

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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THE DESERET NEWS.

Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SALT LAKE CITY, AUGUST 13, 1906

"GO SLOW!"

Drivers of automobiles as well as drivers of teams attached to vehicles of any kind, ought to know that pedestrians have the right of way on the public streets. Many of them do not appear to understand that. They seem to think that people on foot must get out of the way or take the consequences. Fast driving is not allowed in the city, and anyone who indulges in it may be prosecuted whether any personal injury comes of it or not. It is the same as to bicycle riding or horseback riding. None of these modes of travel has a monopoly of the thoroughfares, nor is permitted by law or ordinance to advance so rapidly as to endanger life or limb. This is not mentioned in opposition to the motor or the cycle, the horse or the team. But it is in defense of human rights and for the information of individuals who imagine that vehicles have rights to the road above those of persons on foot. That is a mistake. The pedestrian has the first claim; that of the rider or driver is secondary. People walking across the street or waiting for a car must not be knocked down or thrust aside for anyone's convenience. Drivers often act as though foot passengers have no business to be anywhere but on the sidewalks, and sometimes use insulting remarks to those who get in their way or hinder them from rapid transit. For their own sakes, if not as a matter of courtesy, people on foot should make way for vehicles, but as a question of right they have prior claims on the streets and vehicles must slow up or come to a full stop if any one person is in danger from their approach. A little more care than is common is needed in these particulars.

JUST AS WE SAID.

Readers of the Deseret News will no doubt call to mind the dispute, in our issue of Friday last of the report sent out by press dispatches concerning an uprising in Mexico against all foreigners, with the threat that unless they left that country by September 16, they would be driven into the sea. We took no stock in the story but pronounced it "a canard" of a similar kind to the periodical report about a "Mormon hegira into Mexico." We now learn that the terrible tale has been denied by the United States ambassador at the City of Mexico, who has notified the State department at Washington, D. C., that it is "without foundation so far as discoverable in Mexico," and that the people there have had to learn about it entirely from American papers.

This is just as we supposed, knowing the disposition and desire of the prominent people in that republic to encourage the influx of American capital and settlers, and the good feelings exhibited towards the promoters of various enterprises, who have introduced the advanced methods of United States agriculture and manufactures.

The Mexican government while disposed to ridicule the stories that have been put in circulation, will exercise the utmost diligence to prevent any disturbance of the character intimated, and, consequently, there is not the least real ground for alarm. The Mexican Herald, alluding to the foolish rumor that had been echoed extensively, even finding its way into European newspapers, makes the following editorial remarks on the subject which ought to be sufficient to get the matter at rest:

"Mendacious individuals who have left Mexico under circumstances not altogether creditable to themselves have disseminated these rumors, and unfortunately they have attracted some attention."

"It is hardly necessary to say that foreigners in general and Americans in particular run no risk in Mexico. They are as safe here, whether they be travelers or residents, as they are in England, Germany or France."

"We are well aware that some people in the United States who have relatives here and who are imperfectly acquainted with conditions in Mexico, are apt to take these fabrications seriously."

"It may be repeated that all foreigners in Mexico are amply and efficaciously protected in their persons and in their rights. If this were not the case they would leave, but no reputable American or any other foreigner established here has any idea of leaving, being fully contented with the government, the customs and the people."

TREATMENT OF ANARCHISM.

Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte, in his address on anarchism, gives expression to some very good thoughts, but when he advocates special punishments for anarchists he does not counsel well. Anarchists should not be punished as such, but if they commit any criminal act justice should be meted out to them precisely as to any other class of criminals. No distinction must be made on account of the peculiar views held. Not the anarchist, but the murderer, should be prosecuted and executed. Not the anarchist, but the assailant of the government, should be subjected to whatever restrictions may be deemed necessary. The fact that a man or woman holds anarchistic views should be entirely ignored in the prosecution of crime. Every criminal is to a certain extent an anarchist. The folly of the Secretary's proposition to apply Russian methods of punishment of anarchists is apparent, when it is remembered that some of the most prominent anarchists are women. Would he have Emma Goldman and others, put

under the lash, as is sometimes done in Russian prisons in the case of women?

The theory that severe and unusual punishments act as deterrents in no longer held by thorough students of penology. It has been found that strict impartiality in the administration of justice and the absolute certainty of punishment of crime, are the deterring agencies, and not the severity of the retaliation. The fiendish tortures that once were common were abolished because experience proved that they did not serve any good purpose. It was not misplaced sympathy for criminals that induced civilized mankind to adopt humane principles in their treatment, but the welfare of society was found to demand it, and there should be no retrograde movement. If it were true that the more severe the punishment of crime is the sooner it will be stamped out, it would be folly to stop at the lash; every kind of torture should be revived, in order that crime might rapidly be eradicated.

The same writer furnishes this explanation:

"Non-Zionists may not know much about the national fund, nor will they understand Zionists when they talk of 'stamps' and 'receipts,' but the latter is quite simple. Money is collected for the national fund in contributions as small as one cent. For this one cent or more, the donor is given a receipt in the form of a stamp printed in light blue on watermarked paper. The stamps, or the receipts, are printed and sold in sheets of three hundred, each sheet having a value of three dollars. A Zionist who asks for donations to the national fund must have paid first for each sheet three dollars, for which he is reimbursed by those who purchase the stamp from him, the income going directly to the national fund, minus all expenses of collection."

