

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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SALT LAKE CITY, DEC. 15, 1900.

OUR ADVERTISERS.

Nothing furnishes a better trade barometer than the advertising columns of a newspaper, and when they are found to be crowded, it may be set down as fairly certain that business in that particular newspaper's city or State is in a flourishing condition. Judging by this issue of the "News," therefore, Salt Lake City and Utah have little to complain of. We believe that nothing in the history of Utah journalism has equalled the crowding that has been witnessed on the part of advertisers to get into the Christmas "News," and the sixty-eight pages of this issue would indicate that pretty much the whole inter-mountain business public had been accommodated. The truth is, however, that had it been possible to keep the forms open, advertisements could have been booked indefinitely, and even as it was, several friends who were late with their orders, had reluctantly to be left out. The "News" commends its big array of advertisers to the reading and the purchasing public, and believes that a perusal of the business announcements in today's issue will return full value for the time involved.

THE CHRISTMAS "NEWS."

In publishing this Christmas number of the Deseret News, we think we shall not be accused of boasting, when we call attention to the excellence of its mechanical work and of the articles which it contains in such great variety. At the same time we may be permitted, without vanity, to remark that since the present editorial and business management assumed direction of the "News," it has doubled its circulation in each department. The Daily, the Semi-Weekly and the Saturday editions have increased beyond our most sanguine expectations at the beginning of the year 1899.

We thus have reason to believe that our efforts to fulfill the promises made at that time, are appreciated by the people who look to the Deseret News for information upon current events, and as to the progress of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in all the world, and to the explanation and defence of its doctrines and discipline. The substantial support given in the shape of subscriptions and advertisements, is in harmony with the expressions of confidence and approbation which we are continually receiving from our numerous readers. The influence of the Deseret News is felt for good, not only among the members of our Church and by the missionaries who travel abroad, but by many persons not connected with the Church who view the News as a clean, honorable, public journal, reliable as a purveyor of news and firm in its advocacy of principles which it holds as true and divine. The pride we feel in this Christmas edition and in the ever widening influence of our regular issues, cannot be fairly considered as blamable, and we do not for a moment forget that the influence of the name and support of President Lorenzo Snow at the head of our columns, have been a potent factor in the success that has been achieved.

With gratitude to him, and above all to God, the Eternal Father, whose blessings we reverently acknowledge, we congratulate our subscribers and friends in receiving such a paper as we are able now to present to them, and we wish them all the compliments of the season and trust that the last Christmas of this remarkable century will bring them good cheer, health, happiness, family union and every blessing, spiritual and temporal, that their hearts can reasonably desire.

OUR "TALE OF TWO CITIES."

A special feature of the Christmas edition of the Deseret News, which we publish in advance so that it can reach our readers in different parts of the world in time for the holidays, is that portion devoted to the beautiful city of Los Angeles and its contemplated railway connection with the city of Salt Lake. The union now expected has been long in con-

templation by the people here. We can now look forward with confidence to a speedy realization of our hopes and desires in this direction. Efforts toward its accomplishment, we have the highest assurances, will be mutual. Both cities will be greatly benefited by the association to be brought about by the building of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake railroad.

In obtaining information and assistance from Los Angeles to make this feature of our special edition attractive and profitable, we are indebted to those citizens of Los Angeles who so promptly and cordially welcomed our representative and rendered him such efficient and kindly help in his work. We hope they will be entirely satisfied with our endeavors to represent their city and its interests in a true light, and that the Deseret News will prove a welcome visitor to their business offices and Christmas firesides.

Hail to the union of the City of the Angels with the City of the Saints! And before many Christmas days shall have passed, may the fruits of California and the products of Utah be enjoyed to the full on festive occasions in both cities. Los Angeles, we greet you.

OGDEN'S INDUSTRIAL GROWTH.

The big part that Ogden and her enterprises have played in Utah's financial development during 1900 are spoken of elsewhere in this issue. Since the early forms of this paper were sent to press, however, developments have arisen which indicate that Ogden is to be the scene of still more industrial activity. We refer to the operations of the Utah Light & Power company, mentioned in the proper place, which are sure to be of vast importance to all the interests of Utah, and which will do much to increase Ogden's prominence as an industrial center.

