

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
T. C. SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(SUNDAY EXCEPTED)
OFFICE: 101 Temple and East Temple Streets
Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:
Per Year, \$2.00
Six Months, \$1.25
Three Months, \$0.75
One Month, \$0.25
Single Copies, \$0.05
Foreign edition, per year, \$2.00
Postage, \$0.50

Correspondence and other reading matter for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
Address all business communications to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE:
F. A. Craig, 41 Times Building

CHICAGO REPRESENTATIVE:
E. A. Craig, 87 Washington St.

SAN FRANCISCO REPRESENTATIVE:
C. S. King-Sheridan & Co., 400 Examiner Bldg.

SALT LAKE CITY, - JULY 28, 1900.

INDEPENDENT, NOT NEUTRAL.

The Deseret News stands between two fires. There are several Republicans who vehemently declare it is a Democratic paper. There are many more Democrats who regard it as a Republican organ. We go by what they say; of course, we do not pretend to enter into their hearts and judge as to what they really believe. It is all very strange to us, knowing the desire and purpose of the entire staff of this paper to make it non-partisan and independent.

To come down to particulars: When the Deseret News is first to announce the candidacy of a Democrat for some public office, that is taken as a proof of the leaning of the "News" to Democracy. When it is first to announce the intention of a Republican to enter the political race, that is cited as clear evidence of our favor to Republicanism. It looks as if some folks in each party are one-eyed, or color blind, or both.

A friend of the "News" has suggested that when we are growled at by both parties, it is pretty good evidence that we are taking the right position as an independent newspaper. We accept the suggestion, and from the continued expressions of encouragement we receive from our readers, of all parties and faiths, backed up by the steady increase on our subscription books, we have reason to believe that it is an expression of the sentiments of the great body of the people of this State.

Now, if the objectors on either side will just closely examine their own wishes and desires, they will discover this: If the Deseret News would plainly support the Republican party and candidates, it would suit that class exactly. There would be no fault to be found with it at all. On the other hand, if the "News" would attack the Republican party and throw discredit on its candidates, it would be regarded by the other class as just the kind of paper to support. As it is, these few critics take their stand in declaring that the "News" is Democratic, or the "News" is Republican, according to their particular partisan proclivities; that is all.

Our friends, if we may properly call them such, make the mistake of supposing that an independent paper should be of the neutral gender, and have no force or opinions on public questions, particularly if they should touch on subjects discussed by political parties. We desire to disabuse their minds of this fallacious notion. We take the ground of independence, not neutrality. We expect to have views on public questions of local or of national import, and express them with as much vigor and clearness as we can, regardless of their acceptance or rejection by any political faction or party aspirant.

Neutral as to mere party contentions, we shall be independent on public questions that concern the people and the nation. We may stir up dissent in either or both parties engaged in a campaign. That will make no difference to us. We stand for what we believe to be right in principle, and do not expect to take such a course that we will meet with no opposition, for that would mean also no influence and no following. We hope to have correct opinions and intend to express them so that others may understand them.

It appears very childish to us when persons, supposed to be sane, jump to the conclusion that the "News" is partisan, because it displays in prominent places reports of the doings of parties and prominent persons on either side. The "News" is not independent, it is a newspaper, a fact that is so generally recognized that many intelligent people who do not accept its utterances on religious and perhaps some other points, express their appreciation of it, and say they can't do without it in the evenings. We intend to print the news, to get it as soon as we can, and if it is more than ordinary interest to display it to advantage, without any regard as to which party it will please or displease.

The doctrines and principles we advocate and the views we entertain on public questions, religious, social, political or otherwise, not using the last mentioned subject in any party sense, will be expressed in our editorial columns and for these we are responsible. We have no protest to make against dissent from them, however pointed or vigorous, if it is made on fair premises. But when there is nothing in them that either supports or opposes a party on partisan grounds, we cannot but regard as petty and silly, attempts to make them appear as attacks on or apologies for some political faction or aspirant.

Let it be understood that the Deseret News, while it is the official organ of the Church, when its authorities have anything to communicate through the press to the public, is a newspaper for general reading, and is independent of political organizations and claims the right to discuss all public questions

that affect the general welfare, whether that may please or displease either or any party or individual. We shall endeavor to proclaim the truth, and to uphold and maintain liberty, for the benefit of all parties and races and conditions of mankind, and we desire to do good and spread intelligence aided by guides and spread intelligence, aided by guides all who seek after light and knowledge.

