

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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C. RENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

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## OPEN THE SCHOOLS.

We are pleased to see that an effort is being made by persons having different views on the vaccination question, to settle the dispute as to the opening of the schools without further strife and litigation. If a vote was taken today in this city, we have not the slightest doubt that an overwhelming majority would favor the immediate opening of the district schools to all healthy pupils and teachers. Few people are of the opinion that there was any real necessity to close them. That, however, will signify but little if the difficulty is removed without further delay.

Among the objectors to the exclusion of unvaccinated children, are many intelligent and influential citizens who believe in the virtues of vaccination. They join with those who have investigated the subject and who have become convinced that the theory is erroneous and the practice injurious, and with those who have a natural repugnance to the operation without any great study of the question. All these persons with various views, unite in opposing the species of compulsion exercised in the denial of the right of healthy children to the education which is made compulsory by law. And they also fail to see the necessity of keeping the schools closed under existing circumstances.

The "News" recognizes the responsibility resting upon the Board of Education and the Board of Health in face of what was believed to be an impending epidemic. If proper precautions had not been adopted and the disease had spread to any great extent, both of those bodies would have been subject to public censure. And it would have been deserved. A little too much caution is more pardonable than its excess in front of a threatened disaster. But the exclusion of children from the public schools, when they had not been exposed to contagion and were not themselves unhealthy, while other children, actually diseased, were admitted without any criterion as to their exposure to infection, could not be rationally classed under the head of caution but appeared to the majority of the public as palpably absurd.

The arbitrary closing of the public schools to all children alike, seems to be still more unreasonable and is disapproved by the masses of our citizens. The shortest and best way out of the difficulty is to remove the restrictions that some members of the Board of Education, no doubt, considered necessary and prudent. The reasons for them, if any there were, do not now appear to exist. We believe that the Board of Education would receive the support of people of all shades of opinion on the vexed question which has been before the public for some time, if that body would throw down the barriers now set up to the free education which the Constitution of our State and the laws passed in pursuance thereof guarantee to all the children of school age and require them to attain. By doing this, good feeling would be promoted and, in our opinion, no harm would result either to individuals or the community. Open the schools!

## "CAST NOT YOUR PEARLS," ETC.

The great Apostle to the Gentiles, whose writings are regarded by modern Christendom as inspired, and are taken as the foremost authority on matters of Christian doctrine, told the Corinthians that he was once "caught up into paradise," and also into the "third heaven" and heard words which "it is not lawful for a man to utter." The Founder of the Christian religion, who taught many things to His disciples which were not for the world, but only for them and their particular edification, felt compelled to keep some truths from even them, exclaiming, "I have many things to say unto you but ye can not bear them now."

The Prophet Joseph Smith, in the present age, found himself in similar positions to those of Paul or Saul of Tarsus, and Jesus of Nazareth, in this respect. He declared on several occasions that if he were to tell all that had been revealed to him, some of his best friends would rise up against him and his life would be in danger. There is nothing so intolerant as ignorance and error seasoned with an smattering of knowledge. People who imagine that they know it all when they have gained a little light, are frequently bigoted and filled with animosity against persons who have learned something beyond the common understanding, and which comes in contact with the popular notions of right.

At the Tabernacle last Sunday afternoon, President George Q. Cannon spoke of a number of doctrines enunciated by the Prophet Joseph Smith which had brought persecution upon the Latter-day Saints. He did not refer to one doctrine in particular that had produced this effect, but mentioned all of them as having evoked hostility

from the "Christian" world. That he did not mention "plural marriage," as untruthfully charged in the Tribune, has been sufficiently explained and is demonstrated by the sentences from his remarks given verbatim by that paper. But the attack upon him is renewed from another standpoint. He stated, after quoting the remarks of the Apostle Paul alluded to in this article, that all the truth which had been revealed to this Church could not be publicly promulgated with safety. This he showed was because of the opposition which had already been met by those principles on which he touched, and for the maintenance of which the Latter-day Saints had made so many sacrifices. This furnished occasion for a number of queries and sarcastic insinuations from our carping contemporaries. Of course it desires to know "what it is." Its curiosity as well as its animosity is aroused. The very fact that those things were classed by the speaker as inexpedient to explain at present, is sufficient to show that no answer will be to the impertinent question. The Savior once gave some very pointed advice as to the care that should be taken in reference to "pearls" of light and truth.