Zionism is a fact with which the nations of the world will have to reckon, perhaps at no distant date. The movement has met with much indifference and some hostility, but that is the common fate of all attempts at reform that are ahead of the time. But it is destined to succeed. It is part of a divine plan for the redemption of mankind, which will be realized without fail.

The thermometer continues to have a high old time.

Mr. Bryan is in Paris. Beware the Jardin Mobile.

Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholaevitch has had his "baptism of fire."

Fugitive Stensland's home now is wherever he happens to hang his hat.

The iceman may give you short weight, but otherwise his deal is on the "square."

Los Angeles has a library roof garden, the only one in the United States, this gives the City of the Angels a particularly literary air.

Lyman J. Gage says that it is nobody's business whether he stays at or leaves Point Loma. That is very true, and nobody cares which he does.

How dare Attorney-General Moody make changes in the office of U. S. District Attorney for Utah in face of the opposition of well known newspaper lawyers?

"The average woman would rather have her husband pat her cheek than give her a thousand dollars," says the San Francisco Bulletin. The man who wrote that is a bachelor.

Secretary Taft is going to visit Fort D. A. Russell. While there it is to be hoped that he will pay particular attention to the Utah boys. They are a fine lot of whom the State is proud.

The New York Zoological society bought a sea-cow with a bullet hole in its back for three thousand dollars, and it died. And now the society is just three thousand dollars in that hole.

"The young have to learn to live; the old, to die. It is difficult to decide which is the more disagreeable process," says London Truth. To die is, would probably be the general verdict.

The question of adopting a national flower has come up again. The columbine seems to have the lead. If ubiquity is a prime factor in deciding the question, then the dandelion should be chosen.

An automobile in Los Angeles butted into a street car and the result was much the same as when the bull butted into the locomotive. This is a pleasant variation of the usual automobile accident.

Mrs. William Corey having secured her divorce, has given up her "permanent residence" in Reno, Nevada. It looks as though the Nevada court had been made a tool of. An order vacating the decree of divorce would be quite a stretch without fatigue.

We presume this invention will prove more useful for sport than for any practical purposes. Still, it is difficult to predict what a new invention may develop into. In case of shipwreck we fancy it would be more pleasant to stand upright on the water and be in a position to "walk" toward the shore, or to meet a rescuing vessel, than to float about in a lifeboat at the mercy of waves and currents. But the question is, would the "shoe" be manageable in a fierce storm and heavy sea? If not, they are mere playthings, without practical use when most needed.

MISSPLACED ZEAL.

In every community there are human elements which appear to be designed for the express purpose of making virtue odious. Anthony Comstock is such a force in New York. He follows with unflinching vigor the pursuit of imparting to the best the complexion of the worst. Comstock has disturbed again and again the patience and dignity of courts. A cause which might be well served by an agent with discretion has often brought into contempt. For vigilance he substitutes meddling; in place of guardianship he gives the activities of a bodyguard. The good things that Comstock does in the light of his amazing blunder Comstock's venture, his courageous descent upon the preserves of the Art Students' League, might well be accepted as the straw to break finally the endurance of the society whose delegated public powers he has so often abused.

New York Evening Post.

Anthony Comstock and his Society have done such a world of good in suppressing the viler sort of pictures and printed matter, that it is a pity he should, from time to time, discredit his work by unintelligent activity beyond his province. This time he has seized an issue of the Art Student, a monthly magazine issued in the interest of the

Art Students' League. The offence was merely the reproduction of a number of "academy" or drawings from the nude figure. This is commonly done by other art schools that maintain a journal. The circulation of such periodicals is practically limited to art students and those concerned with their instruction. In an individual case, a wrong use might conceivably be made of these nudities, but to pounce upon such publications is as absurd as to hold the publishers of Gray's "Antony" to court for intentional pornography. All this is Greek to Mr. Comstock, but it is not Greek to some of the directors of the Society for the Suppression of Vice, who owe it to themselves and their work to restrain his more dire vagaries.

The Zionists also have a Colonial Trust, which is a banking institution the object of which is to be the financial instrument of the nation. It represents, says a writer in the New York Evening Post, "the Jewish national party in all material relations with other persons, be they individual or governments. But the national fund is a fund created for a special purpose, the purchase of land, to be held by the fund's trustees as national property, subsequently to be put to such uses as the Jewish people may decide."

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The Irrigation Congress to be held at Boise, Idaho, the first week of September, will be a national, and not a sectional affair. It is looked forward to with intense interest by people in all parts of the country. The Boston Transcript says:

"The Irrigation Congress at Boise, the first week in September, will attract delegates from nearly every state in the Union, even those of the east, which, supposedly, have little knowledge of irrigation and less interest in it. But eastern people are interested in western development, in which this movement plays a large part. The great question to come before the congress will be methods of securing small holdings on the irrigated area; the tendency there, as everywhere else, is for the farmer to seek possession of more land than he can thoroughly cultivate, and with the high cost of this water service, for which the government must be compensated in ten annual installments (without interest) it is highly desirable that the holdings should remain small. The forty million dollars which will have been spent in this service by the fiscal year ending June 30, 1908, will bring under cultivation one million acres, and these should ultimately support five hundred thousand people, or, in addition, in such states as Idaho and Nevada. The latter is already becoming a new state. Work on the irrigation movement is now progressing in thirteen states and three territories, and the sum already named, which will have been expended before this administration closes, should make the irrigation work one of the great enterprises of the Roosevelt administration. The law was enacted in 1902 on June 17, and that day is often selected as the date for turning on the water, making the far west of which those who originally celebrated it here had little idea."

OF NATIONAL INTEREST.

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