

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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THE DESERET NEWS,  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, JAN. 29, 1902.

OLD FOLKS ENTERTAINMENT.

The Old Folks' committee have arranged for a special entertainment to the aged of this city, on Friday afternoon, January 31st. The Salt Lake Opera Company have kindly tendered a performance of the beautiful opera, "Marta," for this occasion in the Theatre.

All people seventy years of age and upward are invited to attend, with or without tickets. The tickets are free of charge. The committee are still active and ready to give pleasure and comfort to the aged. It is a splendid work and has been successful from its inception. The entertainment on Friday afternoon will be well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. Honor to the Old Folks and thanks and praise to the Opera Company and the Old Folks' committee.

A GOOD MESSAGE.

Mayor Ezra Thompson's message to the City Council will be found in full in another part of this issue of the "News." It is a business document from beginning to end. We find in it nothing objectionable, except perhaps one feature to which we will allude further on. It is not partisan in any sense, nor does it contain any attempt at fine language or expressions above the comprehension of the ordinary citizen. It is well worth reading and studying. The statements it contains afford a clear understanding of the chief affairs of the municipality, and the recommendations presented are practical, clear cut and worthy the full consideration of the City Council and of the public.

We will not enter into an analysis of the message nor will we recapitulate its pointed paragraphs. We advise the full reading of the message by every person interested in the condition and welfare of the city. It is a common-sense paper. It is not too lengthy, and the Mayor is to be congratulated on its conciseness, perspicuity and grasp of the situation. The council will do well to take action as soon as possible upon all the suggestions of the Mayor, as they are in the direction of improvement and the upbuilding of all the city's interests.

The feature to which we referred in our opening remarks, is the first item in the message and relates to the city's finances. It would appear from the report which was obtained of course from the auditor's statement, as though the city had on hand December 31, 1901, cash to the amount of \$257,748. But we think it will be found on investigation that this sum includes money belonging to special funds that cannot be used except for the specific purposes for which they were obtained, and also some prospective amounts which are assessments as yet uncollected. This being the case the city did not have the actual cash in hand as stated.

If we are mistaken on this point we will be pleased to rectify it, as we have no disposition to find fault or to misstate existing conditions. We do not charge the Mayor or any other city officer with a wilful attempt to misrepresent, but we think the matter would have been made clear if the points we have mentioned had been presented, so that the public might know exactly what the city has on hand, in actual cash for general city purposes. If the municipality is really pressed for money to carry on the general business, that ought to be understood, and special funds that cannot be expended except for the purposes for which they were designed, ought to be designated so that the public may know exactly how the city stands financially.

In referring to this one matter, we do not wish to be understood as finding any fault with the Mayor or his message. His figures have been taken from an official report and are doubtless correct in the way that they are stated, except as to the point we have presented. The message on the whole is very satisfactory, and we commend it to the attention of the people of this city as an exceptionally strong, terse and comprehensive public document.

A GREAT LOSS.

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the demise of Oscar B. Hardy, one of our most esteemed friends and citizens. He had been in failing health for some time and this was exhibited in his manner and countenance. Naturally vigorous and witty, it was thought he would be able to conquer his malady and live many years of usefulness, for he was an active, intelligent and capable man of affairs. In the capacities in which he served the

public, he gave evidence of a strong mind and an honest heart. It was the same in his business affairs. He met with great reverses, which we believe had at least as much effect upon his life as did the ravages of disease. He became involved through his association with others, and his kindly disposition in the endorsement of obligations which fell upon his own shoulders. These weighed him down heavily, but his personal integrity was not questioned by those who knew him, and his taking off almost in the prime of his life is a sad blow to his family and numerous friends. We condole with them in this misfortune, and we view his departure as a loss to the community. A good man has gone from among us and we bid him farewell with profound grief.

## TWISTING WILL NOT ANSWER.

We have no desire to keep up a controversy with the Salt Lake Tribune or any other paper, on questions that are not profitable or of public moment, but we do not intend to permit direct misrepresentations of the utterances of the Deseret News to pass without some notice from us. The remarks of the Tribune in reference to articles in our columns on the subject of present revelation, sound very much like faint echoes of the unpleasant past.

