DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1895.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Sixty-fifth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will convene in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, at 10 o'clock, on Friday morning, April 5th, 1895.

The officials and members of the Church generally are cordially invited to attend the meetings of the Conference.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
GEORGE Q. CANNON,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,

Special Conference Appointments.

There will be a meeting of the General Superintendency, with the Stake Superintendents (or their representatives) of the Young Men's Mutual Improvement Associations, at President Woodruff's office, 61 east North Temple street, on Friday, April 5th, immediately after the close of the afternoon session of Conference. A prompt and full attendance is desired.

WILFORD WOODRUFF,
JOSEPH F. SMITH,
MOSES THATCHER,
General Superintendency.

Thursday, 5th—Relief Society Conference, Assembly Hall. Meetings commencing at 10 a. m., 2 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

Friday, 5th — General Priesthood meeting, in the Tabernacle at 7:30 p. m.

Sunday, 7th—German meeting, Assembly Hall, 4 p. m.

Sunday, 7th, Sunday School Union, Tabernacle, 7 p. m.

UNCIVILIZED AND LAWLESS.

An extensive collection of cliff dweller relics is now being exhibited by the Durango Archæological society, at Durango, Utah, and the friends of that city claim that from the display a good idea can be gathered of the manner of life of these extinct people, as it contains their cooking utensils, household implements, weapons of war and the chase, tools, musical instruments, clothing, ornaments, etc. The mummies also show their method of disposing of their dead. In this connection it may be remarked that for purposes of information and instruction to the present and coming generations, in view of the fact that cliff dwellers' habitations are being looted of all their valuable contents, Salt Lake City might have a collection of antiquities, both of cliff dwellers and other prehistoric inhabitants of the West, second to none in the country. But if possessed, it should be purely for purposes of good, that the evidences of ancient life on this continent may not be, in the near future, confined to books and pockmarks through the destruction of the remains themselves.

In the paper quoted from there is a statement of the ownership and use of the collection recited in that suggests a subject for serious thought, and for some action to put a stop to a grandiloquence all too common. The exhibit at Durango is there temporarily, being a feature of a traveling show to which the antiquities are merely used for the purpose of money making; it was collected at the cost of destroying much of the work of the cliff dwellers in the ruins which match for their mounds and bodies.

In the vicinity of where Utah, Colorado and New Mexico come together there is the richest county for American antiquities that has been explored; perhaps the adjacent section of Arizona is equally rich, but the reservation for the Indians has precluded thorough investigation. In the county described prehistoric ruins are found by thousands—and a few inhabited remains here and there. In consequence of their abundance there are numbers of people who make a living by gathering mummies and other antiquities and disposing of them to curiosity collectors. To make these collections it is found convenient to tear down structures erected by the cliff dwellers, and thus a most valuable and interesting feature of the country is being rapidly destroyed.

It is a common thing for a number of persons to start out for a few weeks' trip in this region and to return laden with mummies of the ancient inhabitants and their earthenware, weapons of war, clothing, ornaments, etc. When brought in these are sold for a good price for traveling show purposes. It is not an unusual thing among the people who reside in that locality to speak of persons on these expeditions being out "Indian digging," just as if the looting of graves was a legitimate business, to be carried on with the full approval of civilized people.

When individuals go to modern cemeteries for the purpose of "body snatching," their act is horrifying to modern civilized sentiment. Imprisonment is thought almost too good for those who would desecrate the graves by removing skeletons or human body for medical purposes. How much better are those who rob the graves of an extinct people, that human bodies may be carried over the country for curiosity purposes? The difference in time of burial does not make the desecration less reprehensible. If the time when motives and friends have laid the casket of a loved one to its sacred resting place in an ordinary burial, or be unnecessarily crowded, when the bodies of the first eight mummies, it is as sacred in a year, or in a thousand years, and it is as sacrilegious as will O. Jumbo now be disturbed without good cause. This being the case, civilized public sentiment in the localities related to where it put an end to the Pagan Digging? Would it be a wrong move for the plaudit business of grave robbing.

