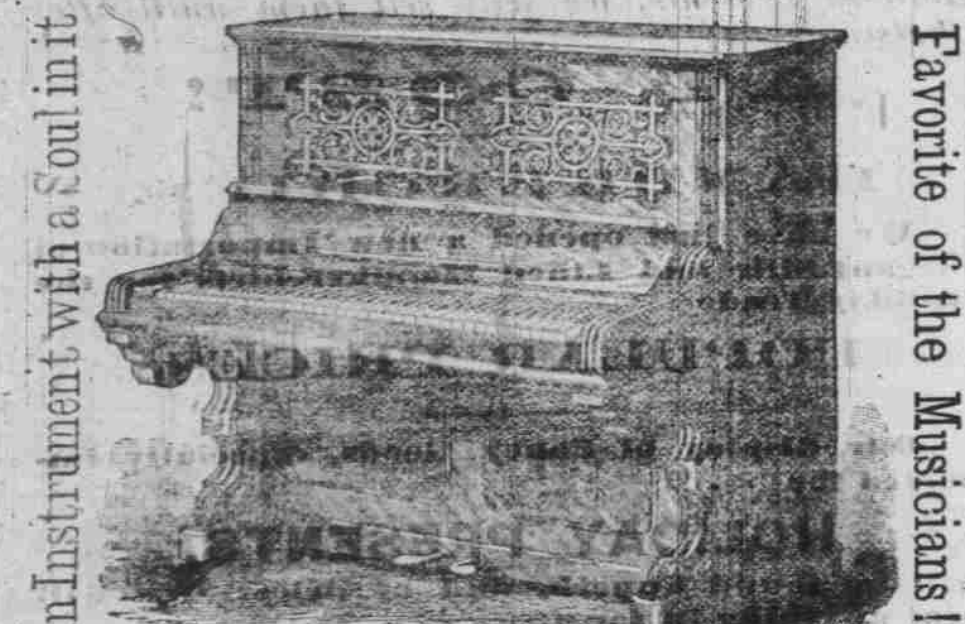


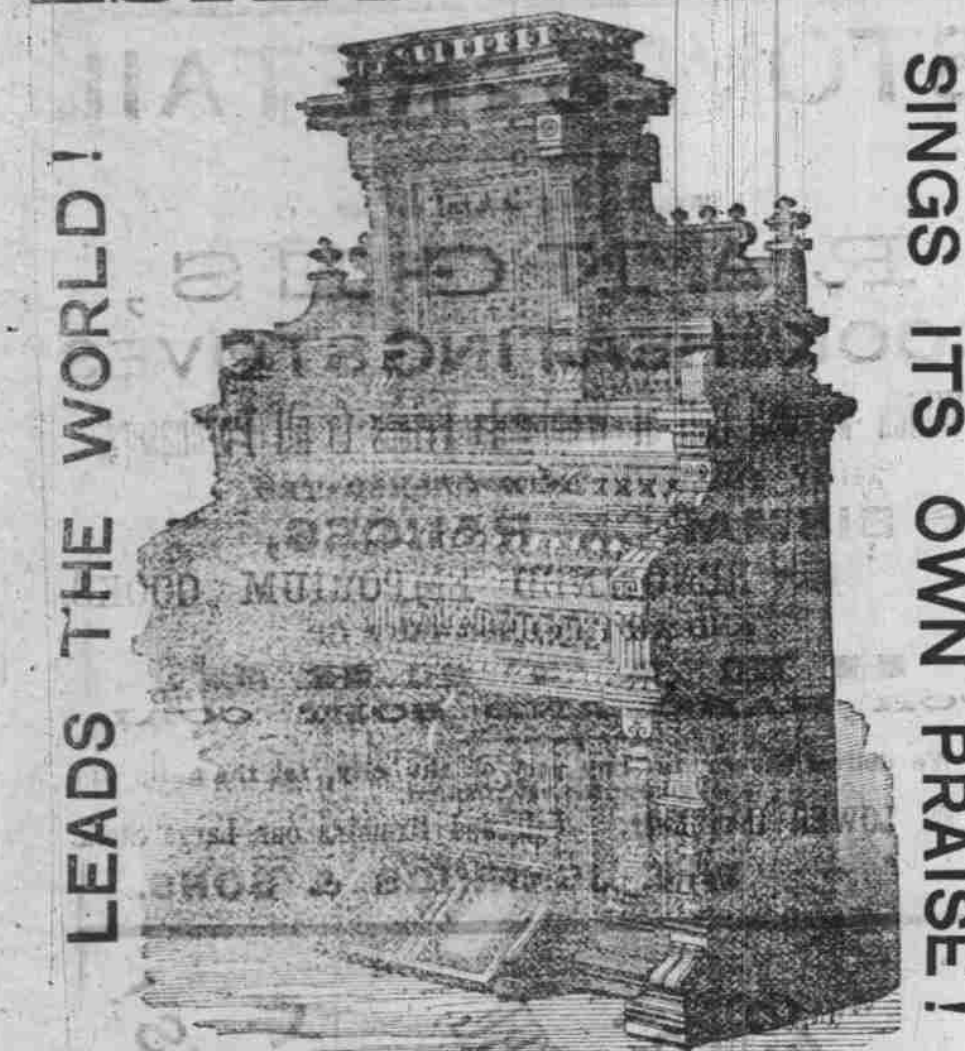
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P. O. Box 200, Salt Lake City.

