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THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 16.

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MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

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JOHN F. CORDRAY, Manager.**Tuesday, April 14.**Alden Benedict Presents the eminent Tragedian
John Griffith
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Powerful Company of Players! Special Scenery! Electrical Effects! Chemical Effects!

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ZION AND THE MORMONS**Rev. S. E. Wishard**
Talks of Them

Was Missionary of Presbyterian Church in Utah

Revelations Handy to Have Around the House

I am not here, dear friends, tonight to preach a Home Mission sermon or to deliver an oration. Some time ago I wrote to our secretaries in the office that the Presbyterian church has the men, the money, and the heart, to do our work, and that it only lacks one thing—knowledge of the facts. Intelligent people act upon facts and conditions demanding thought and service.

One feels embarrassed in telling the facts of Mormonism in a meeting like this—for two reasons. The first is my inability to tell to an audience of ladies and gentlemen what lies at the very bottom of this system; the other is that when one has gone as far as it is possible to go in this direction, people shake their heads and say, "It cannot be possible."

In talking on this subject please make a clear distinction between the system and the people. For the people we have nothing but the kindest thought and feeling. If we had not, we would never spend our lives amid such surroundings as these in which we work, and I have no severe word for them at all.

The Mormon church—for it calls itself a church—is a hierarchy, under the dominion of a priesthood. Its doctrines contain some of the errors of every false religion of which I know anything. The merit-making righteousness of Buddhism, for they are saved by "good works;" the ancestral worship of Confucianism, for they worship Adam (as I will show later); the chicanery and unscrupulousness of Jesuitism, the leaders teaching that it is quite right to deceive people to build up the system; the bigotry of Romanism; the polygamy of Mohammedanism; the polytheism of all heathen nations, for they teach that there are many gods; all these are to be found in it. And this conglomeration of errors masquerades before the world professing to be the only true religion!

He Was Introduced.

They say that the Christian church was destroyed when the apostles died until the appearance of Joseph Smith. He says that he saw God the Father, who introduced him to His Son Jesus Christ. Hence Joseph Smith, who professed to have received the keys of authority from God, came out be-

fore the world as the head of the church. His title is "President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in all the world," and he is also styled Prophet, Seer, Revelator and Mouthpiece of God. He is at the head of the priesthood. Brigham Roberts in one of his books says that "the priesthood has the same authority as God, and is, in reality, part of God."

The Organization of the Church. There is one man claiming to have authority from God, and authority to give out divine laws, and having as distinct authority over those he rules as ever General Grant had over the forces under his command. He can say to a number of men, "Leave your homes and go and settle in such a place," and they will go. He is really accepted as a prophet of God. Associated with him are a First and Second Counsellor; these constitute the First Presidency. To them finally come all questions concerning finance and revelation and all that concerns the welfare of the church.

Then there are twelve apostles who claim the same authority as the disciples of Christ had, and say that they are able to work miracles. They say that they open the eyes of the blind, heal diseases, raise the dead and so on. They "bear witness" to these things and the people believe them. The people accept as positive truth these statements, the making of which they call "witnessing a mighty testimony to God."

Over 50 Per Cent.

The Mormon records show that six out of the first eleven apostles were cut off from the church for adultery, thieving and other criminal offenses. But in such cases there is not the slightest difficulty in making more. All that is necessary is for the head of the church to announce the name of a successor, and he will be sustained by a vote of the church.

Next in order is the president of the Stake, this last term being derived from a passage in Isaiah, and applied to a single church. You would call such a man a pastor. Mr. Cannon, who once denied that there was any polygamy in Utah, and who was afterward convicted of the offense himself and fined for it, manages the individual church in Salt Lake City. He is the President of the Stake there. He does not often preach, but usually has a number of men on his platform. He will call upon one of these to speak, and then the man rises and says that as he did not anticipate speaking he asks the prayers of his brethren that the Holy Spirit may give him utterance. All the Mormon platform utterances are given by inspiration. The speakers are usually merchants and business men.

