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SALT LAKE CITY, - JAN. 23, 1904.

DESERET NEWS PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by
telephone with any department of the
Deseret News, will save themselves and
this establishment a great deal of annoyance
if they will take time to notice these numbers:

For the Chief Editor's office No. 74.

For Deseret News Book Store, 74, 2

rings.

For City Editor and Reporters, 359, 2

rings.

For Business Manager, 359, 3 rings.

For Business Office, 359, 2 rings.

CIVIC APPOINTMENTS.

The appointment of a new health officer
for this city appears to be imminent.
We do not wish to join in any
demonstration against the incumbent,
whose chief error seems to be rather in
the exhibition of partiality than in
any professional disqualification. But a
change is evidently intended, and the
name of Dr. C. L. Douglas has been
mentioned frequently as a probable
appointee. A pronounced objection has
been raised against him, in which some
applicants for the place have joined, on
the ground that he is an anti-vaccinationist.It appears from the gentleman's own
statements and from his general reputation
that he simply stands on the law
and is in sympathy with it. Compulsory
vaccination is forbidden by statute.
Voluntary vaccination is open to
everybody in the State. Dr. Douglas
is ready to vaccinate when his services
in that direction are required, but he will
not force it upon anyone. If he were to
attempt to do so, either as a public officer
or a private physician, he would
render himself liable to prosecution.
What do his opponents want, then?
To put a doctor in office who would
violate the law? The battle of force
and intolerance has been fought out
and lost. If it is to be renewed the war
ground must be the State Legislature.
That is a matter for future if any
consideration. It has nothing to do with
the question of the present appointment.
An interview with Dr. Douglas
is narrated elsewhere in this issue of
the "News," and we commend it to
general consideration.We are well aware that the consensus
of opinion among the regular
physicians of certain schools is strongly
in favor of vaccination, and that
many of them advocate the compulsion
which is resisted by millions of people.
In both hemispheres, who have given
much attention to the subject, and
have tested the statistics relied upon
by advocates of force and found them
unreliable, doctored, and in some instances,
wholly manufactured. But the
virtues or otherwise of any remedy or
preventive should stand on its own
merits, or fall into disuse as hundreds
of theories and practices dogmatically
pronounced sure, have gone into desuetude.
We do not wish to revive a controversy
that is unprofitable, because it
has been settled by law.We are opposed to misrepresentation
and endeavors to prejudice the public
mind against a person or a principle
by intolerant measures. We are not
only cognizant of the strong desire of
some people and papers to force their
notions upon others, but are also familiar
with public sentiment on the real
question at issue. The people of
Utah are against defamation of individuals
and misrepresentation of facts.
And also against improper force of any
kind. Sanitary regulations are recognized
as essential to the public health.
They are established and should be
enforced. People who cannot see the
difference between them and compulsory
surgical or medical restraints are to be
pitied for their blindness.We have no candidate to recommend
for any office in this municipality. But
we trust that the Mayor and the City
Council, in making their appointments,
will be guided by good sense and the
fitness of persons for the respective
positions to be filled, and that if unable
to do so entirely the claims of partiality
will, at any rate be unimpaired
by professional prejudice and the
misrepresentations of political, personal
or factional opponents.

A SPLENDID PRODUCTION.

The numerous friends of Bishop O. F.
Whitney will be pleased to learn that
his great poem, "Elias; An Epic of the
Ages," is to be published in a manner
worthy of the exceptionally fine
production. A committee has been formed
for the purpose of placing it before
the American public in a style that will
appeal to the tastes of the aesthetic and
the lovers of the beautiful, so that the
exterior of the work may be expressive
to some extent of the glories of the
interior. As a literary effort the poemis a gem. It breathes the pure spirit
of poetry, and the theme is so grand
and vast and sublime, that it outreaches
in its embrace the themes of the recognized
masterpieces of the world's great
poets.A subscription is in progress among
well-to-do people, who recognize the
author's genius and his financial inability
to undertake himself the project
of putting the work upon the market,
for the purpose of issuing an edition
de luxe, which will secure the plates
that may subsequently be used for a
more popular edition. The committee
consists of Gov. Heber M. Wells, Pres.
Anthony H. Lund, Hon. George Sutherland,
Artist H. L. A. Culmer and
Major Richard W. Young. Gratifying
success is attending their labors in this
direction, and it is hoped and expected
that sufficient interest will be aroused,
among folks who are able to subscribe
for the elegant book to be published,
to warrant its issue in a style that will
make it an ornament on every table,
and an acquisition to any library, public
or private.The merits of the poem have been
acknowledged by many of our best
critics, and the Deseret News renders
its humble but earnest desire of praise
to a work that, in subject and literary
excellence and poetic fervor, ranks
among the loftiest efforts of the ages.
Further particulars are given in another
part of this paper. We rejoice that
the work of a native son of Utah
which is worthy of his name and fame,
will not be lost to posterity or kept
within the narrow circle of his immediate
associates. Come to the help of the
mighty!

