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THE HOLY MORN.

Rev. Edwin Forrest Hallenbeck.

'Tis the Lord's day, day of resurrection!
Gloom of night and mist of early dawn have
Fled. With glory-light the sun looks out upon
A reverent world. Nature's mighty chorus
Shouts its hallelujahs unto God. The hills
With humble mien approach Jehovah's throne.
The trees with dew-be-diamonded robes of green
Draw near. Meadow and hillside bring from out
Their blossom'd wealth garlands for the altar
Of their king. Streamlets lip a dreamy note
Of praise. Golden grain fields bend into the
Attitude of prayer; orchards humbly bow
While morning winds put worship's voice into
Their lips. And as the day goes on apace,
Adoration at the shrine of nature's
God becomes intense; choirs of singing birds
Bring melodies of joy to him who gave
Them breath, until the voice of forest sings
Refrain to field, and peak responds to peak,
And every note in glad creation's scale
Has fervent part in holy gratitude,
And admonition to the sons of men;
"Pay homage to the God who reigns above;
With humble spirit worship at his throne,
'Tis the Lord's day, day of resurrection!"

All Round the Horizon

The world is taking on interest in many continents this week. Africa yields precedence to Asia and South America. The latter arena of revolutions is again convulsed along its northern coast. Venezuela is showing us a seventeenth century melodrama. Ever since the inauguration of President Ignacio Andrade over a year ago, there has been plot and counter plot; active hostilities breaking out during September of this year. The defeated candidate, Hernandez, and sixty-five other prominent politicians were imprisoned in August. General Castro, a partisan of General Hernandez, carried on the struggle and finally drove out Andrade. The latter's forces, however, made a fierce resistance at Puerto Cabello in a two days' battle. About three hundred were killed on both sides: and the beautiful sea port town has been devastated by a heavy bombardment. The liberated Hernandez has in turn revolted against Castro, who was driven by ambition to oust his former chief and aspire to the Presidency himself. Most South American revolutions are of the French duel variety. This is a bloody exception to the general rule.

Asia is again a centre of interest. American policy in China is being largely discussed on the continent and in England: and both Great Britain and Japan seem to count on the United States for moral and physical support. We have no political ambition in China; and do not aspire to any special commercial privileges in any portion of the Celestial Empire. But our policy there is the preservation of the rights of trade on equal terms with all other nations of the world. This is near enough to the "open door" policy of England to make her consider us as an active ally in her Eastern program.

The authorities at Washington have been negotiating of late with Germany and Russia

along these lines. Both governments have been asked to confirm our treaties with China, not only as to ports over which they have acquired sovereignty, but as to all over which their power may be extended hereafter. Both have given oral assurance that this will be done. The United States would like written assurances in the place of mere promises. Just how far our demands have been pushed along those lines is a matter of conjecture. Probably not to the extent of a peremptory demand, as rumor reported it. Our nation is much respected at present; and doubtless both Russia and Germany will not hesitate to accede to any reasonable requests.

The support given by the United States to Japan and Great Britain in the far East will doubtless be sympathetic rather than active, and from the political outlook nothing more will be needed for some time to come. France is occupied by internal questions. Russia has other matters to think of just at present. And Germany is inclined rather to follow suit than resist efforts for free competition. The commercial struggle in the early part of the next century will show her no mean rival for first honors. Far from being of an alarming nature, the situation of the Celestial Empire is now most favorable. New free ports are being granted. The railroads are opening unknown commercial fields, and the sluggish Chinese nature is being fused with the fire of Western enterprise and civilization more rapidly than many realize.

Japan seems to be courting a war with Russia. There is an increased tension existing between the two nations over the control of Korea. Japan is now second only to England in naval strength; and she is sending hurry orders to the various builders of her newest battle ships. "The Japanese are convinced that to permit Russia to acquire Korea or establish Russian ascendancy in northern China would be strategically, politically and commercially a deadly menace to Japan's rapidly developing strength."

It seems a most favorable opportunity for the island kingdom to make a determined stand. Japan has been biding her time of vengeance for three years. She never forgave Russia for her seizure of Port Arthur and that vicinity, but up to the present the land of the Czar has been too strong for open resistance.

Japan needs no allies. Her fleet is superior to the Russian and French combined. With the Siberian railroad so far from completed, Russia would be at the greatest disadvantage. The combination of so many fortunate circumstances has given Japan an opportunity that may not soon recur. She has taken advantage of it by a flat refusal to grant a foothold on the sea front of Massampo Harbor, Korea.

There might be war but for one fact. Russia is on the brink of a great financial crisis. For

a long time she has been pecuniarily involved. A series of bad years and an immense outlay in self-development have practically exhausted all her resources. The Czar's recent visit to Germany was influenced partly by a desire to effect another loan there. It seems certain that the proposed loan has failed, owing to the enormous expenses yet to be incurred in the construction of the Trans-Siberian Railroad. Whether the crash will be averted or not is a question hard to answer. Until that answer is given it is hardly likely that Russia will enter upon a long and enormously expensive war with prosperous Japan.

