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DESERT NEWS PHONES.

Persons desiring to communicate by
telephone with any department of the
Desert News, will save themselves and
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For Desert News Book Store, 74,
3 rings.

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3 rings.

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MISUSE OF SCHOOLOROOMS.

Some controversy has arisen over the
use of district schoolhouses for other
purposes than those of conducting
schools therein. Section 1822 of the Re-
vised Laws of Utah provides, concern-
ing the school board of any school district:

"It may permit a schoolhouse, when
not occupied for school purposes, to be
used for any purpose which will not
interfere with the seating or other fur-
niture or property, and shall make such
charges for the use of the same as
they may decide to be just; but for any
such use or privilege the district shall
not be at any expense for fuel or other-
wise."

There have been some cases in the
courts in which complaint was made
that dances were held in schoolrooms,
and the rulings are to the effect that
such use was unlawful. We presume
it was shown that in these cases the
seats or other furniture were interfered
with, or that some expense was in-
curred by the district, or that there was
some other infraction of the law. The
mere fact that the trustees per-
mitted a dance to be had in a
schoolhouse would not be held, surely,
against their action. Still, it is con-
ceded that, as a rule, and in cases
where seats are made fixtures, and dance
could not very well be conducted with-
out interference therewith, and there-
fore might be in opposition to the spirit
of the law.

In some parts of the State where a
schoolhouse has been erected by the
contributions of the resident citizens,
and they wish to use it, even for an
occasional dance, the trustees would
be doing no wrong in permitting it, if
the provisions of the law were strictly
complied with. Those who use the house
must bear such expense as is thereby
occasioned, and if the seats are move-
able, and there could be no lawful or
rational objection against the recreation.
The matter would be in the hands
of the school board.

The requirements of the law for the
use of schoolrooms outside of school
hours are these, and only these three:
(1) The seating or other furniture must
not be interfered with. (2) A sum which
the trustees deem to be just must be
made for the use of the schoolroom. (3)
The district must not be put to expense
for fuel or otherwise. That is all. Let
each school board act for itself, accord-
ing to law.

In some districts of the state, by per-
mission of the trustees, there have been
uses of schoolrooms other than for reg-
ular school sessions or purposes, such
as lectures, entertainments, social gath-
erings, &c. There have been classes
held in some places for the religious
training of children who chose to at-
tend. No one has been compelled to
engage in this exercise. The religious
classes have not been held in school
hours; they have not been made a part
of the school tuition; no seating or
other furniture has been interfered
with; the district has not been put to
expense for fuel, lighting or other nec-
essary; the trustees have given the
required permission and have received
such returns as they considered just.
Thus the law has been observed and
there can be no valid legal objections
against their continuance.

Yet there are some bigoted persons
and malicious writers who want to put
a block in the way of these classes, on
the baseless plea that they are "a
wrong committed against the idea of a
proper administration of public affairs,
in which church and state are required
to be kept wholly separate." "A wrong
committed against an idea" is a new
feature in law, and a peculiar principle
in ethics. And the motion that the use
of a schoolhouse for the purpose ex-
plained constitutes a union of church
and state, is an exceedingly small and
strained attempt at "private interpre-
tation."

What is the real trouble with the
petty obstructionists? Why these re-
ligion classes are of "Mormon" origin.
That is all. If they were of any other
faith or unfaith the grumblers would
not have a word to say in opposition.

But it is an awful thing for the people
who, in the main, built the schoolhouses,
and supply the means for the support
of the schools, should use the buildings
for any purpose, however commendable
and lawful, which may be construed
as helpful to the "Mormon" faith.

The district schools are entirely sec-
ular. No sectarian instruction may be
therein imparted. Religious training is
desirable for young children, as early
impressions are no lasting. Those
classes have been organized, separate
and distinct, and in no way associated
with the district schools, that the teach-
ings of religion, excluded from the
schools, may be imparted to those chil-
dren whose parents desire it for them.
Any other society is free to seek for
and obtain the same privilege on the
same terms as these. The matter is in
the hands of the trustees, who should
not be swayed from that which is fair
and just and right, by the howlings of
any anti-"Mormon" paper or individ-
ual. They should act within the law
and be ready to defend such action, in-
different to the miserable mouthings of
paltry haters of the truth.

OLD YEAR TO THE NEW.

The Old Year bequeaths to the new
a great many questions it must help to
solve. If the present century is to re-
deem the promises of progress made for
it. The year that is almost past has
given the world "radium," for instance,
and the expectation is that great
things will follow. The questions are:
"To what does radium owe its energy?
Is it a connecting link between the sun
and the earth? What become of the
gaseous emanations given off? The
lethal effect, due to its great penetra-
bility, yet how produced? Will it prove
curative of disease? Will the new
year give the correct answer to these,
and similar questions?"

