

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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SALT LAKE CITY, DEC. 14, 1901.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

The anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Joseph Smith will occur on the 23rd inst. He was born December 23, 1805. We suggest to the Bishops, everywhere, that it would be highly appropriate to hold special services in commemoration of that important event, on Sunday, December 22, 1901. The authorities of the several Stakes and Wards will please make arrangements accordingly.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND

A PROSPEROUS SIGN.

"Let me scan the advertising pages of a newspaper and I will tell you whether the community it represents is sluggish or enterprising, prosperous or poverty stricken."

These words, uttered by one of the world's greatest advertisers, John Wannamaker, have a special significance taken in connection with this issue of the Saturday "News." A glance through its columns would convince Mr. Wannamaker or anyone else that Salt Lake's enterprise and prosperity are both at the top notch.

Never in the history of this paper has its circulation been as great as it is at the present time, and tonight's issue represents the largest array of advertising patronage which the "News" ever printed outside of a special or holiday edition. Not only that, but a number of large advertisements had to be rejected on account of their late arrival. In order that the heavy demands on our space might not interfere with the literary quality of the paper or curtail the amount of reading matter to which the public has grown accustomed in the Saturday "News," the issue has been enlarged to 32 pages.

Tonight's "News" shows not only the prosperity and enterprise of our merchants, but it indicates that they are fully awake to the fact that it is the "News" that goes into the homes of the people that it is in the evening at their firesides that the people have time to consult the columns of their paper, and that the contents of the Saturday "News" especially, are such as to ensure the papers being kept over and read on Sundays as well as Saturday nights.

We recommend to our readers that they carefully read the eloquent stories the merchants of the city have to tell them in this evening's issue.

ABOUT "HELL."

A discourse delivered by Dean Eddie last Sunday evening has given rise to considerable comment. This is usually gratifying. Anything that promotes discussion, if that is carried on in a reasonable manner, is better than so much talk that is received with indifference. The subject of the Dean's sermon was "A Rational Hell." His remarks indicated that he disagreed materially with the orthodox idea of the punishment of the wicked. He is a minister of the Episcopal church, and while there may be nothing in the thirty-nine articles of religion, formulated by that body, which expresses anything directly in contradiction to the views of the Dean, yet his doctrine is altogether different from that commonly entertained by the prelates and members of the church to which he belongs.

The orthodox hell is a place as well as a condition. For centuries it has been pictured by the Protestant churches as a sphere where Satan rules and torments unrepentant sinners with literal fire and brimstone, out of which, when once consigned there, no condemned soul can ever escape. That the torment goes on for ever and ever, without mitigation, through ceaseless ages and with no possibility of redemption. In later years this idea has been somewhat modified, and preachers of everlasting punishment have interpreted it to signify ceaseless agony of mind and spirit, rather than of literal flames. But the eternity of these sufferings of the condemned has been held out as a threat and a warning to the wicked, with as much positiveness as to its intensity and never-ending nature, as the theory of literal burnings that ever torture but never consume.

The Dean pronounced these notions a reflection upon Deity, misrepresenting God to be cruel, relentless, revengeful, vindictive. He showed it to be worse than the most barbarous punishments inflicted in barbarous ages and barbarous lands, worse than the vengeance of an enraged, unreasoning mob. He showed that even in an earthly court an accused person is tried by a jury of his peers, and that the punishment is made proportionate to the crime. He reasoned from this that divine justice could not be less than human justice.

Another point of difference between

the Dean's discourse and the notions held by most of the ministers and people of the Christian sects was, that salvation does not depend upon some particular way of religious thinking and belief. He opposed the teaching of the sects that, however moral a man might be, however honest and upright, however kind and benevolent as a husband and father, friend and neighbor, if he is not converted to their way of thinking religiously he must of necessity go to hell. He wondered how any person who believed such a doctrine could eat or sleep or laugh or work. He thought that "the picture of endless torment ever before him would drive all else from his mind."

It is very gratifying to hear such liberal and common sense expressions from a noted minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He is not alone in the views that he has so plainly enunciated. There are many others in the various denominations who hold to similar opinions, even if they are not as bold as he to express them. There has been a marked change in modern Christian thought. Many of the biggest notions held by the different churches as essential parts of their creeds, have been relinquished, or violently cast aside, by the more advanced teachers and students of theology. In some instances this has gone to the opposite extreme from the old tenets of orthodoxy and has reached the borders of infidelity. But the loosening of the bonds of superstition which is apparent throughout Christendom, is pleasing to the rational mind and a matter of rejoicing to the Latter-day Saints.

