

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

LORENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING, (SUNDAYS EXCEPTED.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.Charles W. Penrose, Editor
Horace G. Whitney, Business ManagerSUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
In advance.....\$2.00
Six Months.....1.00
Three Months......50
One Month......25
One Week......10
Saturday edition, per year,.....2.00
Semi-Weekly......2.00Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the EDITOR.
Address all business communications to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE.
R. A. Craig, 41 Times BuildingCHICAGO REPRESENTATIVE.
Craig & Woodward, 87 Washington St.

SALT LAKE CITY, - NOV. 29, 1899.

LET US ALL BE THANKFUL.

The people of Utah have great cause for thanksgiving. Abundant crops, a fine yield of precious metals, the opening and prospective utilization of the great iron and coal deposits of Southern Utah, the rise in value of flocks and herds, and the gradual increase of industrial pursuits and business enterprises, thus furnishing employment of labor and stimulating commercial pursuits, are among the material evidences of prosperity which give cause for thankfulness.

The educational and religious interests of the State are also indicative of many improvements of a higher nature. The Latter-day Saints have advanced in the observance of duties that should be performed by faithful members of the Church, and in the enjoyment of the gifts of the divine Spirit. The missionaries laboring for the cause of Zion have had their way opened, by the very means intended to close it up, and the agitation against the Church has been overruled to advance its influence mightily.

The prospects of the Saints are thus of a most encouraging character, observed from any point of view. They with their fellow citizens, therefore, have great reason to be thankful.

The Deseret News participates in the general causes for rejoicing. Its progress during the year has been astonishing. It has been grandly supported by the reading and advertising public, and the future opening up before it is full of magnificent promise.

Let us unite, then, in gratitude to the Giver of all good, and praise His holy name, while we acknowledge His bountiful hand in all things!

RATIONAL VIEWS EXPRESSED.

The position taken by Senator Rawlins on the present agitation against Utah and its Representative in Congress, will be sustained and approved by a very large majority of his constituents. The facts set forth in his statement, which appears in another part of this paper, are beyond successful contradiction. His showing of the significance of the "compact" between the State of Utah and the United States, is the simple truth which the enabling act and the State Constitution proved beyond question. The stand taken by the senator is opportune and will be appreciated not only by the people of Utah but by every lover of fair play in the country.

The resolutions which Senator Rawlins says he intends to introduce, strike at the root of the rumors which have been sent out to all the nation, and if adopted will demonstrate that the charges against the "Mormon" Church, in reference to unlawful marriages since Utah entered the Union, are false and founded in malice. If a committee such as is contemplated in the resolutions should be appointed, it will be, no doubt, of such a character that its members will not be swayed by the influences which are brought to bear in this city upon newspaper correspondents, and clerical inquisitors, when they come here with biased minds, seeking for information of a kind that will suit their purpose and be palatable to the eastern public. Salacious stories and religious or political romances will not answer as evidence, and the guesses and flights of fancy in which certain scribes indulge, will not answer for proofs. The whole matter will be probed to the bottom.

Of course, the plain speaking and straightforward action of Senator Rawlins, does not please our morning contemporary that is so largely responsible for the senseless clamor which has been raised throughout the land, but its attempt to reply to the plain statements of the Senator is so lame, and halting, and decrepit as to be positively pitiful. It is very distressing, of course, that so many able and leading lights of legal, political and congressional fame, should so widely differ from that contemporary on the question now before the country as to the Congressman from Utah.

Here, for example, is the noted ex-Senator Edmunds, not long since one of that paper's most august idols, now expressing the view, although engaged by the opposition to fight Mr. Roberts, that the gentleman must be permitted to take the oath and be sworn in as a member of the House of Representatives. Also declaring that "there is more danger to the rights and liberties of the people for the House to set up standards for admission not prescribed by the Constitution, than to admit to be sworn any person whom the people of a State choose to elect."

