

# DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, NOV. 20, 1900.

## AS TO THE PROFESSIONS.

Brigham City, Utah, Nov. 16, 1900.

Editor Deseret News.

There are, undoubtedly, many Latter-day Saints who, like the writer, are interested in learning what is the real attitude of the Church, as such, relative to members of the same, who see fit to choose as a calling one of the so-called learned professions, say, law or medicine.

There seems to be among the members of the Church a general and conventional antipathy toward lawyers and doctors. Why such an aversion for their professions should exist, or why those learned in them should be despised, or be made objects of contempt is not very clear. That their services are needed in the present political, social or physical condition of mankind will certainly not be denied by any thinking person; that they are in positions to do a great deal of good in their respective spheres is evident. Yet, there are many who seem to be possessed of such a deep-rooted prejudice against the lawyer and the doctor—the graduates from colleges of law or medicine, I mean, not so much against those who have taken up these studies as a side issue at home—that it seems hardly a matter of doubt in their minds whether it can be possible for such professionals to be sincere in their religion, or that he can enjoy as great a degree of the Spirit of God as he would, were he calling in life another.

The writer has heard of many professions renounced, made in public meetings of worship, derogatory to the interest of the class of professionals referred to. To one who all his life has striven to learn and to do the will of God, and who has proven his integrity for the cause of truth by always yielding obedience to properly constituted authority, who has labored diligently in the missionary field or any other position in the Church, which he has been called to fill; who, wishing to use his talents for the greatest good, is contemplating to take up the study of, say, medicine, but, wishing to start right, seeks the advice of one of the First Presidency and is assured of the propriety of his step, is set apart and blessed as a missionary for this special purpose; who, in school is bent over his task early and late, laboring earnestly, assiduously and prayerfully, observing the Word of Wisdom, endeavoring to do all in his power to obtain the blessings pronounced upon him by the servants of God, and who verily realizes all these promises—to him it appears highly inconsistent on the part of his best friends to lampoon him, or rather, the life calling he has thus advisedly espoused.

In view of the fact, that many consider it improper to employ lawyers or doctors, assuming that faithful Saints would be above the necessity of so doing, allow me to ask, most respectfully, what authority warrants such an assumption? Can it be logically contended that members of the legal and medical professions are a menace, as it were, to the true Church of Christ?

How many cases are there allowed to be conducted through the courts by the lay individuals, and how many of the laity are capable of thus conducting a case, were it permitted by law? Is an attorney-at-law a less consistent member of the Church for being a lawyer? Luke, "the beloved physician," was perhaps fully as faithful a servant of Christ as he would have been without a knowledge of the healing art.

The writer holds that a more noble secular calling than that of the honest, conscientious physician can scarcely be found; that the physician who, in his heart lifted up in prayer to the Almighty for His blessings, depending on the Lord, "the Great Physician," and not solely on his own skill, for recovery, is not a curse to any community.

In view of the facts, that the services of the physician have been, and are being, called for by suffering humanity in every station of life, from the wealthy ruler to the beggar, from the Prophet to the lay member; that leading men in the Church unhesitatingly endorse the proposition that members of our own Church ought to be educated as physicians, etc., and that members of the Church are set apart under the hands of men holding the holy Priesthood as missionaries to study medicine; it seems to be exceedingly ridiculous to teach, direct or by implication, that to call one in every way properly qualified individual to assist in alleviating the physical suffering of a member of the Church would be to defy the law of God and be contrary to Church discipline.

If it be wrong to study medicine to practice medicine, or to consult a physician in case of sickness, let the Latter-day Saints know it through their Church organs. If not, let them know it, so that "all things be done decently and in order." But by all means, let us be consistent.

CHARLES L. OLSEN, M. D.

We give place to the foregoing letter because we believe there is some cause for the complaint it contains, and because it is proper that any mistake made by Latter-day Saints on the subject may be corrected. We think, however, that the writer, like some other gentlemen in his profession, is a little too sensitive as to the opinions of a few of his neighbors, and that he somewhat exaggerates the situation, when he speaks of a "general and conventional antipathy towards lawyers and doctors among the Latter-day Saints." That certainly appears to be an assertion that is too sweeping.

