

TRUTH

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Salt Lake City, Utah.

That the Tribune is being pretty badly hurt is evidenced every day by its squeals. It seems to have particular animus against LeRoy Armstrong, the editor of the Inter-Mountain Republican. Since ever Mr. Armstrong came to Salt Lake The Tribune and its evening edition, The Telegram, has made a dirty personal fight upon him more by innuendo than direct statements until Wednesday, when the first named sheet made a straight personal attack upon Mr. Armstrong and his family. We had not the pleasure of Mr. Armstrong's acquaintance prior to his coming to Salt Lake, a little over a year ago, but we can say without fear of successful contradiction that since then he has conducted himself as a gentleman in every respect. Whatever Mr. Armstrong's past may have been, and we know nothing about it, we have not the slightest hesitation in stating that in comparison with the past and present lives of Ex-Senator Kearns, the principal owner of the Tribune, and Ex-Senator Frank J. Cannon, the editor of the Tribune, Mr. Armstrong's record stands out as pure and spotless. We are not aware that Mr. Armstrong ever committed murder and became a fugitive from justice and for years sailed under an assumed name and followed the calling of a meal ticket prize fighter. Ex-Senator Kearns did all three. Ex-Senator Kearns' moral life in every respect is about as black a record as can be imagined. For women he has no respect, and has been the cause of trouble for more young girls than will ever be known. Stanford White has been painted in pretty sombre colors.

It is admitted that Stanford White was an educated, brainy man, while Kearns is an ignorant uncouth boor, and can never be anything else.

The morality or immorality of Ex-Senator Cannon can also be likened to that of Stanford White. There isn't another man in these western states who has so nasty and vile a record as Ex-Senator Cannon. He has been a prisoner in nearly every county jail in the state for offenses ranging from assault with intent to commit murder to stealing diamonds from a prostitute. He has brought trouble to probably more women than his confrere, Kearns, and in drunken and bestial debauches is rather the superior of Tom. It very ill becomes such a pair as these, who have the effrontery to pose as champions of the purity of the American home, to upbraid anyone for anything no matter what his faults may be. There is a fairly complete record of Kearns and Cannon. Names and dates and proofs are not wanting. They can be published, but they wouldn't look well in print. It would injure them as leaders of the great "American" party of purity and reform.

We compliment the Herald on its report of the Sheets case, before Judge Whittaker. It appears to be a fair, unbiased account of the proceedings, and that's what the people want.

The Tribune's personal attack on Mr. Armstrong, editor of the Inter-Mountain Republican, and his family, is in line with the Tribune's usual policy. When Mr. Armstrong came to Salt Lake City to edit the Republican, the Kearns gang did their utmost to induce him to join their crowd. They, with Ben Heywood as chief spokesman, told him all the lies and ganders they could think of about the republicans of Utah and all the falsehoods they could think of regarding the purity and disinterested patriotism of themselves and their glorious Ameri-Kearns party. They tried to cajole and reason with him, and held out hopes of reward if he would only join their Saintly (!) party. The game didn't work on Armstrong. He soon discovered their rottenness and duplicity, and would have no dealings with them. They failed to fool or control him, and then in strict accordance with their practice, they began to abuse both him and his family. We, however, fancy the curs are barking up the wrong tree when they tackle Armstrong.

We have already referred in some small degree to the reputation and character of ex-Senators Kearns and Cannon, the controlling factors of the Tribune. Their character can be mentioned in the singular number with propriety because so near akin. Upon them rests, in great measure, the responsibility for the policy of the Tribune. The president of the Tribune company, however, is Mr. David Keith. It is fair to presume that he has considerable financial interest in that paper. In fact, the articles of incorporation show that his interest in the gutter sheet is equal to that of Kearns, and he therefore cannot escape the responsibility for its policy, if it has any. For the sake of courtesy, we will call its attack on Mr. Armstrong a "policy," and Mr. Keith you can't escape the responsibility, but do you really think, Mr. Keith, that you are the man to cast the first stone? You have somewhat of a "past" yourself, but you are a much better man in every respect than some of those you are associated with, and who use you as a cloak of responsibility to cover their misdeeds. Still, there are episodes in your career which are not exactly creditable. Take, for instance, that divorce case. Viewed from any standpoint it is not creditable, especially so from the standpoint of your former wife.

POLITICS, BUSINESS AND PRAYER.

To test the efficacy of prayer, Tyndall suggested that of two hospitals the patients of one be prayed for by the nurses, doctors and attendants, while those of the other be given material treatment only. The result of this experiment is not in evidence. But in Battle Creek, Michigan, there is a sanitarium conducted by the Seventh Day Adventists, where prayers, compulsory to employes, elective to patients, are a regular daily order. Recently a rival sanitarium was started there by a worldly person, who said he proposed to adopt the methods of the older institution in every respect except one: He was going to "cut out the prayers." The new hospital failed, and its ruined walls are now pointed out by the praying nurses as a "monument to the devil." In Colorado there is a situation somewhat similar to the foregoing. It is a prayer contest, with Governor Buchtel, a clergyman, on one side, and the chaplain of the state senate on the other. The governor closed his inaugural address with a formal

prayer. It was unusual in its place, but every governor needs what the Colorado executive asked for in the way of grace to do his work and a sincere desire to promote the welfare of the people.

But since then the chaplain of the senate has discovered on the part of the governor certain acts which he thinks do not coincide with the theory of divine inspiration. He thinks, for example, that the governor is altogether too zealous in behalf of the brewers and liquor dealers; so he has started a campaign of prayer on his own behalf. He prayed his regrets that sinful men have fallen so far from their place as to use the platforms of church and party as a means to get offices, forgetting pledges when they have attained their desires. It is impossible to gauge the balance of spiritual and temporal weapons that each side has at its command, and speculation is hushed until the Colorado politicians have been heard from.—State Journal.

IN DEFENCE OF SENATOR KNOX.

The Public Ledger, Philadelphia, of February 28th, has the following:

To the Editor of Public Ledger:

I notice that Dr. W. M. Paden, of Salt Lake City, is here in the East trying to create a sentiment against Senator Knox for defending the constitutional right of Senator Smoot of Utah, to retain his seat in the Senate. At a meeting of the Presbyterian ministers in the Witherspoon Building, Monday, Doctor Paden said: "We acknowledge the constitutional right of Smoot in the Senate." Then he called Senator Knox a pettifogger because he would not break his oath as a Senator to uphold the Constitution by voting to deprive Senator Smoot of his constitutional rights.

It was Doctor Paden and the Rev. John L. Leilich who started the Smoot investigation. To create a sentiment against Senator Smoot and to get names of petitioners to unseat him, Doctor Paden, in November, 1903, stated in the Philadelphia and other large Eastern papers that Senator Smoot was an enemy to the Government; that he had taken an oath to avenge the blood of Joseph and Hyrum Smith on the Gentiles of this nation, and had taught his children a similar oath.

Doctor Paden was offered \$5000 guaranteed reward by a Gentile citi-