Here also is Mr. Harry H. Smith, the parliamentary expert, also counsel for the opposition, stating his conclusion that Mr. Roberts must be sworn in on his certificate of election, and that he can only be unseated by a resolution of expulsion under the constitutional power of the House to expel a member by a two-thirds vote. This view is also entertained by the best informed lawyers, and statesmen, and congressional experts who have investigated the matter.

This is very sad to be sure, in view

of the amount of money that has been expended, and the eminent legal talent that has been engaged, to say nothing of the subsidizing of certain portions of the press, the whole purpose of which has been to prevent the accused gentleman from saying a word in his own behalf, and in defense of the Church which is falsely charged with sending him to Congress as the champion of a system that has been discarded. The fairness, justice and chivalry of this attempt to prevent a hearing from the accused, will be duly appreciated when it becomes fully understood.

The "Mormon" Church has at all times desired and courted investigation. Its doctrine, its discipline, its methods and its purposes are open to the light. It has been ever ready to explain. Its mission is to disseminate intelligence and uphold human liberty. It does not interfere with the affairs of State; at the same time it takes interest in human affairs, and it will be found a potent factor in the work of human redemption, temporally and spiritually. Its members have an equal right with other citizens to participate in both national and local politics, and they will maintain the doctrine of equal rights in their own behalf as well as for all people who dwell under the influence of this great Republic.

Let the investigation proposed come on. Meanwhile the Representative of the people of Utah should be given ample opportunity to present his side of the question which has roused the nation, and on which there is so much misunderstanding, and then it will be for Congress to decide what is proper to do after a full examination into both sides of the controversy.

AN ARTICLE OF THE CREED.

It is charged that the "Mormon" Church, as "originally organized" consisted of a civil government which "assumed the right to do as it pleased and assumed that all other governments on earth were usurpations."

Fortunately unsupported statements are not proofs; allegations, however often repeated, cannot change facts. Black remains black and white, white, no matter what is said to the contrary. Words cannot mould falsehood into truth, or vice versa, as little as the vapors of night can in an hour level the mountains that surround Utah's verdant valleys.

But it is a striking fact that the same charge is preferred against the Latter-day Saints, that has done service against the followers of the Nazarene in every age of darkness and blindness. He himself predicted that his followers would be the object of hatred among men, and He assigned the cause for it, in order that persecution should not seem strange to them. Did He not say: "Because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you?" And again: "All these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not Him that sent me?" But the real cause of this strange conflict, the world has never acknowledged. It has always been urged that the followers of the Nazarene were a law unto themselves, and on that account outside the pale of human law.

It was on that alleged ground that the tragedy of Calvary was enacted. Paul was brought before the magistrate in Jerusalem, the rumor having been circulated that he was an Egyptian at the head of a band of robbers and murderers to the number of 4,000. And what was the plea under which Roman emperors kindled the fires that consumed innocent men and women, the flower of the empire? What was the pretext for condemning venerable disciples of the Lord to torture and death? What started the war of extermination against the peaceful inhabitants of the mountain valleys, the Valdenses, and Albigenes? Why was Luther condemned? What caused the exodus of the Pilgrims from the shores of Europe? Why is it that today many religious churches of the world encounter persecution in countries not enjoying the liberty guaranteed by law to American citizens? It has always been the same story. Their opponents have charged them with political designs, with contempt for civil authority, and thus the fire has been kept burning.

The Latter-day Saints have declared in their articles of faith what their attitude is toward civil governments. It is this:

"We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers and magistrates, in obeying, honoring and sustaining the law."

The revelations given on the subject emphasize this still further, and the entire history of the Church is a testimony to the loyalty of its members to the governments under which they live. And it may well be called strange that the enemies charge the Saints with being slavishly obedient to their ecclesiastical leaders and creed, and in the same breath denounce them for violating one of the most important articles of that creed as well as the inspired teachings of the head of the Church. Where is the consistency of this?

