiring reader that a Chinaman, a naturalized British subject, must pay the head tax of \$500 when entering Canada just the same as if he was not a British subject. This is not the only anomaly. In a province of this Dominion where manhood suffrage is the law certain British subjects are discriminated against and are denied the right to vote for four years after they have become naturalized. Equality before the law is one of the cardinal principles of what is termed British jus-

tice but it is easily seen that this rule has its exceptions.

THE bye-election for the British House of Commons in Normanton, Yorkshire was contested by the government but the result was to increase the Liberal majority by the enormous figure of 2,527. Mr. Parrett received a majority just a few short of 4,000. With the exception of South Birmingham—and there the Unionist majority was reduced by 500—the record of the bye-elections seems to be uniformly against the government and against Mr. Chamberlain, taking the current of public opinion as indicated by the election returns. The dismay of Unionist candidates who are endorsed by Mr. Chamberlain's Tariff Reform League is shown in the disclaimers put in by Unionist candidates. As soon as Mr. Dorman became a candidate in the Normanton division he disowned the Tariff Reform League although he had been lately working for that organization. In the election for East Dorset the Unionist candidate is said to be just as shy of Mr. Chamberlain's organization. A wit in England describing the attitude of Unionist candidates towards Mr. Chamberlain's organization said it resembled that of the householder who gives the organ grinder a piece of silver to go and play in the next street.

THE front door having been slammed in their faces two of His Excellency's advisers are asked by the Rideau Club to come in by a side door.

MR. BENNETT, a member of the House of Commons, in his speech on Tuesday evening made a charge against the member for Digby which the member for Digby must challenge or resign. Mr. Bennett conveyed the idea that the member for Digby was selling his influence as a member of parliament for the sum of \$2,500 in connection with the erection of a dock in Digby. The member for Digby was not in his place in the House at the time the accusation was brought; in fact we do not think he had arrived in the city.

A Curious Thing.

THE new weekly advertising sheet conducted by the government of Canada as an appendix to the weekly bulletin containing reports of commercial agents abroad just issued contains among the inquiries received the following:—

"A gentleman with experience of the African market is seeking the agency for the United Kingdom of a Canadian shipper of woodwork."

A firm dealing in general and office furniture desire to be put in communication with makers of same in Canada.

A firm dealing in general and office furniture inquires for the name of Canadian manufacturers exporting office furniture.

An Englishman, practical man in wool-len and ready made clothing, desires to represent English woollens especially in New Brunswick.

A large manufacturing and export clothing firm want a representative in Canada in ready made clothing, skirts and so forth.

The manufacturers of ochres, oxides, and colors ask to be placed in correspondence with Canadian importers.

The manufacturers of gun and rifle cases,

cartridges, magazines and bags and similar sporting goods would like to obtain a strong Canadian trade.

There are a number of other inquiries nearly all of the same character. For instance a wall paper manufacturer wishes to introduce his goods into Canada and would like to hear from Canadian firms. A firm in the midlands working on commission would like very much to hear from Canadians who desire either buying or selling agents. It seems to be a great pity that the commission merchant advertising for business, and the ready made clothing salesman who wants a job especially in New Brunswick, and all the other advertisers should be allowed to pursue this extraordinary mode of trying to make customers and trying to secure situations. The advertising columns of the daily press of Canada are wide open for the announcement of English firms describing the character of the goods they produce and to persons desiring to obtain employment but for the government of Canada to turn itself into an employment and advertising agency seems ridiculous.



JAPANESE GYMNASTICS.

These tight-rope performers sometimes lose their balance.—Figaro, Paris.

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The New Slavery.