Ever since the fulness of the everlasting Gospel was revealed from heaven to the Prophet Joseph Smith, and its light has been spread abroad by the Elders of the Church which Christ Himself has restored to earth, the heaven of the truth has been working among the nations. One of the principles revealed in connection with the Gospel in the latter days, was that of God's punishment. It was manifested to the Prophet before this Church was organized, being given in March, 1830. In substance it is this: God is eternal, therefore His punishment is eternal also. That is to say while He exists His laws are in force, and his rewards and punishments are ever ready for the blessing of the obedient on the one hand, and retribution upon the wicked on the other. Justice and mercy are also eternal. One cannot rob the other. Each will claim its own. Every accountable human being will be judged "according to his works." When justice has been fully satisfied, mercy will be extended. Pardon follows sincere repentance. Some sins may be forgiven in this world, others in the world to come, while for others the sinner must suffer the full penalty and "pay the uttermost farthing."

There is a place prepared for the punishment of the wicked. The sufferings endured there are typified by the Gehenna where refuse matter was burned outside the gates of Jerusalem, and the terms "fire and brimstone," "the worm that dieth not, and the fire that is not quenched," "the smoke of their torment, etc.," are figures of speech denoting the anguish and sorrow that will be experienced by the unrepentant until justice is satisfied, repentance ensues and mercy is extended. All the sons and daughters of Adam are to be eventually rescued, through the atonement of the Savior and willing submission to His commandments, with the exception of the sons of perdition who cannot be saved in any degree of glory. All the rest are to be brought forth ready and anxious to bow the knee and confess by faith and works that Jesus is the Christ to the glory of God the Father.

The light thus thrown upon the purposes of God and the redemption of mankind, is penetrating thoughtful minds and leading to rational conceptions of the hell that awaits the wilfully wicked, and the final triumph of King Emmanuel over death and Satan, darkness and misery. Belief in "a rational hell" involves the doctrine of the preaching of the Gospel to "them that are dead," and the possibility of obedience to it by departed spirits. For there is no other name under heaven whereby man may be saved but that of Jesus Christ, and He has declared emphatically that none can enter the kingdom of heaven without being "born of the water and of the spirit." Faith and obedience are essential to salvation, and if these are not complied with in the body, they must be received and practiced out of the body or there can be no redemption either for the heathen, or the Jews, or others who did not receive the Gospel while in the flesh. This is "Mormon" doctrine, and it is New Testament doctrine.

The idea advanced by Dean Eddie, as to the trial and conviction of sinners, is also incorporated in the Gospel as revealed to the Prophet Joseph Smith. The Twelve Apostles appointed by Jesus of Nazareth are to judge the whole House of Israel. In the same way other servants of God, clothed with divine authority, will judge the nations to whom they were sent in their several times and missions. The Supreme Judge of all the earth will see that a righteous decision is rendered in all cases. Rewards as well as punishments will be meted out to every creature according to his works, but the glory of the salvation that will eventually come to nearly all the human race will be ascribed to the Son of God, who died for the sins of the world, and to the Eternal Father who will be above all to be adored for ever and ever.

We rejoice to see the influence of the rational and sublime doctrines revealed from heaven in these last days working its way in Christendom. The truth will triumph. Error will be overcome. Darkness will be dispersed. Prejudice will give way, and the powers of evil will be banished. The struggle will be prolonged for a season, but victory is assured. The warriors under the Captain of our salvation should be encouraged at the prospects before them, and continue their united and valiant march in the grand campaign. The end in view is the salvation of a world; the reward a crown of immortality and endless lives with glory and power that shall be eternal.

THE SCHLEY DECISION.

The decision in the Schley case will be a great surprise to the vast majority of the people of the United States. Most of them looked for a complete vindication of the gallant Commodore. They will be greatly disappointed. But they will not change their opinion because of the adverse conclusions of the majority of the naval board of investigation. The minority report by Admiral Dewey will be almost universally applauded. The hero of Santiago won the fight. His name will be coupled with that of the great conqueror at Manila, and no amount of censure that may be passed upon him because of small, technical variations from strict regulations, will affect his fame or detract from his honor.

