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SALT LAKE CITY, DEC. 31, 1900.

## THE CLOSING CENTURY.

Good-bye to Nineteenth Hundred! Farewell to the Nineteenth Century! The year has been prolific with events and blessings, the century crowded with wonders and grand achievements. The annals of time contain no chapter like the record of the past hundred years, no page equal to that of the closing year. The story of the nineteenth century can never be told by mortal tongue, nor can the mighty power of the press, developed so grandly during its progress, tell the tale of its marvels, crowding upon each other as its succeeding years were spent.

It seemed as though the spirits of the departed in the ages past, and the host of the great ones on high, had come nigh to mortals and breathed inspiration into susceptible souls, for the enlightenment, liberation and uplifting of humanity. How have the nations been brought together, how have the oppressed been set free, how have the forces of nature been brought into control for the benefit of mankind!

In the material world, invention has brought miracles that make the Arabian Nights marvels appear like common things for baby sport. Realities have thrown wild fancies into the shade, and the things that are now, beggar the thoughts that seemed to suggest the impossible. To name them all would fill the pages of the "News" for a year, and then the task would be found incomplete. The world has advanced so astonishingly, that the archives of eternity only can give the full record.

To the "Mormon" people the event of events in this century of centuries, was the opening of the latter-day dispensation. The manifestation of the Eternal Father and His Son Jesus Christ in 1830 to the boy Prophet Joseph Smith, who was born in 1805, brought from heaven to earth a spirit of light and power that has caused mighty changes in the spiritual world, and that will revolutionize religion and prepare the way for the Millennial reign.

The coming forth of the Book of Mormon and its translation by the gift and power of God, disclosed to this western world its ancient history and unfolded its future fate. The country has been slow to receive its information and has turned away from its sacred tidings. But the discoveries of the century have unearthed such evidences of its truth, that when archaeologists and explorers read with care its record of the past, they will wonder at their own incredulity and regard the Book as a treasure beyond price.

The restoration of Divine authority by John the Baptist, the Apostles Peter, James and John, the Prophets Elijah and Moses and Abraham and Enoch, and by angels bearing keys of power, is also among the events of the century, that rank higher than the developments in science or art. The work of redemption for the living and the dead, which has been accomplished through their ministrations and the faith and zeal of the mortal recipients of the authority they brought, will be counted in the sum of the century's doings as worthy of eternal mention.

The westward march of the pilgrim Saints, opening the great West to civilization and beckoning millions to come and make homes in the once pathless desert, where now great States flourish and extend the glory of the grandest Republic of all ages, was one of the notable movements of the century, the importance of which has only begun to dawn on the mind of the nation.

Every development of the century that can be named, has been directed by the same overruling Power that revealed the Gospel anew, and laid the foundation for the building of the universal Kingdom, which is to prevail over all the earth. All the unfoldings of the age will serve to forward its interests and tend to the triumph of its cause. For they will work in harmony with the spiritual forces set in operation in what the world calls "Mormonism," but which is the work of Abrahamic God for the consummation of His purpose concerning this planet and its people.

The nineteenth century has brought forth treasures of human and of earth and has been pregnant with promises of greater benefits to come. The future now about to burst upon the world will prove the fruition and perfection of the century's labors and the work of God for all that the past century has given to mankind, praise and glory in Him for the prophecies of the glories that are to come! We hope that the readers of the Deseret News may live to share in most of the delights of the twentieth century, and wish them and all whom these words shall reach, a happy New Year in 1901.

## THE CUDAHY CASE.

Mr. Cudahy's action in paying the kidnappers of his son the demanded ransom of \$25,000 is discussed by several of our exchanges. Some think it unwise, but most of them agree that the million-aire could not very well have adopted a course different from that which he pursued.

Mr. Cudahy received a letter, it seems, telling him that his son was safe, but that, unless the ransom was paid, his eyes would be put out and that he would be returned in that condition. The plan of the ruffians was further explained to the effect that if the father refused to pay, some other millionaire's son would be captured, and the fate of young Cudahy would be a warning to others to pay when asked to do so. Under the circumstances, what could he do, but to save his boy from a horrible fate?