IT MUST BE FINISHED.

The union of effort on the part of
California, Utah and adjoining commonwealths,
to urge upon Congress the
importance and necessity of completing
the San Pedro harbor work, should be
pushed until the project is perfected in
fact. Disputes about the relative
excellencies of other points are idle at
present. They may be of value at some
future time. But just now the situation
is clear as to San Pedro, for on the
work of the harbor there a large sum
of national money has been expended,
and what has been done must not be
wasted. If the additional labor necessary
for the island as well as the outer
harbor is not performed, the outlay
that has been made will have been
measurably thrown away. Every consideration
of economy as well as of the
welfare of the public, and particularly
of the people of the Pacific coast and
those who travel there, calls for the
furtherance and completion of the
work, and Congress needs a little
spurring up on this matter. It is gratifying
to see the interest taken in the matter
by the Commercial club of this city,
and we hope other prominent cities on
this slope and adjacent places will unite
with Los Angeles, in the movement to
ensure success for the San Pedro harbors.

CAMELS AND GNATS.

Some of our good friends back east
are terribly excited about the imagined
danger to the American home, involved
in the presence of a "Mormon" gentleman
in the snow-white halls of the national
legislature. They are as anxious
as were formerly the myrmidons of the
old sinner, Anna, or the riotous mob
of Demetrius, lest the very atmosphere
should be polluted by the heralds of
the Gospel of Jesus.But, as their prototypes, they are
straining at a gnat and swallowing
whole herds of camels. We notice, from
newspaper accounts, that a certain
Missouri lady, though only 30 years old,
has been married no less than six times
in seven years—twice to one husband,
three times to another, and once to a third.
What the lady may accomplish
in this line, if she keeps up a few years
longer, is beyond calculation. But the
point is that so-called Mothers' congresses
are painfully silent upon the real evils
that threaten the American home,
while they are giving time, money
and talent to the miserable demagogues
who, like the silversmiths of Ephesus,
are stirring up agitation for selfish
purposes. One would think the
American people should be too enlightened
to follow the lead of bigots. The
real danger to the American home lies
in the direction of infidelity to marriage
vows, disregard of the duties of
home, insatiable desire for luxuries and
amusements, resorts of infamy of various
kinds. Those are the camels that
so many foolish reformers swallow,
while they hope to preserve the home
by putting up a few mosquito nets.

ANOTHER SECT.

A Boston dispatch advises the public
of the existence in that city of a little
known sect. Their peculiar doctrines
are said to be that they deny the
existence of a hell, and the correctness
of the common theory of damnation,
Satan, they assert, is a servant of the
Almighty. It would be unsafe to judge
of the tenets of the sect, by these brief
statements of faith made by outsiders.
Certain it is that the so-called orthodox
ideas of hell and damnation, handed
down from "dark ages," can no longer
claim followers among rational people.The sect referred to is said to be a
branch of the so-called "Christian
Restatives," a church founded in 1822 by
John Wroe, an Englishman. The leader
of the branch in Boston is William
B. Bourner, and according to him
there are now twenty-two branches in
the United States. The entire membership
of the sect is given as 3,000, about
equally divided between this country,
England, and Australia, but the membership
is to be increased, they think,
rapidly from now on. For by the year
1916, when all the Christian Israelites
expect to gather in Palestine, there will
be \$6,000,000 of them, if their prophecies
are reliable.The interesting statement is made by
the Boston representative of the sect,
Mr. Bourner, that the English founder,
John Wroe, is still alive at the age of
120, and that he will soon visit this
country. Bourner, we are further told,
typifies the beliefs of the sect. He never
cuts his hair, nor beard. His frock coat
consists of three pieces of cloth, his
trousers of one piece. From Fridayevening at 6 o'clock until Sunday noon
he eats no meat or fat of any kind
and very little meat the rest of the
week. He says he has worn out thirteen
Bibles in ten years, and in his
conversation he shows great familiarity
with the Scriptures, quoting whole
chapters without the variation of a
word. According to his teachings the
first resurrection will come in 1915 and
the second 1,000 years later. His Boston
followers now number about fifty
and they meet for worship in the parlor
of his house.One sect more or less in the hopeless
confusion of Babel, may not be
thought of great moment. But it is
one more evidence of the need of guidance
from on High, since truth cannot
be found in any other way.

