

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. LARGENOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

Published every evening (SUNDAY EXCEPTED). Office of First Temple and East Temple Streets Salt Lake City, Utah.

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Subscription prices: One Year, \$10.00; Six Months, \$6.00; Three Months, \$3.50; One Month, \$1.00; Single Copies, 2c.

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SALT LAKE CITY, FEB. 27, 1900.

NOT AN INTERPOLATION.

In a recent article we responded to a letter of inquiry from the north concerning the passages in the 'Sermon on the Mount' about plucking out an eye and cutting off a hand. We showed that these expressions were figurative, and doubted if any really sane person would take them in a literal sense.

We are aware that, as related by our correspondent, there have been instances of the voluntary mutilation of the body by individuals who took literally the instruction of the Savior, 'If thy right eye offend thee pluck it out, etc.'

There is no good reason that we are aware of to believe that the passages referred to are an 'interpolation.' They contain nothing which would favor any particular religious sect or notion.

Our correspondent thinks that these passages do not harmonize with the saying, 'He that overcometh shall inherit all things.' It is strange that any one should discover any discord between them.

Our correspondent also imagines that the following, in the discourse delivered by the Savior to the Nephites, is a 'substitute' for the passages in Matthew:

'Behold I give unto you a commandment, that ye suffer none of these things to enter into your hearts; for it is better that ye should deny yourself these things which ye will take up your cross, than that ye should be cast into hell.'

But it will be found on examination that this is not a 'substitute' for anything, but refers to the previous passage concerning adultery in the heart. Reference to the translation by the Prophet Joseph Smith, referred to by our correspondent, corroborates this view.

'And now thus I speak a parable concerning your sins; wherefore cast them from you that ye may not be hewn down and cast into the fire.'

As we have heretofore stated, the translation by the Prophet has not been published by authority of this Church, yet it is evident that this explanation was given by the Savior in His sermon on the mount and is one of the precious things that have been omitted, in the transmission of the sacred writings from age to age.

There is nothing in the figures of the eye and the hand incompatible with the others used by Christ as illustrations of His meaning; therefore we do not regard

them as an 'interpolation,' but consider them very expressive and conveying clearly the meaning of the great Teacher to, all who are spiritual. 'Whoso readeth let him understand.'

CRONJE SURRENDERS.

The capitulation of Gen. Cronje is now officially announced. Dramatic interest is added to the important event by the fact that the surrender took place on the anniversary day of the Majuba hill disaster, and while the Boers were having a day of prayer and thanksgiving, presumably in commemoration of that historic battle.

The result now achieved has been long anticipated. The size of Lord Roberts' army enabled him to divide his forces and yet carry on effective operations at separate points.

Intense interest has been centered in the heroic struggle of Gen. Cronje against the overwhelming force around him. Cronje has been called the 'lion of South Africa,' and he has long been known as a master of military strategy.

At the time of the Jameson raid Cronje again became prominent. The raiders were opposed by this general, whose strategy and rifle fire proved too much for them.

It is customary with a certain class of writers to excuse indecent and immoral exhibitions on the stage, in newspapers, and elsewhere, on the ground that the public get just what they want.

NO EXCUSE.

As the world is constituted, it seems to be a recognized principle that 'offenses must come,' but that does by no means exonerate those through whom they come.

The fact is that every preacher, every actor and actress, every lecturer and every one who presumes to appear before the public, either as a moulder of thought, instructor or entertainer, ought to feel morally bound to bring forth only that which has a tendency to elevate and purify the public sentiment.

THE RESCUE HOME.

Residents of Sugar House ward protest against having the so-called Rescue home moved to that locality. The reason is that the 'home,' where formerly located, acquired a reputation for being at times without proper control and a menace to the quiet and the morality of the neighborhood.

We would think the Philanthropic women interested in 'rescue' work would see to it that such rumors are without substantial foundation.

that knoweth little about politics will tell it all, and more too. Gen. Cronje has not stampeded mules to which to charge his disaster. He was just caught by an overwhelming force and could not help himself.

BLOCH'S WAR PREDICTIONS.

At the present juncture of the war in Africa it is not without interest to read what M. Bloch, the Russian military expert, thinks of the possibilities of a naval struggle against Great Britain.

His position is this, that the superiority of the United Kingdom as a sea power is no guarantee of its safety, England's all-powerful fleet, he thinks, could do no more harm to the German coast than did the French fleet in 1870.

Unfortunately, these considerations are overlooked by public opinion in England, where they pretend not to be afraid that the prolongation of the war in South Africa and the exhaustion of the English forces might tempt certain countries to take advantage of England's weakness.

FAIR APPRECIATION.

The Chicago Times-Herald has something to say, editorially, on the splendid speech of Congressman Littlefield on the Roberts question.

IS MARRIAGE A FAILURE?

New York Evening Sun. Prof. William G. Sumner, of the Social Science department at Yale, in the course of his lecture to the senior class yesterday, gave it as his opinion that 50 per cent of the marriages nowadays turned out unhappily.

BOARDS OF HEALTH.

The San Francisco Chronicle has the subjoined editorial on the powers and duties of boards of health: 'One trouble with our board of health is that its members are doctors, and as such attempt to carry into the public service the autocratic habits and bearing acquired in their private practice.'

THE FLOUR TRUST HAS COLLAPSED.

The flour trust has collapsed. The little dough.

Now 'Little Bobs' is bigger than ever in England.

The Chicago Times-Herald asks, 'Is this a free country?' Freed from what?

The 'balance of power' in prisoners of war is now on the side of the British possessions.

The time draweth near when the man

that knoweth little about politics will tell it all, and more too. Gen. Cronje has not stampeded mules to which to charge his disaster. He was just caught by an overwhelming force and could not help himself.

A compromise has been reached in Congress on the proposed legislation affecting Puerto Rico, but if anyone is satisfied with it he is keeping out of sight.

The march of civilization has made another long stride. The sources of the Nile in Central Africa now are in telegraphic communication with the civilized world.

It is gratifying that the surrender of Gen. Cronje was accomplished without an assault on his position, which would have cost many more lives to have attained the result.

Admiral Sampson can have little respect for Spanish veracity, the way he has to deny the inaccurate assertions of Captain Conens, in the latter's report on the battle with Admiral Cervera's fleet.

Kentucky is now practically without a State government, since the 'outs' have secured an injunction forbidding the 'ins' from exercising the functions of office, yet the 'ins' hold possession so the 'outs' are powerless to conduct affairs till the courts pass upon their claims.

Taking the figures of the American army in the late war with Spain, only two men out of a hundred lost their lives in battle, with about four times that number wounded.

In the Roberts case, the speech of Congressman Littlefield had little effect because the overwhelming majority had decided on what course to pursue, regardless of any appeal to reason.

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SPECIAL GLOVE SALE. We are Selling During the Week Commencing Monday, February 26, A Bargain Leader for the Ladies' in 'Grenoble' Real Kid Gloves, 2-Clasp, Black and all Colors, worth \$1.50, Special for this Week, \$1.25. Z. C. M. I. T. G. Webber, Supt.

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NEW GOODS AT BED ROCK PRICES. 25 doz. Ladies' fancy Silk Handkerchiefs, 15c, worth 25c. 25 doz. Men's White Silk Handkerchiefs, 40c, worth 60c. 50 doz. Men's Good White Unlaundered Shirts, 25c, worth 40c. 100 doz. Men's Neckwear, 15c, worth 25c. 25 doz. Men's Colored Shirts, soft front, 75c, worth \$1.00. We are agents of the Provo Woolen Mills. Order a new spring suit, good cut and fit, at low prices.

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