DESERET EVENING NEWS: TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1905. RUSSIA'S COMING MAN.

DESERFIEVENING NEWS Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Later-day Saints.

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DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by telephone with any department of the Descret News, will save themselves and this establishment a great deal of annoy-ance if they will take time to notice these numbers. numbers

For the Chief Editor's office, 74-2. For Descret News Book Store, 74-2. For City Editor and Reporters, 259-2. For Rusiness Manager, 359-3. For Business Office, 359-2.

A VIGOROUS REJOINDER.

Rev. S. E. Wishard is one of those exceedingly pious predestinarians who seem to think that they were foreorflained to make war upon the "Mormons." As he stands among the "very elect," of course it does not matter what he does or what he says in his attacks upon the alleged reprobates, because his future is fixed and he is certain of eternal glory, according to the decree before the world was made, as set forth in the Confession of Faith that contains the fundamentals of his religion.

A few days ago he was taken to task for having faisified the utterances of Bishop O. F. Whitney, in a letter to an not incurable. It proves that it can be eastern newspaper. Now he stands arrested in its course, if those entrustguilty of further wilful untruths, in an ed with power will use this conscienarticle he furnished to the New York Independent. It is headed "The Mormon Menuce," and contains the usual kind of misrepresentations that flow from his mouth and pen. Mutilated quotations from the writings of "Mormons" very many years ago, are so put | such apparent contempts for courts and before the public as to entirely pervert the real doctrines of "Mormonism," and these are supplemented by spiteful and vicious remarks of his own, cleariy exhibiting the rancor and bitterness of a warped and venomous nature. Two assertions he makes will be suf-

According to this argument does not touch the question whether Mr. Smoot should be admitted to a seat. Is Utah a valid State in the Union? Has Mr. Smoot been validly elected? Is he a reputable man, fit to associate with Senators? That is all."

The Independent's clear logic meets the roundabout and vapid meanderings of the ministerial assallants of Senator Smoot, who appear to be unable to discern the missiplication of their erratic effusions to the great point at issue. That paper does not attempt to question Wishard's assertions about the alleged declarations of "Mormon" authorities-which by the by are inventions of his own or distortions of

their real utterances-but demolishes his conclusions at a blow. The vital question is set forth in the first paragraph of the Independent's response, and the sectarian enemies of Senator Smoot should take notice and learn wisdom if that is possible. The answer to all their ravings about "Mormon menace" and the opnions of writers long since deceased, is contained in the last five sentences of the Independent's clear-cut article. That

LAST YEAR'S CRIMES.

is enough.

1901.

The Chicago Tribune has for years been in the habit of gathering and publishing statistics on crimes committed in this country. According to that authority there were \$7 lynchings during 1904, the smallest number since 1885 (the greatest was 235 in 1892); 8,482 homicides, or 494 less than in 1903; a decline from \$6,562,165 in the amount of money stolen by embezzlement, forgery, defalcations and bank wreckings in 1903 to \$4,742,507 in 1904. There were 13 train robberles, which was 8 below the average for 15 years. On the other hand, the increase of homicides by highwaymen and burglars was very noticeable: 464 in 1904, as compared with 406 in 1903, 333 in 1902 and 193 in

The decline in the number of lynchings is regarded as significant. Eightytwo of these crimes during the year occurred in the South and five in the North: 83 of the victims were negroes, four were whites and two were negro women. Only one lynching took place in North Carolina, and but two in Louisiana and Tennessee respectively. It is evident that the decline in lynchings is due to the agitation against it, in which Southern governors have taken a prominent part. And this is most encouraging. For it proves that the terrible disease of the body politic, of which lynchings is but one symptom, is

tiously. Some writers on the question still maintain that lynchings are due to the "widespread contempt of the courts and the unpunished subversion of the law." It would be nearer the truth to say that lynchings are symptoms of the same disease. They have a common origin, instead of sustaining the relation of cause and effect. For, in many instances suspected criminals have been taken out of the hands of courts and killed without legal trial. In such

the Church ought to be supreme. A being in the same way as man, and multitude of Catholics believe the same. that consequently she could never be that consequently she could never be intrusted with the duties and cares which devolve on him by reason of his superior sex.

This logic is, in all its harshness, unanswerable. But there are cases in which theory and practice, necessarily must diverge, and this is one of them. Mercy has claims, as well as justice, and where the ends of justice can be with mercy, it has a potent met claim. The logic of mercy is no less unanswerable than that of judgment.

TSI AN CONVERTED.