THE BLESSING OF SNOW.

We are favored with an abundance
of snow in this valley. The white
covering lies thicker on the ground than
for many years past. Sleighting is
pronounced excellent by the young people.
Only the unfortunate individual who
has "this blood" in his veins grumbles
at the present Utah winter, because
he is longing for warm sunshine and
the green fields. But that is only at
first thought. After a moment's consideration
all unite in thankfulness for the
blessings of winter. The snow that
is stored up in the mountain reservoirs
means prosperous times ahead. It
means food and labor and comfort.
And in the valleys, snow and frost
mean that nature is having a house-
cleaning in which the atmosphere is
being purified, and the ground cleared
of many dangerous microbes and germs.
From every point of view the beautiful
snow is a blessing that cannot be
too much appreciated.

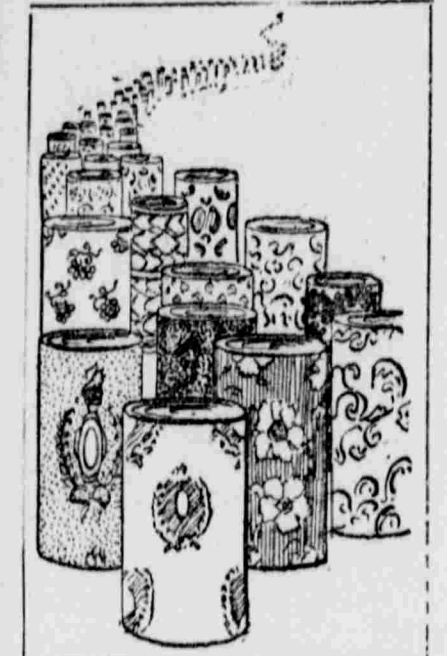
SPENCER AND DECIMALS.

A most curious provision of Herbert
Spencer's will is that which directs that
his pamphlet against the introduction
of the metric system in Great Britain
shall be distributed among the members
of the Parliament, whenever a
proposition to make that change is
before that body. The late philosopher
was "terribly in earnest" about this
matter, it seems. He desired to speak
to the British people against the to him
objectionable system, even after he had
ceased to speak and write among mortals.
And yet, it is not to be supposed
that he considered the present British
mode of reckoning perfect. His idea
was that the duodecimal system is
better than the decimal. The number
12, he contended, is more convenient
than the number 10, because easier divided
and subdivided. Twelve is twice
divisible, while ten is but once, one-
quarter of 10 being 2½ which is not an
integral number. He claimed that it is
more natural to count in dozens than
in tens, as soon as the stage when
counting upon the fingers is the rule,
is passed. Spencer was thoroughly
convinced of the soundness of his views
in this regard, and hoped that if a
change were made, it would be to the
12-system, and not to the ten-scale.
But it is safe to say that this will not
be. The duodecimal system involves
too radical changes, if it is to be accepted
as some philosophers have outlined it.
New characters would have to be
designated for the figures 10 and 11,
while 12 itself would be written 10. The
number now called 144 would be written
as 100, and 1,728 would be 1,000. The
present number 100 would be 84. In the
course of a hundred years or so people
might become used to the duodecimal
system, but they are not likely to be in
a hurry to take up so complicated a
mode of reckoning.That philosophers are not eager to
adopt the metric system, is easily accounted
for. Its origin is the French
revolution, when it was thought necessary
to change everything. French
savants at that time took the quadrant
of the earth's surface at the meridian
of Paris, divided it into ten million
parts, and so obtained 39,371 inches,
called it a metre. But the idea of taking
a curved line at such an arbitrary
meridian, does not appeal to the scientific
mind. Besides, it is claimed
that their calculation was wrong, and
that the unit obtained is not scientifically
true. It has been pronounced "the
worst measure in the world." Still,
the need of the world of a uniform
system of measurement, weights and
counting is so great that even "the
worst" is likely to be accepted in preference
to the most scientific, provided
"the worst" is more convenient. This
advantage it has now, because it
has been adopted so widely among the
trading nations.

ANOTHER TRANSLATION.