EVENING NEWS.

Monday, Dec. 23, 1900.

MORMONISM.

From the New York Truth Seeker Dec. 15.
It is the Sunday Telegram of the 11th inst., I find the following article, which, because of its intolerance displayed therein, ought not, I think, to pass unnoticed. I have sent to the Telegram a reply substantially the following: "I do not expect my reply, however, to be published in that paper. I therefore ask you to give it a place in that brave and noblest of papers, The Truth Seeker."

The sentences in brackets and italics are mine.
Never before, perhaps, were so much of shocking blasphemy and monstrous intolerance expressed in so few words. Here a Christian minister, of high pretensions, declares that an entire sect, 250,000 or more, of his brother Christians who are known to be a remarkably sober, industrious, peaceable, and religious people, "must be put down by force—must be exterminated, utterly destroyed." Let a second sentence be virtually said: "Now go and smite a Molek (Mormon), and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, and sheep, and ox, and ass." (1 Sam. xv, 3). He has determined that it shall be said of Salt Lake City, and of every other Mormon city, as it was said of Jericho, and of many another city, which, by a difference of religious opinion, incurred the displeasure of the murderous "yrigidons of the Bible, whom he adopts as his models: "And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword" (Josh. vi, 21). "And Joshua (Talmage) burnt it a heap forever, even a desolation unto this day" (Josh. viii, 28). "The extent of atrocity is not the Bible capable of leading its fanatical votaries? And God is declared, in this article, to be eager for this universal and indiscriminate slaughter of the Mormons, his most sincere, devout, and earnest worshippers, to take place—as being impatient and indignant because this terrible "work of extermination" is to be adjourned and adjourned." Who is capable of giving a more horrible blasphemous representation of God?

And this is the bloody book and this the bloody God that are to be put into the Constitution of the United States, and this is the beginning of their bloody work! But even will that "work of extermination" end? Will Libe as escape? Are they not feared and hated more than are the Mormons by the religious bigots of the (Talmage) monster type, who are, even now, to a great extent, controlling the legislation of the country? If Mormons can be exterminated for their religious opinions, why not the "unbelievers"? Let us beware! The Mormons simply occupy the weakest point of the line. For this reason a one is the opening attack made upon them and not upon ourselves. When they are "crushed," we may come. While we hold no religious opinion in common with the Mormons, while we pity and despise them for their ignorance, their superstition, their slavish submission to priestcraft—who should labor for their enlightenment and their elevation in the scale of manhood, a common danger threatens us, and we should make common cause with them—not as Mormons, but as human beings—against that hideously bloody form of intolerance that is heard from nearly every pulpit in the land, crying: "How long shall the work of extermination continue to be adjourned?" "Go away (because of their opinions) both men and women, infant and suckling." Mark my words, if the Mormons "be put down by force," if "the work of extermination" be successfully performed against them, their destruction will furnish a precedent, and will give our intolerant enemies a power utterly fatal to us—utterly fatal to all hope of civil or religious liberty in America, if not in the whole world. Let no Liberal cry: "Peace! peace!" when, in the face of such intolerance, there can be "no peace." An hour ago, I expressed an opinion that I, who have fought over sixty battles for my country, and who have suffered long from wounds received in those battles, would be compelled by the triumphant church party to spend my days in a dungeon, because of my honest opinions. The will to destroy me and all other prominent Liberals certainly does exist among our enemies, and the power to destroy us certainly will soon exist, if we are not vigilant.

