

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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Brigham Young, in the discourse of which you speak, did not say that the Virgin Mary was not overshadowed by the Holy Ghost. He did not say that it was Adam. He did not say that Adam was our only God. What he did say, on this subject, was that Jesus was not begotten by the Holy Ghost. He taught that Jesus was the "first-begotten" of God in the spirit, and the "only begotten" of God in the flesh. As to Adam, he taught that he was God in the sense of being at the head of the human family. That he was Michael, the Ancient of Days, and in the resurrection would be at the head. In that way the whole human family will be related to him as his children, and in the Patriarchal order he will be the personage with whom they will have to do, and the only one in that capacity. President Young taught faith in that Eternal Being to whom Adam and all his race should bow in humble reverence, who is our Eternal Father and the Father of our elder brother, Jesus Christ, and is the Great Elohim. The Journal of Discourses is not now in print and I do not know of any volume now on sale; however, I have given you the substance of President Young's teaching as to Adam. Hoping that this will be satisfactory, I am,

Yours truly,

C. W. PENROSE,

Editor News.

Anyone who has carefully read the

discourse delivered by President Young

on this subject, will perceive that our

brief statement of its purport is correct,

that there is nothing in one that is in

conflict with the other; that we have

neither "apologized for" nor disputed

anything contained in that one sermon,

which has been so much misunderstood

and perverted by the enemies of our

late venerable President. We are famil-

iar with the doctrine he taught, and

which he did not attempt fully to ex-

plain in the discourse which has been

published. And it should be under-

stood that the views entertained by that

great leader and inspired servant of the

Lord, were not expressed as principles

to be accepted by mankind as essential

to salvation. Like the Prophet Joseph

Smith, his mind was enlightened as to

many things which were beyond com-

mon understanding, and the declaration

of which would bring upon him the op-

position of the ignorant.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Lat-

ter-day Saints has fundamental princi-

ples to present to the world, the recep-

tion of which is essential to salvation.

They are to be found in the written

standards of the Church, and are simple

and easy to comprehend and obey.

There are men in the Church who over-

tain ideas of a more advanced nature,

some of which, although they may be

expressed in public, either upon the

stand or in works that have been writ-

ten, are not put forth as binding upon

any person. This distinction ought

to be clear to all who interest them-

selves in such matters.

That which President Young set forth

in the discourse referred to, is not

preached either to the Latter-day

Saints or to the world as a part of the

creed of the Church. In answering the

letter of our correspondent we simply

explained in private that which was

asked in private, so that he might un-

derstand the tenor of President Young's

views, and not with any intention of

advocating or denying his doctrine, or

of controverting anything that may

have been said upon the subject by op-

ponents of his utterances. We do not re-

gard the course of the Lamoni Herald

in this matter as commendable, or even

ordinarily respectable. It is a piece of

journalistic impertinence.

AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGY.

According to the Boston Transcript

the prospect is very bright for explora-

tions in Central America this year. The

government of Honduras has granted a

concession to the Peabody Museum, and

an expedition will be sent to Copan in

the interest of American archeology.

Four expeditions have formerly made

extensive researches there. As a result

a large number of sculptures, stones

with hieroglyphics upon them, imple-

ments, pottery and ornaments have been

brought. Moulds have been made of

the monoliths, idols and altars

standing in the courts or on the ter-

races connected with the temples.

Plaster casts from these moulds are

already discovered. But the field is worth all the labor its exploration costs and all the expenses it involves. Without doubt this continent was the cradle of the human race. Its earliest history is preserved in the ruins and in the inscriptions that are awaiting their correct interpretation. And undoubtedly it will all be made plain in due time. The Providence that caused a Rosetta stone to be preserved for the benefit of Egyptian research will have some means whereby the secrets of this continent shall be revealed in due time. The keys to the past, the present and the future are in the same hands.

LOUD'S BILL AND CLAIM.

The Loud bill for the restriction of

second-class mail matter is again be-

fore the House of Representatives, and

it seems the opposition to it is as lively

as ever.