THE British Blue Book on the subject of Chinese labor discloses officially the character of the imperial policy of the British government with reference to Chinese labor in the Transvaal. This policy of slave labor has been adopted without asking the advice of "the colonies." They may be invited to assist in relieving the people of the Transvaal of the rule of an autocrat administering government under the form of representative institutions; but their opinion has not been asked as to whether slaves should be imported under the aegis of the British flag and held in bondage on British soil. The Blue Book contains the ordinance passed by the High Commissioner and his colleagues, with the sanction of the cabinet in London. This ordinance provides for the importation of packages of Chinese. When a Chinaman arrives and puts foot on British soil provision is made that he shall be "forwarded" to his destination. He is prohibited from working at any occupation except the work for which he has been specially "imported." He is forbidden to serve any other employer except the one who has imported him or some other employer to whom the importer has transferred his rights over the Chinaman. At the expiration of his contract he must "be returned without delay at the expense of the importer." A schedule enumerates 58 occupations which are forbidden to him under penalty of imprisonment for two months. If he refuses to work for his importer when required to do so he is liable to imprisonment for two months with a satirical option of a fine of \$125. He may, under a permit, stretch his legs within the District but he must not be away for more than 48 hours and must not leave the district. Should he, in an imperial reverie, desire to see some of the fields which have been added

to the empire, and try to steal away and is caught, he is to be sent to prison for a month unless he can raise \$50. for a fine. If the chattel tries to make a dash for liberty he may be arrested without a warrant, taken before the nearest magistrate, and be fined \$50 or sent to prison for one month. If after he has served his term his employer cannot be found and he refuses to be engaged by an importer he may be forcibly returned to his country of origin. Any misguided person, occupying a building on British soil, who offers shelter to a runaway Chinaman is liable to a fine not exceeding \$250 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months. If he happens to like the work and wishes to continue it and refuses to discontinue it when ordered, he will be sent to prison for three months.

The Chinese Minister in England has had the audacity to suggest to the British Government that some of these rigours—and there are many others—should be modified. The Chinese Minister has represented that the law contemplates dealing with his countrymen as with "chattels or articles of commerce." His representations to Mr. Lyttelton, the Colonial Secretary, would almost lead one to suppose that the Chinese Minister had a distaste for slavery and that he must have read of that famous line, that any man who sets foot on British soil is free.

I would respectfully venture to suggest for the consideration of his Majesty's Government, the insertion, at any convenient places, in the ordinance of the following additions and alterations.

"That in no case shall it be allowable for the employer or his servant to inflict corporal punishment on the immigrant, and that any violation of this provision shall be punishable at law as a common assault.

"That the person styled 'the importer' shall be a bona fide employer of labor, and

not a mere dealer or speculator in labor; and that the transfer or assignment of the laborer to another employer shall only be made with the consent of the immigrant and the approval of the Consul or Consular Agent of his country.

"This is necessary in order to prevent the immigrant from being made a mere chattel or article of commerce."—Extract of letter from Chinese Minister to Lord Lansdowne, Feb. 11, 1904.

Mr. Asquith, Sir Vernon Harcourt, Sir Henry Fowler, and other members of the House of Commons have denounced the ordinance as a disgrace to civilization and especially to that part of it under the British flag, and there is an outcry in England.



THE SPHINX'S RIDDLE.

Sphinx: What's the difference between you and the first Joseph?

Mr. C.: Give it up!

Sphinx: The first Joseph was put in a hole by his brethren—you've put your brethren in one.—Westminster Budget.

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Joseph Smith and the Mormon Church.

IT is stated in the daily press that two or three thousand Mormons are expected to settle in Canada in the vicinity of the Crow's Nest Pass this year. For several



JOSEPH F. SMITH
President of the Mormon Church.

years there has been a settlement of Mormons in and around a town in Southern Alberta, called Cardston after Elder Card.

These people had the audacity to send three missionaries to the city of Winnipeg one winter to try and secure adherents. As settlers and farmers, however, they are spoken well of, and understand in particular the cultivation of soil in arid regions by means of irrigation. An irrigation canal running from Lethbridge was completed about four years ago, but owing to the snow-fall and the rain-fall the canal has not been needed since its construction.

Public attention has been directed to Mormonism during the present month by means of the Smoot case. Senator Reed Smoot, a Mormon apostle, was elected to a seat in the United States Senate and his right to that seat is the main subject of the inquiry. Smoot is not himself a polygamist, but an endeavor is being made to show that the Mormon hierarchy, of which he is a member form a propaganda of polygamy. It is further contended, and we think with some ground, that he is morally impossible as a public representative because he could not disobey his associates in regard to his actions and votes as a senator. The discipline of the Mormon church is exceedingly severe. Orders from the elders and the apostles must be obeyed implicitly and without question. For instance, the elder or apostle in charge at Cardston can order a man to remove to Utah and take up his residence there. No reasons are given and instant obedience is required. They can even order a young woman to marry and she must obey. If the church, therefore, required a Mormon senator to vote or act in any particular manner he would not be a free-will agent.

