

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

ICENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

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## WORTHY OF IMITATION.

The remarkable powers of resistance and endurance exhibited by the Boers, in the war with Great Britain, have astonished the whole civilized world. It was expected on the outbreak of hostilities that though, at first, there might be a few successful repulses, the triumph of British forces and British tactics would only be a question of a few months, even with the comparatively small army then sent to South Africa.

But all these calculations have been upset by the stern realities of the campaign, and the former Boers have, so far, not only withstood the onslaughts of the trained soldiers of the British Isles, under some of the most successful generals in the army, but have actually achieved victories in the face of odds that appeared overwhelming.

The Boers had been preparing for the outbreak for several years. They had the food ready and the armaments and munitions of war at hand. They have a mode of warfare suited to the localities where the conflict is being waged. They are skilled in the use of arms, and in the kind of horsemanship required in the broken country to be traversed and defended. Their supplies and reinforcements are readily obtained. These are advantages greatly in their favor, but there is something more than all these, that give them strength to endure and courage to go forward and conquer.

There are two factors in the problem of the Boer resistance which are worthy of general understanding, and which account in a large degree for their astonishing if temporary successes: They are a hardy, temperate, working and therefore vigorous race, and they really believe and trust in God whom they worship sincerely. These traits make them a powerful foe, and fighting for home and independence, render them formidable and not easy to subdue.

As to the righteousness of their cause, or its wrongfulness or folly, we have no argument to offer. But their manner of life, which gives vigor to their manhood and womanhood, is such as to make them stalwart and brave, and if somewhat rude in their deportment, gives them a sturdiness and power of physical endurance, which enables them to withstand the onslaughts of an enemy vastly superior in numbers.

They also pray as well as fight. They go into the fray, seeking the help of the "God of battles." At night, when the horrid sounds of war are stilled, they do not revel in debauchery or indulge in ribald song and story, but bow the knee together in solemn prayer, and sing the hymns that they learn in religious meetings. They, therefore, not only go into the strife in the strength of healthy vigor, but they fight in faith that they will prevail.

These are two lessons for the youth of all nations to learn. These examples are worthy of imitation. Temperate, chaste and active lives, without excess and free from vice, genuine faith and trust in the Supreme Being under every circumstance, will prepare any people for the battle of life, and be of immeasurable strength and value in peace or in war. Whatever may be the outcome of the conflict now raging, these particular exhibitions of the Boer character are worthy of consideration, and will become conspicuous in the history of South Africa.

## "MORMON" ELDERS.

A dispatch from Parkersburg, W. Va., to a New York paper, dated April 11th, tells of some difficulty in that place, settled by the gentlemanly and courteous demeanor of "Mormon" Elders, who seemed to have been the indirect cause of the trouble.

It is gathered from the dispatch that the Elders asked the proper authorities for the use of the city hall, to hold a meeting in, and that the matter was laid before the city council. Before that body could take action thereon, the women of Parkersburg, under the usual inspiration we presume, held an indignation meeting and protested against the use of the city hall for such purposes. The result was that the hall was denied the Elders.

But the mayor seems to be a gentleman with liberal views, and he vetoed the act of the council and told the Elders they could use the hall as long as they desired. The Elders, however, in view of the divided opinions on the subject, declined the mayor's kind offer and hired a private hall. The trouble, it is said, lasted for weeks and attracted keen interest in religious circles in the State.

The peaceful spirit in which the Elders arranged this little incident is characteristic of their labors all over the world. There would not be any trouble with "Mormons," were it not for a determination on the part of their adversaries to stir up strife and contention, and then lay the blame on the Saints. The latter have always been willing to sacrifice their rights, their property, and themselves, in the inter-

est of peace and good will. This is a matter that can be submitted to impartial investigation.