It is to be said to their credit also, that Ogden's wealthy business men, more than those of any other of Utah's cities, have shown a disposition to reach out and seize the opportunity for investments found in localities outside of their own district. It is to the enterprise and shrewdness of such men as Hon. David Eccles, Hon. Thomas D. Dee, and their associates, that Ogden is indebted for the sugar factory at La Grande, and it is they, in connection with Hon. C. W. Nibley, who are also taking the steps which will lead to the establishment of a sugar plant in Cache county.

The far-reaching importance of the lumbering interests which center in Ogden, and of which Mr. Eccles is the father, are too well known to need describing, and it is said not to be unlikely that Mr. Eccles and his friends may next look to Colorado as the home for another sugar factory to be established by Utah capital.

THE SOUTHERN STAR.

We regret the news, which has just reached us, that the Southern Star, that has been of so much value to the Southern States mission, closes its career with the end of the second volume. The Star has shed a true and brilliant light during its brief career, and its setting is in a halo of glory. It has filled the measure of its creation, and its promoter and co-workers are to be congratulated on the success that has attended their efforts. It was started for the special aid of the five hundred Elders then laboring in that mission, and their number being now materially reduced, and the prospects of a still further reduction in their numbers, the necessity for that publication is not now so great as it was at the time of its inception. The Deseret News will be extensively circulated in the Southern States mission, and, as far as possible, will compensate for the loss of the bright little luminary which will be missed by those who have looked to it for guidance.

AT THE GRAVE OF THE CENTURY

A contributor to the North American Review, Frederic Harrison, speaking of "Christianity at the grave of the nineteenth century, paints a very sombre picture—all shades, no light. He finds that the churches were never more in evidence than at present; their pretensions were never higher; their rolls never fuller; their patrons never more illustrious. But notwithstanding this he finds a universal cause after money, a rampant love of gambling, extravagance, coarseness, a materialistic spirit growing on all sides. What, he asks, are the churches doing to check all this? And who would believe them in earnest, if they were to try? Mr. Harrison points to the war spirit that has taken possession of "Christian" nations including the spokesmen of the churches. Not a voice, he says, comes from the official churches to raise a doubt as to the justice, good faith, and Christian charity of those who have thrust England into war. The preparation for war is sounded in slang from saloons and echoed back in pale and conventional Italian from the altars of the state church, and this is how "Christianity" works out in practice at the close of the century. While sober men of all parties can feel some doubt; while soldiers and statesmen are open to remonstrance, the only order of men which is ever ready to supply the majority with hypocritical glossings is "the official priesthood."

The writer turns away in sadness from the picture he draws and concludes: "A church, a creed, which can chant such a requiem as this over the grave of the nineteenth century needs trouble us no more. It is left, henceforth, to faith in humanity to do what it can to curb the passions of the strong, who are thirsting to crush the weak; to teach what is true glory of civilized men; to preach the Gospel of peace, which the apostate preachers of Christ have turned into a by-word and have made a war cry."

There are many who regard the situation at the grave of the century in that light. They need to be reminded that though the outlook is gloomy, there is no reason for despair. The century is not passing away in midnight darkness and storms. Many a star is twinkling. There is light on "the tops of the mountains," and its message to the watchers

is that the midnight hour is long past and the morning approaching, which is to usher in the most glorious day in the history of mankind. It is not left, as the last mournful resource, to found our faith upon frail humanity. The Rock of Ages is as firm as ever.

The lessons of the past are highly instructive as to the present. From the pinnacles of our civilization we may look far back to the time when the world powers were prostrate in worship before birds, serpents, and other creeping things of the earth; when man-made "gods" were heaped for the sacrifice of innocent infants, and licentiousness was enthroned in the sanctuaries. But when all seemed lost, there was found among the bulrushes of the Nile a little child destined in due time to break the chains of bondage and to proclaim, amidst thunder and lightning flashes, the truth that gave a new life to the world.

Again we see the world sinking in Pharisaical formalism, in infidelity, in slavery, in gross immorality, in deep darkness. But the star of Bethlehem appears. The Savior is ushered into the world, and the message is delivered, the acceptance of which changed the entire current of events.

We see again a period of gross superstition, of abuse of religious institutions, of the prevalence of vice and of violence. Tyranny made slaves of the masses, and grotesquely attired "priests" paraded out salvation at so much a dollar. But at a rather obscure town of Germany, a boy was born in poverty, the result of whose life work was to open up the way for freedom of thought, for universal education, for liberty, a work without which the existence of the most wonderful Republic on earth would, in all human probability, have been an impossibility.