The great point to be kept in view is that he was denounced by the libelous Maclay as a coward and a traitor, and that a most thorough investigation has failed to disclose anything that justified these charges in the smallest degree. Whatever may be said as to those minor differences about the actions of Schley, on the way from Cienfuegos and the cooling dispute, the great, overwhelming fact remains, that the gallant sailor sank the Spanish ships and gave the final stroke that brought Spain to the feet of America, and that he there displayed valor, good judgment and calm command, to the glory of the flag of our country. Schley may be censured for some little things, but he will be glorified in the eyes of the nation for the grand achievement which covered them up as with a mantle of everlasting honor.

REVIVAL IN JAPAN.

For several years those acquainted with conditions in Japan have complained of the prevailing indifference and even hostility to the missionary efforts in that country. Very little encouragement has for a long time come for the "Christian" emissaries engaged there. The votaries of the ancient religious systems have, on the other hand, awakened to unworldly activity, with great effect, and it appeared to some, as if the western missionaries were about to lose what little ground they have occupied.

A change has occurred lately, if the reports of one Rev. M. C. Harris, the superintendent of the Pacific-Japanese mission, may be relied upon as correct. As quoted in the Northwestern Christian Advocate, he says that "showers of blessings" are now falling all over Japan. Thousands have enrolled themselves as truth seekers. The churches are almost embarrassed by the numbers. The schools have sent forth thousands of preachers, evangelists and teachers.

Giving details of the success attending the Methodist propaganda, he says that Kusan church, Tokyo, enrolled 520 in three weeks, Ginzo church over 300, two churches in Yokohama above 500, Hiroaki 160, Hakodate 175, and so on all over the country. It is estimated that 15,000 have already been enrolled and that this will reach 20,000 by the end of this year. His conclusion is, that if Christ were in Japan today, He would undoubtedly speak to His disciples: "Say not four months and then cometh the harvest. Lift up your eyes and behold the fields already white unto harvest." "Now," he adds, "is the day of salvation for Japan."

We do not know how much of this is solid fact, and how much is due to the point of view of the observer, but the Latter-day Saints would not be surprised to hear of such a general religious revival in Japan at this time. They are aware of the fact that the Lord, within the last few months, has sent to that country His messengers clothed with divine authority and endowed with the light of truth. They know that an Apostle of the Lord has "turned the divine key that opens the door of heaven to the inhabitants of Japan." It would be strange if this momentous act should not have a marked effect upon the entire religious situation in the empire, and result in inquiries for truth, and ultimately in numerous conversions to the true Gospel. It would be strange, if every religious denomination in the field should not feel the sweet influence of the pouring out of the Spirit of God. In every country, where the Church has been planted and prospered, its advent was preceded, or attended by, remarkable religious awakenings. The history of the mission in the States, in Great Britain, in Denmark, Switzerland, Germany, will, we believe, furnish illustrations of this fact. Even the dedication of Palestine, by Apostle Hyde, for the gathering of the Jews, had its visible effects upon the country, and among the believers in a gathering. The Lord goes with His servants wherever they go upon His errands, and where the presence of the Lord is, there is life, light, and advancement. We accept, as a matter of fact, and call attention to the testimony of impartial witnesses as to a religious awakening in Japan, at a time when the country has been dedicated by an Apostle of the Lord. We expect the result will be a bountiful harvest of precious souls, for the kingdom of heaven.

Salt Lake Stake Conference tomorrow.

Everybody seems to be at sea on the copper market. And it is a wide, wide sea.

Admiral Dewey is a good man. And God and one good man are a great majority.

The fight for the United States marshaling is becoming more lively than graceful.

Mrs. Nordica may sue Uncle Sam for millions, but in the end she will have to sing for her money.

Meetings tomorrow in the Assembly Hall at 10 a. m., and in the Tabernacle at 2 p. m. and 7 p. m.

An expectant country anxiously waits to hear what Historian Edgar S. Malley has to say about the verdict.

Just as the commander-in-chief of the army is about to be invested a brigadier general, the news comes that he has fallen heir to a very considerable fortune. It never rains but it pours.

While no intoxicating drinks are to be sold at Saltair next year the air of that great resort will continue to be intoxicating.

Tilman and McLaurin seem to have reached a compromise. Instead of resigning on the spot they are using the spot to wrangle on.

The theological classes and one of the Superintendents of each of the Sunday Schools, are requested to attend the Stake Conference tomorrow at 10 a. m.

The verdict in the Schley case is divided. Admirals Benham and Ramsay are on one side and Admiral Dewey and the American people on the other.

The people of Boston showed good judgment in electing Hon. P. A. Collins as Mayor. He is an eloquent, patriotic, far-seeing gentleman and a friend to the common people. Success to Patrick the great!

ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

The Congregationalist.