The news from South Africa has lately been of an unreliable and unsatisfactory character. Reported attacks upon Kimberley, Ladysmith and Mafeking are largely only on the hearsay evidence of natives. The official reports from all three besieged places show the garrisons holding their own. The situation at Ladysmith is the most precarious one. The English public is alarmed that there is such an entire absence of news of any importance from General White. If the town can hold out until the last of November, General Butler is confident all danger in Natal will be over. America is evenly divided in sympathy between the English and the Boers. A quick war and a decisive one ought to be the wish of all. Therefore the delay at Ladysmith is much more unsatisfactory to the true friend of peace than a decisive Boer victory would be. Let either side win, if only that will bring a speedy termination to the unnecessary and cruel war.

Our own "little fight" at the Philippines is becoming more interesting every day. Aguinaldo is hemmed in on every side so that his only road of escape seems to be to the mountains. Indeed the better portion of Aguinaldo has already been captured. A large part of his property, his private secretary and seven of his officers were taken by Colonel Hayes on Sunday. The Philippine forces seem pushed to their last extremity. However as they have been in some exceedingly tight places before this, perhaps it will be better to crow after the victory rather than before. It does not seem possible that the present campaign will not come to a crisis in a few days. If only peace come quickly the United States can afford to be a generous victor. The country at large is tired of the war; even though so many feel that it was necessary and a matter of duty on our part.

The elections are over with both parties apparently beaming with victory. President McKinley is endowed with new courage by the result at the polls. Mr. Bryan announces himself more than satisfied. Boss Platt feels several years younger over the tremendous Republican victory in the Empire State. Boss Croker is so elated over the Tammany triumph that he is to take a pleasure trip to England to work off his buoyant spirits. Only in Kentucky is

SULU, UTAH AND NEARER HOME.

James M. Ludlow D.D.

Those who are making an outcry about our Government's patronizing the polygamous Sultan of Sulu are accused of prudery in that matter in view of the shameless allowance of Mormonism in the states. Why scold our public servants for leaving cobwebs in the ceiling corner when we have a garbage barrel on the parlor floor? Let us look at home first.

True. But home is nearer to most of us than Utah. But for a condition of things in our Eastern communities Mormonism would lose much of its supply. The chief breeders of polygamy are low class women whom the agents of the Mormon Church gather not only from across the ocean, but from the slums of our cities, our overcrowded factory towns, and the impoverished sections of the South. These are not ordinarily vicious people; certainly not the abandoned sort, unless we mean abandoned of hope. They are ignorant, wretchedly poor, living upon the meagre wages of unskilled labor in factories and sweat shops. They have no homes, only lodging places in over-packed tenements, or in field hovels. Go into some of our factories—not those conducted by greedy employers, but where occupation is given in partial gratuity, since the employees scarcely earn the wages they receive. Note the sallow faces, the unhealthy eyes, the habit-deformed bodies of hundreds of females at that time of life when girlhood should be ripening into womanly grace and strength. Look into the scanty lunch packages. Follow these people as they leave work. Some go to harder work for additional hours, cooking, caring for their little brothers and sisters, nursing sick parents, or shielding their loved ones from the brutality of drunken fathers. Some go to the streets. You say, "God help them!" Their lives are only a cry. But who heeds it? Perhaps now and then they come under the benign influence of the visitor from the Social Settlement, like that in Rivington street, or the Whittier House in Jersey City. What other sunshine of human sympathy falls across their path?

Here is the Mormon agent's mission ground. Don't blame these bigots if they go where you as a Christian never go. The Mormon offers them at least a home. That it is far away does not lessen its attraction; they long to get away as the wearied dove longs for the wilderness; the farther away from their present curseful lives the better. That they must share the offered home with other wives does not deter them. The very weakness of the flesh paralyzes the moral will, as their promiscuous tenement house herding has dulled their finer womanly sensibilities. Thousands of these American-born women are joining the caravans from Norway, Sweden and rural England, and migrating to the Mormon settlements of Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and New Mexico.

We boast that modern commerce has attained its wonderful economical system; that our inventions have lifted so many loads of labor. But here remains a semi savagery which our industrial and social advancement has scarcely touched as yet. This lower grade of society is wild land where the Mormon rover has equal chance with the trade boss who offers them less for the sale of their bodies and souls.

It is claimed that many women join Mormonism from religious conviction. In a sense, yes. Human nature is at bottom essentially religious. It wants to hope. It tries to see some compensation beyond the present world ills. Who has brought these people any religious consolations? What light shines down our side avenues and tenement streets from the stately temples that we erect on Fifth avenue, and above the Park, and in our delightful suburban neighborhoods? The cry in

these women's hearts is to God; but who tells them of God? The God of Joseph Smith seems better to them than no God. What if the customs of the patriarchs which Jehovah "winked at" in the earlier days of the race are taught them, rather than the pure precepts of Jesus! They scarcely know of the Sermon on the Mount. It was never told to them from warm human lips that spake above warm helpful hands. Do you wonder at the Mormon agent's persuasive power when he pictures his system in the colors of his imaginary Western paradise? Let good Dr. Cuyler keep up his blast at the old spider of Sulu! Let the women of America shower Congress with white-winged protests against the seating of the polygamist in our national legislature! But at the same time let us look nearer home! Our holiest crusade must be conducted in streets that open from our very doorsteps.