Salt Lake City is divided into ecclesiastical wards, in every one of which there is a bishop, and also a meeting house. In these meeting houses the real Mormonism is given out to the people. In the big Tabernacle the addresses are given for strangers from the East, and are, in the main, a delusion and a snare.

Not Told in the Tabernacle. The genuine teaching of the church is not given in the Tabernacle. The talk there is about repentance, faith, baptism, the laying on of hands and such topics, handled in a general way; so that, after all, they do not see that Mormonism is so very different from Christian churches, after all. Scripture language is used, but widely different meanings from those usually understood are attached to the words. When the General Assembly met at Portland in 1892, a number of delegates stopped at Salt Lake on the way. Mr. Charles Penrose, one of their ingenious speakers, delivered an address, and a number of ministers went out very much surprised; except for some references to Joseph Smith as a prophet, it was almost Christian in character. Dr. Nelson, then the editor of The Church at Home and Abroad, wrote two or three para-

graphs rather complimentary to the church. Whereupon Mr. Penrose copied them forthwith into the Desert News and said that the Presbyterian church, the stiffest of all the sects, was coming over to them, and that pretty soon they would have all the others, too.

These speakers only give the outside part of their religion at such times, and the same is true of the elders who work so zealously in every city and State. These have a little card containing thirteen articles of faith, and the elders represent themselves as ministers of the Gospel or as missionaries. These elders and the priesthood comprise 90 per cent of all the men belonging to the church—and the priesthood, bear in mind, has the same authority that God has. The head of the church can use all below him, and he is "part of God."

Adam is God.

The thirteen articles of which I have spoken sound very much like a Christian creed, but the missionaries do not tell you what they mean according to the interpretation put upon the words by the church.

The first one—on its face—could be adjusted by any Christian denomination. It states belief in God the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost; it sounds very correct, but when you get the exegesis you find that it is quite another thing.

"We believe in God the eternal Father." Who is God? Joseph Smith

Much Ado About Nothing
Tuesday Night

Charles B. Hanford is said to have gone to greater expense in staging "Much Ado About Nothing," which he will present at the Grand Opera House on Thursday, April 16th, than in any production made by him during his stellar career. Every scene in the play is a masterpiece of the scenic painter's art while the costumes are

magnificent and correct in every respect. Starting with this advantage, Mr. Hanford has followed it up by securing an unusually competent company of supporting players. There are 22 of them in all and each has been selected for his or her fitness in the particular role assigned. Seats on sale at box office Thursday at 9 a. m.

gave this definition: "What I am to-day God once was, and what God is today, I shall be." Take that in.

"God is an exalted man," says Brigham Young, and he says of Adam that "he is our god and the only god with whom we have to do." Think of that. The man who turned the world upside down is our divinity. If there is any truth in the saying that no man can rise above the character of his object of worship it is not difficult to account for the condition of the members of this church.

Brigham Young said in one of his inspired sermons: "Adam came to this world with one of his celestial wives, and fitted it up and put it into the shape in which we find it. Adam was a polygamist then, and the Mormon god is a polygamist now, and has all the parts and passions of a man, living in polygamy and becoming the father of spirits." Therefore, your spirit is the result of him and one of his polygamous wives, existing no one knows how long ago, but finally coming into your present body when you were an infant, and being fitted in this life for a future existence.

This is a good place to stop.

You can see the rest of it.

Original Idea of Sin.

Who is Jesus Christ? The natural son of Adam and Mary. Young said that He was not begotten by the Holy Spirit, and that when on earth He was a polygamist, having Mary and Martha and other women as His wives, and that He lived to see His posterity. This latter assertion is based on Isaiah 53:10.

As to the Holy Spirit. In the "Key to Theology," printed by the church today, Parley Proctor says that "there are some subtle fluids, such as animal magnetism and the Holy Spirit."

Thus this first article really means: "We believe that a polygamious being is God, that Jesus was a natural Son of Adam and Mary, and that the Holy Ghost is a subtle fluid." And these definitions have never been contradicted in books or by the authority of the church.