A rumor is abroad to the effect that the empress dowager of China has, through the efforts of Minister Conger and his wife, been converted to Christian Science. There is really nothing improbable in that. The philosophy of that "science" is very nearly allied to oriental ideas, and it should appeal to the oriental mind. Rumor has it that the marked preference of the empress for the society of Mrs. Conger excited jealousy among the indies of the other legations, but the intimacy continued, and the secret is now said to have been revealed. The minister's wife has made an imperial convert to the doctrines of

Mrs. Eddy. Tsi An has for many years been the actual ruler of China, and up to the conclusion of the Boxer war was stubbornly reactionary against all reforms in that empire. After that she proceeded to relax much of her rigor. - The Manchus were ordered to intermarry

with the Chinese, and were instructed to travel and seek education in the western nations, like the Chinese have done for years. She also decreed that the process of producing small feet in women should be no longer practised. Then she invited the wives of the foreign ministers to take tea with her, and unbent to a degree that was gratifying to the legation ladles. It is useless to speculate upon the

possible effects of this alleged conversion. It is possible that it will result in closer relations between this country. where Christian Science originated, and China. If Tsi An is a true "Scientist." she will perhaps confer with Mrs. Eddy on questions of importance, and that should mean a new policy for China. If the story is true, we hope the Presbyterians, Baptists, Methodists and others who maintain missionaries in China will not feel too much chagrined about the success of a rival sect. At the time of the Boxer trouble, when the foreign legations were in peril at the capital, the Christian Scientists, as will be remembered, organized for combined "demonstration" against the wild hordes. This "demonstration" was eminently successful as soon as the foreign troops got to work, and the empress may have been led to believe that similar "demonstrations" would be useful in a future emergency. She has not, perhaps, seen similar possible advantages in the Westminster confession, or other creeds. But, perhaps the entire story is without foundation in fact.

Among Senator Burton's trials is a new trial.

Sheriff Emery has gathered in a bountiful harvest.

Scandals in public offices should be

Chicago Tribune If Russians, when they are relishing to the full the zest of their new freedom, produce any customary great man, then let the other nations of the earth, and especially those neighboring Russia, watch out. Russia will reach the warm water and may leave more than one

RELIABLE DIVORCE STAT ISTICS.

wreck in her wake,

Philadelphia Ledger. Many church organizations regard di-Many church organizations react a vorce as the most serious menace to so-ciety. From the attention which they give to the subject it is apparent that they consider it of more importance than any other source of general ills. Yet it any other source of general ills. Yet it is a fact that no trustworthy informa-tion as to the extent of the evil seems to be available. Published figures are contradictory. Writers in favor of a re-form present statistics which appall, but which are followed by others show-ing that the reformers exaggerate. It is full time, therefore, that somebody should collect accurate statistics. A res-olution introduced in the United States senate imposes this duty on the census bureau and includes the record of marriages also. This measure would at least have the merit of securing some figures which could be accepted as having authority.

WHAT THE COUNTRY NEEDS.

San Francisco Chronicle. The question now interesting Con-ress in a quiet way is whether the ountry needs battleships more than it does public buildings and river and harbor improvements. If the treasury harbor improvements. If the treasury were in a plethoric condition it might be otherwise, but as things stand there would not be much for land improve. ments if the sea should be too gener-ously dealt with, and consequently there is liable to be a cut-down of na-val estimates which may be retaliated upon by taking a whack at the river and harbor bill.

WHERE SCIENCE IS BALKED,

New York Mail.

"When we know what life is, I think we shall then know what cancer is." This is as far as the bequest of \$100,000 by Mrs. Caroline Brewer Croft, of Massachusetts, for the scientific study of the nature of cancer, has carried the the nature of cancer, has carried the investigators toward a positive knowl-edge of the subject. But no man has yet approached the threshold of the knowledge of what life is. Herbert Spencer, after a life-time of profound-est study, died convinced that there is "no passage" between the field of scientific browledge and the realm of scientific knowledge and the realm of mystery wherein lies the secret of life; and those two words he wrote li ominous italics.

STUDENTS WHO BEHAVE.

Norfolk Landmark. They don't have any of this sopho-more and freshmen foolishness at the University of Virginia. The students there are not disposed to make mon-keys of themselves. They have plenty of fun, but they theat each other as

A NOVEL INSOMNIA REMEDY.

From the Humanitarian. In a recent book Mr. Stackpool O'-Dell puts forward a novel remedy for Dell puts forward a novel remedy for sleeplessness. He says: Take a card about the size of a sheet of foolscap and obtain a bottle of luminous paint. Write with the paint upon the card the words Sleep-Sleep-Sleep, large and clear, Place this card in the day-time where the light will get at it, and



ficient as samples of his perversions, and we will not follow him through his | ished subversion of the law," Thirst respentine trail, as the Independent myes us the trouble. He says the authorities of the Church declare and teach "concerning the President of the Church" that "he has the same authority that God has, and by virtue of that authority is in reality a part of God;" put he does not give his authority for the statement. He assalls Senator Emoot as "particeps criminis" by "consenting to the conduct of criminals," and avows "he is in the United States Senate by virtue of his support of these men in their crimes." His article was intended as a reply

to some very fair and temperate remarks in The Independent of December 22, 1904, which were quoted in these columns. Here is the answer of that paper to Mr. Wishard, in its issueof Jan. 12, 1905

"We are glad to print Mr. Wishard's article in reply to an editorial of ours; but it hardly touches the subject we were discussing. To question was not, is the "Mormon" Church bad? nor, is 18 the "Mormon" Church bad? nor, is the "Mormon" Church meddling with politics? nor, is Polygamy still prac-ticed in Utah? but, Has Mr, Smoot a valid right to represent Utah in the United States Schate? "Of course, the older Mormons are still lying more or less in colveancy."