THE RESULTS OF MISSION RETRENCHMENT.

W. A. Shedd.

Here in Persia among this Syrian (or Nestorian) nation, a large and diversified mission work has grown up under the charge of the American Presbyterian Church. It is a trust from God and the Church is the body of trustees. The Church's wealth is the God-given endowment. The investment includes, first of all, a body of Protestant Christians with whom and through whom to work, the buildings and appliances of missionary work, the experience of the past, the hard won and priceless reputation of the missionary body and of the native church, and the extensive preparatory work which has been done. A large field of labor is also generally recognized by evangelical Christians, as belonging to the Presbyterian Church. This work is administered by us, whom the Church has sent out to act in its stead, supported by the gifts and prayers of you, the members of that Church. Our final responsibility is to him whose we are and whom we serve and the great power in the work is that of the Holy Spirit, but we are limited in our work by the amount of your support and by the faithfulness of your prayers.

For the past four years the amount received by us has been not only less than the needs of a growing work, but much less even than previous expenditures. Consequently we have had to adjust our operations to a smaller scale of expenditures than that on which the plant was projected. One of the sights of my boyhood were the smokeless chimneys, the cold furnaces, and the silent forges of an abandoned rolling mill. It bespoke a family disaster. In late years I have become accustomed to closed buildings, intended for schools and hospitals, and to an idle printing-press. I have had to vote in station-meetings to close village schools, to suspend workers, and to refuse to enter promising openings. No hardship of touring, no privation of comfort, no separation from friends can compare with these experiences for bitterness.

Let us see briefly what the results have been. We are being forced to abandon one of the most promising parts of our field, Mosul and the adjoining region. It is indeed expected that another society will occupy that city, but its work is not likely to include the most accessible part of the population, the Catholic Chaldeans, who are ready to revolt from Rome.

We are prevented from pushing our work in a most critical time, when changes are taking place rapidly and when opportunities do not linger on their way to oblivion. This is especially true of the mountains, where the Russian propaganda has not begun yet and where the need of work is great beyond description.

The medical work has been greatly curtailed. Hospital buildings are ready, with needful instruments and drugs, and the physician in

charge is coming back from America with added preparation in his profession; but there is little money for the running expenses.

Books are ready for the press but they cannot be printed. We are free now from governmental restrictions, but who knows how long we will enjoy such generous liberty.

The greatest loss has come on the educational work. Continuity is most essential here and the suspension of schools, one or two out of three years, is simply destructive to efficiency. Our churches need their day school as much as their Sunday schools. We are jeopardizing our prestige and ascendancy in educational work in a most dangerous fashion.

Add to all these the inevitable discouragement of workers and of the well disposed, the encouragement of opponents and the derangement of plans of work.

On the other hand, there is gain as well as loss. The work has been most severely and beneficially pruned. We and our native brethren have learned, perhaps, to trust less in material and more in spiritual forces. The native church has been forced to sturdier self-reliance. Doubtless we do well to learn stricter economy and more careful frugality in all the work. Spiritual gains may more than make up seeming loss. Nevertheless one cannot but wonder if the great Presbyterian Church in America realizes the loss inflicted on the work abroad by the inadequate support of the mission cause. I have attempted fairly and concisely to state the results on our work in Persia, and these words are written with an aching heart.

URUMIA, PERSIA, August 16, 1899.

"AMERICANISM" CONDEMNED.

Simon Stephen.

III.

Rome, like Constantinople, is still dragging behind in the sixteenth century. Conspiracy is the only method of success known to either; and they can see nothing but conspiracy in everybody else's success. To describe all Rome's troubles, intrigues and hypocrisy in order to build up a convenient target for her despairing anger would take me far beyond the limits of the present article. The Americans have passed over many a trap which failed to spring and there is still many a mine in their path, on which they have yet to pass unawares. Their passionate devotion to their Holy Mother has led them to take many a stone for bread, many a scorpion for an egg and a big serpent for fish, and I doubt not that they keep them still as precious gifts in their parlor exhibits.

The process of the Vatican with regard to "Americanism" was one well tested. The recipe is one of the oldest in the world: read into Americanism the maximum of falsehood it can bear, saddle upon it some errors which it never held, and the bad name is ready—let the dog be killed.

Father Maignen of the Congregation of Missions was selected to prepare public opinion for the anathemas of the Vatican. But the articles sent to him from Rome and published anonymously by the "Vérité," an ultramontane journal of Paris, failed to attract attention. He then made sensational attacks on the most prominent members of the American Episcopacy; but to no avail. To attract attention it became necessary to involve higher personalities. Accordingly the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris was asked to give his imprimatur, or permission to print the article in book form. The Cardinal, as anticipated by the authors of the farce, refused to lend his name to a book which was a libelous attack on his colleagues in the Episcopate. The book, then, in flagrant contravention with the rules of the Index was sent to the Vatican, the name of a Roman publisher was printed above that of the real one,