The paper which has made a desperate effort to misrepresent the remarks of President Cannon, wants the "News" to tell "whether the Saints have ever been persecuted for anything except plural marriage." But with characteristic cunning it adds the words "since their coming to Utah." President Cannon's reference to the persecutions endured by the Saints, and the sacrifices they have made for the principles revealed through the Prophet Joseph Smith, was not directed to the immediately present time. It went back to the early days of the Church when those principles were first presented. They caused a storm of hostility from the sectaries of the period. They were fought not only by ridicule, invective and anathemas from the pulpit, but with fire and sword, with rifle and bludgeon, with prison and chains.

On Tuesday, November 6, 1888, General John B. Clark at Far West, Mo., delivered a speech to the Saints who had been deprived of their homes by a bloodthirsty mob led by sectarian ministers, in which he ordered them to disperse and never again organize with Bishops, Presidents and other Church officers, and in which he ridiculed and denounced their doctrines and told them that their leaders who had preached to them would never see their friends again. That "their fate was fixed, their die cast, and their doom sealed." Joseph and Hyrum Smith and sixty other men were held as prisoners, and the massacre at Haun's Mill had already been perpetrated.

This was but one incident in the history of the persecutions which came upon the Church, through the intolerance and hatred of Christian professors who denounced the doctrines enunciated by the Prophet. There was no mention of "plural marriage" in any of the charges brought against the Saints or their leaders. No such doctrine was taught at that time nor was it alleged against them. The spirit that actuated the anti-Mormons at that time has raged against the Saints continuously ever since, with occasional lapses in its fury. It burns in the hearts of their enemies today, if not manifested in the same fashion. It is exhibited in the distortion of their doctrines, the perversion of the teachings of their public men, and in the efforts that are made to bring upon them public obloquy and, if possible, physical force to crush them.

The Deseret News in taking up this subject is simply repelling the attack unjustly made upon a public speaker for the purpose of placing deliberately a false construction upon his utterances. We do not believe that any fair minded person in this community, no matter what may be his views of religion. They are shameful and without excuse, and ought to be denounced by all lovers of truth and peace.

Since the foregoing was written, we have been supplied by the Church stenographer with a verbatim report of President Cannon's brief discourse, and we publish it in full in another part of this paper. We need make no further comment. It speaks for itself. In the language of an Episcopal collect, we say to our readers: "Read, mark, learn and inwardly digest."

## BOER AND BRITISH.

Many thoughtful persons are of the opinion that, no matter how the present struggle in South Africa terminates, the Boers will ultimately rule that part of the world. If there is any foundation for this view, it cannot be maintained that the war was undertaken for the establishment of a superior civilization.

Observers of life in the two African republics find that the Boers marry early and live long. Their physical constitution is the very best and their families are of patriarchal size. Disease is almost unknown among them. A life in hardships, paralleled only by that which the Pioneers of Utah endured, produced a race in which all the weaker types perished, and the survivors and their children seem able to endure almost anything.

The British may establish sovereignty, but the race is bound to predominate, and in time, unless it is weakened by the vices of civilization, it will assert its power and found a Dutch republic. A "higher" civilization generally does not hold out against one of less intellectuality and greater physical power, particularly when with such power is coupled implicit religious faith and devotion to virtue. On these considerations it is presumed that even the most decisive British victories cannot put an end to Boer rule.

## RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

Russian newspapers see in the recent Russian activity in Persia an assurance that the influence of the czar's government in that country is to become paramount. A Russian institution is to furnish Persia a loan of 22,500,000 roubles, and this seems to be regarded as an opening wedge by which the immense north European colossus can penetrate the country of the Shah, and exclude all other nations. The domina-

tion of Persia, it is suggested, is but a recompense to Russia for German acquisition of the greatest part of the Samoan islands.

The political movements in the Orient are always of absorbing interest. Somewhere in that part of Asia the central contest is to rage, that will wind up the present dispensation. That both Russia and Persia are to play some role in the last scenes is probable. Persia is not at present a power to the attitude of which much significance is attached, but if the Shah is placed in a position to pay off his country's indebtedness to Great Britain, and Persian politics are directed from St. Petersburg, it is different. In the hand of a giant even a jaw bone may become a formidable weapon.

## "LYNCH LAW IN CONGRESS"

This is the view the Baltimore Sun takes of the proceedings in the House of Representatives against Mr. B. H. Roberts:

"Representative De Armond, of Missouri, in his admirable speech against the exclusion of Mr. Roberts, of Utah, from the House without permitting him to take the oath, said: 'The argument of the majority, that the method of turning Mr. Roberts out of the House matters not, is the argument of Judge Lynch.' The vote on the exclusion of Mr. Roberts shows that three-fourths of the members of the House recorded themselves as in favor of 'Judge Lynch' methods. The Democrats who voted with the majority may have cause some day to regret that they assisted in establishing a precedent based upon 'lynch law.' As Mr. De Armond well said, 'The real question is not only of consequence today, but through the centuries. It is, 'Shall the Constitution be observed?' In a case involving so vital a principle the House might have put up with the 'contaminating presence' of a polygamist long enough to have permitted him to take the oath, in accordance with his constitutional right. Then he could have been expelled in short order and the House would have vindicated its right to judge of the qualifications of its members without resorting to 'Judge Lynch's methods.'"

