

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

LORENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (SUNDAY EXCEPTED.)

(City of Salt Lake and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.)

Charles W. Peterson, Editor
Horace G. Whitney, Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES

Per Year	in Advance	\$2.00
Per Month		.25
Per Week		.05
Per Day		.01
Per Week		.05
Per Month		.25
Per Year		2.00
Per Week		.05

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Address all business communications to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE

E. A. Craig, 41 Times Building

CHICAGO REPRESENTATIVE

R. A. Craig, 87 Washington St.

SAN FRANCISCO REPRESENTATIVE

C. S. King-Sheridan & Co., 409 Examiner Bldg.

SALT LAKE CITY, MAY 26, 1900.

PROPOSITIONS TO VOTERS.

Inquiries have been made of late as to proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State of Utah, to be submitted to the voters at the next general election. We have therefore presented, in another part of this issue of the "News," the subject of the fall election with reference to the offices to be filled and the questions to be decided at the polls.

The election of 1900 will be of very great importance to the people of this State. So many offices have to be filled, and such momentous policies have to be determined, that all good citizens will need to put on their thinking caps, and obtain an intelligent understanding of the duties that will soon be placed upon them.

The decision of the voters as to the adoption of the Initiative and Referendum, or a method of direct legislation by the people, is perhaps foremost in consequence among the changes proposed. It is in this country a Populist movement. It has been tried with some success in Switzerland. Much can be said on both sides of the question, and it is certainly of doubtful practicality under the form of government established in the United States. The full proposition will be found in the article already referred to, on page 17 of this edition of the Deseret News.

There are also propositions in regard to taxation and the public schools, on which the voters are to decide in November, and these should receive their careful attention, so that they may be prepared to cast their ballots according to their best judgment.

The great object in view should be the public welfare. That should be paramount, and stand infinitely higher than the pet schemes, or national theories, or particular benefit of individuals or societies or political parties.

A "STRAW" FOR A SIGN.

The recommendation by the United States industrial commission, that the Utah eight hour law for workers in mines be adopted by all the States of the American Union, is flattering to this State, and will be found to be a forerunner of good things for the nation, to come out of Utah, once the despised but soon to be the honored, a light to the people and a joy to the world. This will provoke a smile on the faces of the skeptical, but as Utah grows in experience and wisdom, learning to choose only the honest and wise and altruistic for her statesmen, inspired by the spirit from on high, she will shape legislation for the benefit of mankind, and her laws and policy and example will command universal admiration, and the emulation of the patriotic everywhere. "The little one will become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation, and the Lord will hasten it in His time." Much has yet to be done by way of reform and advancement before that day. Mere partisanship must be swallowed up in the effort to secure the greatest good to the greatest number, and selfishness and greed will have to be obliterated in the love of man for his neighbor. The elevation of humanity, the dissemination of truth, the brotherhood of the race and the glory of God, will be the chief objects in view and the movement to promote them will radiate from this centre to "the ends of the earth!"

A WITNESS FOR THE TRUTH.

Some falsehoods die very hard. Great truths remain long in obscurity. But time will surely bring the latter uppermost and bury the former in an eternal grave. One of the most widely published untruths, that has been accepted by the learned and the ignorant alike in all the civilized nations, is the fiction known as The Spaulding Story. It has been proclaimed from the pulpit, printed in standard encyclopedias, copied into newspapers and offered everywhere, when the Elders of this Church have proclaimed the latter-day Gospel, as a complete refutation of the claims of the Book of Mormon to be a divine record.

Yet the story has been completely exploded, so that it has not the slightest thread left on which to hang the theory so universally believed, that it was the original manuscript that furnished the groundwork of the Book of Mormon. In spite of this fact, ministers of religion in the various "Christian" denominations still cling to the dead and odious thing, and hold it up to congregations as the living truth, because it is the only way they can account for the coming forth of that remarkable record of the ancient peoples on this continent, from an illiterate youth as the Prophet Joseph Smith.