A BALEFUL FIRE.

It is probable that there will be a great deal of heat in these parts during the next three months. We do not mean the kind that has driven so many people to the mountains or to the lake. That is inevitable at this time of the year. We have in mind the excessive warmth that will affect people's nerves arising from political friction. It is already showing its effects. As the season advances it is likely to be still more "in evidence."

There is no good reason, in our opinion, for so much excitement over election affairs. The several parties ought to strive to put up the best, wisest and fittest men for public office, according to their respective doctrines and platforms. They are justified, too, in doing all they can within the lines of truth, justice and law, to elect their several candidates. But this does not necessarily involve the fever, the rashness, the oblivion to everything but their own desires, that are exhibited by extreme partisans on either side.

The people of Utah, especially those who form the majority of the population, ought to be comparatively free from this party inflammation, which so seriously affects many people's brains, and renders them so one-sided as to exhibit the symptoms of political monomania. Persons afflicted with that disease are so sensitive to the slightest appearance of opposition to their views and preferences, that they look upon all persons and papers that show it, as their political enemies, and they fire up and let their imagination run riot, sometimes without any substantial provocation.

It is perhaps quite right for members of political organizations to be zealous in the cause which they have espoused. But that need not lead them into injustice toward their opponents, or to make personal that which is only a question of belief. Nor does it follow that every one is a foe, who does not train in the same ranks as those in which they proudly march, with all the enthusiasm and sometimes as much fierceness as soldiers ready to fight.

Our advice to the many thousands of "News" readers is, to keep as cool as possible during the coming campaign; to avoid undue excitement; to remember that those who differ from them in political faith are likely to be just as sincere as themselves; to recognize the fact that all wisdom, integrity, patriotism and truth are not the sole property of any party or faction on earth; and that in the heat of controversy, unless a check is put upon the tongue, the lips are liable to utter words against a faithful brother or dearest friend, that are poisonous to the heart and pestilential to society, while they do no real good to anything or anybody.

There is an objection in many minds to the union of religion and politics. We believe fully in the mingling of the two to this extent: Religious people ought to be influenced by their faith and the principles of their creed, so as to deal fairly with friend and foe; to refrain from misrepresenting and even misjudging their brethren; to keep within the bounds of church membership in their conduct and in their language; to regard partisan inebriation as an evil that may be ranked with the sin of physical intoxication, and that is often quite as unreasonable in its manifestations and pernicious in its effects.

To whom does all this apply? To everybody whom it fits. If you who read this find in it anything that describes your complaint, it means you, no matter what party you belong to or what politics or religion you profess. And it is intended in kindness and by way of caution, not in dictation or to convey reproach. If it is in principle you need not heed it; if it is right, acknowledge its truth in your heart, and carry it out in your life and practice, particularly in the political campaign of 1900.

THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD.

One of the features of religious life in this country at present is the springing into existence of so-called People's churches. The parent church of this new class is in Chicago. Its members are about to erect a large building in the business part of the city and the contemplated construction of this edifice indicates the plans and scope of the organization.

Their "church" will be a business block. It will contain an auditorium, but the largest part will be devoted to offices. These will be occupied by the boards and committees having in charge the various branches of work in which the association will be engaged. There will be a "school of life" in which it is hoped young men and women may be prepared for the duties of a "Christian" existence, through a course of lectures on geological and economic problems. The schools will also aim to prepare missionaries for the propaganda of the principles of the People's church.

It appears to us that the founders of this organization must have lost sight of the meaning of the word church. There is only one true church, and that is the organization of which Christ is the head, and the foundation. There can be no true church outside of Christ's Church. A "People's church" is a self-satisfaction. A People's club, or tract society, or benevolent institution, is intelligible, but a "church" founded by authority of the "people," or by popular demand, conveys no more light than the expression "the people's universe" would do.

In the Scripture phraseology the human family is divided into two groups; the Church and the world. One is the domain of Christ. It is the "kingdom" of heaven. The other is under the rule of the "prince of this world." The disciples of Christ are "not of the

world," and therefore they are "hated by the world." Christ came to "save the world," and the Church exists as a consequence of this divine purpose of salvation. It has its divinely appointed officers, its power over sin, sickness and error, because it is the "body" of Christ, "subject" to Christ, the "bride" of Christ. The idea of a "body," of which the people are the "head" may be conceivable, but it is not the Church, which word means the "house of the Lord." For if the people are the head, where is the body? If the people stand for the bridegroom, who is the bride? How can a popular agreement as to articles of faith and rules of conduct ever be a substitute for the authority of Him, who justly claims all power in heaven and on earth, as a fruit of His labors and sufferings for the salvation of the race?

