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APOSTLES OLD AND NEW.

It is a favorite theme of the Deseret News to expatiate first on the purity of the faith of the Latter Day Saints, to declare that it is the religion which the master taught, and then when any outsider objects to some of the proceedings to explain that it has always been so, that the modern persecutions are actuated by the same spirit which caused Stephen to be stoned and Paul crucified.

But did Peter ever start a bank, get himself elected president and have a big block of the stock put to his credit, because of his official place? Did John, the beloved, ever head a corporation to build a sugar factory and amid the rich lands of Mesopotamia, work the Legislature for a bounty, get himself made President of the company and claim a huge block of stock for his eminent services?

Did James ever organize a light and power company in Jerusalem, get the city to give his company the right of way through most of the streets and steal the right of other streets, get himself elected president, water the stock to the limit of drowning, then send to Antioch and sell tremendous blocks of the stock; then put on cars and run them for years without even sweeping them, or repairing the roadbed?

Did Andrew get a franchise to light Jerusalem and Capernaum and sell 6 candle power lights for 20 and charge four prices for them?

Did Phillip ever name any candidate for office and insist upon his election? Did Bartholomew monopolize the salt business on the shore of the Dead Sea? Did Thomas work to build up an aristocracy and save the fat offices for two or three families whether they were qualified or not, and ignore all on the outside?

Was the chiefest apparent desire of the whole band for commercial gain, political office and the attendant emoluments? Did they establish co-operative stores and manufactories and appropriate all the offices for their particular families?

Did either one when put upon the stand declare that he was in the habit all the time of violating both human and divine laws, and say it in a tone which seemed to ask: "What are you going to do about it?" Is the history true that the Master said: "I will have mercy and not sacrifice," or did he say: "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man hath not where to lay his head?" or is

that perverted history only? Did the old company ever preach that neither the Jewish nor the Roman government was binding on them, because they possessed the only legal government? If they did then we can all understand why they met with persecutions, for Romans were not friendly with those who disputed their political authority, and the Jews were jealous of their rule which had even then existed for twelve hundred years of written history.

But the parallel between one ancient and the modern apostles is somewhat marked. When Judas sold out for thirty pieces of silver all the excuse he could give was that he wanted the money. Did he not display one of the marked attributes of the modern apostle?

As the modern church is being run how long will it be able to hold its people up to the steady graft, with a poor article of electric light over head and the free school-house on every corner?

IS IT TO BE A RACE PROBLEM?

There is a theory among some of those who study the stars, that nations are ruled by their own planets and suns and that they run their courses in about twenty-two hundred and fifty years. Some exist longer, but they are like Dr. Osler's old men, the spring is gone, they never more accomplish any new thing, and for all they are to the world's progress might as well be chloroformed.

Since the Russo-Japanese war began, some men have watched the progress and have been wondering if similar influences may not have their effect upon races. The Caucasian has from the first ruled the world. Is he about to step down and pass under the yoke of the Brown and Yellow races? It comes from China that newspapers are increasing with wonderful rapidity in that tremendous empire and that a large proportion of the books being issued by Chinese authors during the past two years have been devoted to the art of waging wars, to the discussion of the sciences, especially such as are chiefly invoked in prosecuting a nation's industries, and the thought is that the great empire is about to throw off its immemorial inertia and to begin a new career. The reader will remember the farewell words of the late Chinese minister Wu, which were equivalent to those carried to Rome in the old days:

"You have thrown down the challenge to us. See that your walls be strong!" As military men read what Japanese generals and admirals are doing, they are forced to admit that nothing is lacking in their science, while the men behind the guns on sea and land are giving the world new lessons of what valor and patriotism are when called out to the very utmost.

Is this eastern war but the beginning of a struggle to determine whether the white man or the brown and yellow men are to dominate this old world?

There are seven hundred millions of those races in Japan, China and India, and grasshoppers when they fall thick enough are sufficient to stop a railroad train.

These are days when the seers who read the stars should be busy.

Though the great Pacific rolls between our country and Asia, our nation next to Russia is most directly interested in this matter, for already

one hundred thousand Japanese are on our soil and those who are near them and watch their ways, insist that as between them and the Chinese, the latter are to be preferred. They have all the Chinese vices, they have less gratitude for favors done, they are less reliable, less faithful. The west coast is clamoring loudly for an expulsion law to prohibit their coming, and fear that before the country can be educated up to demand it, half a million of the brown invaders will be upon our soil.

But there is trouble about this that never attached to the Chinese question. It is said that Japan has made several overtures of peace to Russia, but with everyone is coupled a demand for a mighty indemnity. Suppose the peace comes and with it an indemnity sufficient to reimburse Japan for all she has lost except the lives of her soldiers, what then? How will she receive a notice that this country no longer desires to receive her people, she who has a treaty that she shall stand on the plane of the most favored nations?

She will have the biggest case of swelled head ever seen. What if her answer should be: "Our gates were closed, we asked for no intercourse with the outside world. You sent your warships with a threat to batter down those gates unless we voluntarily opened them. We complied. That was only fifty-four years ago. Now if you attempt to close your Golden Gate against us, we will do what you threatened to do then."

That would mean real business. We do not doubt the result, but it would be a costly war and would tax the finances and the valor of the nation as they have not been taxed for a long time.

In this connection, we believe that Japan sincerely desires peace with us; that she would sooner fight any two powers of the old world than the United States, but her head will be immensely swelled and she will not be afraid.

At the same time if her coolies drifting this way are becoming a menace even as the Chinese were, they will have to be kept out, for the working men and women of this land are the land's bulwark and must be protected at all hazards.

In the meanwhile there should be never-ceasing work on our navy in building new battleships and in training the men to handle and fight them, for in the event of a war with any power, as we are situated, the most of the work would have to be done by the navy.

A GREAT JOURNALIST.

Among the prominent features which distinguish the editorials of the Deseret News two are deserving of being singled out and specially mentioned.

One is their subtle humor. It must be remembered that the News is the Lord's organ, hence any transparent pleasantries on the part of the News would cause a shock to all devout readers. But we are told that art in perfection is so disguised that it does not seem art at all, but absolute nature. For the one perfect exemplification of this in this yet somewhat crude region, the inquirer must read an editorial in the News on the holiness of truth; how it is the chiefest essential in editorial writing and how when it is departed from so much as a hair's breadth, the journal that permits it, plants in the journal itself the first germs of degeneration and decay. Right there