I am aware that, in the eyes of a fanatic and bigot, the Talmage, a difference of religious opinion constitutes an unpardonable sin, and that for a rival sect to make an "increase of 25,000 in six months," while his sect have no increase at all, constitutes a "sin" which "must be put down by force." I am neither surprised nor alarmed, then, when I hear him gnashing his teeth in his chair, and intemperately crying in his desperation, "How long shall the work of extermination be adjourned and adjourned?" When, however, this worse than hellish cry for blood is taken up by ably conducted papers, like the Sunday Telegram, when it is taken up by nearly every one of the 70,000 preachers of the country, and by their congregations, I am a little surprised and a good deal alarmed. Persecution is already heaving heavily upon me. If Talmage's church could have reported an "increase of 25,000 in six months," would that report have constituted any proof that God was impatient to have them "put down by force?" Would it have constituted any proof that he was indignant because somebody did not begin upon them the "work of extermination?" Would it not, on the contrary, have constituted, in his eyes, a proof of God's approval, a visible mark of his blessing? And why should the same thing be a proof of God's favor in his case, and of God's disfavor in the case of the Mormons?

It may be objected, however, that it is not the sin of increasing "25,000 in six months," for which Talmage, God & Co. are so impatient to see the "work of extermination" begin against the Mormons, but the fact of polygamy. Very good. But when did God come to look upon polygamy as a sin? When did he come to be impatient and indignant with men for practicing it? Did he ever utter one word against polygamy? Did he not, on the contrary, according to the teachings of the Bible, and, according to the teachings of the Mormon people, and models of righteousness? Was not one of the twelve patriarchs the offspring of polygamous marriages? Was God impatient with Jacob when this good man was being bought back and forth among the various tribes of the twelve patriarchs, chewing gum, etc., etc.

Was he displeased with polygamy when he gave laws regulating it? Did he look upon polygamy as a sin when, for polygamous purposes, he gave the Hebrews 32,500 Midianite virgins? Did he look upon polygamy as a sin when David, who already had a well filled harem, he gave all at one time a whole household more of wives? In short, is there a single passage in the Bible, bearing upon the subject at all, that does not represent God as looking with favor upon polygamy? And if he looked upon it as right, why did he not change his opinions? And if he looked upon it as right, must it not be right? Does he ever err in his opinions? Does not Talmage teach Mormonism himself every time he teaches that the Bible is the inspired word of God, and that we ought to follow its teachings? Can Mormonism ever be put down, while the Bible, upon which it is firmly founded, is sustained? Was it not from the Jews or the Romans, that we derived our anti polygamous ideas? So far as the war upon the Mormons is concerned, one, not the Bible entirely on their side, and is not every effort to put them down by force an act of pure persecution? So far as it is a political one, have not the people of Utah the same right to make their own marriage laws that the people of any other State or Territory have to make theirs? Have the States delegated to us the power to put down by force one religion, and to build up another that cannot succeed very well in building itself up? And have they ever delegated to us the power to interfere with the marriage relations of the people in any State or Territory? Is not every such interference an act of dangerous usurpation and persecution? Where will it end? If it ends short of extermination, will it not simply strengthen the Mormons? What but the present persecution of the Mormons under the Edmunds bill, could have raised their income from about 3,000 a year to the unpardonably small number of "25,000 in six months?" A few more such booms are all they want!

For over 30 years I have mingled more or less with the Mormons, and I can assure the bloodthirsty Talmage, God & Co., that these intensely sincere and earnest God-fearing God-loving, and God-serving Christians will not yield their religion to any physical force that stops short of the complete "work of extermination." They may be made to "pay in obliterated homes and trampled harvests and crowded graveyards," for daring to put in practice, in their own lives, an institution which, in God's full approbation and blessing, was practiced by the most holy men of the Bible. And would there be nothing "terrible" in this war of extermination? And who is to perform this hideous work, now that the time to which it was last adjourned has arrived, and it "must" be done? The world has never seen such a war as will result if an attempt be made to exterminate an entire great people because of their religion.