The crime has had one good effect. It has called attention to the fact that the punishment in many States for the kidnapping of infants is inadequate. In the State of Nebraska this is particularly so. If the criminal is caught, he may be given a short term in the penitentiary, if they escape, the fury of the mob, which is by no means certain. Legislators should turn their attention to this subject. For an offense of that kind the punishment cannot be made too severe. Often entire gangs are involved, and justice should be meted out to all concerned, no matter what their individual connection with the crime has been. For generally it would be impossible of execution but for the part played by aiders and abettors who as a rule are turned loose, perhaps to turn up in connection with some other scheme of a similar character.

## NEW YEAR'S PAPERS.

The Salt Lake morning papers—the Tribune and the Herald—published their New Year's editions on Sunday morning. Both showed evidence of great enterprise, and special care in the collection of statistics, and in descriptions of the various industries and enterprises of Utah and the adjacent States.

The Tribune consisted of 55 pages, the Herald of 38. The former was the more elaborate and detailed, the latter the more condensed. Each paper will be found of value and worth filing for reference in the future, and both will be viewed as marks of progress and growth in the State of Utah.

The Tribune has had a mammoth New Year's edition annually, but this year has surpassed its former efforts in the mass of information it has gathered from all parts of the intermountain region. The Herald has given to its readers a well classified and succinct epitome of the status and advancement of the agricultural, mineral, manufacturing, railroad, commercial and educational interests of Utah.

Both journals deserve credit for the care and labor exhibited in their extra editions for the opening year of the twentieth century.

## MORAL ADVANCE.

One of the questions that occupy the minds of the thoughtful at the turning point of the centuries is this: Is the moral progress proportionate to the advancement in other directions? This is a most important question. The increase of wealth, the diffusion of culture, the flourishing of arts, are not by themselves a sufficient guarantee for the future. Civilizations have perished in past centuries, and its monuments been buried under the dust of ages; not because the arts and sciences were neglected, but because the very life and marrow of the nations that were the standard bearers, had become so affected by moral disease, that they were unable to stand the onslaught of barbarous hordes, and defend the light and treasures entrusted to their care.

W. T. Stead pointedly asks, what the century has done for the family life, to make it more close, more affectionate, more sacred. And he finds on the one hand the decay or the entire abandonment of family prayers, and the increase in the facility and the practice of divorce. On the other hand he finds an increased attention in the welfare of the child. Universal education is the creation of the past century. He also points out the growth of that Christian sentiment, which has found its expression in more or less socialistic efforts for the emancipation of mankind, from whatever remains of the various forms of slavery inherited from the past. So far there has certainly been encouraging moral progress.

It seems to us that the world now is in many respects similar to what it was at the commencement of our era. Then there was a great, dominant world power, sciences and arts flourishing. Millitairism went hand in hand with commerce. Old religions were crumbling and "reason" unfolded her banners on the pinacles of pagan sanctuaries. Popular morality was rapidly falling toward zero. But almost unknown to the general observer of events, a new force was brought into the world, cradled in the mountains of Judea and fostered among the so-called lower classes of the people, which was destined to change the entire complexion of the world.

It is so now. The world crown has been shifted from the brow of the Latin races to that of the Anglo-Saxon. We find today millitairism and commercialism as the dominant influences of the world. Knowledge is increased as never before. But respect for authority, divine or human, is becoming rare. The spirit of murder is abroad among the nations of the earth. The evils of drink are visible on all hands. And worse than all, the indifference to the doings of the prince of darkness, through his numerous instruments, is more apparent than ever. People profess to deplore the lives wasted, the homes wrecked, the crimes committed, but as a matter of fact they care but little. "Am I my brother's keeper?" is the question that would be heard on all hands, were the sentiments of many to be interpreted correctly. At times the way in which elections are managed and legislatures controlled causes alarm, but generally the matter is passed over without comment. Who

cares? The consciousness of many individuals in sinking into coma, except when the question is of making money. The distinction between classes is, therefore, becoming more and more marked. The victory over slavery is far from complete.

But the heaven is already now at work, that will eventually penetrate the world and preserve it from moral decay. We believe its effects are plainly visible. There may be drinking and profanation of the divine name, but those who indulge in such things can not lay claim to recognition in the society of ladies and gentlemen. The spirit of war and murder may be abroad, but never before had the angel of peace brighter prospects than now. There may be much hypocrisy and untruth in the world, but even the hypocrites and the liar finds it necessary for success, to masquerade in the garb of sincerity and truth. Everything considered, there is wonderful progress, both in moral and humane respects, and if an inquiry were made into the causes of this progress, it would be found that the establishment of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has not been the least factor in this advancement. This Church has unfurled a standard of morality, of liberty and intelligence, which has been largely followed even by those who would gladly see the standard bearers nailed to a cross, or driven to the catacombs. And thus history repeats itself.