How the New Testament would look
were it rendered in modern, colloquial,
English, is demonstrated in a translation
made by an English scholar, Richard
Francis Weymouth, fellow of the
University College, London. He calls
his translation, "The Modern Speech
New Testament, an idiomatic translation
into every-day English from the text
of the Resultant Greek Testament,"
and his idea is not to produce a
substitute for the accepted version, but
rather "to furnish a succinct and compressed
running commentary (not doctrinally
to be used side by side with its
elder compere). As such it should
be useful to those not competent to
read the original. We have not seen
the book, but from extracts from it,
we judge that it is really meritorious.
This, for instance, is how he renders
the opening verses of the Gospel according
to Matthew:"The Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the
son of David, the son of Abraham.
Abraham was the father of Isaac;
Isaac of Jacob; Jacob of Judah and his
brothers. Judah was the father (by
Tamar) of Perez and Zerah; Perez of
Hebron; Hebron of Ram; Ram of Amminadab;
Amminadab of Nahshon;
Nahshon of Salmon; Salmon (by Rahab)
of Boaz; Boaz (by Ruth) of Obed;
Obed of Jesse; Jesse of David—the
King."This modern form is certainly preferable
to the old-fashioned expression so
often repeated in this passage. The
same can be said of the following rendition
of the beginning of the account of the
sermon of our Lord on the mount:
"Seeing the multitude of people,Jesus went up the Hill. There He seated
Himself, and when His disciples
came to Him, He proceeded to teach
them, and said:"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for to
them belongs the Kingdom of the
Heavens.""Blessed are the mourners, for they
will be comforted.""Blessed are the meek, for they as
heirs will obtain possession of the
earth.""Blessed are they who hunger and
thirst for righteousness, for they will
be completely satisfied.""Blessed are the compassionate, for
they will receive compassion.""Blessed are the pure in heart, for
they will see God."The changes suggested in the Lord's
Prayer are as follows:"And when praying, do not use needless
repetitions as heathens do, for they
expect to be listened to for their multitude
of words. Do not, however, imitate
them, for your Father knows what
things you need before ever you ask
Him.""In this manner therefore pray: 'Our
Father who art in Heaven, may Thy
name be kept holy; let Thy Kingdom
come; let Thy will be done, as in heaven
so on earth; give us today our
bread for the day; and forgive us our
shortcomings, as we also have forgiven
those who have sinned against us; and
bring us not into temptation, but rescue
us from the Evil One.'""For if you forgive others their offenses,
your Heavenly Father will forgive
you also; but if you do not forgive
others their offenses, neither will your
Father forgive yours."It is safe to say that these changes
will never be accepted instead of the
authorized version; still, as a commentary
they may be very useful. The
translator is a recognized Greek
scholar, and the translation may be
considered absolutely correct, even if
the English sometimes is inferior to
that of King James' translators.The snow, like so many beautiful
things, soon gets sloppy.The pure food bill should be a death-
blow to all "health foods."The far east situation is nothing but
a series of dissolving views.Watchmakers are the only people who
don't complain about working over
time.So far as Korea is concerned Russia
and Japan are Charybdis and
Scylla.Senator Hanna has got his credentials
for a second term. He also has
the grip.Any woman who will consult the calendar
instead of the looking glass can
be up to date.Every calf in Germany is to be vaccinated.
True to their nature, the cows
will follow their calves.It is a good thing that the Noachian
flood is not repeated so frequently as
the Ohio river floods are."Don't monkey with the fly wheel," is
the legend that should be posted in
Johnstown, Pa., steel works.Russia's delay in answering Japan is
causing great apprehension. If it
doesn't cause war it is all right.It does not follow that the Mayor is
on the bear side of the market because
he does not propose to bull (fight) it.Senator Gorman wants more information
about Panama. If he keeps on
"cranking" he will soon stand at the
head of his class.Kentucky has a volcano that belches
forth fire and water. What the
Kentuckians really want is a volcano that
belches forth firewater.A local fortune teller has fallen into
the hands of the police. While he could
foretell other people's fortunes he did
not seem able to foresee his own misfortunes.Japan wants it to be understood that
he will not accept mediation from the
powers. Japan seems to be suffering
from elephantiasis of the cranium.William Dean Howells favors the
formation of an authors' union. Very
good. Let the male and the female
authors marry each other, and all will
be peace and harmony in the literary
world.Major McCawley, who leads the dances
at the White House, seems to have
made a faux pas when he halted the
line at the President's reception to the
judiciary, that the diplomatic corps
might pass through first.The Empress-Dowager of China has
come to a realization of the situation in
the far east and has determined to
fight for the freedom of Manchuria
from foreign control. This means that
some heads have got to come off.Mr. Schwab is willing to reorganize
the Shipbuilding company, agreeing to
take fifteen million dollars in stock for
his present holdings. Perhaps for the
reason that, to paraphrase what the
Queen of Sheba said to Solomon, "Not
the half has been sold."The officials of Wells, Fargo & Company
in San Francisco reiterate their
previous statements that the express
safe stolen from the Sunset limited
train near San Luis Obispo contained
but a small amount of treasure.
But they do not go so far as to deny
that where their treasure is there is
their heart also."De Ster," the organ of the Latter-day
Saints in the Netherlands mission,
appears in its first issue this year, with
excellent illustrations, printed on fine
paper. The illustrations consist of portraits
of President Joseph F. Smith,
Presidents Francis M. Lyman and Heber
J. Grant, and Willard T. Cannon.
The list of contents of the number consists
principally of New Year's greetings.
There is a farewell address by President
Lyman, and a greeting by President
Grant; there are greetings from Utah,
and from other places, and an article
on "Faith in God," by President Joseph
F. Smith. "De Ster" is a useful publication.
It should be supported by the
Holland Saints, both in this country
and abroad.