The various religious phenomena of our age should, however, be a sign to the orthodox churches of the world, of their impotency to fulfill their supposed mission. Thousands turn away from their churches, and seek food for their souls almost anywhere. Ancient systems of philosophy and ethics are eagerly devoured. Theosophism, Christian Science, Spiritualism, and even sun worship, are finding adherents and admirers. People have lost their bearings and are drifting with every current that sets in; they are being tossed about by every changing wind.

And there is only one remedy. Christ instituted His Church, and appointed its officers—apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers—to prevent the condition that now prevails in the world. And not until the "Christian" churches and "People's churches," and all other human organizations accept this remedy, can they escape this curse of holy writ: "Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness." Eph. 4: 18, 19.

To save the world from such a condition the Church was set up with "one Lord, one faith, one baptism." Outside the dominion of the Church there is no divinely appointed escape from darkness, ignorance and corruption.

HAVE THEY ENOUGH MONEY?

In Great Britain people now commence to realize the cost of the South African campaign. At its commencement it was rather underestimated. At first it was thought that about \$50,000,000 would cover the expense, and that sum was appropriated. Later \$65,000,000 was added to the war funds, but at the end of six months of war, the bill footed up over \$215,000,000, and since then enormous sums have been expended. Supposing that the total expense will amount to \$500,000,000, and that there were 50,000 Boers to conquer, each of these would cost Great Britain \$10,000.

There can, of course, be no comparison between Boer skill or patriotism and Chinese qualifications for warfare, but from the enormous cost of subduing a handful of farmers and stock-raisers who know how to handle a rifle, some conclusions may be drawn as to the financial problem of conducting a war against the uncounted myriads of Mongolians who may supply by numbers what they lack in skill. Is there money enough in the allied treasuries to carry such an undertaking to a successful conclusion?

If it is true that the Chinese have in late years taken lessons from Russian and German military experts, they must have learnt the art of defense, and the experience of both the Spanish war and the Boer conflict is, that the party that is on the defense has an immense advantage over the attacking party. Will that not be the lesson of a Chinese war, too?

Europe now stands face to face with the fact long ago pointed out by General Gordon, who said that some time the inert mass of China's hundreds of millions would commence to move, to overwhelm the "foreign devils." The prediction is about to be fulfilled. Has Europe money enough to meet the expenses of a campaign against those hundreds of millions in their own country, where they are fighting for home and existence, and for the sacredness of the graves of their ancestors?

MARRIED TOO SOON.

Speaking of the abuse of divorce proceedings, the following story from Fort Scott, Kansas, is interesting. It proves that judges are awakening to the evil consequences of a practice denounced by moralists.

It seems that a lady obtained a divorce in Fort Scott, and the next day entered into marriage with a man in Joplin, Miss., just over the border line. The Fort Scott judge, hearing of the scandal, telegraphed the lady a warning, which, however, did not reach her till half an hour after the ceremony was performed.

Thereupon the judge made her appear before him and simply revoked her divorce. In so doing he said:

"Your method of transacting business was too swift for me. At the moment the court was seriously engaged in the unpleasant duty of severing your marriage relations with one man you were spreading the feast for the wedding of another. Our statute expressly stipulates that the decree does not become absolute until six months after its rendition. You made use of the statutes of Kansas to obtain a divorce, and then in utter disregard of those statutes you married in Missouri. Duty required that such an example be set in your case that others may be deterred from following your example."

The lady, consequently, has two husbands, until the courts dissolve her relations with one of them. Certainly there is a crying need in this country for a reform movement that has for its object the safeguarding of an institution upon which both the family and State depend. Without this, moral degradation is inevitable.

From the way it looks now the salmon supply this year will be both short and costly.

If the Chinese government can transmit from Peking news of how the foreigners are, it can transmit messages from the ministers. Until it does this,

its messages are justly deserving of discredit.

The canned and roast beef market soars so high that common folk will have to forego fowl and fish soon, as the cheaper diet.

