

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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THE NEW YEAR.

"Art thou breaking? Art thou breaking?
O New Year!
Art thou breaking
Mid the day-dawn's grey and gold?
May'st thou bring us—
May'st thou bring us bliss and blessing,
Ere thou vanish
Like a story that is—told."

ERE this issue of the NEWS reaches many of its readers, the year 1884 will have slipped, like a dew-drop, into the "shining sea" of the eternal past. Its successor will dawn upon a world still waiting for its redemption from the thralldom of Satan, sin, and the fell destroyer of all that is mortal. To all our readers we extend, with unreserved heartiness, the compliments and good wishes customarily passed at this ever welcome, and always to be hoped, happy season. But more especially may we congratulate such of them—and we believe they are the vast majority—who cherish as their paramount aim and desire, the achievement, under that God who gave them life, of the thrice-blessed purpose we have named.

The Latter-day Saints, and all who wish them well! These are the objects of our earnest congratulation. The people and Priesthood of the Most High—"a nation scattered and peeled," but "terrible from their beginning hitherto," to all who seek the wages of sin, and take pleasure in words and deeds of unrighteousness. Them we congratulate; for they are God's pioneers in the onward march of progress; the vanguard of a celestial civilization; the chosen instruments of self-sacrifice and devotion, through whom will be wrought out the utter fulfillment of His designs, in the salvation of themselves and mankind in general.

Let the new year dawn for them and all, as a harbinger of success that will yet be surely theirs. Let the clouds which seem hovering over their destiny, like the precursors of a swiftly coming morn, lend added lustre to the sunlight of peace about to burst upon this benighted world. Through darkness, chains and oppression, an Israel of old emerged into the light of freedom and a glorious nationality. Will not history repeat itself, more grandly than ever, in the latter-day reflex of that ancient event? The night of Egypt is upon us. "Bricks without straw, oppression without cause, are the portion we may expect from the taskmasters who fain would incite that resistance which they know to be natural and even justifiable, in their vain search for a pretext to destroy the thriving germ of a kingdom that shall never be overthrown.

God's people can afford to be patient. They can afford to suffer and submit to such oppression, rather than by resisting furnish it with one iota of excuse at the bar of eternal judgment where, earlier or later, all powers and potentates will be arraigned. They can bide His time with confidence, and continue to enjoy that peace of mind, that prosperity of spirit, which at all times he has poured out upon them with a plentiful and unsparing hand. Nor has the soil been less fruitful, the increase of flocks and herds less abundant, the wheels of industry less busy, or temporal blessings less profuse in any form, than the spiritual gifts with which, through all their checkered history, the Almighty has endowed His people.

Let the Latter-day Saints be true to Him, who has never forsaken them. Let each year that passes be an added link in the chain of love and integrity, binding them closer and closer to Him and His cause. Let them be true to their country—the land of Joseph and Washington—steadfastly maintaining those pure principles for which patriotism poured out its blood on the plains of Lexington and the slopes of Bunker Hill, to preserve them unsullied and inviolate as a sacred heritage to posterity. Let them honor the Constitution, and revere those noble sires who took life in one hand and the pen of Justice in the other, to sign and seal for all time a protest against tyranny of whatever name and nature, and pledge to the maintenance of the sacred cause of human liberty, "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor."

Finally, let the Saints be true to themselves. Let them serve God and love their fellowmen; be merciful and charitable, and extend to all the olive branch of peace, no matter though it be met, as heretofore, by the scorn of the skeptic, and the hatred and persecution of the ungodly.

Let them be true to their religion and its principles, and "it must follow, as the night the day, they cannot then be false to any man."

Once more a happy New Year, one and all! May it indeed bring "bliss and blessing," to rich and poor, Jew and Gentile, bond and free. To all who love God and are honestly seeking his glory and the welfare and happiness of humanity, may it be freighted with the full fruition of their fondest desires.

A FINAL EFFORT.

GOVERNOR MURRAY has wound up the old year by making one last effort to obtain control of the Territorial offices. He has issued "appointments" to several persons, as will be seen in another part of this paper. One great object in view of the ring of disturbers and conspirators, who have from time to time endeavored to overturn the existing order of affairs in Utah has been to gain possession of the territorial treasury. The offices of Auditor and Treasurer have been eagerly desired. Hitherto these attempts have failed. The people, who pay the taxes, have had a voice in the appointment of the officers entrusted with the custody of the territorial revenue. The law makes these offices elective. Formerly the Legislature in joint session elected men considered suitable and trustworthy to fill them. Latterly they have been elected by popular vote at the polls; this we consider the better and the proper way. The citizens should be permitted to choose the men whom they desire to hold such important positions of trust.