Then, the world is looking for further
development in color-photography, in
wireless telegraphy, and in air voyages.
The prediction is confidently made that
"such progress will be made in aerial
navigation during this fourth year of
the new century that the last doubter
will be convinced of its practicability.
The balloon will so demonstrate its
limitations that hope will turn univer-
sally to machines heavier than the air."

According to all accounts, Dr. Alex-
ander Graham Bell now has the frame-
work of an aeroplane strong enough to
lift a man, and it weighs but twelve
pounds. He feels certain that he has
solved the problem of human flight and
has authorized the statement that in
the near future, probably within the
year, he will have built and operated
a successful flying machine.

On every field of human activity there
are questions to be solved, but perhaps
none are more pressing than those re-
lating to social conditions. Remedies
must be found against the evils that
separate man and wife for trivial causes,
and disrupt the family and thus
strike at the foundations of the state.
The conditions that array one class of
citizens against another, must be
changed. For what is progress, if
destruction by divorce, "race suicide,"
and class hatred is going on all the
time? What is the good of penetrat-
ing the secrets of the stars, discovering
the causes of diseases, fathoming the
mysteries of atoms, if moral corrup-
tion is to advance hand in hand with
science? Better not set sail for the
land of knowledge, if the ship is too
rotten to ride the seas and carry the
sailors safely over. Serious thought
must be given to the moral quality of
our twentieth century civilization. If
this is not done, intellectual advance-
ment may, as in the case of so many
ancient states, be but a march to death
and oblivion.

THE OLD YEAR.

The closing year has been one of great
prosperity to the country, and accord-
ing to all signs this condition is like-
ly to continue. In the event of war be-
tween Russia and Japan the United
States would be likely to be greatly
benefited by the demand for supplies.
Both countries would need grain, meat,
arms, drugs, horses, clothing, and
numerous other things produced here,
and manufacturers and dealers would
have a harvest. Still, it is to be hoped
that a war is averted for it is a calamity,
and in the long run all interests are
best served by the peaceful develop-
ment of all industries.

Among the notable events of the
world during this year must be men-
tioned the establishment by the people
of Panama of an independent republic.
This means the building of a highroad
of commerce which will have an influ-
ence upon the markets of the entire
world. Another notable event was the
Macedonian rising, which, even if it is
not renewed in the spring, means the
further extension of Russian and Aus-
trian influence over the Balkan territory
and the crowding of the Turks toward
Asia. The rising was "put down" with
the usual Turkish methods. Several
thousand persons were murdered and
about 50,000 left homeless. Russian dip-
lomacy would permit no effective in-
tervention on the part of the powers.

Another event which makes the year
notable was the cruel assassination of
the King and Queen of Serbia, under
particularly shocking circumstances.
This resulted in a change of dynasties
which brought King Peter to the throne.
The year has been rife with disasters
on land and sea, by which thousands
of lives have been lost. In our own
country the great floods in the Mis-
souri valley are in fresh memory. Dur-
ing the year some notable men and
women have passed beyond the veil.
Among these are Leo XIII, Salisbury,
Mannheim, Herbert Spencer and, in this
country, Mrs. Booth Tucker.

There is still strife and contention
among the children of men, but it is
nevertheless a fact that the forces of
peace and good-will are more active
than ever. More money is being spent
on organized charity and philanthropy
work than ever before, and over the
tumult of battle, the hum of industry,
and the clamor of agitators is heard,
ever clearer and more distinct, the mes-
sage of the heralds of the Gospel that
is to be proclaimed to all nations, and
tongues and tribes, preparatory to the
coming great "year of jubilee," the
Millennial era.

Happy New Year!

Lives of rich men all remind us that
most of mankind are poor.

Dowie says that he expects to be
born again. Alive or still?

Hard as it is to give gracefully it is
harder yet to receive gracefully.

If you can't turn over a new leaf to-
morrow, turn the corner of the leaf
down.

When it is said that all a man lacks
is opportunity it generally means that
he lacks force.

Some say it is an old fashioned winter
while others declare they never saw
anything like it.

The latest Iowa idea seems to be to
lynch negroes accused of crime. Happily
it was not carried out.

Dowie says that the world will go to
smash in eleven hundred years. What
does Hippocides care?

Tomorrow begins the season when
people should let bygones be bygones,
particularly of the year 1903.

The new city government would do
well to heed General Grant's famous
saying: "Let us have peace."

"The auto is a factor in national life,"
says an exchange. It is also a very
great factor in national deaths.

Young Corbett got seventy-five per
cent of the receipts while Hanlon got
ninety per cent of the pounding.