So far as Utah is concerned, the officers of San Juan county and of the Territory should take a hand in the matter if this relic hunting for show purposes is not stopped by other means. It has been promised to go all over the country, notwithstanding that it has been a subject of legal comment, and at the time of special revelries in a gala festival carnival in the Angel metropolis. There is law on the statute books of the Territory which ought to forget to be a sad book if the rules this is produced in. Chapter VI., of the compiled laws deals with violating sepulchres and remains of the dead, making no distinction as to race or nationality. It provides that every person who mutilates, defaces or removes the dead body of a human being without authority of law, or who removes any part of the dead body of a human being from any place of other place where the same has been buried or deposited, with intent to sell the same, or prevent it by surreptitious or by surreptitious means, shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary not exceeding five years, and the establishment of museums is provided for those who remove or mutilate any bodies, monuments, well as unnecessary superstitions in the place of burial of a human being.

This amply covers the grave robbery that has been and is being indulged in in San Juan county. Utah, at least, and should be used as a means to check further vandalism. Those persons may have followed the Indians thoughtlessly, and ignorant of the fact that it was lawless. If it is proved in future, however, that such is not an example made to bring about a change.

In connection with prehistoric antiquities there is an illustration near Salt Lake which should serve for other localities. Cliff dwellers in a large cliff overlooking Lake, and in various nooks and niches in the side of precipices. The good people of that locality have removed the debris, and have cleaned and cared for the place and it is now an object of interest and veneration as the ancient home of human beings. This is as it should be. Possibly it has been the object of collectors, and for some rule would be commendable in collections of antiquities or in the time other advances but not yet adopted at establishing a permanent park where Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona come together. Such proceedings for the general good and the preservation of antiquities for educational purposes meet with approval but let or have an end to the plundering and unadvised interest.

SPEAKS FOR THE RIGHT.

Prof. C. A. Whiting, of the University of Utah, well known to the readers in the News through his frequent discussions of educational topics which have appeared in the columns, sends in the following, in which we are pleased to give space:

AUTUM NEWS: As a citizen and citizen the following has occurred to me concerning and physical development of the rising generation in Utah. I wish to raise a most vigorous protest against the general attempt to introduce Dancing into our public schools. Just at a time when the evils of cigarette smoking are so generally acknowledged that some steps are taken to prevent the young from being ruined, and when laws are slowly enacted and enforced, an attempt is made by the most ultimate authorities, to really encourage the evil. This editor should know with the language possible opposition, and may, from personal and business, be less sensitive to any interests in the real question.

This is not the time or place to state the evils arising from the dance being, and I know of no argument outside of those dwelling upon other immoralities to help arise from the use of the dance. This is a good time for the friends of the future to unite in creating a public sentiment where such beneath the right from from Utah, and where, and then merely allow the good sense of citizens and mother to a whole.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

Christian Scientists every have accepted some conditions and they on account of their failure to accomplish cases of sickness to give the relief expected from their powerful mode of treatment. A dispatch from Los Angeles the other day tells of a woman, who in her extreme condition was denied medical aid by her husband, a Christian Scientist, and who died after withstanding the pain endured in the attempt. This case has several times caught in the attention of the public it tends to recall to consideration in the criminal court.

The percentage of the sect have of late years obtained an uniform influence and have been much discussed in certain circles in Boston and Toronto as well as in other parts of the world. This is easily explained from the fact that the Christian science or psychic healing is not difficult with the general mass of mankind. Healing is without the aid of the drug and is consequently cheap. With healing and promise for a still more desirable future, appealing to Deistans in the present with its sufferings, sickness, poverty, disappointing hopes, Christian science, as it is called, possesses to offer some relief of that immediately applicable to and and body, claiming that the power of an omnipotent Creator is at everyone's today as it was originally for the sick and and appointed ministry of the apostles. It is worth, then, that many who agree in all else that was claimed to be teachings regard and try to relieve cases where medicine and aid with disappointment.