## THE STOCKMEN'S CONVENTION.

The following article is going the rounds of the press, and as it is quite complimentary we copy it, as an offset to other effusions of a far different character:

"When the stockmen, on January 15, gather from the four quarters of the land for the annual convention of the National Live Stock association in Salt Lake City, they will be given at least one treat which no other city in the world can give. On the program for their entertainment is a complimentary concert at the great Mormon Tabernacle. To the stranger in Zion this Tabernacle is a constant source of wonder. From the outside the immense building with its curved roof looks like a giant, sleeping turtle; within, a ceiling without visible support other than the walls, arches over seats enough to accommodate 10,000 persons comfortably. It is a marvel of engineering and architecture and the idea was evolved from the fertile brain of Brigham Young. The acoustics of the structure are unequalled and no pilgrim in this land of the Latter-day Saints can forget the experience of standing in the gallery at one end of the long building and hearing the sound of a dropping pin on the speaker's table at the other end.

"In this fact lies the secret of the power and beauty of Tabernacle music. Nowhere does melody sound so sweet; nowhere does harmony reach its fullness and purity in the degree that it does here. A quaver in a single voice or one false tone cannot escape detection. Therefore the Tabernacle choir must be near to perfection."

We are afraid Professor Stephens will win a little at the last paragraph in the foregoing. But we hope that the Tabernacle choir will rally around him, and do their best to sustain the splendid reputation which it has obtained under his leadership, and by continual practice and prompt attendance at public service, bring the choir as near to the perfection claimed for it as it is possible to attain.

The stockmen of the country will receive a hearty welcome at the convention to be held in this city, and everything that can be done should be accomplished to make the event notable in the history of our State.

The "News" salute this evening, the closing one of 1899, is not only a Happy New Year, but a Happy New Century to all!

The Improvement Era for January is out, and contains interesting matter appropriate to the season and the times.

The wires were down east and west today, as a consequence of last night's storm, hence the scarcity of news from the outside.

The London papers to hand tell of Gen. Dewet being "sorely pressed." The soreness does not appear to be on Dewet's anatomy.

The farmer smiles more broadly now than a week ago, although the tips of his fingers and nose are red when he shows himself out of doors.

Now that cold weather pinches, the kindness and courtesy that are practical in their nature are those which possess real merit and deserve commendation.

Horses are no longer used on the tramways in Bristol, England, the last day of the century having witnessed the substitution of electricity as the motive power.

There is talk in the prairie States of loss of stock by the blizzard there, but Utah stockmen say that so far as their outlook is concerned in this State and Wyoming, there is nothing to be worried over.

The nineteenth century goes out with a snap. It is not a soft snap, either. It is more than a cold snap for it shuts up every tap and stream tight and dry. Let us hope that the new century will be more congenial at its advent.

Welsh names are all right when you know them, but here is how our morning contemporaries struggled today with the well known Welsh town of Merthyr Tydfil: Merthyr Tydvie, Myrthier Tydvil, and Merthyr Tydl.

The work of Germany, in strengthening Turkey's hands, is becoming apparent in the Turko-Rumanian alliance. The Kaiser seems to be proving a good doctor to the sick man of the East, though he causes an uneasy feeling among the crowned heads of Europe.

The kidnappers of Cudahy's boy now threaten that if the father does not withdraw his reward of \$25,000 for their capture they will seize one of his children and end its life. The Nebraska authorities ought to double or treble the State reward for the capture of such scoundrels.

rice, which is pretty cold for this part, but not unusual in winter. The next few days may see a drop of five or six degrees below that.

England is worried with more beer deaths, or "peripheral neuritis," as the trouble is called. London, Liverpool, and all the large towns report cases. Hundreds of thousands of gallons of beer has been poured into the sewers, on account of the health department chemists finding arsenic in the beverage.

It is asserted now that the statue of Pere Marquette, in the national Capitol, is not a figure of Marquette at all. There is little use in the quarrel about it, since not one in a thousand people will care about the slight dissimilarity in features. It was intended for Marquette, and is an excellent piece of sculpture.