"The attitude of the Church" as to its members who see fit to study law or medicine, has been sufficiently marked and well-defined to satisfy inquisitive inquirers. The Church has never opposed learning, but has encouraged it. Numbers of its young

men have been advised to take courses of study in the most advanced colleges of the country, that they might become proficient in "the professions." There are "Mormon" lawyers and doctors in active practice in Utah, who would not have entered upon these lines of labor but for the sanction and approval of the leaders of the Church.

The word of the Lord has been on record, in the Doctrine and Covenants of the Church, almost from the beginning, commanding His servants to "seek out of the best books words of wisdom;" to seek knowledge by learning, by study, and by faith, to "become acquainted with all good books and with languages, tongues and people." The temple to be built unto the Lord was required to be "a house of learning," as well as a "house of faith," of fasting, and of prayer. The Elders were taught in "the school of the prophets" to become proficient in all acquisitions, and to obtain knowledge of countries and of kingdoms, of laws and of sciences.

The Church has been ever a friend to education in the fullest sense. It has employed lawyers of eminence, and many of its leaders have sought the advice and aid of physicians and surgeons, and have advised others to do so. While the Church teaches the doctrine of Christ that faith is potent in the healing of the sick, and that the ordinance of anointing with holy oil and the laying on of hands, is efficacious when administered or received in faith, it recognizes the fact, which is also pointed out by revelation, that "all have not faith" and therefore such persons are to be "nourished with all tenderness, with herbs and mild food, and that not by the hand of an enemy." But it is also said that those remedies are to be used "with judgment and skill." That judgment and that skill are to be acquired by "learning," as well as by faith, therefore the Church has never opposed, but always encouraged, those who had the desire and the ability to study for the profession of medicine and surgery, and to aim for the highest round on the ladder of learning and proficiency.

There are, doubtless, some members of the Church, who are not deep thinkers, who may be somewhat fanatical, and who may give expression to their notions in a rough and offensive manner to sensitive minds. But they are not "the Church," nor do they represent the sentiments of the Church on these points. The Deseret News has, on several occasions, advised those who have need of a physician, to employ competent and reliable and reputable persons. When help is required, to get the best help available, and this has been in accordance with the views of the leaders of the Church.

Now there is another side to this question. The attitude of some of our people towards "professionals" of their own faith that is a subject of complaint, is occasionally caused by the airs of superiority assumed by a few of the latter. Their enlarged opportunities, instead of opening their eyes to their own imperfections, inflates their self-importance and leads them to look down upon their neighbors who have not received similar training, with, a lofty air of condescension and arrogance, that is quite as offensive as the conduct complained of in their friends. This naturally provokes hostility and occasions some of the lack of appreciation exhibited.

Particularly is this the case when a young man, who has figured in the community in some ordinary occupation and has moved on a level with the rest of the people, goes east to a college, and in a year or two returns with a diploma, and a style and bearing which he seems to think so overwhelmingly imposing as to strike all his former associates with awe and admiration. When he finds that this does not count he dubs the folks who fail to worship at the shrine of his great achievements as "ignoramuses," and thus accounts for their indifference to his wonderful wisdom. We do not apply this, by any means, to our correspondent, in whom we have never seen such a disposition, but it has its bearing in some well-understood directions. The revelation which directs the acquisition of general knowledge also thus warns the brethren: "Be admonished in all your blindnessness and pride, for it bringeth a snare upon your souls." (See xx.)

The attitude of a few individuals, no matter who they may be, must not be construed as the position of the Church on any matter. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints stands for enlightenment, for education, for progress, for true science, exalted art, for endeavors at perfection in every branch of knowledge, human and divine. We use these terms because of the division commonly made, but as a matter of fact all truth and all intelligence is divine, and should be welcomed, esteemed and valued, wherever and by whomsoever they are manifested. Development, advancement, uplifting into all that is good and noble and great are the aim and work of the Church and should be of all its members.