The Sun in the same article further says:

"Mr. Lanham, a Texas Democrat, in supporting the majority report, maintained that 'the House possessed the inherent power, under its own constitution, and implied constitutional warrant, to protect and uphold itself in its integrity, dignity and reputation. The Constitution gives it the right to make its rules, and the greatest rule is that which declares that no question of privilege shall be first—those affecting the rights of the House collectively, its dignity, safety, and the integrity of its proceedings.' That may be true, but Mr. Lanham may consider himself fortunate if the doubtful expedient which he countenances in the case of Mr. Roberts is not at some time in the future used against the party and the section which he represents. At a time of great political excitement it might be possible to set up other disqualifications before polygamists and make them a ground for refusing to allow a member legally elected to be sworn in. The alleged suppression of the negro vote in the South might be made the pretext for protecting the 'integrity, dignity and reputation of the House' and denying members who held a certificate of election of the constitutional right of taking the oath."

## SHOULD BE CONSISTENT.

The Denver Post urges Congress to enact a Ten Commandments clause and exclude from its halls all members not complying strictly with the requirements. Says the Post:

"Now that Congress has undertaken to establish a standard of morality for its members, it should not stop with polygamy. It should at least enact the Ten Commandments as a necessary qualification and exclude everyone chargeable with a violation of any one of them from taking the oath. This is the line the people have a right to expect. It is the right of the impartial enforcement of such a rule might possibly leave both houses without the number of members required for the transaction of business, but that should not deter them from setting up the moral standard and from a strict adherence to it. The people are expected to live up to it and they certainly have a right to expect of their representatives the same standard of life. There are other crimes besides polygamy which should disqualify from holding a seat in the national legislature."

There are times when kjepe and trape are synonymous terms.

Gen. Buller says he expects to be at Ladysmith in a week, and the British public is asking which week.

Chicago has no reason this year to complain of summer in winter. Two people "froze to death there last night."

Omaha's "Jack the kisser" has been adjudged insane. He would be happy enough if consigned to a New Jersey asylum.

When Congress commences giving thanks to patriotic American women, Miss Gould's name will not be alone on the list.

A lot of people who are ailing with the "grip" now are greatly embarrassed when it becomes known that their ailment is the "grip" of vaccination.

If South Africa only had a slight section of Mississippi valley weather just now, the scene of the war would not be so near to the undesirable end of eternity.

Just think of it! In Kentucky they will not recognize a legislator unless he has a pass. How happy the solons of some other States would be were a similar requirement made.

That Italian ultimatum brought the sultan to time, and the Italian girl who was being held was given up. Italy's influence is greater with the Sultan of Turkey than with the Negus of Abyssinia.

So far as casualty reports from Spion Kop reveal, the British loss was ten times as great as that of the Boers. Little wonder the Dutchmen found occasion for thanksgiving services when the fight was over.

If the Kentucky trouble were something new in the South, it might be an occasion of alarm. But it isn't; and that makes reasonably certain the outcome of a peaceful settlement after a period of threatening.

Senator Pettigrew says that Admiral Dewey recognized Aguinaldo's government by saluting the Filipino flag. Admiral Dewey says he never made such a salute. There's a "fib" out some-

where, yet it might be a cruelty to turn the politician over to the grin sailor to settle the question. There are some habits a politician cannot get out of in a hurry.

A theatrical company stands in the way of Mr. Bryan speaking in Paterson, N. J., on Saturday night, unless they can get more out of the event than by a performance of their own show. They are onto the financial basis, too.

The State troops in Kentucky seem to hold the key to the situation, and as they are as good shots as those who differ from them, peace may be preserved till the present dispute is settled beyond the danger point.

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of New York, will probably succeed Miss Susan B. Anthony as president of the woman's suffrage organization in America. Out of respect for the estimable lady who is likely to be chosen, newspapers will please refrain from puns on the name.

The House of Representatives committee on mileage has refused to recommend payment of the amount due to Mr. Roberts, and the chairman suggests allowing him the \$2,000 usually granted a contestant in the House. But Mr. Roberts was not a contestant—he was the duly elected member, and any sum coming to him is solely on that basis.

Miss Susan B. Anthony intends to resign, next week, the presidency of the National Woman's Suffrage association. She will take with her the esteem not only of those who espouse the equal suffrage cause but of a vast body of opponents who have recognized the fairness, courage, ability, courtesy and consistency which have marked the career of this truly distinguished American woman.