Can not Talmage, God & Co. cope with these deluded people in argument? If they can, why not do so? Do the victors in argument ever resort to physical force? Convince these people that they are in error and the work of extermination may be adjourned sine die.

JOHN R. KELSO.

Correspondence.

A Voice from the North.
ST. CHARLES,
Bear Lake Co., I. T.,
December 18, 1899.

Editor Desert News:

The isolated condition of St. Charles makes it less noted than some of our towns contiguous to business marts on the Oregon Short Line and other railroads. Notwithstanding this each place and locality has its identity. It also seems that there is a peculiar identity about the various hills presented before the 48th Congress in relation to the "Mormons," all having in view their extinction. It really appears that as a similar effort was made at its early inception which proved futile that its opponents would desert and cease to fight against the decrees of Congress. The illustrious Washington, than whom none was more alert in war and none more sincerely cherished the benign sentiments of peace, presided over the convention that framed the Constitution, which seems to be getting more and more obsolete. If they keep on long enough the amendments will become more numerous than the original clauses and like a divided house the majority carries.

The weather in St. Charles has been milder than in other winters thus far, the thermometer has not ranged as low as zero. In traveling through the valley wheels are preferable to the sleigh. Shooting the wild deer is considered amusing as some indulge in that kind of sport, and the flesh of those animals is excellent food, while their pelt demand a good price.

Respectfully,
ANONYMOUS.

EMIL FRESE'S



HAMBURG TEA.

Is the best family medicine, and will be found, on trial, to be the most easy, natural and comfortable aperient obtainable. For sale everywhere.

FRUIT FOR THE HOLIDAYS

I WILL PROMPTLY SEND TO ALL Orders, accompanied with the Cash, three bushels of selected fruit—Apple, well packed in a good time frost-proof barrel, weight, 150 pounds gross, for \$2.00. Superior Yellow Danvers Onions, in a new seamless sack, weight 100 pounds for \$2.00. I have also 2c. milk, Potatoes, Apples, Beets, Turnips, Carrots, etc., etc. I will deliver the above at the railway depot at Provo. C. W. GARDNER'S EXCHANGE, 30 E. 1st St., Salt Lake City.

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T. C. ARMSTRONG,
Having taken advantage of Low Freight will be able to sell
GRAIN, GRASS,
GARDEN, FLOWER,
— AND —
FIELD SEEDS.
At a price within the reach of all his patrons
LEAVE ORDERS FOR SEEDS
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THE PURE JUICE OF THE GRAPE!

H. J. WOOLLACOTT,
242 NORTH SPRING ST.,
LOS ANGELES, CAL.,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
WINE AND LIQUOR DEALER.
Pure California Wines put up in Two Cases of One Dozen Each, containing of Port, Angell, Cherry, Zinfandel, Malaga and Grape Nectar, making in all 24 bottles (6 to the gallon) and delivered in Salt Lake, Utah, for Ten Dollars.
Special quotations given to orders in large quantities.

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Address orders to John Nield, Salt Lake City; or call on him in the 14th Ward, Third door from Northwest Corner School-house Block, No. 462 N.
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(Successors to NAYLOR BROS.)

Carriage and Wagon BUILDERS.

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Sulky Hay Rakes,
Feed Cutters, Chilled Plows, Harrows, etc.,
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DEALERS IN HARDWOOD, WAGON MATERIAL, IRON,
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Planing Mill,

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TAPE WORMS,

HE REMOVES THEM IN TWO HOURS,
HEAD AND TAIL, AND HIS PRICE
IS VERY REASONABLE.

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Cured in a few days; also

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All Chronic Diseases, Mercurial

Affections of the Throat,

Skin or Bones, Nervous Debility,

Paralysis, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Heart and

Kidney Diseases.

TAPE WORM Expelled in 24 Hours.

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Thorough examination and advice,

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Poultry, Fish, and Game!



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