The language and the subjects presented by the "News" were entirely distorted by the Tribune, and made to appear in the exact opposite light in which they were presented in our columns. This we pointed out in a manner that could not be misunderstood. Instead of acknowledging its error frankly, the Tribune evasively and ambiguously twists out of the hole into which it fell, and endeavors to make it appear that there was no difference of opinion between us. That may seem to it to be the easiest way, but it can scarcely be claimed to be the most honorable.

The Tribune lately stated the position of the Deseret News on the admissibility of a claim to divine revelation as evidence in a court. We said plainly and repeatedly that "testimony concerning a revelation from God will not stand before the law as evidence against an accused person," also that "it should not be received as evidence in either a secular or an ecclesiastical court." The Tribune made a long argument professing to reply to the "News," on the assumption that we advocated the admission of such testimony as evidence, and that we claimed that "those who object to the reception of such testimony by the magistrate are disbelievers in the principle of revelation from God." The Tribune's statements were utterly false and misleading, as we have shown beyond fair contradiction.

The Tribune said further that "the question of revelation is not challenged," whereas the article in the "News" was a reply to a sermon by a minister of this city, in which the principle of revelation was directly challenged. It is no use for our contemporaries to dodge and squirm away from the issue between us. It will have to meet the matter fairly or let it alone. We do not care which course it takes, but we do not propose to be so entirely misrepresented without presenting the truth and exposing the error. Such tactics as we complain of are worthy only of the old-time regime of that paper.

## A POLAR STORY.

According to a story in the Chicago American, an explorer, Sergeant Julius R. Frederick, one of the heroes of the Greely expedition, has recently made a statement which is sure to again stimulate curiosity as to the real conditions in the region nearest the North Pole, and perhaps inspire some further efforts to solve the mysteries of the Polar sea. Mr. Frederick says that in his opinion the region around the North Pole is inhabited; that the climate there is comparatively mild, and there is vegetation enough to sustain human and animal life.

In proof of this assertion he shows photographs of animals inhabiting the high northern latitudes. Foxes and mammals, that, during the Arctic summer dwell in the country about the 81st parallel migrate northward when fall sets in. They seek, he thinks, the congenial climate of further north and spend the winters there.

Sergeant Frederick was one of Greely's "farthest north" expedition. During this trip, it seems, he made some discoveries and observations of a most startling nature. He found, for instance, numerous proofs that the country between Lady Franklin Bay and Fort Conger, at the 81st parallel, once had been inhabited. In several places he found remains of villages. There were numerous specimens of petrified wood, articles of household furniture, spears, fishing paraphernalia, etc. His conclusion naturally was, that the climate had been once so mild, that the climate there had once been mild.

From Cape Britannia he and two comrades pushed on alone toward the north, reaching 83 degrees and 21 minutes. From the top of a high iceberg they surveyed the surroundings. The temperature was several degrees warmer there than at the 81st parallel, though they had expected it to be colder. Through the glass, the explorer says, they saw vegetation in the valleys and hillsides. Pines, dwarf oaks and grasses covered the earth. Game was plentiful, whereas at the 81st parallel they had been unable to kill even a rabbit. Here they saw rabbits, foxes, musk oxen, reindeer, ducks and geese. But they could proceed no further, being under order to return to the general rendezvous.

On the last night in this high latitude, Mr. Frederick says the three explorers saw a most wonderful sight. About 10 o'clock at night a brilliant aurora appeared in the northern sky, and in the background was pictured a great city. The observer could see the outlines of buildings. And this vision bugged in the sky for about an hour. He seems to be convinced that it was a mirage of a Polar city, which is yet to be discovered. He believes that the race that left evidences of its existence in the country explored tra-

veled northward and that their children may still be living at the North Pole. We do not know what credence may be placed in this startling story, but if the explorer is correctly quoted, his views are at least entitled to a hearing. Since the Greely expedition still higher latitudes have been visited without any startling finds, and the opinion now prevails that there is no land, if not undiscovered islands, round the Pole. But in all probability the mysteries of the north are not yet solved. And human curiosity will not be satisfied until the goal is reached.

## THE PEACE RUMORS.

For some time rumor has been busy with alleged overtures looking toward the establishment of peace in South Africa. Mr. Balfour, in the House of Commons, now explains that no propositions have been received from anyone authorized to speak in behalf of the Boers, although a communication had been sent by the Dutch government, in which a friendly offer was made to act as "a sort of diplomatic agent" for the Boer delegates. The British government, however, seems to doubt that negotiations carried on with Mr. Kruger and other prominent Boers, whether through the Dutch government or any other agency, would be considered binding by the leaders in the field. And until that point has been cleared up, the negotiations can make no further progress.