## A GOOD ORDINANCE.

We call attention to the ordinance passed at the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, relating to eruptive diseases. It provides that any person who knows of cases of such diseases, not under the care of a physician, shall report the same to the district health officer. Failure to do so, is made a misdemeanor and is consequently subject to prosecution and punishment.

The object of the ordinance is to facilitate the institution of proper quarantine in all cases of contagious disease, and it is perhaps called forth by the rumors that in some parts of the county people suffering from such illness are neither seeking medical aid, nor reporting their condition to the health officers. If the rumors are founded in fact, such persons are committing a wrong, probably being ignorant of the consequences, and the rule made by the Commissioners is good. It rests with the people, though, to see it enforced, for without the intelligent cooperation of the public it will remain, practically, a dead letter.

Quarantine in cases of contagious diseases is necessary. For its rational and proper observance even "compulsion" is justified, on the same principle that compulsory education, compulsory spraying of fruit trees, and so on, are proper. This requirement is no infringement upon the personal rights of the citizen, like some measures that have been advocated. The inconvenience occasioned can be endured for the benefit of the community. Personal injury is not involved, and for the sake of others individuals must sometimes make some sacrifices.

In many cases the quarantine can be observed at the homes of the patients, and when that is impracticable, the quarantine hospitals must be made use of. There is no doubt, no divided opinions on the beneficiary effects of quarantine regulations. No one should raise any objections to measures necessary for the confinement to as small circle as possible, and the stamping out of a disease which, if neglected, may spread. All should be willing to help in the warfare, and the conscientious observance of the ordinance now adopted would, in our opinion, do much toward the preservation of the health of the people, particularly if cleanliness of surroundings at home, and a rational mode of living are observed.

## KING OSCAR SICK.

The dispatches from Stockholm indicate that the health of King Oscar is such, that his demise may be expected at any time, and anxiously among the statesmen of the world, the event would cause deep regret throughout the courts of Europe, and genuine sorrow among his subjects.

King Oscar has very wisely kept out of all "entangling alliances," and pursued a policy of peace. He has, on the other hand, never neglected an opportunity of furthering the interests of the industries, the sciences and the arts. Through his munificence numerous explorations have been made possible, among which Nordenskjöld's Vega expedition is, perhaps, the most notable. He has also had royal assistance in his expedition through central Asia.

King Oscar has not always had an easy task, being the head of the government of two peoples with different temperaments and divergent national interests. But he has acquitted himself with the fine tact and kind disposition peculiar to him. He has conducted constitutional monarchy—one of the numerous offsprings of the French revolution—with so much wisdom, that it has become enshrined in the hearts of all classes of the people.

But the democratic tendencies of the king, in his associations with the people will be longest remembered. Numerous stories illustrative of this character are told. Here is one that has been often repeated, and appeared in print recently:

The king was examining a class of little girls, who were naturally overcome by the royal presence. "Can you tell me the names of some of the great kings of Sweden?" he asked one of the smallest, who, after some hesitation, stammered out "Oscar II." The king was greatly amused and stroking her hair, asked: "And what was one of the great events of his reign?" The child tried to think, blushed, burst into tears, and replied, "I don't know of any." The king, smiling, patted her head in a comforting way and said: "Don't cry, my dear child, I really don't know of any myself."

## ATTACK ON CATHOLICS.

The attack made on the Roman Catholics, by speakers in a Methodist church in New York, as told in the dispatches, seems strange at the end of this advanced century, and especially when it comes from a Protestant camp, and is directed against Catholics—from professed champions of liberty, against the alleged representatives of religious oppression.

