# DESERET EVENING NEWS.

DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY, LESSEES.

Thursday, June 1, 1893.

THE DESERET EVENING NEWS is published daily, Sunday excepted, at corner Fourth and E. R. of Deseret Street, Salt Lake City.

TERMS: Regular Edition, $10 a year.

THE DESERET NEWS WEEKLY NEWS is published on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of each week.

THE DESERET WEEKLY (in magazine form) is published every Saturday.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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| Daily 12 Months | $10.00 |
| Daily 6 Months | 5.00 |
| Daily 3 Months | 2.50 |
| Daily 1 Month | 90 |
| Daily by the Week | 20 |
| Semi-Weekly Edition 12 Months | 5.00 |
| Semi-Weekly Edition 6 Months | 2.50 |
| Semi-Weekly 12 Months | 3.00 |
| Semi-Weekly 6 Months | 1.50 |
| Weekly 12 Months | 2.00 |

Payments for subscription in advance or at the rate of one week's issue for each week subscribed for.

Old Subscribers will please remit A. S. APPLEGATE, Superintendent of Subscriptions, for the delivery of their papers.

Correspondence concerning Daily subscriptions should always give Number of the Street and Number of the house.

The NEWS is on sale at the principal Hotels, News Stands and by all newsboys every night for the city and suburbs.

For the benefit of Eastern patrons and friends who wish to send the NEWS to their homes or to friends in the East, we will mail the paper at the rate of $1 per month, or $5 for six months, or $10 per year, including postage.

All communications should be addressed to THE DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Telephone No. 1.


## BRIGHAM YOUNG'S BIRTHDAY.

Today, June 1st, is the ninety-second anniversary of the birth of Brigham Young, the great pioneer of the Mormon exodus from the banks of the Mississippi river to these valleys, the first Governor of Utah Territory, the inspired President and leader of the Church during a whole generation of its members. He was a man whose powers and gifts not only impressed all with whom he came in contact in life, but one who also left an impression upon the world that will be felt and recognized in all time. He is one of the rare characters in history to whose superiority of mind revolving ages do but add luster and renown. He seems to grow greater and grander with the years; and while during his lifetime there were many who contemned his teachings and questioned his abilities, there is none, now that he has passed away, to mean as to deny him a place among the bright lights of the century. Among his contemporaries and those who review his life-work at this later day there may, indeed, be found those who saw in him traits to criticise and teachings to dispute; but none except a short will deny that as an organizer he was superb, as a chieftain valiant, as a counselor wise, as an apostle fervid and as a man, honest and brave and true.

The NEWS need offer no panegyric upon him, need weave no chaplet in choice phrase to commemorate his record to mortality. He lives in the hearts of the people, and will live in history when even the greatest of his traducers has passed into oblivion.

## HELP HOME PRODUCTS.

There is much sense, patriotism and appropriateness in the resolution offered in the Real Estate Exchange by Mr. Fred Trimmer yesterday, and unanimously adopted by that organization. As given in last evening's NEWS the proposition asks the union of the Chamber of Commerce, the Business Men's Association and the Manufacturers' Exchange in formulating plans for the establishment of a store whose business it shall be to encourage the production of home-made articles, which shall be carried in stock and sold to the consumer, the objects of the institution to be understood by the title—a "home goods store."

This matter cannot be taken hold of too soon or too earnestly. It will appeal to every sensible mind in the community. From the very beginning it ought to prove a winner, and success can be averted only by the most clumsy mismanagement. If there is one precept that more than another has engaged the NEWS during all the years of its existence in striving for the business stability and welfare of Utah, it has been the doctrine of sustaining home manufacture. Figuratively speaking, it has ever been emblazoned on our banner; and we are not presumptuous in claiming that the whole of this paper's vast constituency are of the same way of thinking. It ought to be needless to say, therefore, that the movement suggested by Mr. Trimmer meets with our fullest appreciation and will call forth our most cordial support.

## BE MODERATE.

For a couple of days this week the small boy was very near the zenith of his happiness; he had within his motive physical system as much of elation as he had capacity for, the cause of all of which was, there was a circus in town. Whether he did inside the tents or not, he was the parade, a few of the animals and heard the brass band, and therefore and thereby was the country man interested up to his ears in his preferred element. Of course of his "go in" the delight was somewhat greater in position.

It was not much of a circus that he saw this time, but it answered the purpose. The tents were small, the canvas was rotten, the seats were rickety, the acts were all burlesques with advanced years, and the wild beasts were few in number and hardly ferocious enough to make it moderately interesting. But you could not make the small boy believe anything of the kind, nor the small girl either; it was a splendid show" to them; the animals were just as savage as could be and the performers were lovely." That is the juvenile verdict unanimously agreed upon and those who contributed of their substance that it might be rendered have only the feeling that the youngsters were gratified to reimburse them. That ought to be enough, though surely it is a hard heart, a close hand or an empty one that would withhold such occasional transports from those who some day not far distant will take our places in the harness, when we have fallen behind or by the way.