The Omaha World-Herald has this pungent paragraph:

"Mr. Roberts now has a large number of congressional glass houses offered as targets for his rocks."

No doubt there are whole terraces of them, but Mr. Roberts announced in the start of the stone-throwing at him that he was not in that kind of business. It was comforting to his assailants then, and they have nothing now to fear from him on that score. He will furnish no work for the moral glaziers and putty-men.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, speaking of the exclusion from Congress of Mr. B. H. Roberts, takes the view that "those 'Mormons' who are not polygamists will not and can not be discriminated against in any way, and there is no desire to do so." That undoubtedly is the sentiment of the great majority of the American people. It is nevertheless true, that some of the leaders of the anti-"Mormon" crusade bitterly hate the "Mormon" faith, and that their actions are inspired by that sentiment. Even previous to the fall election in 1898, they were eagerly looking for a point from which to attack the Church, and in that election they thought they found what they had been seeking. Others always join the leaders of such crusades, not because they hate the religion, but because they see in those movements an opportunity to further certain political plans. It has always been the lot of "Mormonism" to stand in the world in the position of the lamb at the brink of the river, from which the wolf was drinking.

## SPION KOP DISASTER.

Worcester Gazette.

It is very plain that Gen. Buller's task of forcing the mountain passes, through which an invading army must march to go from Natal into the Transvaal, is one of the greatest difficulties. The Boers may be driven from the commanding positions they hold about Ladysmith and then fall back to the passes, where they should be able to put up as stout a resistance as they have about Ladysmith. The relief of Ladysmith will be barren of pronounced advantage to the British. Not until all the mountain passes are forced, on the east, the west and the center will the British have any great advantage over their opponents. And when that is accomplished there remains the siege of Pretoria, where the hardest fight of all will occur.

## Boston Transcript.

England's jubilation in which she was indulging, yesterday, has been turned into mourning today by Buller's announcement that General Warren had been compelled to abandon Spion Kop. Buller's dispatch is so cloudy as to suggest that the war department is suppressing his explanation of Warren's withdrawal. One thing only is plain in the absence of details, and that is that Sir Charles Warren was in error in his belief that he had rendered the Boer position untenable. Apparently it was his own position on Spion Kop that was untenable, and so stout a soldier would not have abandoned it without a bloody demonstration of the necessity of doing so. As the culmination of more than two weeks' hard marching and heavy fighting it is certainly a disappointment.

Spokane Spokesman Review. England needs a sharp, decisive victory, and if she can win that, her task will be lightened immensely. The Boers are encouraged and strengthened by a remarkable series of preliminary victories. These successes have driven to their standard many thousand volunteers from the British possessions of Cape Colony and Natal, who are inspired by race sentiment, a love of adventure and a belief that the Boers will win out. A sharp British victory would check these accessions and cool the ardor of the Cape volunteers. Deserter from the Boer army would follow, and the morale of the Transvaal forces would suffer.

## Kansas City Star.

The attitude of a portion of the London press over General Warren's withdrawal from Spion Kop may be described as hysterical and childish. No disaster, however great, it has been heretofore supposed, would provoke such incoherent lamentation, mingled with indiscriminate abuse of everybody who has anything to do with the British army in South Africa. It becomes more necessary than ever to wait for the military dispatch, which seems to have faithfully given the truth, even in regard to the most mortifying disasters. From the soldiers will come the facts about the abandonment of Spion Kop. At last accounts the British army in South Africa retained its organization, and reinforcements were arriving and being sent forward.

New York Mail and Express. Whether Gen. Warren's abandonment of Spion Kop was forced by actual combat or deemed advisable because of the difficulties of defending it is not made known in the exaggerated brief dispatch from Buller, but it is certainly astonishing, in view of the confident cable from Spaurman's Camp yesterday that Warren in his new position commanded the Boer trenches and

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# Z. C. M. I.

T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

made their position no longer tenable. Exactly the reverse has happened, and it is a serious setback for British arms.

New York Journal.

Of course General Joubert and his accomplished French and German staff officers deserve every credit for the brilliant plans of campaign they have worked out and so tenaciously followed. But they ought to remember with gratitude the able British strategists who have so enormously facilitated their work.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Buller's report of his retreat across the Tugela is written with studious avoidance of his losses. If he had had only small losses we may be sure he would have mentioned it, for this would have compensated in some way for his failure to hold his position north of the Tugela. As it is now, he must have worked out and so tenaciously followed. But they ought to remember with gratitude the able British strategists who have so enormously facilitated their work.

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