And all these epoch-making events took place without ostentation, without the flare of trumpets. Little did the Egyptian ruler know what the finding of Moses in the river meant to his country, and to the world. Few had any premonition of the consequences of the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, whose earthly mission apparently, was cut short in the agony of Calvary. And none could see in the little hand of the boy from Eleben, as he went from house to house singing and playing for a piece of bread, the hand of an intellectual giant destined to turn the world, as it were, out of its course. History must be read in the light of history to be understood.

It may be but too true that the world again is in the grasp of the satanic power that at so many times in the past appeared to triumph. It may be true that materialism, immorality, and oppression are growing, while the orthodox churches are silent spectators to the conflict against every God-given instinct of human nature. But it is also gloriously true that the Almighty himself has sent the message to the world, as He did in former ages of darkness through Moses, through His own Son, through Luther and others—the message of approaching redemption from sin and all its consequences, both present and future. No matter if one generation refused to accept the Prophet Joseph as God's messenger, and shed his blood, as the blood of Jesus and so many martyrs was shed. The work he commenced cannot die. It lives and prevails, and in the due time of the Lord, peace will reign upon the earth; universal brotherhood will be, no longer, a beautiful dream, for the children of God will have returned to their Father, and the Redeemer of the world will direct its affairs. This is the testimony of "Mormonism" at the grave of the nineteenth century. "There is light in the valley"—even in the valleys of the mountains, and to any honest watchman of the night who may turn inquiringly toward this, to the world so strange phenomenon, the reply comes that it is one of the signs of the times. It means that the Millennium day is coming, with truth, with justice and salvation.

CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS.

The approaching celebration of Christmas derives peculiar significance from the fact that it is the last of the century. For 1600 years a large portion of mankind have, with the magi of the east, bowed in homage to the Child in the manger. His praises have been chanted in numerous languages; costly candles have been lit in His honor, altars raised, and magnificent temples reared in which to worship Him. And the result? Must we judge by the exploits of "Christian" armies on Africa's "burning sand," and Asia's "coral strand"? Or by the corruption in "Christian" countries, covered up by the mantle of religion, and civilization? What has been accomplished in nineteen long centuries?

It would be impossible to solve satisfactorily the puzzle presented in such questions, but for the prophetic light thrown upon it in the first century of our era, and the historical facts supplied by the following centuries. But by this aid all is clear. The first Apostles of Jesus stated plainly that Christianity should not continue in its original purity upon the earth for a long time after its first appearance. They told their followers of a coming apostasy, to take effect immediately after the fall of the Roman empire, and to continue for centuries. They had represented to them in most impressive visions, the taking away of the "child" to the throne of God, and the flight before the pursuing dragon of the "woman," to the "wilderness," where she was to remain secure until the time for her reappearance. All this was made manifest to the first followers of Jesus.

And it all came to pass. The church as an organization disappeared. When the Priesthood, the consequence of the prevalence of the doctrine and sin, was taken away, the church soon surrendered to the world, and perhaps nowhere more conspicuously than at the memorable council of 1547, where erasing prelates, and an ecclesiastical controversy to a heathen emperor, instead of to the Head of the Church. Since then, the true Church, with its organizations and power remained in the "wilderness," until

brought forth in this century, through the most glorious manifestations of divine power, ever vouchsafed to man.

It is this century that the Church has been brought forth again, and her reappearance has been the signal for the most wonderful changes in politics, in social conditions, in sciences, arts and industries. And to crown all, overtures for peace throughout the world have been made and placed on a firm foundation. There should be peculiar sweetness in the harmony of Christmas carols this year. There should be loud shouts of joy throughout heaven and earth, for all things, on both sides of the veil, are being reunited through the ordinances of the Church. "Peace on earth, good will toward men" never had a greater significance than at this, the last Christmas of the century.

MINISTER WU SPEAKS.

The Chinese minister in Washington, M. Wu, has attracted much attention in this country, by his oratorical efforts. He endeavors to make plain to Americans that the Chinese people are civilized, though they have a civilization different from ours; that they have a religion, perhaps not as lofty as ours, yet practical and good, and they must be judged by their own standards, and not by the standards of occidental philosophies and ethics.