Governor Murray has been particularly active in attempting to wrest from the people the right to elect men of their own choice to handle the public moneys. He holds that he has the right to nominate; and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council to appoint, all the territorial officers. Section Seven of the Organic Act is his authority for this claim. The Legislature, by the same Act, is endowed with power over all rightful subjects of legislation, and in the exercise of that power has enacted laws which have been in force for many years, by which these offices have been made elective. And the Supreme Court of the United States has incidentally affirmed the validity of those laws, on two several occasions, as we have previously explained in these columns.

It is claimed, however, that there has been no definite ruling on the points of dispute between the Legislature and the Governor, and it is desirable that they should be finally settled. However that may be, we fail to see the color of right by which the Governor claims to make appointments without the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, as he attempts to do in the present instance. This he has clearly done outside of the bounds of his legitimate authority. Granting him for argument's sake, all the authority he claims under the Organic Act; supposing the laws passed by the Legislature which have duly received the gubernatorial signature and the quatenor endorsement of Congress to be invalid and void; yet the Governor has no authority in law to make appointments to these offices by his solitary dictum. Alone he has no such appointive power.

Dr. Douglas appears to be an especial pet of Governor Murray. He doubles offices upon him. It remains to be seen whether they will prove anything more than double trouble, vexation and failure. They may serve to fan the Dr's. vanity and answer the private purposes of the gentleman who uses them as feathers to tickle his victim, but they are not likely to be very profitable to either.

Is this an expiring effort at cussedness, to wind up the old year with a last thrust at the Mormons? Will his Excellency begin the New Year with a better disposition, and commence to act like an officer desirous of benefiting the whole people, and not of playing into the hands of a coterie of schemers? We shall see. With the hope that this may be the case, we wish the Governor and all the citizens of Utah in this respect a Happy New Year.

GOOD BY AND GOD BLESS YOU.

WITH the close of the year we lose the valuable services of our friend and brother Orson F. Whitney, who has been connected for a long time with the editorial department of the DESERET NEWS. He entered the office as a local reporter on the 10th of August, 1878, and at once exhibited talent as a writer for the press. This position he occupied with credit to himself and benefit to the public, until called to go on a mission to Europe in October, 1881. During the twenty-one months of his absence he labored efficiently in the ministry and as assistant editor of the *Millennial Star*, and on his return was invited to take the position of city editor on this paper, which he at once accepted. His experience abroad and a natural aptitude for literary pursuits rendered his contributions to our columns of great value, while his style has been noted for its clearness and beauty, and considered better adapted for the pages of a magazine than for

the local columns of a daily newspaper.

Mr. Whitney, as is well known, has accepted and entered upon the office of Treasurer of Salt Lake City, which we are sure he will fill with honor and ability. He is worthy of the confidence thus reposed in him, and the municipality is to be congratulated on securing the services of so trustworthy an officer. The occasional assistance he has rendered the NEWS since his appointment will cease as the year expires, as the duties of his present calling require all his working hours and attention.

We take this opportunity of briefly referring to his pleasant association with the DESERET NEWS, and of wishing our esteemed fellow-laborer, whose friendship, talents and good feelings we highly appreciate, abundant success in the new sphere that is opened to him, and also a long and prosperous life and a joyful and happy new year.

THE OLD AND NEW HOME MISSIONARIES.

THE Home Missionaries of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, who have labored long in this useful field, were liberated with the death of the year 1884. Many of them have been in active service in this position for a number of years; others have more recently been called to officiate in this calling; all have worked faithfully and without any pecuniary reward. They are entitled to the blessings and good wishes of the people to whom they have ministered.

A change was considered advisable for several reasons. It is not wise to keep men continually in one position; home missionaries should not be required to stay too long in their onerous position, any more than foreign missionaries; a rest is good for the speakers and a change is good for the people; there are others in the Stake qualified to act in this capacity as well as those who have been engaged; it is wise to give all the Elders an opportunity to exercise themselves in the public ministry; a new set of speakers may arouse new interest in the cause. These and many other reasons that might be named have suggested the propriety of a change.

The general promptness and fidelity of the brethren whose names appeared on the old list are notable and gratifying. In winter and in summer, at early morn and at dusky eve, those brethren have responded to the calls upon their time and talents, and whether in the city wards or country settlements they have been "instant in season or out of season." Traveling by team or paying their own fares by railroad, they have faced storm and cold, or heat and dust, and dispensed the word of life freely. Harmony has characterized their feelings and utterances, good will and brotherhood has abounded among them, as two and two they have filled their appointments and studied the public welfare rather than their own feelings.

Their labors, we are pleased to know, have been appreciated by the Bishops and the Saints generally. Missionary Sundays—each alternate week in town and every other week in the country—have been anticipated as bringing extra interest. Great good has certainly been accomplished, and the fruits of these diligent labors, though apparent in part, will only be fully realized in the great hereafter when "every man shall be rewarded according to his works."

