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A CORDIAL CHRISTMAS GREETING.

ONCE more the Deseret News presents, with the compliments of the season its Christmas edition, an issue the fame of which extends over the two hemispheres. It is specially devoted this time to the interests of three Western States, Utah, Idaho and Nevada. They are united by mutual ties and each contributes to the welfare of the others. Their voices join in glad welcome to the advent of the day on which all States, and all nations throughout Christendom, swell the chorus of "Peace on earth, good will to men." Christmas comes this year wreathed in smiles over present pleasures and future prospects. Prosperity shines upon our beloved country, and the West has its full share. The crops have been abundant, the mountains have given up vast metallic treasures, the flocks and herds on the hills and plains have multiplied, business has been brisk, commerce has extended, railroad, telegraph, telephone and other means of transportation and communication have been vastly improved, and countries, communities and neighborhoods have been brought into closer union, moving towards that universal fraternity and harmony of which the Christmas spirit is the cheerful harbinger. Hail the glad day, with its promise of better times to come! It speaks of the birth into the world of its best and greatest genius, the gentle but majestic and mighty Nazarene. His natal day we celebrate, his divine character we adore, his teachings we accept as standards of faith and conduct, his life we should strive to imitate and his example to follow. If all peoples would truly accept him as the Christ in word and deed, in everyday actions and associations, not merely in Sabbath worship and theory, but a few more anniversaries of his advent would pass before there would indeed be peace and good will among mankind; strife would cease, war would be no more, crime would be abolished, selfishness—the bane of the world, would be swallowed up in altruism, poverty would be unknown, and "every man in every place would meet a brother and a friend." Each recurring Christmas aids in the movement towards that happy consummation. The very greetings of the day suggest and promote the thought and the desire that it may be realized. "I wish you a happy Christmas," is the word to friend and foe. It is more than a formal salutation. In the large majority of instances it comes from the heart. It is prompted by the spirit of the hour when Christ was born and the angels sang the heavenly carol. It breathes the sentiment that swelled his tender breast, who gave himself a ransom for mankind. It bears the promise of his coming again "without sin unto salvation." It proclaims "Joy to the world, the Lord will come, and earth receive her King!" The general observance of Christmas on this land, as well as on the eastern hemisphere, is a token of the spread of Christian good feeling and fellowship. It is the period of Mercy's gentle rule. Forgiveness takes the place of stern resentment, charity softens the soul, family feuds fade and are obliterated, parents and children come closer together, and neighbors give the glad hand in the fulness of their joy. The poor are not forgotten. He whose birth we commemorate left them as a legacy to his followers. On this anniversary at least no one should suffer hunger, or cold, or neglect. The little ones are sure to be made glad, for He loved them and declared, "Of such is the Kingdom of heaven." Christmas ought not to be a time of asceticism or straitlaced solemnity, for Christ was no hermit or despiser of good cheer. "The son of man came eating and drinking," so it is written. But yet he was in all things temperate and sinless. So feasting and merriment may follow fervent devotion, being quite compatible if not indulged in to excess. This is the key of the door into the chamber of joy—moderation and regard for others. The Deseret News wishes the welfare of the whole human family. It has cause for rejoicing at this Christmas time, because its efforts for the general good have been so greatly appreciated. It has grown in public favor and support. Its subscribers and advertisers include people of all parties and creeds, and thousands who are not of the same faith as its proprietors and writers praise it in word and act. For this we are truly grateful, and each Christmastide brings increased cause for thankfulness in the good words and generous patronage that we receive. From near and far these favors flow. We respond heartily to them all. A merry Christmas to our friends in every land! The same to those who try to be our enemies! We can afford to wish them, too, the compliments of the season truly and sincerely. May peace and kindness stream forth like a river of love! Health, happiness and plenty be the common lot! May sadness and pain flee like the shades of night before the glad sun of the Millennial morning! God's blessing rest upon the whole world! Hail to that Christmas day that shall usher in the reign of the Redeemer, and flood the globe with light and happiness! Meanwhile, if we do not "see eye to eye," let our differences be rational and free from wrath. Let misunderstandings be borne with courtesy if they cannot be settled with calm reason. Let nations arbitrate their disputes instead of fighting them out on the gory battlefield. And let individuals "agree to differ," or discuss differences fairly in honor and truth as conscience shall guide. In that Christmas and therefore Christian spirit, truth will gain the victory and will not be "crushed to earth;" error will not march on with brazen face to triumph in its assumption; might will not trample upon right; oppression and tyranny will be soon dethroned and earth will be prepared for the glorious coming and reign of the lowly Nazarene, exalted to an everlasting throne. Hail the glad day! As its forerunner and preparer, we welcome the Christmas of the present. May it prove a happy time to our readers and friends and to all who wish well to their fellows, and give to them a foretaste of a happy New Year!