Amusements are as proper in their time and place as work is in its time and place; but one should not run into the other, and neither should be the sole aim and end of life. Some people are like children (sorry, when performing necessary labor or undergoing needed restoration, their minds are elsewhere, or they are longing upon the last amusement engaged in or the next one that is to come. They cultivate such an appetite for pastimes that finally the appetite is their master and makes of them the most abject slaves. Nothing but a vortex of continuous enjoyment affords the least degree of sunlight to their lives eventually, and of course the more useful, more necessary and, we may say, more upright things of life are neglected proportionately as the dissipation (for it is a dissipation) is given way to, and when the end comes there is no justice, as a rule, about as little to be said in praise of the victim as though he had permitted some other improper agency to control his life.

It is a great pity that we cannot at all times be rational, no matter how engaged or at what employed. We too often lose sight of or cannot realize the fullness of the joys of earth through incapacity brought on by injurious indulgence. Natural appetites properly gratified are at once a means of life and a source of pleasure; but given way to, permitted to control instead of being controlled by us, their office is overthrown, they no longer minister to our happiness but become the things which remain but to perplex and make sad.

There is but one form of indulgence which produces an all-pervading enjoyment and grows by what it feeds on; to the soulful and the whole-hearted it is more exquisite than any other and it never palls upon or clays the senses in the least. It is the indulgence in that sensation which comes of making others feel happy, and is exactly antipodal to that other condition previously spoken of, in which, through constant and unnaturalized participation in pleasures and pastimes the sense of charity is weakened and the growth of greed and selfishness stimulated. As to engaging in any forms of pastime or labor, it is a safe thing to always keep in mind the adage, no less true because originating in sporting circles, that it is the pace that kills.

## DR. BRIGGS OVERTHROWN.

The action of the Presbyterian general assembly last night, in sustaining the appeal from the decision of the New York presbytery in the heresy trial of Dr. Briggs, puts that body on record as intending to maintain the inerrancy of the text of the sacred Scriptures. Dr. Briggs made the statement that this could not be proven, for which he has been pronounced a heretic.

The NEWS would respectfully suggest that the whole controversy is not one of doctrine but of fact. If Dr. Briggs be misinformed as to the merits of the received Hebrew and Greek texts of the Scriptures, his mistake can hardly be called heresy, inasmuch as he maintains that his doctrines are in conformity with the creed of his judges, who, having to deal with the tangible question of letters and words in an ancient record, could find no difficulty in proving their point scientifically, if they be right. As the case now stands, it almost gives the impression of an attempt by mediæval bigotry to silence by main force the voice of reason. It is such actions that breed infidels in this century.

Is there the text of the Scriptures as we now have it free from error? The question is, as has been said, one of plain fact. A few instances may be given, well known to every scholar.

In 2 Chron. xxi. 16, most Hebrew manuscripts read: Beside them that are of Ethiopia or Ethiopia. In the context, it should be daughter, Jush for Kush. In Psalms lxviii 31 we read: "He receives gifts for men," which in English is to quote: "He gave gifts unto men." Which is right? The present Hebrew word is Adonim, which some think an error for Adonim. In Ex. xxiii 5 there is an evident repetition of a whole clause similar in tone with which any modern proof reader is familiar. The passage reads: "And thou shalt put it out on him and shalt put it out on him with him." Which is the genuine text? Which is now the reading? Bishop Lowth believes as many as forty additions in Isaiah, all owing to the carelessness of the transcribers. A singular instance of omission is found in 2 Kings xv 33, where the Hebrew says: "Eliashib his son reigned in his stead." In Neh. xii 10, 11 Jaddua is a Hebraicized form of Goliath the Gittite." In this passage a comparison with 1 Chron. xx 5, shows the error, for here we read: "Elhanan, the son of Jaiir, slew Lahmi, the brother of Goliath the Gittite." And then there are a few passages which no scholar of our time will deny are plain interpolations, wholly unauthorized, at first possibly in the margin of the manuscript and then in the text itself. 1 John v: 7, 8, is an instance of this: "For there are three that bear record (in heaven, the Father, the Word and Holy Ghost: and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth), the Spirit and the water and the blood: and these three agree in one." All the words in parenthesis are an evident interpolation in favor of the Athanasian doctrine of Trinity. These are only a few instances out of many. How any scholar or any body of men supposed to be familiar with the Bible, in view of such facts, can pronounce a brother a heretic for stating that the text of the Scriptures is not free from errors is a mystery.

## GO TO THE EAST.

The more or less certified fact that there is a land of vast scope and great promise just beyond the fringe of civilization bordering the farthest East is beginning to receive attention from the thoughtful. A writer in *Der Zeit der Wesen* of Vienna speaks of what is going on there as one awaking from a vivid dream, and then, rubbing his eyes, looks out upon the world to convince himself that it was not a mere deception of the lantern.

