DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING

THE DESERET NEWS CO.

CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

TERMS:

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[illegible] Mormon leader and champion, whose patriotism and religion went hand in hand and whose utterances, when Utah was isolated from the world, show the sentiments of the Mormon people toward the nation.

The first number contains the report of a $1,000,000 fire which occurred in San Francisco on Dec. 24, 1849. Also the message of President Zachary Taylor to the House of Representatives, dated Washington, Jan. 21, 1850. The message relates entirely to California and the territory ceded to the United States by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. One paragraph relates to Utah. It says:

"The part of California not included in the proposed state of that name is believed to be uninhabited, except in a settlement of our countrymen in the vicinity of Salt Lake."

There is an extract from a communication by General John Wilson, of Missouri, to Truman Smith. The Wilson letter was written in Salt Lake City, September 6, 1849. The General was on his way to California and wrote from this city to Truman Smith. Mr. Smith exhibited the letter in Washington, where John M. Bernhisel was acting as representative of Utah.

Here is an extract from this letter:

"A more orderly, sober, industrious and still people I have never been amongst than these the people of Salt Lake City; and it is incredible how much they have done here in the wilderness in so short a time. In this city which now contains 5,000 people, I do not see a single bar or loafer. Their prospects for crops are fair, and there is spirit and energy in all that you see that cannot be regarded in any other light than that of order, and, I will add, not even in 'Old Connecticut.'"

The first number also contains the report of an analysis of the Warm Springs water, and of a specimen of silver found near Independence Rock. The analysis was made in Boston by Dr. Charles T. Jackson, a distinguished chemist, about September, 1849. In a letter to President Young Dr. Bernhisel communicates the report of Dr. Jackson. Part of this letter contains the report was published in the first issue of the News. The death of John C. Calhoun is announced in the first issue also. This number contains an account of the Indian attack on the Mona Bay copper mine in Michigan by Chippewa Indians.

The Deseret News has been published uninterruptedly in Salt Lake City from June 15, 1850, until the present time, with the exception of a few issues published at Fillmore during what is known as "The Move," occasioned by the coming of troops into the valley under General Johnston in the spring of 1858.

With the change of form the Deseret Evening News will not change its spirit. It will continue to champion the cause of right and labor for the advancement of humanity. It will publish the latest news from all parts of the globe, and on dearer, as before, to be just, accurate and fair. It will labor to promote the cause of morality, both public and private, to spread the principles of true religion, to advocate the faith of the Latter-day Saints, and to bring about that harmony, good feeling and peace among all people in Utah which are necessary to the welfare, progress and happiness of the whole community. As ever, its motto is and will be: "Truth and Liberty."

After Dr. Willard Richards, Orson Spencer was for a short time editor of the News. He was succeeded by Albert Carrington, who was followed by Elias Smith. Albert Carrington again took charge of the paper until it was edited by George Q. Cannon. then David O. Calder took editorial charge. He was followed by George Q. Cannon and Brigham Young. For many years David W. Evans, John Jaques and John Nicholson were assistant editors, the last named gentleman being associated with the present editor.

MORALITY AND THE SALT LAKE PRESS.

The organ of the agitation, adventurers and scalawags—the radical wing of the "Liberal" party, this morning gives notice to the outside world that the statements of the "Mormon" press in regard to the present condition of the city are not to be taken at face value. It also endeavors to shed a cloud on those who are local writers and have left all the former newspaper employment.

This is certainly and characteristically Schmitt. There is no paper in this Territory, and has been half a month, that has Salt Lake a black eye of the disease, than the hypocritical and disreputable journal, which now seeks to reflect odium upon its contemporaries.

For many years past it has kept up a constant strife, and a perpetual stream of vituperation, which has given people the idea that this Territory was a hotbed of moral vice and a cesspool of general corruption.

Since the introduction of the present semi-freebooted City Council, under the dictation and by the aid of the libelous organ, some officials of the city government have come under the displeasure and, it seems, have not refused to its lash. Therefore it opened its moral shears and spattered and belabored them almost as violently as if they were "Mormons." They were charged with being boodlers, dishonest men, corruptionists, etc. The police, or a portion of them, were denounced as in league with confidence men, tin-horn gamblers, brothel keepers and mash-trappers. Day after day intimations have been made by the Tribune that the Chief of Police was in this disreputable business, and its columns have teemed with covert attacks, glaring insinuations and damaging insinuations, to the effect that the terrible condition of morals of the city was largely due to the inefficiency and official corruption of the police.

As to the present situation, the press of this city have but given voice to the complaints of the best elements of its society, uttered in a public meeting composed almost entirely of non-Mormons and Gentiles. And a comparison with present and previous conditions, though it has no direct bearing on the issue before us, was made by the same gentlemen who have moved in the interest of reform, and it was not at all flattering to "Liberal" influence and "Liberal" rule.

That meeting was called in consequence of the tremendous and rapid change that has come over the city since it has come under "Liberal" control. The newspapers did not originate the movement. It started with decent "Liberals" who were scandalized at the condition of affairs, and among the most prominent were the ministers of different religious bodies.

The chairman, Judge Bowman, asserted that the city was foul with dens of wickedness, while footpads were so numerous that no citizen could walk the streets with safety. That in the face of this situation the city authorities were doing nothing towards a purification of the moral atmosphere by an enforcement of the laws.

Mr. F. D. Stephens said: Gamblers and roughs were so quite and orderly that a stranger would not have supposed that there were any saloons in the city. Since then a great change had come. Saloons were multiplied all over the city. They were running on Sundays as on other days in defiance of law, and idlers and children could not walk the streets with out their ears being shocked with obscene and profane language.