Joseph F. Smith, President of the Mormon church, testified before the committee that he has five wives and forty-two child-

ren. His declaration before the committee that the members of the Mormon church are among the freest of all the Christian denominations does not correspond with the facts. He also declared that they entertained the cardinal doctrines of the Christian church. But, as we have said, no one can find fault with the Mormons in Canada, where polygamy is not practised, with regard to their uprightness or their conduct. It is the enforcement of blind obedience in material matters, not spiritual, which brings the Mormon church sometimes in conflict with the authority and interests of the State.

Aside from questions of dispute, however, it is of interest to know how the Mormon church began and who began it. It was begun by Joseph Smith, the father of the present President of the church. The following catechism of the faith promulgated by Joseph Smith, the prophet, is taken from the Kansas City Times, and as President Smith of the Mormon church has been before the country on the witness stand at Washington we venture to reproduce the article.

What is Mormonism?

It is a faith promulgated by Joseph Smith, the Prophet, based on the Bible and on supplementary revelations.

Who was Joseph Smith?

He was the fourth child in a family of nine children, and was born in Sharon, Vt., in 1805. His parents were poor. When Joseph was 10 years old they moved to Palmyra, N. Y., where his father opened a "cake and beer shop." The family was regarded as illiterate, and "shittless" in the neighborhood. Joseph, however, became familiar with the Bible, and at the age of 15 began "to see visions" as he told the credulous neighbors. At that time he had the reputation of being eccentric.

What was the nature of his visions?

His first came at a time of great religious excitement when he thought he had the vision of the Apostle Paul. Three years after, according to his story, an angel named Moroni visited him and told him of a book written upon golden plates, in which was a history of the former inhabitants of

America, and "the fulness of the everlasting gospel." The place where the book was hidden was also revealed. It was on a hill near Palmyra.

What happened when Smith went after the book?

An unseen power prevented him from removing it. Moroni later assured him that he valued the golden plates more than the records upon them. Not until his love for gold had abated and he was willing to give his time to the translation were the plates to be delivered to him. It was not, Smith said, until September 22, 1827, that he got possession of the book.

What was the Book of Mormon like?

Smith described it as a book of thin gold plates, eight inches long, seven wide and six thick. The plates were inscribed on both sides with hieroglyphics. The characters were "Reformed Egyptian."

How did Smith translate the book?

Fortunately a pair of magic spectacles, which he called "Urin and Thummin" was with the book. With the aid of these he read it.

Did anyone besides Smith see the plates?

At first Smith did his translating behind a curtain, dictating to Martin Harris and Oliver Cowdery. Later he showed some of the golden plates to eleven witnesses.

What testimony did the witnesses leave? In the published "Book of Mormon" the following notice appears with the signatures of the witnesses appended.

Be it known unto all nations, kindreds, tongues and people unto whom this work shall come, that Joseph Smith, jun., the translator of this work, has shown unto us the plates of which hath been spoken, which have the appearance of gold, and as many of the leaves as the said Smith has translated, we did handle with our hands, and we also saw the engravings thereon, all of which has the appearance of ancient work and curious workmanship. And thus we bear record, with words of soberness, that the said Smith hath shown unto us, for we have seen and hefted, and know of a surety that the said Smith has got the plates of which we have spoken. And we give our names unto the world, to witness

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unto the world, that which we have seen and we lie not, God bearing witness of it.

What has become of the witnesses?

It is believed that all of them are dead. Eight of them were members of two families.

What became of the plates?

They vanished, Smith said. At any rate nobody has seen them since.

When was the Book of Mormon published?

It was printed at Palmyra, in 1830, and the church was established in the same year.

What is the full title of the Book of Mormon?

