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THE MORMON PROBLEM

BY THE

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IN this day of congratulation and celebration it is a good time for the Church to look forward and gird up her loins for a twentieth century effort to capture the United States. There are three great religious systems that have set themselves to accomplish this—the Mormon system, the Papal system, and the Protestant system. If the Protestant system prevails, our free institutions will be perpetuated; if the Papal system prevails, we will have liberty, but under Tammany influences and with a Tammany flavor at Washington; if the Mormon system prevails, the “president, prophet, and revelator” of the church of the Latter Day Saints will be in the White House at Washington; Congress will be disbanded, and the twelve apostles of the Mormon Church will dictate the laws and govern the land.

I know that you are surprised that I class the Mormon system as an influential factor in our country

with the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant churches, but to-day the Mormons gather more converts in the United States than either the Roman Catholics or the Presbyterians. The Presbyterian Church sends 22 ministers to the Mormons while the Mormon Church sends 2000 missionaries through the United States. They have churches and congregations in every State and Territory of this Union to-day except Alaska. They have divided up the States into districts, placed a missionary bishop in charge of each district, and are carrying forward with their missionaries a systematic house-to-house canvass for converts. And, as already intimated, they are succeeding, and if left alone may yet overthrow the liberties of this country. I know that you think this a wild statement, but go back seventy-five years in western New York and see that tramp outfit in camp by a brook. The dilapidated country wagon with its tattered canvas-covered top, the broken-down team grazing near by, the poorly-clad women of the party going to a neighboring farm house for milk and food, testify to the poverty and low-down condition of the family.

Looking upon that scene, had some one remarked to you, "See that tramp family. In seventy-five years they will have a following of nearly half a million American citizens. In seventy-five years they will control a sovereign State of the Union and hold the balance of political power in several other States. In seventy-five years they will control the election of Senators and Representatives to the National Congress from their

own State and be consulted with regard to others;" you would have said, "Impossible; it can't be done!" It is an actual fact to-day.

Dr. Holmes, in his inspiring address this morning, tells us that the great danger of the American Republic is commercialism. The Mormon Church to-day controls "the commercialism." There is not a syndicate in New York or New Jersey that is willing to antagonize the Mormon Church.

Ask Mrs. Darwin R. James, and she will tell you that thousands upon thousands of the best citizens of the land have petitioned Congress for an amendment prohibiting polygamy. But what does that amount to? There is not a Congressman in Washington who would interfere. They don't care to offend the Mormon Church. There is not a Congressman, either Republican or Democratic, courageous enough to take the leadership in pushing that amendment. It can't be done. It can't, unless the Church of Christ wakes up.

Dr. Holmes tells us that the second great danger is foreign population. The Mormons are getting a strong hold among the foreigners. They are everywhere. They are taking not only foreigners, but Americans. They are going into Presbyterian and other churches and taking out the communicants. There is not a year that passes in which people born and brought up and baptized and received at the communion table of the Presbyterian and other churches are not giving up the faith of their fathers and going into the Mormon Church. Thousands of American citizens are joining the Mormon Church.

And that church confidently looks forward to the day when they shall be in full control of the United States, for they believe that they have had a revelation from God that they are to take possession of this land; they believe that they have been promised by their God that the president of the Mormon Church shall be the President of the United States, and that this country, from ocean to ocean and from Alaska to the Gulf, shall be given to the saints of God in the Mormon Church. Is there no hope; no relief? Yes! God has placed relief in our hands. Send the gospel and Christian schools into Utah and you can disintegrate Mormonism. Let the Church wake up and supply the Board of Home Missions with the necessary funds for increasing mission work in Utah many fold. The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is the only solvent that will disintegrate the Mormon system and save this land to the American people. The gospel is the only solvent that will save your homes in their purity to your children and to your children's children.