Yet, it is in perfect harmony with the spirit of Protestantism. Already in 1845, representatives of seventeen different denominations gathered in Liverpool and agreed to form an organization, under the name of the Evangelical Alliance, with the object of "combating unbelief and superstition, and especially Roman Catholicism." And in 1871, 600 Protestants, from Great Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, and the United States joined that "alliance." Since then prominent members of this society have shown a willingness to extend the hand of fellowship to the Roman clergy, but as a general rule the object of the association, as first expressed, has been kept in view. The Methodist attack on Romanism is, therefore, perfectly consistent. Protestantism, when it first became a factor in the world's history, demanded liberty for itself, but not for those entertaining other views. Luther and Calvin, it has been said, would as vehemently have hurled their anathemas against Rome, as the pope did against them.

One of the speakers suggested that the missionary society, in behalf of which he was speaking, spare neither expense nor labor to "oust Rome" from the island of Porto Rico. And this, while in the United States there are from eight to ten million Catholics! What about these? Are they also to be ousted? Would the Methodist speaker have them expatriated, if he had the power to accomplish that task? No other conclusion seems possible from his suggestion as to Porto Rico.

There is no need of us taking up the defense of the Roman Catholic church. That body is strong enough to fight its own battles. But the principle of religious liberty is involved, and an assault upon that principle should not go without rebuke. Those who would deny others the privilege of worshiping God according to the dictates of their conscience, are ignorant of one of the fundamental principles that has attained recognition, through long contests and many sacrifices on the part of the noblest men and women the world ever saw. Their agitation may become a menace to free institutions. When religious liberty is broken down, there is no barrier between political liberty and its assailants. One will perish with the other.

Proceedings at Pekin, or perhaps it would be more apt to say the delay in proceedings, are beginning to arouse

suspicion. The preliminaries to negotiations seem unduly long.

It is very gratifying to learn that the report of a number of "Mormons" having been killed by Indians in Mexico is untrue.

China's open door seems to swing in and out.

Ships of war are by no means the safest guards for the ship of state.

"What about the army?" asks the Mail and Express. About ninety-eight thousand.

Another sloping marriage has been consummated, in the language of Puck, "What fools these mortals be."

Henceforth Connecticut is to have but one capital, Providence. What better capital could men or state have than Providence?

If the powers have to take slices of China by way of indemnity there will inevitably be a scramble for the most choice cuts.

Post election political controversies are among the most stale and unprofitable things in the world. One might as well bay the moon.

New York and Chicago are having an epidemic of vice extirpation. Such epidemics are usually violent while they last, but their duration is generally short.

The tirades of Bishop Goodsell and Rev. Dr. Drees against Catholicism prove anew that the Methodist church still regards Rome as "the scarlet woman," they also smack strongly of the intolerance often charged against that hierarchy.

It now transpires that Prince Tuan's punishment is merely banishment and not imprisonment for life, as first reported. It is quite likely that this banishment will turn out to be nothing more than a leave of absence with permission to travel until the storm is over.

It is said that this country will go without indemnity from China for outrages upon its citizens if indemnity cannot be had in the form of taking a "slice" of the Flowery Kingdom. If such is the decision of the administration it will meet with the approval of the entire American people.

Herr Lieber is a bold and brave man to openly declare in the Reichstag that German warfare in China is inhuman and cruel. And it is according to all reports. But how many men in a national assembly would have the courage to make the arraignment that Herr Lieber did? Truth quite as much as conscience makes cowards of us all.

That was a most remarkable utterance of General Von Gossler, minister of war, in the Reichstag, that as Europe had once been devastated by the Huns so now the time had arrived for historic retribution in China. In the Reichstag the remark was looked upon as "unfortunate." It will tend to confirm the suspicion that Germany has ulterior designs in China.

The University of Chicago has decided that there shall be no "rushes" at that institution. This decision was arrived at as the result of the killing of a student in a "rush" at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. These "rushes" are always liable to result in death or most serious injuries to those engaged in them. The University of Chicago has acted wisely.

Thirty-eight Turks attempting to cross the Black Sea were drowned during a storm. First the children and then the women were thrown overboard to save the boat, but to no purpose, all but one perishing. Christians, when such things happen, always make an effort to save the women and children first. Such incidents as this show the difference between Christianity and Mohammedanism.

