

read those words of the inspired Castelar, and make of them a home application.

You are adhering here to a despotism which is purely Asiatic. We challenge the brightest of you to point out how in its workings it is a bit dissimilar to the despotisms of Asia, after which nation after nation has been shivered to atoms because it was not fit to longer live.

So far as your chiefs and your creed are confined to your religion, we have naught to say, so long as you keep within the laws of the Republic. That is a matter which every man must decide for himself.

But when it comes to the government of this country, that is a question which every American is interested in; a question which every Latter-day Saint should be interested in; for by and by in Utah either the despotism which binds your consciences must prevail, or the Republic in its majesty will assert itself, and compel the allegiance of its children.

When your chiefs instruct you how to vote, their instruction being a command, they dishonor the Constitution and laws of this Republic. When you obey, you are parties to their crime, and so long as you continue that servility you wrong yourselves, your wives and children, and dishonor the country that protects you and opens its blessings to you.

And we beg you look around you and see the humiliations this servility of yours is bringing upon you. Think of it! Men who claim direct inspirations from Almighty God, and power from Him to rule, obliged to make a corrupt political bargain to trade your votes to a political party in order to retain one of your inspired ones in a political office! Think of your holy men, in close rapport with Almighty God, obliged to bargain with the brewers and saloonkeepers to hold a county under control.

Are you not tired of all that disgrace. And

you read every night in your church organ that you are absolutely free; free to think and to vote as you please; that no ecclesiastical pressure has ever been brought upon you; which is but jeering you, knowing how you are bound. Is it not time for you to arouse yourselves and take the News at its word and determine that henceforth you will be politically free, and be in truth and in full fealty American citizens?

### The Big Game in Africa

IT IS said that a company of young men were most anxious to accompany the ex-President on his African journey. If their desire was to bask in the radiance that the ex-President emits, that was all right. But if they are after big game and are desirous of emulating the modern Nimrod's exploits, then they should seek the other side of Africa, for we have it by wireless that there has been a convention of the great beasts in Africa; that there is already a mighty hijira of all the grown male animals to the west coast, and that when the ex-President reaches his first rendezvous there will be no fierce animals left except some old females, just enough to take care of the cubs. The place to find big game this year will be in Western Africa.

The varying accounts that have appeared during the week of the result of the coal land cases brought by the federal government against the Utah Fuel company have proven interesting in furnishing a working demonstration of some record breaking flip-flops of opinion, if nothing else.

It looked like a case of first there first served, with the government's representatives reaching the reportorial ears ahead of all competitors. With the noise of the wonderful federal victory somewhat subsided, it appears that the Fuel company pays a little fine and about two hundred

thousand dollars for several tracts of the finest coal land in the country and relinquishes title to several tracts that are worked out.

We seem finally in a fair way of shaking the enviable reputation that has been Salt Lake's portion for ten years past of being one of the worst cities between Chicago and the Pacific coast for the illegal sale of drugs of all kinds, from cocaine to opium, to dope fiends.

Police Chief Barlow has declared he will jail the next druggist his operatives can find supplying habitual users of "dope." If he means it there will have to be a new cell house at the central station, for the business of selling cocaine, opium, chloral and half a dozen other dope drugs to men, women and boys have reached such proportions here that the sales are the big end of the business of two-thirds of the drug stores in the city. Police officials, judicial and juvenile court officers of a half dozen western cities who have investigated the local situation have repeatedly declared there are more dope fiends in Salt Lake per ratio of population, and that they can secure their drugs with less trouble than in any other city in the west, and the police here have admitted the condition just as often.

Those who find it hard to realize that the chief is in dead earnest in his efforts to clean things up, shouldn't, however, also make the mistake of thinking Chief Barlow lacks the nerve to finish what he starts, for his record the few weeks he has been in office furnishes rather convincing and interesting evidence to the contrary. His activities will, of course, not worry the six or seven reputable druggists of the town.

It begins to look as though Salt Lakers will be able to entertain the Grand Army veterans and their friends this summer with some degree of security to homes and persons.



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