Sin is a Necessity.

When Adam and Eve sinned they rejoiced, says Brigham Young, and he says that we ought to rejoice, too, because it is the first step to exaltation.

If sin is a necessity, it is easy to see where the moral conscience of the individual is placed by this evil system. Adam is their god, and it was necessary for him to sin, no place is found for conscience of sin. I have attended many services and often heard elders and teachers confess to weaknesses and infirmities and mistakes, but I never heard one confess himself a sinner and in need of the redeeming peace of God.

He Remembers Way Back.

Elder Brigham Roberts once said he thought he had a recollection of things that had happened to him in a previous state of existence. I think he has a very definite recollection of my testimony in Washington before the Congressional Committee that he had once introduced me to his third wife. This happened in his present existence. But the doctrine is proved—to their satisfaction—by one passage in the Bible; that in which God asks Job where he was when He laid

TODAY'S GREAT GLOVE SALE

Regular \$1.25 and \$1.00 Gloves in all the new Easter Shades and every size for

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Sale Ten Million Boxes a Year.

THE FAMILY'S FAVORITE MEDICINE

Castoria
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BEST FOR THE BOWELS

cession and asked him to do vicarious work for them. Of course the Mormon president was only too glad to comply with the request, and now the Father of His Country and those other Revolutionary worthies are all Mormon elders busily engaged in preaching the tenets of the church in "the intermediate state."

Continuous Revelation.

Although a very ridiculous doctrine (to outsiders) this is a very useful one to the hierarchy. When Joseph Smith wanted anything he got a "revelation," and the people delivered the goods. When in Utah, he once wanted a fine house for himself and his family. The Mormon god very kindly gave him a revelation which furnished full particulars as to how to form a joint stock company for that purpose, and which even went so far as to name the different men who were to put up the money.

Dr. Wishard concluded this part of his address by reading various passages from the book of Mormon showing how the Mormon god provided convenient relations from time to time to straighten out domestic and other difficulties that confronted Joseph Smith in his adoption and practice of polygamy.

Smoot in the Senate.

Its aim is to convert the world—and build up the church. One apostle claimed for the church years ago that it holds the keys of revelation and is the oracle of God to men on the earth, and claimed that part of its function is to appoint kings, presidents, judges and rulers of all kinds (Dr. Wishard read at length from the original volumes the extracts setting up these aims and claims.) And another representative of the hierarchy goes further, saying not only that the priesthood must reign in both temporal and spiritual things, but that a nucleus of government has been formed since that of the United States (the priesthood was founded in 1830) which is perfect; that it has been set up by divine authority, and that it is the only legal government that can exist anywhere in the universe!

Mr. Smoot has gone to the Senate, having signed to his belief in the hierarchy that claims authority over the Federal Government itself and boldly asserts the latter to be illegal and without authority.

And that hierarchy holds the balance of political power in Idaho, Mon-

tana and Utah; and when Arizona and New Mexico are admitted as States, it will bear political away all the way from the Rio Grande to the British possessions.

A NATURAL RESULT.

It is very reasonable to suppose if the foundation of a structure was removed that the building itself is bound to come down. This same principle can be applied to disease. Take a medicine into the system that will remove the cause of sickness, and the illness leaves of itself. Dyspepsia, indigestion, sick-headache and biliousness have their foundation in stomach disorders. Remove this weakness and the other symptoms are no more. There is one cure for all this that all druggists sell for 25c per box. It is called Dr. Gunn's Improved Liver Pills. They get right at the beginning of these diseases and make the cure by taking away the cause of it. We will send a small box free by mail, or a large box on receipt of 25c. Address Dr. Boswell Co., Philadelphia, Pa. For sale at... Boone's Drug Stores, 4

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For short order meals the White House Restaurant is the leading place. Open day and night. Prompt service.

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Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

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Fred. W. Gilles, Salem, Ore.

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