There is really no need of arguing against a self-contradictory proposition, its purpose is not to enlighten but to deceive, but deception always reveals its true role and cannot succeed.

CUBANS IMPATIENT.

Havana dispatches indicate that there is some prospect of trouble in Cuba, unless Congress gives definite assurances as to the intentions of this country with regard to the future of the island.

Congress made a definite declaration of policy at the beginning of the war of liberation, to the effect that Cuba was to be held by the United States until it was deemed advisable to establish an independent government. There has been no indication of any desire to deviate from this policy.

There are people in Cuba who have been living on brigandage so long that they feel out of their element in a community established on law and order, and these may at all times be suspected of a natural inclination to take to the woods, but the experience of Aguinaldo and his deluded followers should make them hesitate in preaching rebellion against the government that gave

their country liberty. Any armed rising in Cuba would be sure to prolong the period of dependence instead of hastening on the day of self-government.

The true condition of Cuba may be judged from what is known of Porto Rico. The investigations of the Insular Commission show that the people of that island under Spanish rule were not educated for the responsibilities of citizenship. Justice was almost unknown. People were languishing in prisons for years, waiting to be tried. They were taxed to death, as the saying is. They had to pay heavy dues on food, while intoxicants were almost free from taxes. The school system was such that about ninety per cent of the population was illiterate, and over one-half of the children were illegitimate, because the expense of obtaining the sanction of the church to a marriage was too much for the parents, and these, consequently, preferred to live together without any formal ceremony.

Such were the conditions in Porto Rico, and there is no reason for believing that they were essentially different on Cuba, except that the people in this island were less patient and added constant revolutions to the general confusion. It takes time to bring order out of such chaos, and unless a strong hand is guiding the hand of education, it will fail. A country that for centuries has endured miracle, can afford to spend patiently a few years to undo the unavoidable effects.

IN HIS TRUE COLORS.

Many of the people of Utah will doubtless remember the name of J. Wesley Hill, whose owner figured in Ogden and elsewhere as an anti-"Mormon" Methodist preacher, whose righteous soul was terribly stirred up on the polygamy question. His true character, however, was not covered up by that veil of deception, which is frequently the mask used by religious hypocrites, and he was subsequently known, even to his own fraternity for what he was.

Since leaving Utah he has been heard of repeatedly without much to his credit; and now we find the following concerning him in the columns of the Southern Star, published at Chattanooga, Tennessee, which clipped it from a Decatur, Illinois, paper:

"Butler has a sensation which has stirred up the wrath of its people, and Rev. J. W. Hill, a Methodist clergyman, is in a tick of trouble as the cause of the agitation."

"He has been pastor of the M. A. churches at this place and Montgomery during the past year, and at the recent conference was assigned to Argentina, near Decatur. With his mild and effects he removes today to the new charge."

"The ladies of his congregation decided to give a farewell supper in the church last Friday night for his benefit. Accordingly they solicited a large supply of edibles from various members, to provide for the feast."

Rev. Hill and a member of his flock, Miss Gertrude Haggett, did the collecting. Their route from one house to another happened to take them into an unfrequented place, when, it is said, Rev. Hill took liberties with his companion. She opposed his advances and upon returning home, told her mother of the insult.

"Mrs. Haggett at once phoned to Dr. Moyer, of Hillsboro, her brother, who hastened here, and accompanied by T. S. Hoos, a prominent merchant, interviewed the preacher and brought him before Miss Haggett, where he did not deny his wrongdoing. The people of this place were so indignant that Monday night he was hung in effigy and there was strong talk of more summary measures."

Let us all be thankful tomorrow. Then keep it up every day.

The victorious march of the Boers seems to have experienced a severe jolt.

The "fresh" news that is allowed to come from the front in South Africa is only that of the human butchery kind.

At least one notable distinction is observable between the Philippine and the South African wars—the British do not fail to find real fighters.