Still the reports are that the legationaries are all massacred, and the Chinese protest that they are safe safe where, if you please?

It is said that in Queensland, Australia, cattle are dying like flies. Just now there is no evidence that the death rate in flydom is seriously reducing the population there.

The Boer General Dewet wants to surrender and go home. It would be cheaper to Britain for Lord Roberts to permit that than to encourage further general resistance by a continued refusal.

"Boxer" play is almost as dangerous in Chicago as the real game in Peking, judging by the report that out of fifty boys who tried it in the windy city, two were seriously hurt and a score of others battered and bruised.

London dispatches say the English liberal party is about to break up. Of course the outer indication is that way, but the source of the story, whether from a political foe or friend, is necessary to know, to judge of its probability.

The German Kaiser is going to blaze the way for Christianity by having his troops kill all the Chinese soldiers they meet. The young man should remember that such bloody work and Christianity are at war with each other.

Perhaps Emperor William did not advise German soldiers to show Chinese no quarter, but the report that he did is so well verified and the speech so characteristic of his peculiar outbreaks as to be good evidence that he is not misquoted.

Lady Randolph Churchill may expect to exercise a motherly care over her boy-husband, but the young man who disregards his parents' wishes is liable, in time, to display something of the same characteristic toward a wife much older than himself.

The suggestion that rich mineral deposits have been found in the Antarctic islands may induce more vigorous efforts to explore that part of the world, but if Prof. Borchgrevink had been able to state that the richness consisted in gold deposits he would have simplified matters very much.

New Orleans has a terrible record of a two days' attempt to capture a negro desperado. There is no question of the bravery of the police under fire, and a question of their good judgment in not following some other method can be passed on easier by those on the scene than by others at a distance.

There is one weakness in that San Francisco story about a man catching a large eagle in the act of carrying off his child, and the father saving it by a rifle shot which wounded the bird. It is that nothing is told of the soft place the child fell on to escape injury, when the bird carrying it was at such an altitude as to require a rifle shot to bring it down.

THE CONGER DISPATCHES.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The undated cipher dispatch from Minister Conger may be one written many days since and held by the Chinese authorities and now sent in reply to the cipher telegram forwarded through the Chinese minister at Washington. The authorities at Washington ought to be best judges of this, for they know whether or not it is responsive to the dispatch sent by them, which they do not make public, although it is probably known to the interested legations at Washington. They seem to accept it as having come direct from the minister and to be evidence that he was alive on the 18th of this month. That view is also sustained by the fact that the Chinese authorities would have been unlikely to transmit, as a reply to the dispatch of the state department, a message whose contents, being in cipher, they could not know and which might not be in any way responsive to the message to which it purports to be a reply.

New York Mail and Express.

The dispatch received from minister Conger establishes a new point of departure from the speculation as to the significance of rumored developments in China that must for a long time take the place of authentic news. Henceforth it may be assumed that whatever government exists in Peking is a government friendly to the most violent demands of the mob, but is striving, in its own way, to steer a course between a domestic insurrection and the vengeance of the world. This assumption makes easier the diplomatic position that our mission in China is a friendly one.

Boston Herald.

Instead of having an exasperating influence upon the Boxers or other rabble, it seems to us that the gathering of a practically irresistible army within a fortnight's march of Peking ought to exert a repressive influence upon the mob, and materially strengthen the hands of the Chinese government in protecting the foreigners from its violence. The American people never ask impossibilities of the administration. But it does expect that, at a critical time, its government shall rise to the level of a sudden and terrible calamity, and demonstrate to the world that when our minister calls for aid, though his call comes to us from the farthest corner of the earth, help will hasten to him, and if it be humanly possible, will arrive in time.

Springville Republican.

It is enough to know that the state department at Washington accepts the Conger dispatch as having been sent on the day represented. This establishes the genuineness of the message in all particulars, at least beyond the power of the layman successfully to impeach, and it may accordingly be accepted that the foreigners in Peking were alive as late as Wednesday last, but were surrounded in the British legation, were under the fire of "Chinese troops" and were in danger of being overwhelmed by the leveled rifles of the mob. Such is the day's extraordinary shifting of scene in the unparalleled and stupendous tragedy now being enacted before the world.

New York World.