Japan declares that the far eastern
situation is unbearable. Perhaps she
had better bear the ills she has than
fly to others she knows not of.

Murderer Rose wants to avoid the
law's delay and go to his punishment
at once. Everything possible should
be done to comply with his wishes in
the matter.

The new Panama canal company re-
fused to allow M. Semper, Colombia's
representative, to participate in the
stockholders' meeting. Sic Semper ty-
rannus.

From St. Petersburg it is officially
announced that there have been no
renewed attacks on the Jews at Kish-
ineff, and that the city was never
quieter than at the present moment. It
may be the calm that precedes the storm.

We are glad that the Governor has
seen his way clear to give Lynch one
more chance for his life. The Board
of Pardons will hold a special session
and the case will be duly considered.
Mercy and justice should be joined in
the final determination.

Our befogged and rattled contempo-
rary the Tribune, having jumped from
one position on municipal affairs to its
opposite, talking one way a little while
ago and precisely another now, tries to
do to cover its folly and contradictions
by asking a lot of irrelevant questions,
and shuffling from the point at which
it started. The more it quibbles and
queries and shows its own partisan and
petty spirit, the better it suits us. Go
on with your own funeral, Tribby!

The holocaust at Chicago is a hor-
ror of these times of terrible disaster.
Coming, too, at this festive season, it
brings an additional shock. The living
relatives of the victims bear the brunt
of the awful catastrophe and the whole
nation condoles with them. The les-
son is repeated that a so-called "fire-
proof" public building in which wood
is largely used, is a snare and a death-
trap to be avoided in future structures
in which many people are to assemble
or be employed. God help the bereaved
and afflicted!

Our old and tried friend of many
years, Martin Harrow of the Fifth
ward, has passed away after long trial
and suffering in which he has been
tenderly waited upon by a loving wife
and family. We sympathize with them
in this bereavement, but still view it as
a blessing to all concerned. He is re-
leased from pain and distress, and they
from the care and anxiety consequent
thereupon. He was a man of sterling
integrity, true and faithful to every
trust and firm in his fidelity to God
and his religion. He will receive the
reward of the just.

The dispatches from Eastern Asia
continue so contradicting and uncer-
tain as to conceal, rather than reveal,
the true situation. But the view ex-
pressed by the Cologne Gazette appears well
taken. That paper considers the mobil-
ization of the Japanese navy for the
defense of the country's interest in
Corea as evidence of "concession" on
the part of Russia. If such "conces-
sion" goes far enough, there will be no
war this time. Both countries will gain
their immediate objects without hos-
tilities, and their war preparations may
be continued. Possibly Japan will take
Corea, with the secret consent of Rus-
sia, as Russia has occupied Manchuria.
Possibly the "peaceful" breaking up of
China is about to commence.

The extent of the disasters that oc-
cur almost continually is hardly real-
ized, except when hundreds of lives are
extinguished in a moment, as in the
case of the Chicago horror that marks
the exit of the year with sorrow. But
the fact is that deaths by accident are
daily occurrences. Last week no less
than 101 persons were killed in railroad
accidents alone, in this country, while
145 were more or less seriously injured.
Among the great disasters were those
at Godfrey, Kansas, on the "Frisco" road,
December 21; at Laurel Run, Pennsylv-
ania, on the Baltimore and Ohio, De-
cember 23; and near Grand Rapids,
Michigan, on the Pere Marquette, De-
cember 26. At Godfrey 19 were killed
outright, at Laurel Run 64, and near
Grand Rapids 17.

DISCUSSING AN ANARCHIST.

London Freedom.
Such an honest and courageous opo-
sition of capitalism as John Turner

is not a welcome guest in a country
that is swindled night and day by
Roosevelts, Vanderbilts and Morgans.
Nevertheless their attack on Turner
will recoil on themselves, for his long
and arduous efforts in the cause of
labor have made him friends wherever
a trade-union exists. The more they
inquire into his career the more he
will be respected and they detested.

New York Times.
It is senseless to pretend that Turner
is harmless because he is philoso-
phic, because he is not an assassin,
but merely a believer in what Mr.
Crosby calls the "beautiful theory" of
anarchy. When he preaches the "beau-
tiful theory" there are pretty sure to be
in his audience persons who are no
empty theorists. He implants in seeth-
ing brains ideas which experience
teaches us are likely to ripen into hide-
ous crimes. Czolgosz was an attendant
upon anarchistic meetings.