The new list contains the names of old and tried Elders, again called to active home service, and many younger men of limited experience in this direction. We trust that they will prove as faithful and true, as prompt and active as the brethren retired. It is expected that they will inform themselves regularly of their appointments and make it a duty and a pleasure to fill them without flinching or excuse; also to report themselves regularly at the meeting on the evening of the last Wednesday in every month. We mention this simply by way of information; they will doubtless receive instruction and counsel as may be required from the Stake Presidency.

The retiring Home Missionaries should not consider themselves laid upon the shelf. We understand that this is not the intention. Their services may be specially required, and they still retain all the authority and obligations of their Holy Priesthood. They will find many openings for the exercise of their talents, and should be willing to use them for the glory of God and the benefit of their fellows in any sphere in which they may be desired to act. There is no need to "rust out" in this great latter-day work.

We extend our congratulations to the old Home Missionaries on the success which has attended their labors in the past, and to the new Home Missionaries on the opportunities now opening to them for doing good both to themselves and to others; for blessings imparted are blessings received. And to all of them we wish honor and blessing, and a useful and joyful career through life, as well as cordial greetings on the opening of the new year.

There are two to three feet of snow in Jefferson valley, Montana.

REMARKABLE PERSISTENCY.

GOVERNOR MURRAY is one of the most prolific proclaimers and appointers, in a small compass, in the line of usurpation, that the present century has produced. His course indicates that his presumption in that direction proceeds from egotism of a duplex character—personal conceit and an inflated conception of the scope of the powers of his official position. The first can readily be passed over as a mere human weakness, but the second renders him unfit to fill any position involving exercise of any degree of authority, as it will always be next to impossible for him to remain within its legitimate boundaries. He ignores both popular and representative rule and favors autocracy in its most despotic form.

The poor man's futile struggle for power would be almost pathetic were it not for the element of viciousness incorporated in the ineffectual battle.

His attempt to fill every Territorial and County office in Utah by his autocratic process is still fresh in the memories of the people. That effort resulted, as anticipated, in total failure, but he keeps on making appointments all the same. His repetitive action in again appointing Dr. George C. Douglass to the offices of Auditor of Public Accounts and Librarian has a good deal of the farcical element in it. It appears a trifle too bad to use that apparently unsophisticated gentleman, so deeply afflicted with the office hunting mania, as a political catspaw. He was the Governor's choice for auditor under the Hoar amendment subterfuge; failing in that direction, poor Dr. Douglass posed in this city as a capable sanitarian, urged the corporate authorities to appoint an efficient officer to look after the sanitary condition of Salt Lake, making it unmistakably plain that coupled with his opinion regarding the necessity of such an officer, he was the one man capable of filling the position he hoped to have created by his ingenuity. The City Fathers were impervious to his importunities and the bottom fell out of that little project.

Next the Doctor turned up at Washington, rod and tackle in hand, fishing for the office of Clerk in Judge Zane's Court, but that prospect also speedily faded from his view, and we are informed that, evidently in sheer desperation, he sought the governorship of Alaska, but it is clear that that frigid Territory had not as yet, in the estimation of the powers that be, sufficiently filled up the cup of its iniquity to be so sorely afflicted, and the unfortunate man was once more consigned to the slough of disappointment.

But still the Doctor keeps bobbing up as lively as ever in the hope of snatching an office of some kind. The Governor appears to be responsible for the heated race that Dr. Douglass has been running after office. Mr. Murray evidently takes the gentleman for a crank, for no sooner does one revolution take him to the lower level than the Governor gives the handle a turn and up he goes again to the culminating point. Were it not that Dr. Douglas, whom we do not believe to be a bad man, necessarily elicits some sympathy, all this would be very amusing.

The latest proclamation and appointments probably mean that the curtain will shortly rise on another act of the drama of the Conspirators' Dream.

ABOUT EATING.

It requires far less food to sustain life and keep up one's strength than many people imagine. It is not necessary for a person to gorge himself with victuals four or five times every day, as many English people do, nor even three times a day, according to the American custom, to live. Indeed, a person must have extraordinary digestive powers if he succeeds in living to a very advanced age while pursuing such a course. Many more persons kill themselves by over-eating than die of starvation. Regularity in eating is far more essential to health than is a great quantity of food at each meal. A very little, taken at proper and regular intervals, will sustain life and preserve health, while a hearty meal after a long fast will frequently so overtax or derange the digestive powers as to produce sickness. Fasting, however, is not to be altogether condemned, but rather recommended, for more reasons than one. John Wesley used to say that the man who never fasted was no nearer heaven than the man who never prayed. Fasting is now advised by many of the wisest and most observant of physicians as a remedy for many of the ills that afflict mankind. It is claimed that rheumatism and many other diseases may be effectually cured by fasting and allowing the bodily powers to rest and regain their equilibrium, and there is philosophy in the theory. Extra care is necessary, though, after fasting, to avoid over-eating, or eating such food as one's system cannot digest and assimilate, and in the latter particular people differ so much that it is best for each person to observe the effect of various foods upon his own organism, as no published rules will serve as a safe guide to all.