Mr. Loud's statement of his case is

interesting because it proves, if

true, that Congress is swayed by

popular agitation, like a reed by the

ever-changing winds. It proves that

a few agitators can by properly di-

rected efforts manipulate the national

legislators as puppets in a marionette

show. Surely if such is the case it is

time for the nation to wake up to a

situation that may become perilous.

Mr. Loud claims that as many as 200

members of the present Congress had

urged him to bring his measure up

again and that two months ago he was

practically no opposition to it. Now

it was different. Every member had re-

ceived petitions and letters from his

constituents. Every day Congressmen

came to him and stated that they re-

ceived hundreds of letters, and that

they could not vote according to their

conviction against such pressure.

Loud proposed by his bill to save

annually about \$20,000,000 to the gov-

ernment, but he is opposed by "The Amer-

ican Publishers' Committee," which, he

said, consists of three men. These draw

up petitions and offer books and money

to others who get up petitions, and in

this way Congress is influenced. That is

to say, Mr. Loud virtually claims that

three men with persistent agitation may

turn Congress from the course sug-

gested by reason and conscience. He

virtually indicates that a small number

of agitators have a fair chance to shape

legislation, in spite of Congress. If such

a possibility exists, some radical remedy

seems to be called for.

It is, perhaps, only fair to state that

much opposition to the Loud bill is

founded on the fact that it seems to

strike at periodical literature of the

better class, curtailing, if not prohib-

iting, its circulation. The bill proposes,

we believe, to grant the privileges of

second-class mail only to periodicals

which are made up entirely of original

matter. How would this affect illus-

trated papers and magazines reproduc-

ing works of art, or reprinting articles

of interest that have already appeared

in print, perhaps in foreign countries? It

would probably mean to the public an

increase in the subscription price, and

to the publishers a decrease of cir-

culation. On this understanding of the

effect of the bill, Mr. Bell's suggestion

that the railroads reduce the carrying

price of second-class matter to a proper

figure will meet with endorsement. If

they do, there is no doubt that the

deficit in the postal revenue on that ac-

count would be more than covered.

DESTRUCTION OF A CITY.

The possibility of the destruction of

Johannesburg by the Boers is causing

much discussion, and a proclamation

seems to have been issued declaring

that the British would be justified in

seizing private belongings in retaliation

for the wanton destruction of British

property.

There can be hardly any question

as to the "rights" of the burghers to

destroy the city mentioned. Great

Britain informed the powers, shortly

after the beginning of the conflict, that

a state of war existed in South Africa.

its own evidence that none of the shoot-

ers belonged to the gallant Twentieth

which worried Filipino rebels.

There is talk in London of disfranch-

isement all the colonial Dutch in South

Africa who are accused of rebellion. The

suggestion tells of extensive disaffec-

sation with English rule outside of the

Free State and Transvaal republics.

Possibly the present war may result in

a general reform in that part of the

British possessions.

Last evening the doctors anticipated

that Admiral Dewey, who was taken ill

yesterday, would be able to be out to-

day, but he is still confined to his room.

His indisposition is said to be not of a

serious character, but the public will

have a measure of anxiety till the hero

of Manila is sufficiently well to move

about again with comfort.

Secretary Root says Cuban affairs are

in good shape for steady progress for-

wards independence, and that the work

of developing municipal government

and then national government will be

pressed steadily forward. The secre-

tary's report is quite satisfactory as

showing that the Cuban people are wor-

thy of the efforts that gave them free-

dom from Spain.

It is reported that New York manu-

facturers are preparing to fight the

nine-hour day and other demands made

by the striking machinists. Unless

there is some kind of intervention to

stop the threatened labor war, greatly

disastrous effects of the strike are like-

ly to be witnessed within the next few

weeks.

The death of Osman Pasha recalls a

parallel in defensive warfare with the

earlier events of the South African con-

flict; but the losses of the assailants of

fortified positions in the later conflict

was insignificant compared with those

of the Russo-Turkish com-

bat, and after all it was star-

vation rather than shot and shell

that overwhelmed the Turkish army

at Plevna. Both the illustrations tell of

the serious work that is before an in-

valid force in a war between civilized

nations.

THE MEDIATION

Baltimore Sun.

If our government cannot act except

as an intermediary for the transmission