Mr. F. E. Gregg made a sarcastic apology for the City Council, and said:

"This gathering is in the nature of a terrible rebuke to them, and is a strong weapon in the hands of the political opponents of the 'Liberal' party. Crimes are being condoned, highway robberies are being committed daily or nightly, licenses to sell whisky are granted without limit. The non-enforcement of the laws has brought many vicious men to our city. The whole trouble lies in the fact that every officer of the law but one has been approached by friends and interested persons, who have said: 'Now you mind understand that we must have so and so.' This has brought the city to the situation against which we must emphatically protest."

Rev. Dr. Hill, Rev. W. S. Hawkes, Rev. J. B. Thrall, Hon. Edwin Bonner and other speakers who stated they had voted for the "Liberal" city officials, spoke in a similar vein and some of them declared there had never been occasion before for such a gathering in this city.

This was not the language of "Mormon newspapers." Neither was it an attack by any party upon the "Liberal" city government. It came chiefly from pronounced "Liberals," disgusted with officials whom they had helped into power, and indignant at the terrible condition of the city through non-enforcement and partisanship in the administration of the laws.

It is no does, thereto, for the organ of the prostitutes, gamblers and dens of vice as reformatory agents of the "Mormons," either to try to palliate present corruptions, to make out they are no worse than former conditions, or pretend that they are only "Mormon" misrepresentations.

The truth is, that paper has not a sincere desire for the suppression of vice, where nothing but sand and cape and salt rent their gaze.

One paragraph from the prospectus of the Deseret News as published in the first issue reads:

"We shall ourselves responsible to the highest tribunal we know, namely—those who are the judges and court of equity for our constituents. We may make errors, and we may be misled, and we may be imposed upon, and we may, on the other hand, err by our own weakness, or be misled by our own prejudices, or be misled by our own ignorance, and yet be honest and sincere in our motives and intentions."

This paper speaks for itself, and shows the spirit and purpose of the Utah Press in general. In the same paper, of the Deseret News, the spirit, and the principles of the people, which have made the desert blossom, and which have made Utah what it is, are set forth. We will quote from the first issue of the Deseret News, which, by a long time was not in print.

"This journal will appear each week, in its first issue, it may, perhaps, with the times, be found unskilled and wanting in improvement, and in labor, and breathe forth the spirit of general progress.

It was our intention to commence the New Year with this enlarged and improved form, but the work intended to be done in preparing for such a change, has not been completed in time. We hope our readers will appreciate this effort for their benefit.

A little less than three years after the pioneers entered the valley of Salt Lake the first newspaper between the Missouri River and San Francisco, Cal., was established. Moved, indeed, and unprecedented was this publication, but its principles as outlined in its prospectus, and expressed in its pages, will illustrate the men and the intellects which projected and published it.

The date of the first issue was June 15, 1850. It was a small eight-page weekly. It was printed on a Ramage press, built in Philadelphia. The press is still in the possession of the Deseret News Company, and is carefully stored away as a relic of great value and of interesting associations. To members of the craft it forms a suggestive and instructive study.

The size of its bed is 19x25½ inches, and its height is five feet four inches. The framework of this press is made in sections of wrought iron, thus rendering it suitable for transportation. It is strongly bolted together. Its tiles, bed and plate are of cast iron. This press was brought in wagons over the plains, and this involved weeks of toil and great expense in money.

The News was published weekly in its original form until November, 1851, when it was enlarged and issued regularly on the first and fifteenth of each month.

In 1854 the Deseret News was changed into a weekly, left issued in the same size as the semi-monthly. In the same year paper was first made in Utah, by the old hand-rocker method. On this paper the Deseret News was printed. In 1854 type was also first made in Utah. It was cast at this office in the primitive manner, with hand moulds fought over the plains by the pioneers.

In 1856 the Deseret News was changed into an eight page quarto. In 1861 the Pony Express dispatches were regularly published and formed an important epoch in the history of the paper.

In 1869 a paper mill was brought into Utah. It was made by Gavitt, of Philadelphia, and was at the time the perfection of paper making machinery.

In 1864 a Hoe cylinder press was brought over the plains, and in the fall of that year the Deseret News was the first printed on this press.

In 1868 the News was published as a semi-weekly, and until November, 1869, when the Deseret Evening News was issued as a daily, the Semi-Weekly and Weekly being continued.

In 1869 a Chicago Taylor cylinder press was put in, on which the News was thereafter printed. This press was the largest and most perfect at that time in the Rocky Mountains.

In 1872 type was first made in Utah by improved machine process, at this office.

In 1872 the first stereotype outfit was introduced into Utah by the Deseret News Company. In 1872 the first electrotyping was also performed in Utah.

In 1884 a Fourdrinier paper-making machine was brought to Utah, also by the Deseret News Company.

In 1884 a Potter press, book and job press revolution, was put in by the News Company. In 1887 a Potter press, newspaper, two revolution, was obtained and the Deseret News printed on it from that time till today, when it is first printed on the Bullock perfecting press, one of the best of its kind in the United States.

The Deseret News Company has still in its possession all of its printing presses and also all the old machinery for the manufacture of type and paper. These of themselves form an interesting collection among the curiosities of Utah.

The News establishment has now in its use a Cottrell book and job press, a Potter press, the Potter newspaper press, three Gordon presses, and the Bullock perfecting press with a capacity of from 15,000 to 20,000 impressions an hour. All the machinery run by steam power.

The first number of the Deseret News as already stated, was issued June 15, 1850. Its editor and proprietor was Dr. Willard Richards. In looking over the first volume today one can not help reflecting on the past and its eventful history, and offering a tribute to the memory of those grand old pioneers who planted the printing press in the recesses of these mountains