To Secretary Hay the thanks of the entire civilized world. When the Chinese ministers at the various western capitals gave out on July 11th an Imperial edict, Mr. Hay was the only official in the Occident acute enough to see that most overlooked of all overlooked things—the obvious, "Where something

has come out," said Mr. Hay, "something can go in and something more can come out." It was a happy thought and to it is due the downfall of rumor and the rise of the truth that has relieved the anxiety of all the western nations.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

All the governments except that at Washington received the message with polite incredulity. The French foreign office declined to act upon the report until the Belgian foreign office had held official communication with the Peking government until the French minister there is placed in direct and free communication with his own government. The Belgian foreign office rejected the evidence of the Conger dispatch and demanded a message from its own representative.

Boston Transcript.

Aside from the tremendous importance, if they are true, of the dispatches showing that the American minister was alive when they were forwarded, the most remarkable thing about this turn of the news is that the newspapers which have been sure that the ministers were all massacred July 6th and some of the victims at least boiled in oil, with other details of unspeakable horror, are now the readiest to accept the Conger dispatch as a genuine one of a date within a few days past.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Improvement Era for August has for its opening article a striking comparison between the times, lives and missions of Jesus Christ and some of the current affairs are entitled, "The Revolution in China," by Dr. J. M. Tanner; "Chinese Education," by Prof. Mosiah L. Allen; "An Opinion of Paul Kruger," by Malcolm Latta; and an exhaustive and complete account of "The Scandinavian Jubilee," by J. M. Sjodahl. Hon. B. H. Roberts continues his instructive series of papers on "A Nephtie's Commandments to His Three Sons," treating on Conger, Prof. Levi Edgar Young has a literary article, "A Gentleman and a Scholar," which is the basis of the editorial on "Morality Alone Insufficient for Salvation." Editor Daniel Connolly gives a readable experience which will delight new-comers to Zion and prove a valuable lesson on tithesaying. Among the editorials, is one dealing with the "Ministers and Sultans." The "Notes," "In Lighter Mood," and "Our Work" are full of entertaining matter. —Templeton Building, Salt Lake City.

The Midsummer Woman's Home

Companion presents a handsome and well-edited issue. The abundance of good stories do not wholly contribute to the general excellence, since there is also a variety of other features, such as illustrated accounts of "City Play-Grounds for Children" and "Women of South American Legations," together with articles on child-study, cookery, club-women's interests and many phases of practical domestic economics. —The Crowe & Kirkpatrick Co., Springfield, Ohio.

The August number of the Cosmopolitan opens with a richly illustrated article on the Paris exposition by William T. Stead. "A Newport Palace," by Montgomery Schuyler, is also profusely illustrated. There are further some interesting short stories, and articles on timely topics. It is in every respect a first class publication. —Irvington, N. Y.

In the current number of Harper's Bazar, there is an interesting article by Madame Wu, wife of the Chinese minister at Washington, in which Chinese and American women are contrasted, not exactly to the advantage of the latter. Other special features are "Mrs. Piper," a study by Katherine T. Bull, and several pages of Midsummer Fashions. —Harper & Brothers, New York.

"The Statistician and Economist" is the title of an excellent work by Louis P. McCarthy embracing a range of practical knowledge surprising to find enclosed in the one volume which comprises it. The contents deal with every known subject important from a statistical and economical basis and is an invaluable reference upon the myriad facts with which it deals. The work represents the labor of a quarter of a century and the author has been and is in personal communication with the governments of all civilized countries on the globe, so that the facts collected are from the most authentic sources. The book is one which few people can afford to be without. —Published by L. P. McCarthy, San Francisco.

The July number of The Successful American is at hand. It has a number of portraits and biographical sketches of prominent Americans, as well as editorial articles. It is a publication especially valuable as a work of reference. —Park Row, New York.

Z. C. M. I. CLOAK DEPT.

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Maybe there's something he needs now.
Maybe he won't need anything until school time.
If so, come in.
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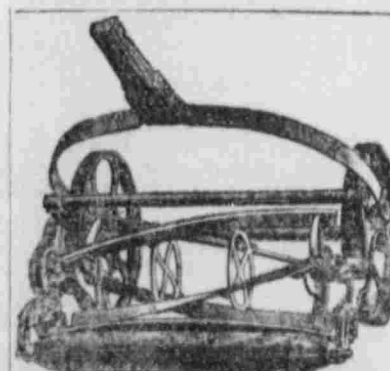
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