We mention this instance of a disposition to promulgate error, in a pretended desire to promote truth, because an additional testimony to the real character of the Spaulding manuscript is furnished, by the very interesting account of a visit to its place of deposit, as published in this number of the Deseret News. Elder Le-Roi Snow recently went to Oberlin College in Ohio,

an institution of learning which his father, President Lorenzo Snow, attended in his youth, and Le-Roi there inspected the relic by the courtesy of the librarian. He has given the readers of the "News" the benefit of his researches, and the article will prove profitable to all who care to investigate the subject.

In spite of all the attacks that have been made upon the Book of Mormon, it stands today unimpaired as a revelation of Gospel truth, striking in its simplicity as an exponent of sound Christian doctrine, and as a reliable history of the early settlement of this continent, and the travels, language, customs, wars and fate of the founders of nations from whom have descended the present "Indian" tribes, and who were the builders of those remarkable cities, pyramids and temples, the ruins of which have been the puzzle of archaeologists and antiquarians.

The Spaulding Story is proved to be a falsehood. The Book of Mormon will yet be recognized as the truth. It is now accepted by hundreds of thousands of intelligent believers in Christ as of divine origin, and it shines to its light, as a glorious witness for God and the Bible, to bar the progress of indelicacy and error in the latter days.

PRESBYTERIANS AND REFORM.

The Presbyterian general assembly, in session at St. Louis, seems to forget its character of an ecclesiastical body and to bother about petitions to Congress about Constitutional amendments. That assembly, and every other religious association, should be plainly told to look after their own affairs, and not meddle with political matters. They should have it explained to them, that if they devote themselves exclusively to the spiritual welfare of the people, they will be a power for good in the State, too; but if they insist to shape the State with the theological instruments at their disposal, they will register a miserable failure. They should be reminded that a razor may be an excellent instrument, though it cannot be used as a saw, and that a tool intended for the cutting of both hair and wood, would probably do neither.

There is another excellent reason why the Presbyterian assembly should leave the Constitution alone, and rather look to the affairs of their church. Only a short time ago a reverend gentleman, Dr. R. Heber Newton, in reply to the question: "Is the church Christian?" replied:

"If by this question, is meant, 'Is the church, as an organization, Christian, possessed of the spirit of Christ, and following the teachings of Christ, and organized upon the principles of Christ?' then I am afraid the answer must be 'No.'"

And Rev. Dr. Henry Van Dyke said: "Frankly speaking, a great deal of present-day Christianity is narrow, hypocritical, denominational task work. The church is characterized by lack of sympathy, vitality, idealism and clear insight into the meaning of 'friendship.'"

Rev. Dr. N. Dwight Hillis is quoted as having given this estimate of the situation in the sectarian world:

"Organic unity is a dream. We can have a federation of cliques who will meet once a year, but no vital union of denominations."

In the light such expressions throw upon the churches, one would think the first concern of an ecclesiastical deliberative body would be to extricate itself, and constituents, from an extremely awkward position. A "federation of cliques," busy on some "narrow hypocritical denominational task work," is not a body to speak to the representatives of a nation, on the subject of reform. Modesty and regard for decency would suggest, under the circumstances, that reform, like charity, ought to commence at home.

THE SABBATH QUESTION.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterians are on perfectly legitimate ground when they discuss the Sunday observance question, with a view of finding a remedy against the prevailing desecration of the Sabbath. The deliberations on that important topic are of intense interest to all classes of the community.

The retiring moderator, in his sermon, took the ground that the growing disregard for the Lord's day is one of the chief causes of the religious decline in "a great majority of the Christian denominations." He was sustained in this, and accordingly, a committee made a report and resolutions were adopted against "seven-day journalism," "Sunday excursions," "the rapidly increasing Sabbath employment of corporate employees," and enjoining pastors to preach sermons once a year on "Sabbath observance."