This explanation does not necessarily mean that there will be no more effort to end the war by a treaty of peace. The Dutch prime minister some time ago stated that his government could take no steps in the matter until it had reason to believe that both parties desired it. The conclusion is near that the Dutch government now has had an intimation encouraging it to communicate with London. Naturally some difficulty is encountered in agreeing upon a basis of negotiations. Great Britain cannot give up her dearly bought sovereignty over the conquered states, and the Boers are slow to admit the impossibility of retaining absolute independence. But if both parties desire peace, a basis will be found upon which to commence to talk the matter over. Trust to diplomacy, with its infinitude of resources, for that.

The Boer leaders would be foolish, if they refused to accept reasonable peace terms, whenever they can be obtained. For it is clear enough now, that if it is only a question of time, when their forces will be so scattered and annihilated that they will have no chance whatever to appear before any government as the representatives of anybody but themselves. The time must be drawing near when the armed bands will be so reduced that their existence can have no influence whatever upon the affairs of the country. If they can obtain any terms at all now, they had better accept them. Roosevelt suggested some time ago local self-government on the Canadian plan, and complete amnesty to all that have carried arms in the war. If the British government can be prevailed on to grant some such terms now, the Boers ought to be satisfied. For as far as human wisdom can foresee, in a short time there can be nothing but unconditional surrender.

Some time ago, it will be remembered, a Belgian statesman suggested that the British exchange South Bechuanaland for the Transvaal and the Orange colony, and permit the Boers to make an overture. The proposition attracted much attention, but it is not known whether it has been given any further consideration by the parties directly interested.

## WOULD "SKIN" HIM.

The attack made by Prof. Pearson, of the Northwestern university, on the miracles of the Bible has called forth various comments, from the press and the pulpit. But one Chicago preacher must be awarded the prize for the venom, if not for the originality, he infuses in his defense of the "faith." He is quoted as follows:

"If I had the power and ability, I would skin that man, salt his hide and tack it up on the barndoor before the ordinary preacher could sharpen his jack-knife."

Prof. Pearson's attack on the Scriptures does not cause half the damage to religion, that such a defense of it does. The skepticism that comes forth openly and boldly is respectable compared to the profession of belief that is faintly contradicted in words and actions. The former may be error of conception, or deliberate enmity; the latter is rank hypocrisy.

He who is firmly convinced of the truth is strong in this conviction. He does not need to resort to "skinning" an adversary, either literally or figuratively. He is content to let the truth fight its own cause.

It is a fact, though, that a great many of the latter-day champions of religion harbor the very sentiments the Chicago preacher is said to have expressed. They would be too glad to have power to command fire from heaven to consume all who differ with them. They would like to draw the sword and cut the ear of every adversary within their reach. And in the absence of power to command the lightning, or to wield the sword, they plot and scheme in other ways against those who dare to think and to speak. They are the worst enemies of religion. They make infidels. They are responsible for much of that scorn for religion, in which infidelity flourishes.

Christ taught liberty. Compulsion was as far from His methods, as His kingdom is from the methods of the world. If His professed followers had even a rudimentary knowledge of the government of the kingdom of heaven, they would hate themselves for entertaining the faintest idea of persecution, or for believing that good can come of evil, right or wrong.

Jack Frost has put his foot down firm.

London welcomes American players. So does Monte Carlo.

Peace is hovering over South Africa, but it hovers higher and higher each day.

May Mayor Thompson's message to

the Council prove to be a message of peace?

It is quite proper for a steel king to hobnob with a king who wears an iron crown.

The length of Admiral Schley's appeal to the President is reminiscent of the court of inquiry proceedings.

Is the American Senate to sink to the low level of the Austrian Reichsrath and the Indiana legislature?

It appears to be diplomatic etiquette to decline the Kaiser's present to the President before it is tendered.

In the debate on the Philippine tariff bill, Senator Tillman made it evident that his pitchfork has not lost a single tine.

What a lively time it was in the Senate yesterday! While it may not have been edifying it certainly was exhilarating.

It is most probable that Secretary Long's first "comment" on Schley's appeal was couched in language not fit for publication.

In the discharge of his duties as president of the Cuban republic, General Palma has got as far as appointing a private secretary.