BE CAREFUL!



It Will Pay.

In selecting a carpet you are choosing something that will stare you in the face morning, afternoon and evening, day after day, for years to come.

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ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

Worcester Spy.

The result of an investigation held by the churches of Manhattan Island showed that if people attend divine service at all they do so for the purpose of worshipping God and not to be entertained. The Congregationalist gives a condensed report of the investigation in which it states that those in charge of religious services desire themselves compelled to provide expensive music, for the reputation of their churches and to hold the people. Of certain churches at this time, especially those that provide a ritual more or less elaborate, it is said they attract congregations as churches which adhere to plainer services do not.

Epworth Herald.

Business duties. Social duties. What large demands they make upon our time! How willing we surrender the evenings to the lecture, the concert, the reading circle, the social club, church committees, and league demands! How about our evenings at home? No other interest, no matter how important and pressing, has a right to rob us of our evenings in the home circle. Then, throw extra fuel upon the grate. Cut the pages of the freshest magazine. Take down the most entertaining book. Read aloud. Talk about. Let dignity unbend. Play proper games with the youngsters. Convert that sitting-room into the cheeriest place on earth. Make things fairly ring with laughter and song. Then, before "good-night" is uttered, join in "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," and have a season of prayer. At least three evenings of the week belong to the home circle. We say belong. Any other use of them is robbery. In these days of pushing and of pushing we lift our voice in defense of the home. It is the greatest place in the world. It must not be battered for any outside pleasure. Its neglect stands for definite peril. Paid sed be the hand which is lifted to rob the American home of its warmth, its joy and its fellowship!

The Interior.

Whatever we have seen of God's kingdom so far, emphasizes our Lord's declaration that it is the reward of force. Every triumph of righteousness has cost blood, and has been won by men who counted not their lives dear. Error has never given up the "host because pricked with a pin." The man who is not prepared to do something to bring in God's kingdom has no moral right to pray for its advent. Every step of its progress is marked with the blood of the bravest. It cost the life of half the Mayflower passengers to plant the seed of civil freedom in American soil. It cost tens of thousands of lives to make the whites of this nation free, and hundreds of thousands of lives to raise labor from the degradation of the slave-pen to the responsibilities of citizenship. The kingdom of God can not be established or widened in any community by men in their slippers or women wholly devoted to their clubs. It will take prayer and labor and self-denial, and sacrifice of much that is held most dear, to bring that kingdom in for which we pray.

Congregationalist and Christian World.

The first demand which all men have a right to make of the old Gospel is that it shall continue to be "the power of God to the salvation of all who believe," and "love its Galilee," and wherever the Christian message touches the fresh and living interests of man's life wherever it kindles hope, and courage, and faith, and love, wherever its appeal allies man with every other human being, and "raises the good in the depths of himself," we may be confident that the old Gospel, which is as new as the new day, and the new Gospel, which is as old as the everlasting hills, is still proclaimed, and that it is still sane, and sweet, and simple, and full of power.

The Standard.

Probably there are some who question the trustworthiness of the historical accounts of the life of Jesus, and so turn to their "conscience" for evidence. Is it quite certain that experience is absolutely trustworthy? Men have frequently mistaken their own desires for the voice of God, and have done things, in all honesty, which have resulted in injury to themselves and to the cause of Christ. Even if the experience be real and be known to us for just what it is, are we infallible interpreters of experience? The disciples held personal relations with Jesus and came to conclusions which had to be carried by the Resurrection, and the Ascension. It is a great satisfaction to have the testimony of our own hearts, but we shall do well to be slow in accepting that testimony when it is traversed by the witness of men who accompanied with Christ, and especially when it is contradicted by Jesus himself.

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