The ladies of Parkersburg may not be aware of the fact that here in Utah, the "Mormons" have frequently opened their places of worship to speakers of various beliefs, and the "mothers" of Utah have not held indignation meetings to protest. They are not afraid of "false doctrine," in the sense that they dare not have it investigated and brought to the light. They, on the contrary, believe in "proving all things" and keeping that which is good. They believe that those who see a better light in Methodism, for instance, than in any other religion should embrace it and live faithful accordingly, until a clearer light illumines their souls. And so with every other faith.

Why should there be contention and bitter strife? Why should there not be "unity in essentials and charity in all?" And above all, why should not "Mormon" Elders in the world obtain, to some extent at least, the courtesy so freely offered here to representatives of other denominations and interests?

The reason why the women of Parkersburg protested against the gentlemanly offer of the mayor, does not appear. Probably they were afraid of a comparison between their own creeds and that of the Elders. That, at least, is the secret of clerical objections to the Gospel. And as the protesting ladies undoubtedly were inspired by the clergymen, the secret motive of the "trouble" is really no secret. We are glad the Elders took the right course, for their apparent retreat was really a victory, according to the great principle: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

## HARD ON HORSES.

The impression is now again prevailing in London that Lord Roberts is quietly preparing for some great stroke, that possibly will be as disastrous to the antagonists as was his triumphant entrance into the Free State. There seems to be sufficient ground for this supposition. The British general evidently does not underestimate the strength of the Boers, as the British generally were inclined to do at the beginning of the conflict. He has found them to be well armed, hard fighters, and shrewd strategists, and he is consequently proceeding warily, not striking until he feels prepared to do so effectively.

One of his greatest difficulties seems to be the great mortality among the horses. A correspondent of Collier's Weekly says the country is intolerable for the animals. Every horse gets sick, and the few that recover are called "salted," but this only means that they are immune against the climate of the particular place in which they took sick. High plateau horses take sick again when they go to a lower level, and vice versa. The result is that the loss of horses is immense, and without horses, it appears, neither the British nor the Boers can accomplish much.

Lord Roberts is now said to have 214,000 men in the field available for active service, and more are under way. It is a force almost as large as that which Napoleon invaded Russia. In the long run, it must accomplish the object for which it was sent to Africa, unless something not looked for interferes. But the British commander has plenty of time for his campaign, and need not move until he is quite certain that he will not be forced to retrace his steps. Some definite, important news from the seat of war should be due before long.

## "LOOKING BACKWARD."

It is passing strange in these days of enlightenment that both in America and England a certain class of people demand that the shadow of barbarism be turned several degrees back on the sun dial of civilization, and that the lash be again applied to certain criminals. Not long ago in an address presented to the Illinois legislature it was contended that in Great Britain highway robbery was stopped by the liberal administration of flogging. The subject has also been brought to the consideration of the British Parliament recently.

The London Humanitarian League has therefore issued a statement bearing directly on the question whether a barbarous form of punishment had the effects claimed for it. The real facts are set forth as follows:

"In 1862 there was a sudden outbreak of garrote robberies in the streets, and London was undoubtedly terrorized by the action of this class of criminal. The epidemic began in July and lasted just four months. At the November sessions of the Central Criminal Court, twenty-seven persons were indicted for this crime, and twenty-one were convicted, each being sentenced to imprisonment, without flogging. At the sessions in January, 1863, the calendar showed very few offenses of this character, and at the March sessions the Recorder observed to the grand jury:

"I am glad to say that there is an absence of those peculiar charges of robbery which have been the cause of so much trouble in the past. There was a large number towards the end of last year, and which have been gradually decreasing during the last two or three months."

"It was not until July 12, 1863, that a bill, introduced by a private member, to enable flogging to be ordered for robbery with violence was carried in the House of Commons. In opposition to the then Home Secretary, Sir George Grey, Hence, it is clear that flogging did not put down garroting, for the crime had been suppressed, and London relieved of the terror several months before the flogging bill was even introduced into the House."