The church is losing influence by its want of willingness or power to adapt itself to present conditions. Many churches are becoming conscious of this and are seeking for leaders who can teach. Young men, also, who are turning toward the ministry are coming to demand to be taught how to be teachers. It is significant that Hartford Theological Seminary, which has now made definite and generous provision for pedagogical work, has this year the largest number of students in its history. The orator and exhorter will continue to have power in the church. Emotional religion will continue to be kindled by popular appeal. But it will now more than heretofore, require to be supported by intellectual mastery of religious truth by the hearers, and the teacher will have greater honor than in the past.

New York Christian Advocate.

Those who feel that they should be baptized and refuse to do so, though they may claim to have given themselves to Christ, and think they have done so, may at the last find themselves condemned by the solemn forewarning of Christ: "Whoever shall be ashamed of Me and My words, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when He shall come in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels." Some have misconstrued these words and said that they were not ashamed of Christ, but ashamed of themselves, and therefore do not make any form of public profession. This is certainly a demonstration that they are not living under the control of Christ's teachings, otherwise that form of shame would be impossible. Every word of Christ signifies that His disciples are to be witnesses. St. Paul condensed the whole: "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

New York Evangelist.

In the first place, religion is a perpetual recognition of the invisible, and not, as too many think, a continuous exploitation of pious sentiment in deeds to be seen of men. And in the second place, true Christian work, indeed the true Gospel preaching, is not a product of despair, but an impression of the highest and brightest hope.

New York Churchman.

When a speech is unreal, no one attends to it, whether it be delivered from the platform or from the pulpit. The last municipal campaign in New York supplied abundant instances of the real vitality of political speaking. And nothing is more remarkable, and yet at the same time more natural, in the career of Canon Gore than his power of holding large audiences without the slightest claim to rhetorical gifts. He is a great orator because he has a real message, and he has conscientiously prepared himself to put it in a form which will be understood.

Worcester spy.

If we desire to manifest the Christian spirit we must somehow arrive at the clearness of spiritual vision, which uttered itself in St. Paul's statement that "in every nation he that doeth righteousness is acceptable to God." If acceptable to God one may bear as a part of life's discipline, as a cross of glory, the persecutions and obloquy cast upon the faithful by the unappreciative and the ignorant.

Union Theological Magazine.

It is a well known fact that the Presbyterian church in New York is dying, not by inches, but by great leaps and bounds—dying of galloping consumption. The panacea prescribed is the revision of the constitution, the rejection of those fundamental doctrines of grace embodied in the Presbyterian standards, whereas the failure to preach these very doctrines is the root of the whole trouble.

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GEORGE D. PYPER, Manager.

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MORGAN.

The World's Greatest

Minstrel Troupe.

Next Attraction.

CARL A. HASWILL.

in "A LION'S HEART."

Commencing Monday, Dec. 18.

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To Z. C. M. I., on Monday, Dec. 9, and each day thereafter till Christmas, and enjoy the most delightful

Holiday Exhibition

Ever seen in any store in Salt Lake City. On that occasion our great Dry Goods Department will be a typical Beauty's Realm in its marvelous display of lovely Xmas Presents, suitable to every person and condition. The extensive rooms will be magnificently fitted up, and the scene be made resplendent with multi-colored lights to make it a perfect Fairyland.

DON'T DISAPPOINT THE CHILDREN,

But bring them early. They will want to come often. Grown-up folks too, will be made happy in viewing the lovely display. ALL THE HOLIDAY PRESENTS YOU CAN ASK FOR are there, and at prices below competition. Whether you want Jewelry, Dress Goods, Notions, Ornaments, Novelties, or anything useful and beautiful, you will find it in the great Holiday Display at

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SALT LAKE THEATRE,

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FRIDAY,
SATURDAY, DEC. 20-21.
SATURDAY MATINEE.

MARY
MANNERING

In a dramatic version by Paul Leicester Ford and Edward E. Rose of the former's widely read romantic revolutionary story.

JANICE
MEREDITH

Under the Management of
FRANK MCKEE.

Prices, Matinee and Night, 25c, 50c, \$1.00, \$1.50.
Sale of seats Wednesday, Dec. 18th.
Saturday night curtain at 8 o'clock.

KNIT GARMENTS \$1.00 UP.

Boys' heavy fleece Undershirts or Drawers worth
40c for 25c.

We save you 25 per cent on all Underwear.

Men's and Boys' Clothing at wholesale prices to
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Men's Custom Made Suits. We have the best
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