On the title page appears "The Book of Mormon: An Account Written by the Hand of Mormon Upon Plates Taken From the Plates of Nephi." Below the title follows this paragraph:

"Whereof it is an abridgement of the record of the people of Nephi, and also of the Lamanites, written by the Lamanites, who are a remnant of the house of Israel; and also to Jew and Gentile, written by way of commandment and also by the spirit of prophecy and of revelation. Written and sealed up, and hid up unto the Lord, that they might not be destroyed; to come forth by the gift and power of God unto the interpretation thereof, sealed by the hand of Moroni, and hid up unto the Lord, to come forth in due time by way of Gentile; the interpretation thereof by the gift of God."

What does the book purport to be?

It says that it gives the history of the occupation of the American continent. Briefly, the story is that after the destruction of Babel, and the confusion of tongues, America was settled by one of the peoples. Afterwards in the sixth century B.C. Lehi and his sons went to South America and from them were descended the Indians. It is related, too, that after the resurrection Christ went to America and preached to the people. At the final destruction of the civilized people, after bloody wars, God commanded the prophet Mormon to record the events and hide the

record. The Book of Mormon is not a doctrinal work. It is chiefly a narrative.

Whence do the Mormons derive their doctrines?

From the Bible and from a series of "divine revelations" made to the head of the church and published in a volume called "Doctrine and Covenants."

What is the Mormons' creed?

They believe in the Trinity, in punishment for sin, and in salvation through Christ by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel.

What are the ordinances?

Faith in Christ, repentance, baptism for the remission of sins, and laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. The Mormons believe further in the divine organization of the Mormon Church, in the Bible as the word of God, in the Book of Mormon as the further word of God, in the restoration of the Ten tribes of Israel, in the building of Zion on the American continent and in the second coming of Christ.

When was polygamy introduced?

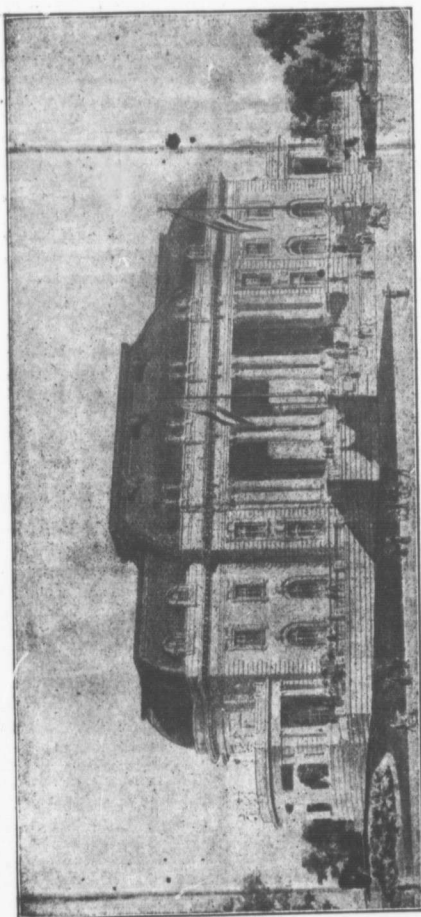
The belief generally accepted is that Smith claimed to have a revelation sanctioning polygamy in 1831; that this was withheld from most of the Saints for a time but that it was at once revealed to a favored few, by whom it was practised, and that Smith himself had plural wives.

These statements are denied by Smith's son, Joseph Smith, of Lamoni, Ia. head of the seceding branch of the church, who asserts that his father did not believe in polygamy. The doctrine was first publicly proclaimed by Brigham Young in 1852.

It was suspended by "revelation" to President Woodruff in 1890. The Church divided after the death of Prophet Smith and the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has never sanctioned polygamy.

How many members have the two branches of the Mormon Church.

The Utah branch is credited with 300,000 and the Reorganized branch with 40,500. The Mormons at Independence, Mo., belong to the Reorganized Church.



The State Buildings at the St. Louis Worlds Fair—Ohio

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Legislating in the Metric System.