The attention paid to this subject, we hope, will have some good effect, but at the same time we fear it will create a comparatively shallow impression. The masses of the people have a suspicion that the clergymen of our time are not entirely disinterested in Sabbath observance, with its inevitable passing around of the plate. They also have an impression that modern "advanced" preachers look upon the Bible as a very human production, and upon the Decalogue itself as a law applicable in barbarous times, but not in a highly civilized nation.

It has, furthermore, been shown with a great degree of probability, that the Sabbath to which the fourth commandment is applied was different from the modern Sabbath, in that it was a "movable" holiday, falling during a cycle of years upon every day of the week. Instead of as now always on one day. The result is popular doubt as to the authority of the clergyman to speak for the Author of the Decalogue, on behalf of a day not recognized by that law.

The New York Sun, speaking on the subject, has this well deserved rebuke:

"There is also now a school of Christian ministers who do not hesitate to set the example of the employment of Sunday for recreating amusements. Sunday, accordingly, has become a great day for bicycling and golf links are frequented even by members of churches. People have no hesitation in using railroads and other public conveyances to carry them to church on Sunday, and the private carriages of rich Presbyterians are drawn up in long lines before the more fashionable Presbyterian churches while their own-

ers are worshipping inside. Rich Jews faithful in their observance of the Decalogue invariably walk to their synagogues on the Sabbath, but these Christians impose unnecessary labor on their coaches, hostlers and footmen. The decline in Sunday observance reprobated by the Presbyterian Assembly is illustrated not less among other people than in the conduct of Presbyterians themselves."

For these reasons it is to be feared the effort of the Assembly will be almost null.

The vital question that confronts the world today goes far deeper to the roots of the evil, than the matter of the outward observance of a holiday can do. It is not so much a question of Sabbath keeping as it is whether in this age the God of the Bible still lives and communicates His will to man. This is the real center around which the forces of good and evil today have met in mortal combat. Around this position the battle now rages.

It is to establish this divine authority that the Lord has again gathered His elect; that men and women, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, have labored, suffered and died in the cause of the Gospel in this age. It is to break down this authority, that the machinery of "criticism" has been set in motion by the theologians themselves, and that the engines of persecution have been, and are now, working. Divine authority, present in the world, is the crux of the controversy. On both sides of that line, the hosts are being drawn up. Why do those call for a sacred Sabbath, who reject the voice of God through revelation? Accept the authority of God, and the observance of the Lord's day will come as a natural consequence.

In the meantime, the question is of general importance. The summer, with its attractions and allurements is coming. We hope the Latter-day Saints will remember that this land was, by their fathers, dedicated to the Lord, and that they themselves have solemnly covenanted to keep His commandments. We hope they will remember that they owe themselves rest and spiritual recreation, and that without the latter they will soon become spiritually dead.

He who willfully withdraws from the association of the Saints in their assemblies of worship can as little retain a sound spiritual life, as he can live happy and healthy, who abstains from food, drink and the company of fellow-men. For this reason, among others, the proper observance of the Lord's day is one of paramount importance.

CHRIST AND ABBAR.

A copy of the London Daily Express, of May 2, has been received at this office. It contains a fac-simile of the old Doric-Greek inscription recently discovered at Ephesus, and announced to the Archaeological congress at Rome, by Professor Rohman, of the Vienna university.

The Express says the inscription was submitted to Professor Murray, of the British Museum, and that he pronounced it genuine. If this is corroborated, the discovery is of the greatest importance, for it sustains Eusebius, who alleges that a correspondence actually took place between Abgarus, of Edessa, and our Lord.

In the year 57, two letters were found beneath a stone, in the vicinity of the city of Iconium. One of these was supposed to be from the king, to Jesus. It reads as follows:

"I have heard of thee and the cures wrought by thee, and I have been healed; for it is reported that thou restorest sight to the blind, thou makest the lame to walk; cleansest the leper, raisest the dead, castest out devils and unclean spirits, and healest those that are tormented of diseases of a long continuance. Hearing all this of thee, I was fully persuaded that thou art the very God come down from heaven to do such miracles, and that thou art the Son of God, and performest them; wherefore I have sent thee a few lines entreating thee to come hither and cure my diseases—besides hearing that the Jews murmur against thee, and continue to do thee mischief, I invite thee to my city, which is but a little one, but is beautiful and sufficient to entertain us both."