His latest effort in this direction was in an address before the Society of Ethical Culture in New York, followed by another before the Contemporary Club, Philadelphia. On both occasions he spoke on Confucius, comparing his teachings to the principles of modern Christianity.

The speaker truthfully charged that the foreign soldiers now operating in his country, and the missionaries who call for summary vengeance, but poorly exemplify the precept, "Love your enemies." But it is not true that this proves Christianity to be too high a religion for mortals. True Christianity not only points out the way of duty, but it also provides for the strength necessary to follow this path. And in this, it is different from all other religious systems.

The conduct of the foreign soldiers in China cannot be regarded as the fruit of true Christianity, any more than the murderous attacks on the foreign ministers can be charged to Confucianism. That philosophy, according to M. Wu, teaches that the duty of friends toward friends is to be faithful and truthful. Now the foreign ministers were representatives of friendly nations. They were the friends of the Chinese government. They were guests in the house of friends. And yet they were attacked, bombarded, starved, and some of them, or their retinue, were cruelly butchered. Evidently Confucianism has no higher claim to being a practical religion, than has modern Christianity, if judged by such transgressions of the principles taught.

But neither can be thus judged. For the purpose of comparison the grand total of results should be considered. China was an ancient nation before Christianity let the first rays of civilization shine upon the world. Confucianism has been its guiding light for centuries. But what is China today, in arts, in sciences, in wealth, in influence, in morality, compared to those countries over which the arms of the Cross have been extended? Christianity, though but imperfectly understood by the great masses, and yet more imperfectly carried out in practice, has nevertheless been an intellectual power, before which heathen systems of philosophy, no matter how practical and rational, are as fading lights to luminous orbs of heaven. M. Wu seems to be a close student. If he knew true Christianity, not only from a theoretic point of view, but as a practical force in life, he would see that his reasoning is not relevant.

A merry Xmas to you all!

Anglo-Saxon blood doesn't appear to be thicker than Niagara canal water.

Emperor Kwang Su has agreed to the demands of the powers. And they are payable on demand.

The telegraphers' strike has grown weaker probably because their batteries have become exhausted.

Buffalo, N. Y., has a great divorce mill. Contrary to what would naturally be expected it gets its power from Albany instead of Niagara.

Harvard beats Yale in the debating bouts but Yale lays it over Harvard in the football contests. And the development of football capacity is the reason of being of universities these days.

The treasury department has decided that Chinese who were naturalized by the Hawaiian republic, were not made American citizens by the act of Congress making Hawaii a territory. The question is too important to be allowed to be settled by the treasury authorities. It should be carried to the highest court in the land and there passed upon.

The Boer uprising has only been scotched and not killed, to judge of the fight between Gen. Clement and Commandant De Leary. The seriousness and importance of it in the English mind is shown by the fact that all available mounted infantry at Aldershot, Malta and other military centers, has been ordered to South Africa. The tenacity of the Dutch Boer seems to equal that of the British bulldog.

The disagreement of the jury in the Jesse Morrison murder case is scarcely surprising. The defendant told a very straight story on the witness stand, and told it without any hesitation or hesitations; her manner was so calm and collected as to astonish everybody. The case was an unusual one; for rarely is one woman put on trial for her life for killing another woman, especially with a razor or other deadly instrument. It will be a difficult matter to secure another jury to hear the case again, while the disagreement of the jury in the present case, is a pretty good indication that the acquittal in the future. Altogether the case has been remarkably interesting.

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AND

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20% Discount.

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BARTONE.

Mrs. Bicknell Young at the Piano.

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PROGRAM:

Old Ballads:
"Light of Love"—Middle of 18th Century
"Green Sleeves"—1500
"Who's the Fool Now?"—1588
"Good Love Who'll Be"—1590
"What Care I How Fair She Be?"—1602
"All in a Mistle Morning"—1602
"Love Will Find Out the Way"—1602
"Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes"—1602
Modern English Ballads:
"The Broom is on the Fire"—Sir H. Bishop
"Three Fishers"—Hullah
"Three Merry Men"—Molloy
"The Distant Shore"—Sullivan
Art Ballads:
"Henry the First"—F. Lowe
"The Ando's Dee"—Clay
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