"Of course, the older Mormons are still living, more or less, in polygamy, Beyond question plural marriages have been contracted since they were pro-nounced llegal. We are aware that these offenses are no more punished than is inquor selling in Portland or Leavenworth. But the State is in the Union, and has a right to a Senator, if a decent man is elected; and such we understand Mr. Smoot to be, The is no polygamist. Polygamist. "But Mr. Wishard quotes accredited

Mormon authorities as declaring that the Church should have supreme au-thority over the government. Doubtthority over the government. Doubt-less: but, on the other hand, that Church has repeatedly pronounced against the union of Church and State; and the authorities have solomnly affirmed that they are not in politics and do not propose to exercise political au-thority. How to harmonize the two is not our bushness; for it makes very lit-tle difference to the present question which is true. What Orson Pratt says is of little importance; he may be a verifiable Ultramoniane of Mormonism;

Senator Cannon talks very differently. "It would be the easlest thing in the "It would be the easiest thing in the world to cellect a catena of chilms by distinguished Calholic theologians, and even from the last Papal Syllabus, as-serting the authority of the Church over the State, and its right to impose its haw on the State; and these utter-ances accepted by Catholics in this country. But for this reason do we re-fuse to allow a Catholics to we resoclety. fuse to allow a Catholic to be Senator? man thinks of the question referred to

"Further than this, we experess our conviction of old, that the cross can properly be holsted over the flas. We believe, as did Seward, in the Higher Ludy Henry Somerset says that she can see no adequate reason why wo man should not suffer precisely the believe, as did Seward. In the Higher Law, We hold that the Church has the right, speaking for the conscience of its members, to denounce and diso-bey laws of the State which it disap-proves. At this day dissenters are in prison in England for disobeying a law which their consciences condefan, and we do not blame them. They have done that to activiting to now taxes for soc same penalty as man for the same offence. We who believe, she says, it the equality of the sexes must surely believe also in the equality of moral responsibility, and any crime that could equally be committed by a man or a we do not blame them. They have done right in refusing in pay taxes for sec-tarian education, just as our fathers did right in disobeying the Fugitive Slave Law. It makes no difference in principle that we are right and that the Mormons are, we think, wrong-their own conscience must be obeyed; punishment and be judged by the same man, she further argues, from the consequences of an act of ordinary vioand it is right for them to declare, in their own way-even Orson Pratt-that

cases it is impossible to plead "unpun exposed and not suppressed. for blood-an unnatural craving for horrible scenes-is the only explanation possible. And this craving can be curimperative. ed only by the strict maintenance of the

law, against the mob. The action taken in some parts of the South is most commendable. Attempts a pretty mess. have been made to indict lynchers. Militla officers have been relieved of their commands for failing to do their duty Jefferson City.

when ordered to defend prisoners. In Mississippi one fearless judge has passed long sentences on white men convicted of whitecapping, and Gov. Vardaman has done his duty in his the face of the premier. State. In one instance he prevented a lynching by snatching a negro almost from the hands of a mob and lodging both railroads and President. . him safely in prison. Let the good work go on. Statistics prove that it is not without desirable results.

A DELICATE DISCUSSION.

The fact that two women, one in Pennsylvania and one in Vermont, are centenced to death for murder, has again raised the delicate question whether women, on conviction, should be executed, as men.

The crime in both cases was the murder of husbands. The Vermont woman, enticed her husband to the bank of a river, and with the assistance of her lover, a mere boy, bound him with a rope (he unsuspecting, and consenting to it as an act of horseplay) and threw him into the stream. The Pennsylvania culprit is supposed to skins paid for. lack ordinary intelligence. It is said that, since her imprisonment, "she has become docile and gentle, has improved in general appearance, conduct Smoke the woman out. and conversation, and has shown all the finer instincts of womanhood." For this reason much sympathy has been

aroused in her bohalf. The general sentiment of this country against the execution of women, of money. will be strengthened, if any of these unfortunates are made to suffer the extreme penalty. That sentiment is

In the meantime, it is not without in-

woman must surely demand the same

standard. The attempt to shield wo-

lence places her immediately on a sep-

rate footing, and at once admits the

terest to see what one prominent wo

so a great and successful smuggler. It natural, and it is in harmony with the may as well be conceded for once and higher value placed upon human life. all that she was a dandy in any line in now than ever before. It is one step which she undertook to do business. in the ever progressing evolution of

> When Mark Twain moved away from California he was able to pack all his worldly goods in a cigar box. Now he has two or three fine houses in New York and the bronchitis," says the Los Angeles Times. Does the house in the bronchilis look anything like those in the Bronx?

Some of the blg railroad men say that employes of the railroads would be the first to feel the effect of government fixing of freight rates. That might be, but did these same railroad men ever stop to think that the power to fix rates probably also includes the power to fix wages? For the first time in the course of their existence the railroads are about to realize the fact that they are not entirely private concerns, theory that woman is not a responsible | but are quasi public corporations.