The other is supposed to be the reply of our Lord to the royal message. It reads:

"Blessed art thou for believing Me whom thou hast not seen, for it is written of Me that they that have seen Me shall believe and be saved; but concerning the matter thou hast written about, this is to acquit thee that all things for which I was sent hither must be fulfilled, and then I shall be taken up and return to Him that sent Me, but after My ascension I will send one of My disciples, that shall cure thee of thy distemper and give life to all them that are with thee."

The letters were declared spurious during the pontificate of Leo III, and the tradition relating to the subject has been relegated to the domain of fiction. Reference to the correspondence, in this inscription found at Ephesus, would, however, seem to establish the authenticity of the tradition, though the genuineness of the letters quoted would still remain in doubt. The style of the letter ascribed to our Lord is so different from His mode of expressing Himself, as recorded in the Gospels, as to suggest an entirely different author.

Professor Murray's closing statement is as follows, if he is correctly reported:

"Certain Syrian documents, dated 300 A. D., and giving account of the same letters, have long been suspected of being literary forgeries. The discovery of the stone tends to relieve this suspicion and makes it tolerably certain that, as early as the second century, news of Christ's miracles had spread to heathen countries, and that the early Christians believed that Agrippa asked Christ to come to heal him and that Christ replied."

Professor Jastrow, of the University of Pennsylvania, cautions the public to withhold judgment as to the value of the alleged discovery, until further inquiry has been made into the subject. He thinks this inscription proves nothing more than this, that a legend was inscribed, that the legend had received so much credence as to have become worthy to be engraved in stone among historical annals over a heathen palace. But this would not prove that Christ ever wrote a letter.

He concludes:

"Moreover, the report does not tell in what characters the Ephesus inscription was written, and it is impossible to say until we hear further details in what century the inscription was made."

The original could not have been in Syro-Chaldaic characters, for these characters were not developed until long after Christ's time."

TURKISH METHODS.

Turkish methods are illustrated in an anecdote told by the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Record, dealing with the measure in which Rev. Cyrus Hamlin secured the firm permission to erect a college after such concession had been promised him for years.

The story is to the effect that when a fleet of American men-of-war arrived at Constantinople, on a pleasure cruise, Dr. Hamlin, one day, was asked by the admiral, what he could do for him. The doctor replied: "You can render me a great service if you will instruct your officers and men to inquire of everybody they meet when the firm permission to erect a college after such concession had been promised him for years."

This was done. Every now and then the officers and men would ask somebody about that firm permission, and the result was that the coveted document, was issued in three days. The many inquiries had been reported, and reached the Sultan's ears, and the latter became convinced that the real mission of the fleet was to compel the issuance of the promised firm permission.

Perhaps a fleet on a Mediterranean pleasure trip would secure the payment of the \$100,000 due this country.

While the Boers in South Africa do not seem to be doing anything just now it is noticeable that they are not saying anything either.

The female domestics of Copenhagen, Denmark, have organized a servant girl's union. On this side of the water there are too few domestics who are servants, to make an extensive organization.

That opposites meet to advantage is again to be demonstrated by eastern electric light plants. Now that these do not have to furnish as much electricity for lighting and heating as they did in the winter, a number of them have utilized their power in the manufacture of ice.

The London Mail expresses horror at the advent of rich Americans in England. The mass of the English public, and especially the shopkeepers, do not share the feelings of the Mail. They are only too glad to profit by the extravagance of the ordinary American millionaire.

London dispatches frequently tell of the use of the Stars and Stripes in England, in celebrating English victories. One would almost think the English would recall the fact that when people in this country celebrated American victories in the late war, the Stars and Stripes was considered ample for a flag display, without utilizing the banner of a neutral nation.