It is claimed that Queen Victoria's banquet to the German Emperor was served on a set of solid gold plate, worth \$10,000,000.

An electric spark is all right in the right place; but as the starter of the conflagration in Philadelphia it proved terribly destructive, doing \$2,000,000 damage in four hours.

Gen. Young got within twenty miles of Aguinaldo. That is about as close as the rebel chief has been to the American fighting line since the insurrection began.

The latest definite news of Aguinaldo is that while retreating before the Americans "all his talk was in favor of continuing the fight." He continued the fight diligently enough.

Of course the crusaders are opposed to a congressional investigation of actual conditions in Utah, since such inquiry would overthrow machinations based upon falsehood and hypocrisy.

It takes President McKinley more than 20,000 words to express what he wants to say to Congress next week. For such poor listeners as congressmen usually are, this will be no "snap" on the day it is read.

Philadelphia has had a severe lesson in the bad policy of allowing overhead trolley, telephone and telegraph wires in a business thoroughfare. These are responsible in part for the immense damage at the big fire there today.

It appears clear that Britain will need still more troops in South Africa, as in each instance of Gen. Methuen's triumphs he has achieved it only with superior numbers and hard and persistent fighting of the most desperate kind.

Now that John Bull has notified Uncle Sam to keep his filibusters at home, the gentleman in stars and stripes will find how hard it is to check the tendency of going everywhere they please that Americans have been developing the past eighteen months.

The Philippines have been beaten again. The experience has become so chronic that anything else would not sit well on their stomachs. Yet with home rule under a wise general administration, it should not take many years to make of

the more civilized islanders pretty good material for local government affairs.

Thanksgiving will not prevent the publication of the Deseret News on Thursday. We do not wish to mar the pleasure of the observers of the day by depriving them of their evening paper which has become a public necessity.

The President is considering whether to appoint two governors for Cuba, or only one, preparatory to the time when independent government shall be exercised by the Cubans. According to sensational reports of possible trouble on the island, there is a considerable number of the people who are not in favor of any governor at all.

The story of the transport Manuana is so awful in its exhibition of gross incompetency in inspecting and fitting out the vessel, and so opposed to the uniform experience and methods on a long list of other U. S. transports, that the careful public will withhold judgment pending further information in the premises.

Not only publishers and newspapers throughout the country, but students and lovers of good literature all over the land will learn with regret of the destruction by fire of the great J. B. Lippincott & Co. publishing house in Philadelphia today, in which property to the value of \$2,000,000, much of it impossible to replace, was consumed by the flames.

Gen. Methuen's report of the British victory at Modder river, while it records success, does not mark a crushing blow to the Boers in that quarter. After ten hours' desperate fighting, which is characterized as one of the hardest and most trying conflicts in the annals of the British army, it is said "the enemy quit his position." There is no assurance in this result to change previously expressed opinions that the South African war will be long and sanguinary.

An exchange philosophically remarks that newspapers do not make the news. They simply are the mirrors that hold up the picture of the passing procession. This is true generally, but some so-called newspapers resemble the mirrors you find in certain shows. They are twisted and ground out of shape until the "picture of the passing procession" is one of miserable caricatures, resembling truth about as much as a monkey does a statue of Adonis. The comical mirrors do no harm, because everyone knows they are constructed to deceive. It is different with the literary "mirrors" that are thrust on an unsuspecting public under all manner of false pretenses.

The scheme to disfranchise the negro has now, it seems, found supporters in Georgia. The plan is to accomplish this by legislative measures, under some false pretense or another. Representatives of the colored race, and among them Bookes T. Washington, recently met at Atlanta to protest against this, but one of the Southern papers promptly replied: "If the negro were wholly disfranchised, all source of friction between the two races would be removed, the States would admit individual negroes to the suffrage as they qualified themselves, and the negro question would never be heard of again." It probably never occurs to those engaged in the plot, that they are making an assault upon the Constitution of the United States just as well as upon the colored race. "But what is a little thing like the Constitution between friends?"