If election judges are only to receive three dollars for their work at the late election, which on an average was about twenty hours, in future there will be no great "hankering" after the job. It was rather hard to get judges to serve this time, especially those who had some knowledge of the Australian ballot law, but what will it be in the future? If the county commissioners shall abide by the county attorney's opinion it is not impossible that the election judges will combine their interests and bring suit.

## ARMY REORGANIZATION.

Chicago Record.

In the plan of army reorganization reported by Secretary Root, Congress should recognize what appears to be a dual and satisfactory solution of a difficult problem. In brief, this plan provides for the establishment of a permanent organization of 100,000 men. This will be the nation's regular army, the nucleus of whatever land force is to be raised in time of war. The President, by a terms of the plan, will hold discretionary authority to increase this army up to a maximum of 100,000 each company of sixty men being recruited up to its full manning strength of 133.

Fieldston Republican.

None of the plans mentioned provide for a smaller army than that now in field or barracks, namely, 100,000 men. According to the Sun's correspondent, the war department will recommend a permanent establishment of 100,000 men, doing away entirely with volunteer supplements like the present one, which must be mustered in a few months, just when its services are most needed in the Philippines. Senator Fraker's plan is said to be a regular army of 50,000 or 60,000 men, with power lodged with the President to increase the force to 100,000 men as occasion may require.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The reported views of army officers of high rank in the Philippines make it evident that the present force there is inadequate, and that the reduction of the army to its ante-war proportions would necessitate the abandonment of the islands or a radical change in the policy so far pursued there. The statement of that fact in these columns was not made for political purposes, but to keep an indisputable fact before the people and to prepare them for its consequences. A large increase in the permanent army means a corresponding increase in the expenditures for military purposes. If the people are prepared to pay the money there is no more to be said.

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Boston Transcript.

By all means let us have idealized crystallized in the form of a newspaper. There isn't a villain in the land so mean in his ways that he wouldn't like to see both conceptions go through without a break, ministering to the public mind as it is, and at the same time, coming out of the ideal, a "real" thing, or that and bemoaning the failure of attempts to install it into the public mind. An ideal theater are in the vague, so to speak, things may move along beautifully. But when the ideal of each begins to take concrete shape, and those shapes are found to be no two alike, it may be that there will be an advertisement inserted in the columns of the paper for a good practical man, or three or four of them, to save the ideal things from collapse.

Hartford Times.

All that we wish to point out is that the endowment newspaper in New York must not be started on any one million or two by billions of capital. It will not last unless it shall have at least ten millions behind it. And the public must know that the money there and those the attempt to do so is as silly as established as is the New York Herald or J. P. Morgan & Co.'s banking house. Then the truth-telling morning newspaper in New York may succeed.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Brother Parkhurst seems to be in earnest when he says that a syndicate of men of wealth are considering the establishment of an ideal newspaper in New York. But let the wealthy syndicate look around. Perhaps they'll find that it's cheaper to transplant than to establish.

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Men's silk fleece back shirts or drawers.....	\$1.00
Children's combination union suits.....	20c
Boys' Lamb Knit woolen gloves, per pair.....	25c
Men's Lamb Knit woolen gloves, per pair.....	35c
Boys' Wool and Worsted Kne Pant Suits, ages 9 to 15	\$4.00
worth \$5.00, per suit.....	
Men's Provo Mills Suits, all wool, these suits are worth	\$10.00
as much as any eastern \$12.50 suit, for.....	
Ladies' Wool Combination Union Suits, worth \$1.25, for.....	\$1.00
Ladies' Melba Combination Suits, worth 75c, for.....	50c
A full stock of Provo Blankets and Flannels, L. D. S.	\$1.25
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### GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS:

Again the overcoats.  
Some how or other we can't keep from telling of them.  
Of course main reason is,  
We've so many to sell.  
Another reason, we want you to own one.  
But we don't want you to own one if we can't give you more for your money than anyone else.  
We said MORE.  
If your pocket-book is slim,