And now it is said that the Danish West Indies are the key to the Gulf of Mexico. There seem to be a good many duplicate keys to the Gulf.

The "News" congratulates U. S. Marshal Ben Heywood upon his confirmation. May his administration of the office be successful!

An English earl failed to "clean out" the gambling hall at Monte Carlo. It remained for an American to do that. A steel trust magnate Schwabed it out.

Will Secretary Long's "comment" on Schley's appeal to the President be a reversal of the department's attitude on the court of inquiry's decision or stare decisis?

It is said President Roosevelt will retain the White House as it is as his residence. No doubt he would be willing to retain it as his residence for a second term.

Following the discovery of a gold mine under the Denver city hall, comes an investigation into the management of Denver's municipal affairs. It is a strange coincidence, to say the least.

Captain Richmond P. Hobson says that the Monroe doctrine has been carried to the Philippines. That being so, why not take the Constitution over there? The two somehow kind of go together.

The Philippines are rapidly developing an affection for our institutions," says Governor Taft. About such an affection as Nicholas Nickleby developed for treacle and sulphur. And for the same reason.

The new Springfield rifle is declared by ordnance officers to be superior to the Krag-Jorgensen, the Mauser or the German rifle. Now let's have a war to prove the superiority of American ingenuity to that of all the world.

Senator Bacon of Georgia thinks that the great American citizen is not getting enough Congressional Record in his intellectual food, so he would place that incomparable periodical within the reach of all by making the price one dollar for the short session and two dollars for the long one. The terms are not bad, but to induce people to subscribe, club terms and a chromo should be offered.

## THE DANISH ISLANDS.

Boston Transcript.

The limitations of the Danish islands are well known and we have doubtless given all they are worth as a purely commercial enterprise, though it is understood that the government values them mainly for naval purposes. The harbor of St. Thomas being a fine one and regarded as a safeguard to our proposed canal operations. While the rest of the islands are not yet made public, it is supposed that we take the islands on the same general terms as Porto Rico and the Philippines. They have hardly been self-supporting in recent years, and unless we can develop them more amply than their former owner has done they are more likely to be a financial burden than a source of revenue.

Chicago Record-Herald.

The digging of the canal across the Isthmus of Panama, however, as now recommended by the Walker commission, would greatly increase the strategic value of the island of St. Thomas to the United States. A base commanding the approach to the isthmus is of great importance to the United States, whether the canal is cut across it or not, but in the event of Congress deciding to follow the last recommendation of the canal commission even the "anti-imperialists" would doubtless concede the commercial necessity of assuring our absolute control of the water way under all conditions.

Kansas City Star.

The purchase is what might be called a bargain. Denmark gets more than the islands are worth to it, intrinsically, strategically or otherwise, but the United States is called upon to pay but a small part of what the several harbors might be worth in case of a big naval war or an enlargement of the United States navy. Instead of having a big naval war or an enlargement of the United States navy, it is worth much more than the price agreed upon for the entire group.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The acquisition of the islands is desirable because if we should not take them we could hardly refuse to allow Germany to buy them. Instead of having two strong naval powers, England and France, in possession of naval bases in the Caribbean, we should have three powers to reckon with. Finally, with the opening of the canal, St. Thomas, lying on the direct passage from Europe, will be likely to become an important port of call for all canal traffic using the direct route.

New York Mail and Express.

There is no reason why the treaty should not be ratified very promptly, unless it is found to contain some difficult or impracticable provision which the world now knows nothing about. The main question is simple enough. The islands are thrown into our hands by the unavoidable logic of their situation and circumstances. Their possession has not been felt to be oppressive, and the negotiations for their purchase would not have been entered through the span of a generation. But there was no other future,

no other fate, open to them than eventual annexation to the United States.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

By far the larger part of the population of the islands purchased from Denmark are negroes and mixed bloods, and of the whites the English preponderate. The English language is that most spoken, though from the mixed patois of the blacks and halfbreeds. The question certain to be raised in the Senate in connection with the ratification of the treaty is, how much farther the United States is to go in the acquisition of territory whose inhabitants were not consulted as to their sale, and who are understood to object to their transfer as a "subject people."