One way of making a living is to be a "snitch." The following story is told of a damage suit trial. The lawyer examining one of the witnesses said: "What is your business?" "I'm connected with the legal department of Smith & Smith," replied the witness, with an air of importance. "Oh," said the lawyer briskly, "you're one of those chasers who run after a man who is hurt and offer the services of a lawyer to bring suit for damages? Is that your business?" "No, I'm no snitch." "What's that?" "I say I'm no snitch." "What is a snitch?" "A snitch is a fellow that watches for people to get hurt and gets to them as soon as he can and makes a contract to sue the company for damages." This makes it perfectly clear what a "snitch" is, but unfortunately the witness did not give the derivation of that new addition to American vocabulary.

THE LUZON CAMPAIGN.

Chicago Record. All that seems to be left of the rebellion in Luzon is the late president of the republic rushing for the mountains and pushing before him a wheelbarrow in which are a George Washington Aguinaldo and a few household effects.

Los Angeles Express. It is hard campaigning in northern Luzon, but are the boys not doing it beautifully? They see before them, as practical Americans, the finish of the insurrection, and are bending every energy to bring it about. Our soldiers may grumble when they have nothing to do, but all that is changed when the time for action arrives.

Kansas City Star. That General Lawton has made a tremendous effort to capture the wily Aguinaldo is apparent, and the story of the chase will be one of the most interesting episodes of the war. Lawton is a splendid soldier, and if he captures Aguinaldo, he will have no trouble now in securing the job as the first American hero.

Sacramento Record-Union. When Aguinaldo is so hard pressed that he cannot prevent his wife's wardrobe falling into the hands of his pursuers, even though it is packed in four barrels, he must be in dire straits.

Worcester Gazette. Our cavalry is now hot on the trail of Aguinaldo. It would be a great feather in the cap of some young lieutenant to capture the wily Filipino leader. But it will take a sharp one. It would be no strange if Aguinaldo had been among our troops more than once. All Filipinos look alike to them and Aggie has often been known to disguise himself as a peasant. He also has a great record for escapes and the officer who captured him would be likely to get cold steel between the ribs at any moment.

Chicago Times-Herald. It is the next thing to impossible that Aguinaldo should ever again be able to put himself at the head of a large force. Order can only be established in the various districts of the islands, and once this is accomplished the sooner the

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people are invited to participate in the government the better. In no other way can we convince them so surely that our promises of civil liberty were not made to be broken. They will begin to realize immediately how much they have to gain by American rule, and as they assume their new responsibilities we may count on their loyalty.

Boston Herald. If our advance had been begun at about the present time—for the so-called cold season commences about the latter part of November—and we had pushed forward step by step, permanently organizing our government over every foot of land we thus occupied, and pushing the Filipinos steadily back, the chances of a successful outcome, through the general establishment of peace, would have been greater than they appear to us to be at the present time. We hope that it will turn out that the plan adopted has been the best one, and that this will bring with speed what, under the other method, might have taken years, and certainly months, to accomplish; but we have our misgivings, which can only be set aside when something more than hopeful anticipations are forthcoming.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. The complete pacification of the Philippines will, without doubt, be an accomplished fact before the end of the year. There will still remain some banditti to capture and some local disorders to suppress; the work of organizing and putting in operation local governments on a basis of justice and freedom will take some time to complete, but the Christmas carols will announce the reign of peace and good will throughout the Philippines, and the bells of the new year will ring a new era of freedom and happiness for their long-oppressed millions.

San Francisco Chronicle. While the islands are likely to be worried, more or less, for a long time to come, by guerrilla warfare, still the era of peace is close at hand for the Philippines, when the energies of the government will be directed toward teaching their people the value of a free government and encouraging the development of the natural resources of the islands.

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