The ex-dreamer sees before him a Russian railway map and he reads—Kizil Arvat, Geklyes Askabad, Tedzhen, Amu-Darya, Bokhara, Samarkand, etc., with Merv in bold capitals, right in the middle of the serpentine line. Merv, once the "queen of the world," and in later years best known as the headquarters of thieves, robbers and beggars, of the knights of the desert, and of priests holding long-winded discourses on ritual washing and close-shaving; a city involving more danger for the traveler than the interior of Africa or the North Pole. And now? "Merv station, 700 versts from the Caspian Sea, 229 versts from the Amu-Darya." Here, says the writer, is a triumph of civilization, achieved with but little clamor. The traveler now takes the Oriental express from Vienna to Constantinople—a two-days' journey; goes thence by ship to Batoum in two and one-half days; then by wagon in twenty-four hours through Transcaucasia to Baku, on the Caspian sea, and crossing the Caspian by steamer, reaches Uzun Ada on the east coast after a voyage of eighteen hours. Onward thence by the Trans-Caspian railway, which brings him in forty-two hours to the Amu-Darya, the Oxus of the ancients, right in the heart of central Asia.

A ten days' journey from Vienna to the gates of Bokhara is pronounced one of those realized fables to the credit of modern enterprise and the appliances of modern civilization, and the way it came about is thus related: For many centuries past the Turcomans who roamed over the whole region from the Oxus to the Caspian led an independent, robber life. Russia had gradually acquired a footing in Turkestan proper and on occasion engaged in expeditions from the east coast of the Caspian, notably against Khiva, but in the later seventies, the Turcomans harassed their brethren under Russian protection—the Jomud Turcomans—and even the Russian fishing settlements on the Caspian. With the object of chastising the marauders, the Russians advanced upon the so-called Achal oasis with Kizil Arvat as their aim, but with disastrous results, until the "White General" Skobeleff, "Ak Pasha" the Turcomans called him, appeared on the scene. Like a whirlwind he swept over the country, stormed the fortress of Geklepe, and filled its ditches with thousands of the Turcoman slain. The fame of Ak Pasha, the invincible, was borne on the winds to furthest Merv; but after the triumphs of 1881 there was a change of policy at St. Petersburg, Skobeleff was recalled, and the expeditionary troops fell backward to their permanent quarters on the Caspian sea and in the Caucasus. Five years later the unexpected happened: the Turcomans of Merv voluntarily placed themselves under the scepter of the czar, the Trans-Caspian railway was at once begun and successfully carried through in defiance of the great difficulties presented by the shifting sands of the desert and the absence of water for long distances. The price was admittedly fabulous, and at times as many as 20,000 Turcomans were employed in the work of construction.

The project, as we are well aware, was at first stigmatized as a vain and unprofitable one from any point of view, military or commercial; but that these misbelievers were more or less if not altogether shortsighted is beginning even time early to be plainly manifest.

As to the military importance of the railway, before it was begun as an Tashkendoff wrote: "The transportation facilities are so low that, in case we conflict with England, an army of 50,000 men with their equipments, would require three years from the declaration of war before they could be brought to the field." As to shows from the fact the general erred widely in his calculations. He calculated on six trains of sixteen cars, while in 1886 the rolling-stock consisted of 48 locomotives, 922 freight cars, 469 open freight wagons, and numerous other vehicles. With an average speed of 25 versts, present capabilities would admit of at least six times as great a capacity as Tashkendoff calculated on.

However, it is not the subjugation by war but rather those to be achieved by peaceful agencies that should receive the most attention. It is possible and even probable that there will be a great conflict in Europe before very long and the region spoken of would doubtless be the theater of a good deal of it; but meantime and thereafter the work of building up and civilizing will be the subject of the greatest interest and we hope to see it grow unimpeded.

For the benefit of those who do not know, we will inform them that the United States is one-third the size of the British empire, nearly one-half as large as the Russian empire, a fourth smaller than the Chinese empire, a fourth larger than France and all its colonies, twice as large as the Turkish empire and nearly as large as Brazil. This does not include Alaska nor the Sandwich Islands.

In order to fill a void that has existed and grown ever since the Princess Eulalia set foot on our enlightened soil, we will here announce that the proper way to pronounce her name is as though it were spelled Yoo-la-lee, the hallowed syllable carrying the accent.

No one who goes to the Chicago Fair need be without his little personal souvenir. The Columbian guards, resolutely determined to do something in order of the uniform they wear, have taken to the business of arresting people for having their pockets picked.

BY a ruling of the treasury department salaried gas is a mineral product, hence the Canadian article must pay a duty.

ACCORDING to the almanac this is the first day of summer, meteorologically considered, it is early in the springtime.


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