A TIMELY RECOGNITION.

PLEASE feature of Christmas celebration by the Latter-day Saints in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Five, is the erection, unveiling and dedication of the monument to Joseph Smith, the Seer of the Nineteenth century, at his birthplace in Sharon, Windsor County, Vermont. He was born there on December 23, 1805. At this centenary of his advent into the world, it is a fitting time to commemorate that event and give honor to an illustrious man whose mission has been but little understood, but whose name, as was predicted at the beginning of his active career, is known throughout the world for good or evil. He made his mark upon the history of his time. Under divine inspiration he founded and built up the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints after the pattern of that which Christ himself set up while in the flesh. It is conceded to be the most complete and powerful ecclesiastical organization in the world. Starting with six members on the sixth day of April, 1830, it has grown into a vigorous body, numbering hundreds of thousands, the members of which are scattered in all the civilized nations, while its central location on the western slope of the Rocky Mountains finds a dwelling place for devotees, who form the majority of the population of a sovereign State of the American Union. The principles he advocated are both rational and scriptural. They account for the origin of things spiritual and natural. They explain Deity and God's relation to humanity. They answer the soul's inquiry "Whence am I, what am I, whither am I going?" They reveal the reality of Eternity. They settle theological disputes that have been carried on through centuries. They disclose the doctrine of God's personality, manifested in Christ His divine Son, in the power and light of the Holy Ghost, by which He is omnipresent. They expound the truths concerning the fall of man, the plan of redemption, and the future of the human race in the various conditions and degrees in the "many mansions" of the Eternal Father, the justice and mercy of the Almighty, His purposes in relation to His children who inhabit the worlds He has formed for their dwelling places throughout the extended universe, and open up to the understanding of mortals life and light and immortality everlasting. During his short career on earth he translated the records containing the ancient history of the American continent, built cities and temples, brought forth knowledge, wisdom and philosophic truths to a greater extent than any other man esteemed as a prophet, a sage or a revelator. He sealed his testimony with his blood. His name will be enrolled upon the list of the martyrs. It is venerated now by people of all nationalities and tongues. He is also decried, despised and rejected by numerous millions who do not understand his works or his words. It will take time as well as labor and the spread of intelligence to make him known as he was and is and will be. His followers have no doubt of the ultimate result. The erection of a monument to his memory, full particulars of which will be given in our next Saturday's edition, is a fitting tribute from the people who esteem him as a man of God, raised up to usher in the greatest of all divine dispensations, preparatory to the second advent of the great Redeemer, the Christ, the rightful King over all the earth. "Honored and blest be his ever great name!"

A TRINITY OF GREAT STATES.

UTAH, Idaho, Nevada! For weeks the readers of the Deseret News have seen the names of these three great states frequently and inseparably associated. This because they comprise the theme of our annual holiday effort. And a happier one could hardly be suggested at this particular time. Each state is not only on the eve of better days, it is at the very high noon of a splendid industrial and commercial growth.

In Utah the people have much to be thankful for. The soil has yielded abundant crops. Whether it has been upon the farm or the orchard the result has been the same. The mines have given up their treasures in richer prodigality than ever before. The smelters have taken their products in crude form and have reduced them to a state all but approximating to that of the coin of the realm itself. Thus thousands have had profitable employment and many more the benefits to be derived therefrom. Immense reduction works have been planned, and what promises soon to be the greatest smelting center of the world, is rearing itself as if by magic, on the saline shores of our inland sea. An army of men is now employed there and large numbers will make a livelihood there in the future.

The railroad situation was never so bright. The new line to the coast which became a reality early in the year is

to be followed by other transcontinental roads. From east and west they are headed hither. The survey stage is past. Construction time has arrived. Building is under way. It will not be long before we will hear the toot of a Western Pacific locomotive as it pulls into Salt Lake with its human and other freight, transported over the Sierras and across the desert. And simultaneous with its coming will be the ability to board a passenger train of the Moffat road, and make a flying trip towards the Atlantic seaboard over the shortest railroad route to Utah that civil engineering has yet devised. But that is not all. The long promised steel viaduct will next year connect the west side with the east and make pedestrianism safe. More still. The Deseret News is assured that many other splendid improvements are to be made in the coming year.

Bank clearings have reached their highest mark this year. Business conditions are unprecedentedly sound. Failures have been few and far between. Well stocked stores, and patrons with money to buy, are more nearly the general rule than at any previous similar period. The herdsman has found a fair market and the flockmaster has received top-notch prices for his wool. The artisan and the laborer have both had work at a good wage. Peace and plenty have prevailed and the state has been entirely free from the plagues and calamities that have vexed the inhabitants of the earth in some other sections.