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Sir Charles W. Dilke contributes to "The Cosmopolitan" for February an article on "The Naval Strength of Nations," which gives a comprehensive account of the navies of the great powers. There are also stories of love, adventure and humor from the pens of recognized authors. "S. John &amp; Son," by Zangwill, deals with the Angelization of a Jew and the inevitable tragedy of his love for an English girl whose race prejudice triumphs over her nobler feelings. "Niagara—the Scene of Perilous Feats," is the title of an article which tells the story of the many who have year after year gone to Niagara seeking notoriety or death—Irvington, N. Y.

The complete novel in Lippincott's Magazine for February is by John Strange Winter (Mrs. Arthur Stannard), and is called "The Standings." Then it has several short stories. One of these, by Charles H. Caffin, is entitled "For the Honor of His Wife." Another, by Percie W. Hart, entitled "The Abandoned Affair," is a detective story. Captain Leslie J. Perry, late of the war records office at Washington, writes about "Lincoln's Official History" (gossip of the birthday of Lincoln), February 12. This embodies some hitherto unpublished letters from President Lincoln to his generals in the field, giving evidence of his punctiliousness, clearness and conciseness. Another paper is the second part of Sidney Lanier's posthumous essay "Music of Shakespeare's Time." Part I. was published in the January number. A sympathetic poem by I. Zangwill, called "Blind Children," heads the list of verse. Accompanying this are the poems "In Winter," by Francis Sterne Palmer, "At Ochoa," by Louise Driscoll, "Epitaph," by Clarence Urmy, and "At Winter's End," by Cate Young Rice—Philadelphia.

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Two Nights, Starting

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The most gorgeous production of any age. A great company of players. Beautiful costumes. Magnificent scenery. Brilliant Calcein Effects. A Superb Chorus of Well Trained Voices.

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First time "anywhere" at these prices: 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00; boxes, \$1.50.

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Seat sale Thursday.

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Last Time.

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EVERYTHING NEW.

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There Will be no Matinee.

PRICE—\$1.00.

Sale of Seats now on at Daynes Music Store.

No extra charge for Reserved Seats.

When you want the best served in the best way, ask anybody to meet "where is the best place to dine?" If he don't say the Tavern, he, probably, don't know.

Remember—Telephone 7—Tell a waiter.

## Great January Sale!

Now on at Z. C. M. I. Will continue during the Week Commencing Monday, January 27th. We give a few items from our big list of Great Bargains for the Ladies. Note the lines of goods and come and examine our offerings.

## New Spring Wash Goods

Is of special benefit at this time—new goods ahead of the season. The reduction in figures ranges up to—

Beautiful Zephyr Gingham, worth 12c to 15c, go at 10c

Lovely Percales, 31 and 36 in wide, worth 12c to 15c per yard, go at 10c

Full line of Calicoes, in light and dark, worth 6c and 7c per yard, go at 5c

Double Fold Waistings and Flannel-ettes, worth 20c and 25c per yard, go at 15c

Other Bargains in Plenty.

## Ladies' Tailor-Made Suits

Our entire stock of these new and fashionable goods goes in this sale at—

Ladies' High Grade P. D. Coats 1/2 Off.

Ladies' and Children's Flannelette Night Gowns and Underskirts 1/2 Off.

## Ladies' Misses' and Children's Knit Underwear.

A magnificent stock of the Best Goods in this class, all new, on sale at—

Ladies' Union Suits, regular price, 80c to \$1.25, in sale at— 33 1/2 Off.

Ladies' Nursing Union Suits, regular price, \$1.25 to \$3.50, in sale at— 35c to 85c

Misses' and Children's Union Suits, regular price, 60c to \$2.25, in sale at— 40c to \$1.50

Ladies' Fleece and Wool Vests and Drawers, regular price, 35c to \$1.75, in sale at— 25c to \$1.20

Children's Vests and Drawers, regular price, 25c to \$1.35, in sale at— 15c to 90c

Children's School Dresses and Sailor Suits 1/2 Off.

Ladies' Trousers, fine \$2 values, in this sale— \$1.50

Ladies' P. K. Street Gloves, regular \$1.25 value, in sale at— \$1.25

## Z. C. M. I.

T. G. WEBBER, Superintendent.

## Have You a Private Savings Bank?

Zion's Savings Bank and Trust Co., No. 1 Main street, the largest and oldest savings bank in Utah, will furnish you, free of cost, a small steel savings bank upon deposit of \$1 or more. Your deposit draws interest. You have the bank and we keep the key.

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