Cecil Rhodes, in his new scheme, is now credited with "working to consolidate South Africa from the Zambesi to Table Bay." That means an intention for Britain to possess not only the territory of the Boer republics, but Portuguese East Africa, Portuguese West Africa and German Southwest Africa. The latter perhaps will be the most difficult to acquire, but even without it, Britain would be master of one-half the African continent.

The United States has given notice that the "Boxers" in China who are threatening the lives of Americans must be suppressed. This warning probably will have more effect on the Chinese government than would a similar notice from a European power, for the reason that the Chinese know there is not behind it any scheme for American seizure of China's territory, but that it comes from a sense of necessity in defending Americans from threatened molestation.

The Brazilians, according to all accounts, are great coffee drinkers. Men, women and children, even babies, drink coffee. It is brought to your bedside the instant you awake in the morning and just before you are expected to drop off in sleep at night, at meals and between meals. The effect is said to be "trembling hands, twitching eyelids, mummy-hued skin, and a chronic state of excitability worse than that produced by whisky."

A Hindoo in Boston who glories in his heathenism says he studied Christianity in the streets of Chicago, New York, Boston and London, giving the idea that he looked to the slums for his instruction. If he were honest in a wish to learn what Christianity is, he would have studied it where its precepts are exemplified and not where their violation is notoriously flagrant. By his own statement he studied practical anti-Christianity, and his applying the other term to it convicts him of hypocrisy.

"Foolish questions," is the term some people apply to the inquiries that census enumerators have to make, and which the law requires people to answer. But those who are well informed on the purposes effected by the census, and the necessity for accuracy in small details in order to secure correct returns, at once recognize that the inquiries are the opposite of "foolish." In the census of 1900, more than any other, unnecessary questions are eliminated, and only those which experience has shown to be necessary to a proper return are retained. Of course there are a lot of these; but they are not too many, for the census covers a large field. Treat the census enumerators courteously when he comes, and do not lose sight of the fact that he has so many interrogatories to make from his book, under the law, that there is little liability for his wasting time in asking anything outside of the strict requirements.

HUBONIC PLAGUE SCARE.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Some of our interior contemporaries who are laboring under the mistaken impression that San Francisco's interests are alone at stake, are doing all in their power to convey to outsiders the

INTERESTS THE LADIES!

Z. C. M. I. has the Most Elegant Stock of Ladies' Goods ever offered in the West, just received. In it is included the handsomest line of

LADIES' SHIRT WAISTS

ever seen here—all styles and colors. Our WHITE WAISTS are simply grand. In prices of Ladies' Waists the range is \$1.00 TO \$15.00 EACH.

SUMMER SKIRTS.

An immense line in our Cloak Department. We have them in DUCKS, DENIMS, LINENS, CRASHES, PIQUES, and THE BURLAP, at prices, per skirt, of from

50c TO \$22.50.

We have the largest and choicest variety ever shown here, AND ALL NEW.

Z. C. M. I.

T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

belief that this is a pest-ridden city. They will repeat their indiscreet course when they find that the quarantines they are helping to invoke are tending to place a cordon about the State which will compel the fruit-grower to let his crop rot on the trees and effectually shut us out from commerce with the rest of the world. When they realize this they may perhaps wish that they had joined with the Chronicle and the other San Francisco papers in their effort to discredit an unscrupulous official body.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.

The center of the plague scare in the Pacific has been transferred to San Francisco, where there are a number of cases among the Chinese. Undoubtedly the presence of the dreaded epidemic is due to the filthy condition of the Chinese quarters in the heart of a great city, for the crowded quarters where Orientals live in defiance of laws of sanitation are breeding places for the microbes of most loathsome diseases.

Chicago Times-Herald.

While San Francisco should do everything within reason to protect herself, it is to be hoped that she will have some thought for the inevitable misfortune of the Chinese and not treat them with unnecessary harshness. It would be deplorable if the occasion were seized upon by a certain element to gratify its prejudices against them by the most cruel indignities to their other misfortunes.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

As the plague approaches, the people begin to learn more about it; and the more they learn the greater their dread, for it seems that the whites are not immune, and that sanitary precautions are not as effective as has been imagined. This is proven by the inroads that the disease has been making in Australia, where modern sanitation is in vogue in the centers in which the plague has made its appearance.