Neither is variety in food so essential to health as many people imagine. A large proportion of the earth's in-

habitants subsist almost entirely upon a single article of diet all the year round, and thrive on it. Sydney Smith alluded to the staple food of the Scotch people in his day, and its ample nutritive properties, when he gave as a motto for the *Edinburgh Review*, "We cultivate literature on a little oatmeal." And a very little oatmeal will serve to sustain life and qualify one for cultivating literature or following other pursuits in which an active mind is required, far better than a full diet of other foods that require all the power of one's being to digest.

The custom among the colored children in the South of indulging in what is there called "a long breakfast" has been cited in illustration of how people may thrive on a single and very plain article of diet, and very little of that. This "long breakfast" consists simply of a stick of sugar cane, which the little darkeys are in the habit of chewing, or twisting and sucking, and with this as their only food they will get fat.

Another example has recently come to light, which will doubtless be made the most of by vegetarians. A couple of shipwrecked sailors have been found who, cast away on a desolate island, lived for seven years upon cocoanuts, with an occasional flying fish as a relish.

LOCAL NEWS.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, JAN. 2.

Frozen.—We understand Asst. Supt. Horner, of the Denver and Rio Grande Western, had his feet and hands badly frozen on Wednesday night, between V. Junction and Kyune, a station a few miles east of the Junction; he was on a velocipede car at the time. He is expected to arrive to-day. We have not learned the extent of his injuries.

Manti Mortuary Report.—George Brithwaite, Sexton of Manti, sends us the following mortuary report of Manti City, for the six months ending December 31st, 1884: Premature birth, 4; lung fever, 3; old age, 2; diphtheria, 1; epilepsy, 1; not reported, 2; come to his death by unknown hands, 1. Total, 14. Females, 9; males, 5. Total, for the year 34.

Very Light Mortality.—In conversing with the City Sexton, we learn that the total mortality of this city during the past year was 487, being 109 less than in 1883, 31 less than in 1882, and 95 less than in 1881. This showing is very satisfactory, especially when we consider the increase of population during the last three years. Another noticeable feature is the great increase of adult mortality and the corresponding decrease of juvenile mortality, as compared with previous years. For instance, in 1881, the total mortality was 582; total adult mortality, 217; total children under five years, 298. In 1884, the total mortality was 487; total adult mortality, 265; children under five years, 173; the intervening years corresponding.

A Relative Found.—It was stated in Wednesday evening's issue that nothing was known of the residence or relatives of H. A. Archer, the man who was found dead in his bed at the White House, beyond the fact that he was from Iowa. There was, however, a solitary address found among his effects, to which a telegraphic message was sent by Sexton Joseph E. Taylor, and to which he received this morning the following reply:

• KEOKUK, Iowa, Jan. 2, 1885.

Joseph E. Taylor, Undertaker:

H. A. Archer is my wife's brother. Have remains put in vault. Will write you.

D. F. MILLER, JR.

Wanton Carelessness.—We are informed that on Wednesday last a young man of East Mill Creek named Smart, was on a horse trying to scare some children who were in the road before him, by pretending that he was going to make his horse run over them. One little fellow, the son of Brother Amos Neff of that place, dodged to the side of the road to evade the horse, but the animal at the same time turned the same way and crowded the boy against the fence, seriously injuring his shoulder, whereupon the lad's eldest brother seized the rider, pulled him from the saddle and administered a severe chastisement. Young Smart disclaims all blame, as he states the horse was unmanageable, and that he warned the children to get out of the way. The matter, however, will be settled to-day by J. B. Fagg, Justice of the Peace in that precinct.

THE SEVENTH DISTRICT SCHOOL TAX QUESTION.

BEFORE THE COURT ON ITS MERITS.

The case of L. S. Stevens et al vs. Isaac M. Waddell et al, involving the validity of the school tax levied in the 7th District of this city, came on for hearing in the District Court this morning.

Mr. Varian asked for an attachment for Wilford Woodruff as a witness, which was granted.

Chas. E. Copeland was sworn for the plaintiffs, and testified that his residence was at Tooele since September, 1883, he had been teaching a Methodist mission school at Grantsville and in Tooele. Made application to Mr. Garner, one of the Trustees of the Clover Creek District, for employment in that school, but did not obtain