THE adoption of the metric system of measurement by Canada has been talked of but since Sir Henry Joly, its great advocate and exponent, retired from the government the question has receded from public view. A bill has passed its second reading in the British Parliament which proposes to render compulsory the use of the metric system both in weights and measures. The date fixed is April 5, 1906, or such later date as may be directed by an Order in Council. The question is being asked in England whether the proposed change is practicable. For instance the Manchester Guardian insists that it is of the first importance to ascertain whether such a revolution in national custom can be forced by enactment upon the trading community. Throughout the second reading debate it was generally assumed that legislation in European countries had induced a general acceptance of the metric system. Thus, Lord Belhaven, in introducing the bill, said that Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy and other countries had adopted the metric system without serious opposition or inconvenience. Lord Kelvin remarked that in Germany, France and Italy, no inconvenience had resulted from the introduction of the metric system, and there was no such thing as a complaint. He further said that the change occupied only two years. He quoted Sir William Ramsay, who had written: "I was in Germany during the change there; it gave no trouble whatever, and was recognized within a week." It may be well to consider some of these cases mentioned in detail.

In Germany the old units in the textile industries still persist. There are still in use in Germany nine different ells, in addition to the metre and the English yard. These ells are divided into inches, an

inch varying between 1.20 and 1.36 of an ell. Such extraordinary ratios as these are still in use:—Pussian ell, 25½ inches; Wurttemberg ell, 34¼ inches; Vienna ell, 29½ inches. If there be any further doubt as to the persistence of old units in the German textile trade, those who are curious would do well to obtain a little German book of 105 pages, 'Kalkulator für Artikel der Textilbranche,' by Friedrich Frowein, third edition, 1901. A specimen of Frowein's calculations of the cost of a piece of worsted cloth is certainly amazing reading to anybody who may be under the impression that the metric system is in universal use in Germany. For example, in an estimate of cost of a worsted fabric the raw material is purchased by the English pound. The English goods are sold by the French metre. The yarn counts are English, while the length and width of the finished goods are metric. The length of the yarn is expressed in metres, while the counts are based upon the yard and the pound. Out of this kaleidoscopic nomenclature "the yarn is calculated in grams at a price given in marks per English pound, and to cap the climax the total length of the yarn in metres is reduced to English yards and then to English skeins of 500 yards each.

In the general retail hardware shops in Berlin the foot and inch measure is, if anything more popular than the official metre. In Norway, Sweden and Denmark also the common or old measures, as well as the metric measures are in general use especially amongst the traders and peasantry. Most of the trade and dealing is done by the old system, just as it was before the adoption of the metric system.

In France precisely the same story is told. The law is consistently violated, by

the continued use of the old measures. In length measurements the size of a man is expressed in feet oftener than in metres. The 'aune' (1.20 metre) is still often used in measuring drapery goods in many provinces.

Without exaggeration it may be said that there are hundreds of similar instances, going to show that in all countries of Europe and of South America, or wherever the metric system is supposed to be in general use, the old units, if not actually dominant, constitute such a factor in the trade and commerce of the countries con-

cerned as practically to impose on each country a double system of weights and measurements—(a) the old system, with the apparently unbreakable sanction of use and wont, and (b) the metric system, which appears to be more official than general in its application. Without entering into the theoretical advantages of this or that system, it is at least wise to be prepared for the possible danger of rendering confusion worse confounded by imposing upon this country a metric system, which probably for generations would not oust our present weights and measurements.



Is the Grand Stand Safe?—Toronto Star.

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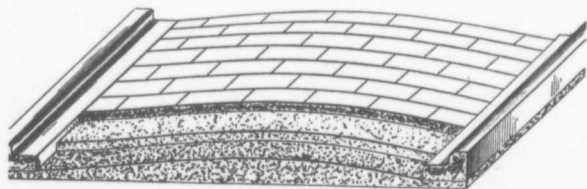
A Steel-Clad Pavement.

A NEW form of pavement employing asphalt or cement covered with steel plates is described in the Municipal Journal and Engineer. The device, which comes from Chicago, embodies several novel features. Says the writer of the notice:

"The foundation is made in much the same manner as that for any other kind of permanent pavement, the concrete varying in thickness from four to six inches according to the condition of the subsoil. Upon this concrete base is set the combined curb and gutter, after which the pavement is

too heavy for this pavement, and they recommend it particularly for use around warehouses, milk and produce depots, railway stations, yards, stables—in fact, in any place where the strongest and most durable kind of pavement is desired. The other variety of this pavement, steel-clad cement, is designed for use in small cities and towns where traffic is light and where the cost is important. To quote again:

"Recent developments in the manufacture of Portland cement in this country have brought about conditions which make it unnecessary for the small cities