Of Idaho one can only speak or write encouragingly. Surely is her star a lustrous one. Paeans of praise concerning her vast possibilities are being sung all over this broad land. Just now she is enjoying a most rapid and remarkable growth. Immense public and private irrigation projects, completed and in process of completion, are causing her waste places to be transformed into teeming farms, orchards and gardens. Her thirsty prairies are everywhere being made moist and prolific through the system of modern irrigation. Great canals cross and recross the country while laterals and other water-ways carry the life-giving fluid to the remotest spot of fertility.

In mining, too, she is showing to the world that she has a right to be taken into account among the larger mineral states. Her record this year will eclipse her greatest previous production for the same length of time. The immense area of timber in her northern territory bids fair to become the big lumber producing region of the northwest. The discovery of large coal beds, the building of new railroads, power and electric lighting plants, the founding of new towns and the establishment of industrial activities all proclaim an era of prosperity.

Perhaps no state west of the Mississippi has received more attention in 1905 than Nevada. It would seem that the curtain which fell with the closing of the famous Comstock mine has again been lifted to reveal anew the marvelous mineral wealth that lies practically untouched within her confines. As the discovery of gold sent fortune-seeking thousands into California; and as the fame of the Comstock district was a population-drawing magnet in the days that are gone; and as Virginia City, Pioche and Eureka were names to conjure with in those times, so, too, are Goldfield, Tonopah and Bullfrog magic names today. The story of what these mighty camps are doing in the way of adding to the world's wealth reads like a romance and was never so comprehensively and accurately given by any newspaper as it is in this issue of the Deseret News. The chronicle of what they are yielding well-nigh defies belief. It would seem that all the gold of fabled Ophir and the riches of Potosi are to be surpassed by some of Nevada's modern bonanzas. New towns spring up in a night. Railroads are building in all directions. A spirit of hustle is in the air. Nevada is on the boom. Utah is much interested in her splendid growth and is glad to see many of her people turning to the soil as a means of making a living, as well as pursuing the calling of the miner. With a few reclamation projects such as the Truckee-Carson enterprise, successfully launched, and with her new and old mines producing their millions of gold and silver, her destiny will be more certain and her days more bright than any Comstock enthusiast ever pictured.

ENCOURAGING ENTERPRISE.

ONE of the causes of congratulation to the people of Salt Lake City is the interest which is being taken in the subject of home manufactures. A united effort is in progress among the business people here, to promote the establishment of home industries in order to supply residents with needful food and clothing and other necessary comforts by home skill and labor, also to furnish them to adjoin-

ing states and territories. This policy, started at the beginning of settlement in these valleys, has been for some time quiescent. Men of means have looked for quick returns for their investment of capital, and have preferred merchandising and speculation to the slower methods of producing and manufacturing here that which could be more cheaply imported from elsewhere. This course, however, is seen to be unpatriotic and unlikely in the end to be of the greatest benefit to the State, and therefore to its individual citizens. An organization has been effected called the Manufacturers and Merchants' association, which has acquired a solid status, and is receiving increased daily support. It bids fair to become potent in the building up of the State of Utah and moving it forward to its magnificent destiny. It is a bright and glowing sign of the times. It gives added lustre to the glory of this Christmas time. It proclaims the opening of an era of prosperity which will be great and permanent. It means work for the idler, the utilizing of natural resources which have long lain dormant, the retention of money within our borders which otherwise would flow out, as in the past, in large streams for the enrichment of other regions. It is a great movement which should enlist the sympathy and aid of all people who have an interest in the general welfare. It should not be allowed to fade out or lag for want of means to push it forward. The gentlemen engaged in it are men of enterprise and energy, and they evidently mean work more than talk. The Deseret News is ready to support the association in its praiseworthy efforts for the progress and development of this mountain State, and wishes for all its promoters and assistants a splendid Christmas and a prosperous and successful New Year.

HAIL THE CHRISTMAS NEWS.

A GAIN the Christmas News! Again another journalistic triumph! All hail its name and power! To that which it has done it invites attention. To that which it may yet do it says "wait." For wonderful as its past achievements have been, great as its present effort is, the "News" above all is progressive, and promises its vast army of readers that in the strenuous contest of news dissemination it will still remain at the head of the newspaper procession in this section of the country. Its face is turned toward the future. On the mountain tops it sees the sunlight. The past will take care of itself; into the shadows it will not go. It has done its part for "Greater Salt Lake and Greater Utah" in the issue that it offers the public today. No one will gainsay that. In the days to come its duty will be just as thoroughly discharged.

Meantime, as the Yule-tide spirit prevails throughout the city and state it admonishes all classes of citizens to gird up their loins for the struggles not yet met; to wash their hands of the grime of disappointments and defeats; to buckle on the armor of earnest endeavor and magnanimity of purpose; to live and let live; to forgive and be forgiven. Ours is a city that may be great; ours is a state of magnificent resources. As we stand in the twilight twilight the darkness and the dawn of this and the new year, it is well to remember that a golden opportunity confronts us. That which an individual or an association of individuals can accomplish in a small way, a city or a state may accomplish on a much larger plan. The point may be illustrated thus: The Deseret News, it will be universally conceded, has made an unquestioned success of its holiday number. If there had not been a unity of purpose on the part of all concerned, the standard must necessarily have been much lower. So with the city and with the state. All interested should be fully interested and they should be interested in the same way and to the same end.