Christian scientists have proper the great principle of truth that religion is an entirely above appeals to the present and future of man and pointed of the principle, it seems, may not be practically, because they are based on the presumption that the exercise of faith in God, without regard to the Government on which it rests, is an absolute requirement as a condition. There are many instances, and more will be in many more, where the sick and ill-fated are healed purely through the exercise of their own faith and trust in ancient friends. This trust is absolute in true principle, through the nothing of communication between man and his Maker, which cannot be disturbed by a third party, and which, because of man's nature, is not generally available to them. In this respect, as in all cases, the power of the religious sentiment is most. But in any argument as to exercise the healing gift or a power to heal all cases, it must be by acknowledgment of that supreme being who controls the operation of the healing art by spiritual forces. To this close inherently has healings and other miracles resulted in the Scriptures, for convincing evidence of the miraculous power included and only leading to faith and authority for the controlling of evil spirits, the quelling of the storm, and the raising of the dead when in the providence of the Almighty it seemed fitting.

Clearly, then, to claim to be such a power, does not in Divine authority delegated to him who exercises it. What does man avail without such authority? All genuine miracles may be said to be manifestations of Divine power delegated to the agency of man acting in obedience to a higher command. The Son was given power because the Lord had faith in Jehovah, the work of Jehovah fell on man, the people obeyed, and people were healed and evil were made, in the instances recorded in the Bible, but the priority came was not made with but the Divine power delegated to those placing implicit faith in God and consequently acting as directed by Him. The Apostles of the Lord received Divine authority to perform miracles. The power was given to believers who believed and have worked on continued so long as the Church remained faithful to Divine commands. The Church in the age again was commanded to perform mighty works, but when and where did Christian Scientists receive a commission from Almighty God to heal the sick by prayer and faith? They may, perhaps, point to some cases where the sick recovered, apparently as a result of their faith, but even if that is admitted, the truth of their "contention" is not thereby established; for such instances clearly come under the rule which has once stated here—and even the Egyptian magicians imitated Moses in numerous instances. In fact and Christian "miracles" are recorded in every age, when the true Church has been on the earth for the benefit of mankind.

A correspondent of a morning paper, advocating the morality of Christian science, claims the doctrine of the new "religion" and what arguments may be advanced, taking the Bible as a guide, for the reality of sickness. If the writer is familiar with the tenets of the sculptures bearing on the subject, he is aware of the fact that the Bible abounds with the sublime simplicity characteristic of their exceptional worth and and authority (disease to the influence of evil spirits or "phantasm" to the same way as they acknowledge God to be the source of all that is good. To them evil is just as real as its opposite. There is a "prince of darkness" as well as a "King" and a "kingdom of darkness." Disease is not merely a negation of the vitality, but may be the opposite, active. This Scripture view seems to be in perfect accord with all authentic scientific discoveries, which have been independently established, but they have never been made to the principle of Christian science. Disease is not a mere negation of health, but is a positive, real, and consequently to that the body would soon cease to be, and the physical power of disease is exactly the opposite to the spiritual power of healing, and consequently, if the one is a reality, the other is also a reality. If the one is an instrumental influence, of course not man or faith or prayer, but instrumentality, and the Bible, Christian Scientists, and people who treated and cured were made, in the instances recorded in the Bible, but the priority came was not made with but the Divine power delegated to those placing implicit faith in God and consequently acting as directed by Him. The Apostles of the Lord received Divine authority to perform miracles. The power was given to believers who believed and have worked on continued so long as the Church remained faithful to Divine commands. The Church in the age again was commanded to perform mighty works, but when and where did Christian Scientists receive a commission from Almighty God to heal the sick by prayer and faith? They may, perhaps, point to some cases where the sick recovered, apparently as a result of their faith, but even if that is admitted, the truth of their "contention" is not thereby established; for such instances clearly come under the rule which has once stated here—and even the Egyptian magicians imitated Moses in numerous instances. In fact and Christian "miracles" are recorded in every age, when the true Church has been on the earth for the benefit of mankind.

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