"The cold weather east has snapped the wires in several places," is the announcement made by the Associated Press in this city today. In accounting for the absence of news from the East, "The snap" is a little hard on the "News," in cutting off communication with the outside world, but patience and telegraph line repairers will fix the matter up soon.

It seems almost useless to repeat the frequently reiterated statement that newspapers take no notice of communications not accompanied with the real name of the writer. "A Subscriber," "A Constant Reader," "A Farmer," "An Inquirer," and all the rest of the nom de plumes will not do unless the name and address of the sender is furnished. Of course the latter will not be published without permission. Stop sending unsigned letters!

With the commencement of the new year the Denver Live Stock Record and the Denver Stockman will consolidate under the title of the Record-Stockman. The Denver Stockman has been on the daily exchange list of the Deseret News for some time, and we know it as a wide-awake, competent representative of the great live stock industry of the West. May its good career continue under the consolidation, with enhanced financial returns.

Dr. Prinzing, a German writer, is authority for the statement that the experience of insurance companies proves that marriage has the tendency of prolonging human life. One of the facts from which this conclusion is drawn is that among the evangelical clergy only 55 per cent of the expected deaths occur, while the percentage among the Catholic clergy is 112. The latter are more free from care, yet they are more generally subject to diseases of the organs of circulation, and this, it is said, is due to the peculiar habits of life for which celibacy is responsible.

## EUROPEAN SUGAR BOUNTIES.

Philadelphia Record.  
Notwithstanding the importance of this question to the tropical colonies of Great Britain, the British government did not take a very warm interest in the Brussels sugar conference in 1898. This was probably because of the small prospect that the conference would be successful in their undertaking to bring about the abolishment of the bounty system. The sugar bounties reduce, as a matter of course, the cost of sugar to the consumers in importing countries by the amount of the premium; and the British have the greatest per capita consumption of sugar in the world. On this account the planters of Jamaica have pleaded with the British government to impose a discriminating duty upon the raw beet sugar of bounty-paying countries, and at the same time the refiners in London and Liverpool have urged the government to save them from the ruin of this competition. These are hard cases, but the English people have steadfastly refused to lend their free-trade policy to meet them.

## St. Paul Pioneer Press.

It has been predicted that the repeal of the bounties would bring about an industrial crisis in the countries which have paid them; hence the repeal is now attempted more as a test than as a finality. It is so, that general disaster is to follow, the repeal may be abrogated. The United States is not affected by the action of Europe in the matter, since the countervailing duties imposed by the Dingley tariff have offset the bounties. Those duties will cease to be levied coincident with the removal of the bounties. It is altogether probable that the action of our government in setting up these countervailing duties, thus making the bounties of no avail, is encouraging exports of sugar to the greatest sugar market of the world, was a most important factor in inducing the present action of France, Austria, and Germany.

## DEMANDS ON CHINA.

## London Standard.

The death penalty would be the only fully satisfactory measure of justice; the difficulty is to execute it. The guilty parties are far in the interior, and are masters of the emperor, who is the only legitimate and, as far as we can see, the only possible, head of the government in China. The United States has not disguised its view that something less ought to be demanded, and Russia, France and Japan are understood to be of the same opinion. It is hardly possible for Germany to hold out, deeply offended as she is, if these powers are disposed to moderation, and indeed, our Berlin correspondent informs us that the Government at Berlin is believed to be prepared to waive the death penalty. But whatever its exact nature, the punishment of the Boxer chiefs must be real and lasting, and not a mere formal court disgrace.

## Amsterdam Handelsblad.

Graf Waldersee has at last given Li Hung Chang an audience. Li made use of this often-asked interview to demand the withdrawal of all the foreign troops from Pechili. Waldersee the next day sent an expedition of Germans, Austrians, and Italians against the Boxers near the Chinese capital, which is regarded as the only fitting answer to Li's complaints. The emperor is practically in the power of Tung-Fu-Haiang, but he has some hopes that General Ma may come to his assistance. The latter wishes to be revenged upon Tung-Fu-Haiang for the murder of a nephew. Prince Tuan is raising an army for his own defense in Kau-su. Only a large force could capture him.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In the World's Work for January appears, as frontispiece, a full page portrait of John Fiske. The number opens with a very complete review of the events of the past month, and then goes into news items on the navy, irrigation enterprises, present and future Polar work, great tasks of the new century, Lord Roberts, and many other topics of general interest. The magazine is one well worth reading.—Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.

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