That was the wish of the Christmas News when its compilation was commenced. It is its desire now that the task is completed. In the gathering of the array of facts and figures that has gone into it no creed or class has been attacked or neglected. Every industry has received consideration, every line of business, a review; and that, too, in a style and finish the best the newspaper profession and the craft of printing can put forth. Experts have done the work in every department of the undertaking, which is the largest yet essayed by any journal outside of New York City. The results speak for themselves. They are superb in every sense. Better printing or finer illustrations cannot be produced on a newspaper press. If it were possible the "News" would do it. Until it is, its work must stand as peerless. From the splendid cover with its unique design and rich coloring to the last page of the 116 that it embraces, it is home-made, the product of the "News" establishment. Therefore we feel justified in departing from our usual custom and indulging in these eulogies. In the contemplation of the me-

chanical finesse of the great edition it is well to remember the wealth of its excellent literary features. In addition to the "News" own large staff of able writers whose articles adorn its pages, there are eminent contributors from three states, including United States senators, congressmen, governors, mayors, editors, authors, poets, railroad engineers, agricultural, horticultural and irrigation experts, mining men, stockmen, lawyers and many others. Every branch of human activity in the intermountain west is ably and intelligently handled. Altogether it is the finest and most comprehensive newspaper that has ever found its way into a Utah home. Again we say, All hail the Christmas News!

RETROSPECTIVE.

THE beginning of the nineteenth century found the European powers in a life-and-death struggle with the military despotism that, under the leadership of the first Napoleon, sought supremacy in almost every part of the world. It was a time of commotion among nations, out of which a new order of things finally evolved.

The opening years of the twentieth century saw the military despotism centered in St. Petersburg, slowly but surely extending over eastern Asia and threatening the national existence of the ancient nations there established. In this respect there is similarity between the opening chapters of the two centuries.

Of vast importance are many events recorded during the brief span of time that has elapsed since last Christmas. Abroad, a nation, we may say, was born in a day. Japan, from being almost unknown, sprang into military importance by a series of most brilliant victories on land and at sea. The fall of Port Arthur, the capture of Mukden and Tie Pass, the annihilation of the Russian fleet in the straits of Korea, were achievements comparable, in some respects to Austerlitz and Trafalgar in 1805.

The defeat of Russia marked an epoch in its internal history as well. No sooner had the hostilities ceased than the people rose in every part of the country. By strikes the industries were crippled; by mutiny in army and navy the defenses of despotism were weakened; by assassinations the tyrants were made to tremble, and the people obtained promises of freedom. Even Finland had her lost autonomy restored. Important in history is indeed the year from which the regeneration of a nation dates.

In other countries, too, the tendency to independence has manifested itself strongly. Hungary is even now engaged in a diplomatic struggle with Austria. Norway has accomplished a peaceful revolution, and even in the Sultan's domain the demand for self-rule is occasionally heard. The Macedonian situation came near causing a serious complication. In France church and state have separated. The concordat, a century old, has been abolished. A new order has been established.

This country has enjoyed peace and devotion to the common interests. The election of President Roosevelt to the first office in the Republic, and Mr. Fairbanks to the second, was followed by a general demand for "a square deal," and this found expression in the investigation of the business methods of large corporations, and it is hoped that this will mark the beginning of a lasting reform movement. We have been free from labor troubles, with the exception of the strike of 5,000 employees of the street railroads in New York. The Lewis and Clark exposition was held during the summer, and proved a great success, financial and otherwise. The most important ecclesiastical event of the year was the international conference in New York, which resolved to form an association for the purpose of co-operation, and excluded Unitarians, as heretics.

Utah has, notwithstanding some disadvantages, kept well up with the general progression, during the year. First of all, the road to Los Angeles placed us in direct, rapid communication with Southern California. The opening of the Uintah reservation is another of the events that form part of Utah's history. We have had a Good Roads convention, opened one of the finest hospitals in the West, accepted a most excellent free public library, voted money for a more abundant water supply for Salt Lake City, formed associations for the furtherance of manufacture and the promotion of tourist travel, all of which shows what kind of business spirit prevails here, and indicates what can be accomplished with unity of effort and purpose.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has cause to rejoice in the goodness and mercy of the Father, when taking a retrospective view of the past few months. The year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of the Prophet Joseph, and the wonderful work accomplished in the past, notwithstanding all obstacles, is a guaranty of victory in the future, for it is evident by every past experience, that "God is with us."