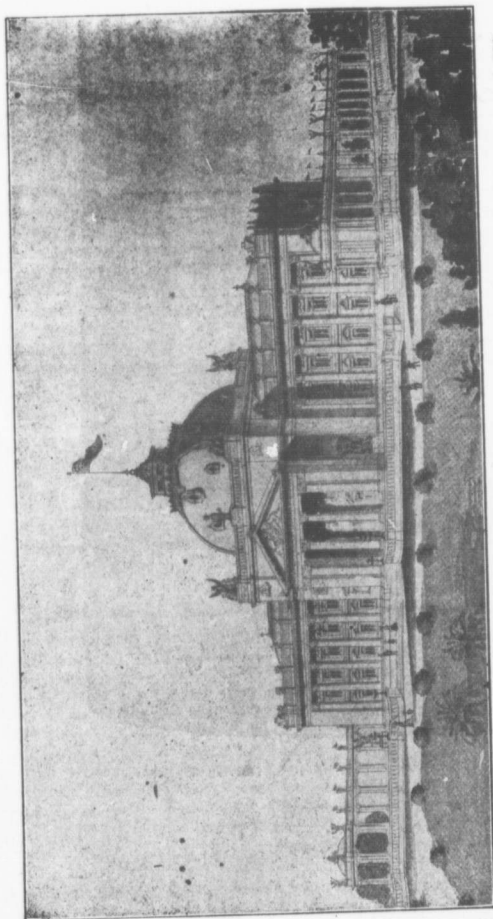


laid thereon, which consists of a layer of Portland cement concrete four inches thick and upon the latter is spread a steel-clad wearing surface of from one to two inches in thickness, according to traffic.

"For the heaviest traffic the steel-clad asphalt is chiefly recommended. While the first cost is considerably more than for an ordinary pavement, the difference in price will be saved many times because of the saving in maintenance charges, and because of the greater durability of the pavement."

The makers claim that there is no traffic

and towns to deny themselves the great advantage of good pavements any longer. By the use of the steel-clad cement pavements the cost will be within the reach of all. It is said that when cement is reinforced with a proper amount of steel it will produce an almost indestructible wearing surface. . . . To provide for contraction and expansion a steel plate is set into the concrete at proper intervals, which is withdrawn before the cement has thoroughly hardened and the joints then filled with cement or pitch. The wearing surface is provided with half-round grooves to prevent slipping on the pavement."



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The ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

THERE are few national institutions of more value and interest to the country than the Royal Military College at Kingston. At the same time its object and the work it is accomplishing are not sufficiently understood by the general public.

The college is a Government institution, designed primarily for the purpose of giving the highest technical instruction in all branches of military science to cadets and officers of the Canadian Militia. In fact it is intended to take the place in Canada of the English Woolwich and Sandhurst and the American West Point.

The Commandant and military instructors are all officers on the active list of the Imperial army, lent for the purpose, and in addition there is a complete staff of professors for the civil subjects which form such a large proportion of the College course.

Whilst the college is organized on a strictly military basis the cadets receive in addition to their military studies a thoroughly practical, scientific and sound training in all subjects that are essential to a high and general modern education.

The course in mathematics is very complete and a thorough grounding is given in the subjects of Civil Engineering, Civil and Hydrographic Surveying, Physics, Chemistry, French and English.

The object of the College course is thus to give the cadets a training which shall thoroughly equip them for either a military or civil career.

The strict discipline maintained at the College is one of the most valuable features of the system. As a result of it young men acquire habits of obedience and self-control and consequently of self-reliance and command, as well as experience in controlling and handling their fellows.

In addition the constant practice of gymnastics, drills and outdoor exercises of all kinds, ensures good health and fine physical condition.

An experienced medical officer is in attendance at the College daily.

Five commissions in the Imperial regular army are annually awarded as prizes to the cadets.

The length of course is three years, in three terms of 9½ months' residence each.

The total cost of the three years' course, including board, uniforms, instructional material, and all extras, is from \$750 to \$800.

The annual competitive examination for admission to the College will take place at the headquarters of the several military districts in which candidates reside, in May of each year.

For full particulars of this examination or for any other information application should be made as soon as possible, to the Adjutant General of Militia, at Ottawa, Ont.

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