Chicago Record.

It is a mistake to suppose that the plague is a warm-weather disease. Its ravages are greatest in cold and damp weather. Consequently the authorities should utilize the summer for getting the country into the best possible sanitary condition. As a matter of economy of money, even though no other question against the plague might be the means of saving hundreds of thousands of dollars. Once it gets a foothold, only the most heroic measures are capable of dislodging it, the cost of which may be enormous.

SOLDIERS AND DRINK.

Indianapolis Press.

Conservatism in some things is admirable, but there is no reason why the army should not fall in with the spirit of the time and help root out the curse of intemperance.

Chicago Tribune.

"Drinking is the soldier's pleasure," and vice today as it was in the day of Alexander the Great. The "canteen," as all army officers in this and other countries are agreed, substitutes controlled and regulated for unchecked drinking. It gives soldiers beer instead of spirits.

Boston Advertiser.

Why the President is blamed particularly in the matter is less apparent. Nominally he is commander-in-chief of the army, but President McKinley never interferes with the management of the war department, so that picking him out for special blame is not entirely fair.

Kansas City Journal.

The real question is, is it better that the soldier should take a glass of beer at his quarters, where he must be sober and orderly, or that he go out to one of the low groggeries that always infest the vicinity of a military camp and drink whiskey or any other intoxicant in such quantities as he may like?

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Harper's Bazar for May 12, has as special features: "The Sisters of Lazarus," by Rt. Rev. Henry C. Potter; "Matrons Past and Present," Mrs. John Sherwood; "The Bidden Guest," Mrs. Schuyler; "Crownshield: 'Home Life as a Profession,'" Mrs. Burton Harrison; "The National Congress of Mothers," Margaret H. Welch, and "Fashions for Graduates," A. T. Ashmore, "Franklin Square, New York."

Collier's Weekly for May 19 is of particular interest to college men for the report of the athletic situation in rowing, baseball and track athletics, by Walter Camp, who edits the "Sport, Travel and Adventure" department for the Weekly. Mr. Camp's review of the situation affords a basis for that always interesting pastime—prophecy as to results.—New York.

SALE OF PANTS

For One Week Commencing May 28th, \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00 Pants for

\$2.45
100

CUTLER BROS. COMPANY,
36 MAIN STREET, SALT LAKE CITY.

Puritan Oil Stoves.
Illinois Refrigerators.
White Mountain Freezers.
Lawn Mowers. Garden Hose.
Screen Doors. Window Screens.
Wire Cloth Chicken Netting.

We are Headquarters for these Goods.

GEO. M. SCOTT-STREVELL
HARDWARE CO.,

EMIL LIEBLING

The Great Pianist will appear in the

First Congregational Church.

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 5th.

Under the auspices of ROWLAND HALL and MISS GRATIA FLANDEBS

Admission, One Dollar.

Tickets on sale at Calder's Music Store. DO NOT FAIL TO HEAR HIM.

SALT LAKE THEATRE.

GEORGE D. PETER, Manager.

THE SEASON'S EVENT.

Tonight Only.

N. C. GOODWIN,

MAXINE ELLIOTT,

Presenting the Season's Success.

WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE.

Cast and production the same as in New York.

NEW GRAND THEATRE

M. E. MULVEY, Mgr.

Three Nights and Wednesday Matinee, Commencing—

Monday, May 28,

The great story of the dawn of Christianity.

"QUO VADIS"

TONS OF SCENERY.

STRONG CAST.

Seats now on Sale.

STOCKS, INVESTMENTS AND BONDS.

Utah Bank and Commercial Securities other high grade investments securities bought and sold. Loans on stocks. Dividend paying stocks bought and sold. Investment orders from institutions, trustees of estates and capitalists will receive the best of attention. JOHN G. CUTLER, JR., 36 Main Street, Tel. 127.