"Sir Edmund Du Cane, the late chairman of the board of directors of Convict Prisons, has told us in unmistakable language that flogging had nothing whatever to do with the so-called extinction of garroting. In 1896 an overwhelming refutation of the sophistries of the advocates of flogging was set forth in the Law Times. The writer not only disposed of the fallacy that garroting was put down in the sixties by the free use of the lash, but proved conclusively that in some parts of England, notably in Liverpool, the crime had increased pari passu with the infliction of the notoriously savage sentences of flogging and imprisonment passed by a certain well-known judge."

The whole trend of modern penology is, to reform criminals by means of humane treatment, whenever possible to do so; and when that seems beyond human possibility, to restrain them from doing any further harm to society. This being the aim of penal law and institutions, they have been humanized

late, and students of criminology are of the opinion that this humane treatment has been more potent than all the racks and thumbcrews of a dark past, to stop crime. They tell us that there is less sheep stealing in the British Isles today than there was when that offense was a crime punishable with death. The abolition of the cat-o-nine tails as a means of punishment in the United States navy elevated the morale of the service, and the infrequency of its use in the British navy, where it still remains as one of the prescribed penalties, has had a similar effect there. If this is the case, it would be nothing short of a calamity to revert back to barbarism. If violence is neither a deterrent nor a corrective, there can be no possible excuse for legalizing it.

Only a few days ago the dispatches told of a tragedy that transpired in a home at Westville, Conn. It illustrates well the terrible effects when violence is resorted to by the stronger upon the weaker, in an age when the immeasurable worth of a human being is recognized by all classes, more or less. The story said Katie O'Connor one day did not wish to go to school. Her father asked her why, but she simply refused to go, and he finally struck her. Then in the words of the dispatch:

"She waited until her father left the house. Her face was white as death, and her mother was frightened. Then her mother went out. The child got up and stole into her mother's bedroom. There on the mantelpiece, stood a bottle of laudanum. Katie locked the door and lay down on the bed. An hour later the mother returned. She called for Katie and there was no answer. The door was broken down, and there, on the bed, lay Katie. She was dead."

This is in perfect harmony with the spirit of the age, and it is perfectly astonishing that influential moulders of thought sometimes fail to grasp what would be the result, should the world turn back, and step by step, reach to the torture chamber and the auto-da-fé. For the retrograde movement once having commenced, where would it stop? There can be no conceivable halting-place short of complete vandalism.

## THE HOME OF TRUSTS.

That there is nothing new under the sun, and that China is the home of many of the inventions of which our modern civilization is so proud, are propositions quite generally accepted as true. Now comes a writer in a French magazine and claims that trusts, too, originated in China, and that they have flourished there for centuries.

The writer says that the tea trade in northern China is in the hands of two families, and that they have come into possession by means of inheritance. The banking business is controlled in a similar way.

It is further asserted of the Chinese trusts that they insist on honest dealings among their own members. They control prices, but they also see to it that dealers do not overcharge, and that they deliver honest goods. The banking trust watches individual bankers to see that they do not unwisely bring discredit upon the fraternity.

If this is a correct representation of the case, students of the trust problem should not fail to investigate the effects in the Mongolian empire. They would probably come to the conclusion that an institution belonging to the peculiar Asiatic civilization represented by John, is hardly suitable for transplanting on American soil. In countries where a paternal government holds sway, a great many things are proper, which are a detriment to free institutions. Anything that makes free competition impossible necessarily belongs to this class.

## FOR GOOD HEALTH.

The subjoined ten rules for the preservation of health ought to be generally observed. They express in a brief form a vast amount of experience and wisdom. To escape sickness, with all its concomitants, is largely a question of knowledge of the delicate machinery of the human body and how to take care of it. These are the rules, as published by the Troy Press:

1. Don't leave your rooms in the morning with an empty stomach.
2. Never expose yourself to cold air immediately after you have partaken of a warm liquid of any kind.
3. Don't leave your abode in cold weather without warm wraps around your shoulders and breast.
4. Begin respiration in the cold by breathing through the nose. This will give the air a chance to get warm before reaching the lungs.
5. Never place your back near a heated oven nor against a wall, warm or cold.
6. Don't stand before an open window in a railway carriage, nor take a drive in an open carriage, after violent physical exertion.
7. Don't remain motionless in a cold room, and do not stand in an open space, on ice or snow.
8. Talk only when you must, for the old phrase, "Speech is silver, silence is gold," holds good even in hygiene.
9. Don't put off your regular bath. When the skin is not kept fresh and soft the cold draws the pores together and you are rendered susceptible to pulmonary troubles of all kinds.
10. Don't retire with cold or wet feet. Nothing prevents sleep so much as cold feet, and the neglect of your pedal extremities.

The war revenue will be reduced, but there is not likely to be such hasty action as will surprise anybody in the cutting down of the taxes.

Trouble with the wires cut off the dispatches this afternoon. Probably an affection of Arbor day, as this is such good planting weather.

It is announced that the Chicago milk trust has failed in its effort to raise prices. These are still 25 per cent above Salt Lake's milk figures.

Sir Alfred Milner's protest against women going to South Africa is a severe commentary both on the crowd he calls "ladies" and the army they claim to associate with.

The political enemies of Senator Hanna will not find much comfort in the report of his serious illness. The senator himself says the report is untrue, and what he says goes on that score.

A New York man suddenly became rich by having \$200,000 left him by a wealthy brother, and turned his head so he hanged himself. There are lots of people who would like to take

chances on the riches part but have no fears of coming to the same end as in this case.

Texas was hit by a cyclone this morning. Particulars are meagre, but the visitation seems to have added to the devastation of life and property already made large by the recent floods.

In the death of President Richard Fry of Morgan Stake and Bishop Thomas Maycock of the Third ward in this city, the Church earth loses two tried and true and faithful veterans. May they rest in peace.

Dewey and Bryan expect to meet in Chicago, at the Dewey day celebration there on May 1. In the commemoration of the great victory at Manila, there should be no tears over conflicting presidential aspirations.

The frightful condition of millions of people in India is gradually becoming known. But had as the situation must be, the awful description of affairs given by Rev. Rockwell Clancy, of Allahabad, at Boston last evening, seems to be beyond belief.

Admiral Dewey is now the object of numerous pointed questions as to his political intentions. If he develops such fact as a politician as is shown in his record as a naval commander, he will leave antagonists guessing as to his purposes till he sends the shots home.

A proposition has been made to reduce the world's wheat acreage 20 per cent, so as to get \$1 per bushel for wheat. Hardheaded farmers will not be found waiting for the perfection of that scheme to give them prosperity. Where they can reach now any crop that pays better than wheat, they try to grow it; and the lower-priced product comes in only as incidental.

There is something strange in the strike at Croton Dam, New York, where the militia is called out before there is really any actual prospect of a resort to violence further than can be met by an army of deputy sheriffs on hand. Perhaps the dispatches fail to make the situation clear, but at present they give the appearance of the State troops being called on merely to aid the side of the employers in the strike.

Bishop Potter does not think Protestant missionary societies should be in a hurry to send missionaries to the Philippines. To intrude upon them teachers and teachers they have learnt to regard as damnable heretical would be, in his view, "to begin the work of a higher civilization by inflicting religious prejudices, and by awakening violent religious controversies." Such a course "might end in a situation in which the illusions of the old faith had been destroyed without the substitution of anything better." Protestant missionaries generally need to exercise more wisdom where they go, Utah not excepted.

Some time ago the San Francisco Chronicle suggested that the board of supervisors cut down the rate on street cars to 25 cents, for the benefit of passengers who cannot obtain a seat in the over-crowded cars. The suggestion has been acted upon to the extent that one of the supervisors has introduced in the council an ordinance, requiring the street railroad companies to keep on sale "no seat" tickets at 25 cents each, which shall be full fare for a ride where the passenger is forced by overcrowding to stand up. In several places there seems to be friction between the transportation companies and the public, and there is a growing sentiment in favor of the rule that obtains nearly all over Europe, that street cars must not be over-crowded. The public presumably has the right to expect reasonable accommodation for a valuable franchise and adequate compensation. Packed cars are dangerous to public health.

## IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Los Angeles Express.

The entrapping of a British force by the Boers in the Free State is evidence that the Britons are again underestimating the prowess of the burghers, which must be exceedingly exasperating to the nation, which believed their officers had learned their lesson from previous disasters caused by such carelessness.

## Chicago Record.

The succession of brilliant successes won by Lord Roberts and his forces have broken by a reverse which doubtless will have considerable moral effect in stimulating the Boers to continued resistance. The success of the Boer commander Olivier in outmaneuvering the British troops and effecting an escape, which almost demonstrated that the burghers still may have capable military leaders, even if Cronje and Joubert have been lost. The capture of a number of Col. Broadwood's troops with seven guns within a comparatively short distance of Lord Roberts' main army indicates that they also are by no means disposed to give up their vigorous opposition to the British advance.

## New York Evening Sun.

With the capture of Cronje and the death of Joubert the Federal armies have lost their man of blood and iron and their strategist. It is said that the army command will now devolve on Gen. Louis Botha, although a report has it that President Kruger will supervise the defensive operations. He is too old a man to be exposed to the hardships of a campaign, and his fame is diplomatic rather than military. So while President Kruger may be the figure-head, Botha, it is presumed, will command in the field. He has already proved his capacity. He seems to be a born leader of men and a natural soldier.

## San Francisco Chronicle.

The battle of the Tugela river was lost by General Buller and ten guns fell into the hands of the Boers, while another one was destroyed, because the Colonel commanding the battery drove the artillery blindly and unsupported within short range of a Boer ambush on the opposite side of the river, with proper scouting would have revealed to him in time to avoid disaster. No scouting preceded the occupation of Spion Kop by General Woodgate to ascertain if the position was tenable after it was stormed, and it had, in consequence, to be abandoned, after a heavy loss in killed and wounded. The repeated disasters due to the neglect of scouting influenced General Buller to despatch a messenger to British officers who ever learn its value.

## Chicago Record.

The death of Gen. Villebois de Mareuil will be a serious loss to the Boers, but it is more than offset by the British loss at Redersburg. The moral effect of the Boer success in trapping five British companies will be reflected both

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## San Francisco Chronicle.

Lord Roberts has had the reputation of being like Grant, indifferent to outside criticism of his plans, carrying them out in his own way and in his own time. Circumstances have, recently, forced him to apparent inactivity, and the military critics ten thousand miles away have begun to murmur, and he may have yielded to their importunities to try and accomplish something before his plans were fully ripe. Meanwhile the Boers have adopted a new mode of warfare—something on the guerrilla plan—which enables small detachments of them to move about with great rapidity and effectiveness, enabling them to strike where least expected.

## New York Evening Post.

It was reported the other day that the Boers were beginning to take heart again. It now appears that they are also beginning to take English guns again. Col. Broadwood's misadventure once more illustrates the extraordinary precautions which must be taken in conducting war in such a country against such an enemy.

## Chicago News.

Reports say gallant Baden-Powell and his heroic defenders of Mafeking have got down from horse meat to dog meat and instead of opening up negotiations are ready to take another step downward in the matter of diet if necessary. Merely as a test of endurance the siege of Mafeking will take high rank in military annals.

## Boston Herald.

Evidently the Boers are not an enemy with whom it is safe to take liberties. Any failure in strategy or tactics by a British commander subjects him to sharp and instant punishment.

## Boston Transcript.

The easy success of Lord Roberts must have made some of his subordinates careless, to judge from the accounts of Colonel Broadwood's misadventure. That officer appears to have marched into a "trap," to use an expression now much in vogue, and to have lost a battery which seems to have been captured before it could go into action.

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## GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS.

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