New York Tribune.
Mr. Turner, though he comes here
not to advocate the overthrow of gov-
ernment, does come here to organize
societies and address half-educated peo-
ple who may easily be infected by his
philosophical ideas of anarchy and
translate them into forcible action.
Militant anarchy has back of it and
inspiring it philosophical anarchy. It
is difficult to frame laws to reach the
latter; but when laws do happen to
reach it, we hardly expect to hear
same men complain that it is an out-
rage to enforce the law to its letter if it
causes the particular anarchist does not
distribute bombs, but only theories
which inspire others more uncomprom-
ising or more rugged than himself
to make and throw them.

Battle Creek Pilgrim.
More than a hundred years ago the
Federalist party was thrust out of
power in the United States because of
its enactment of the so-called alien and
sedition laws which interfered with the
right of free speech. Today we are
getting rapidly back to the policy then
repudiated. Representative Littlefield,
of Maine, has a bill which he proposed
to introduce to the present Congress
nominally intended to punish one who
counsels or abets assassination, or
"teaches the principles of anarchy."
Practically, however, in connection with
the anti-anarchist law it makes a few
government officials the absolute judges
of the limits of free speech and of
political action. The whole legisla-
tion is obviously un-American and in
conflict with the Constitutional provi-
sion, which declares that there shall
be no abridgment of the right of free
speech.

Chicago Free Society.
An anarchist, as I understand, is one
who opposes government and its laws,
maintaining that government is violence
and law a mere farce. If I am
right—and I challenge any one to prove
the contrary—then I ask, on what
ground do anarchists take up a legal
fight against the anti-anarchist law?

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The Old Brown Shawl is the title of
an illustrated poem by Miss Dell Do-
lores Wais, issued from the Desert
News establishment. The illustrations
are by Prince Andrew Snell. The lit-
tle brochure is highly artistic in every
detail. It would be a nice present at
New Year, or any other time, to friends,
particularly abroad, as a fine specimen
of Utah literature.

Mind for January has, among other
features, an article on "Breath Vibration,"
by Charles H. Brodie, Patterson,
and one on "Mental Concentration," by
Charles H. King. There are some other
contributions which the reader will
find profitable, but on the whole the
magazine must be paid, critically, if at
all.—The Alliance Pub. Co., New York.

The Black Cat for January has a
prize story, "My Oriental Visitor," by
Harry Stillwell Edwards; also four other
short stories, all interesting.—Bos-
ton, Mass.

Cassier's Magazine of illustrated en-
gineering for January affords a striking
illustration of the possibilities of tech-
nical journalism, both artistic and lit-
erary. The magazine opens with a
beautifully illustrated article by Arch-
ibald Wilson describing "The Chamoni
Electric Railway" in Switzerland. Wal-
ter M. Macfarlane, a well known article
on "The Commercial Side of En-
gineering" in which the question of the
cost of a machine or structure for
practical points of view. The second
of a series of articles on "Multi-
Cylinder Locomotives," by J. F. Gairns,
appears in this number. Another ar-
ticle deals with "Electric Power in
Foundry and Machine Shop," by Joseph
Hornor. The usual department de-
voted to topics of current engineering in-
terest appears also, being this month
devoted to the following subjects: Fuel
Compounds—Professors for Engineer-
ing Schools—Uncalled for Applications
of Wireless Telegraphy—The Weight of
War Ship Engines—Forty Years' Pro-
gress in Marine Machinery, etc.—New
York.

Suggestion is the name of a magazine
devoted to "the new psychology for
health, happiness, and success." Its
January number has the following sug-
gestive list of contents: "Psychical
Progress," "Triumphs in Attaining
the Physical Ideal," "A Phenomenal
Study," "The Great Psychological
Crime," "Opportunity," "The Tissue
Salts," "Osteopathic Medical Legisla-
tion," "Rogers' Philosophy," "The
Higher Law," "Mistral Water Sermon-
ette," "A Pleasant Way"—poem, and
"The New Captain of the Men of
Death."—4020 Drexel Boulevard, Chi-
cago, Ill.

"Socialism: The Nation of Fatherless
Children" is the suggestive title of a
volume on Socialism. The author is
David Goldstein, a former student and
advocate of that system. He main-
tains that Socialism means opposition
to "Christianity," and that it advocates
"free love." He charges the system
with other grave errors, and gives
quotations from Socialist writers to
substantiate his charges. Possibly,
though, the opposition to "Christianity"
is rather opposition to modern cor-
rupted forms of the religion of Jesus,
and in that Socialism means by means
alone. The other charges are of a
graver nature.—Union News League,
Boston.

Tabernacle.

GEO. D. PYPHER, Manager for this At-
traction.

MONDAY EVENING,

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happy and prosperous new year and the com-
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spirit of good will and hearty co-operation.

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mit of inventory taking. Open Monday, Jan. 4th, 8 a. m.

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