

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 LATER-DAY SAINTS
 CRENSO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.
 PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
 (EXCEPT SUNDAYS)
 (CITY OF SALT LAKE AND EAST TEMPLE STREETS
 EAST LAKE CITY, UTAH.)

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.	
City Year	\$3.00
City Month	.25
City Week	.08
Country Year	\$3.50
Country Month	.30
Country Week	.10
Saturday edition, per year	\$4.00
Home Weekly	.15

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

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE.
 E. A. Craig, 41 Times Building

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

SAN FRANCISCO REPRESENTATIVE.
 C. S. King-Sheridan & Co., 409 Examiner Bldg.

SALT LAKE CITY, AUGUST 14, 1900.

OVERWORK IN SCHOOL.

The question of the work required of children in the elementary schools is being carefully considered by an educational commission in Chicago, and the conclusion reached so far is that the prescribed course of elementary studies is both too extensive and insufficient. It embraces subjects which might profitably be left out, and it gives too little attention to other subjects. We believe these conclusions would be concurred in generally by educators.

The report of the commission says the work required of the children should be "materially reduced." It suggests that algebra should be omitted from the elementary course and that other eliminations in the course of mathematics might be made to advantage. It is further recommended that geography and history be concurrent studies and taught from the text-book from the fifth to the eighth year, instead of the fifth and sixth years, and that special attention be placed upon physiography and commercial geography.

The report points out that "pupils who have finished the elementary schools as a rule are deficient in English. They can neither speak nor write the language in an acceptable manner. This deficiency is a serious handicap to business and good citizenship. Every pupil finishing the elementary school should be well grounded in technical grammar and be able to speak and write the language with a reasonable degree of facility and accuracy. To that end a more thorough and extended course in grammar studied from a text-book is recommended."

In order to leave more time for the English language, the commission suggests that no language other than English be taught below the high school, and that the time now taken for them be devoted to English and civil government.

There is no more important subject than the proper education of the children, who in time are to be responsible for the carrying on of the government in all its ramifications, and the building up of the nation on the foundations laid. It is necessary to pay attention to the physical and moral development, as well as the intellectual, and overwork in the tender years is injurious in all these respects. Its results are a distaste for study, nervous unrest accompanied by an inclination to break rules, and physical ailments of various kinds.

Our American school system is far advanced, and it is, above all, practical. But it is still developing, improving as experience and research suggest. It recognizes the principle that all should have equal educational advantages, but this is not realized until the work required of each child is measured out in accordance with the mental and physical capacities of each individual pupil.

THE "YELLOW PERIL" GONE.

If the foreigners in Pekin have been able to hold out to this date, August 14, they will be required to cling on a little longer until they are relieved. Already the allies are within the sound of their guns, and on Wednesday, August 15, will have reached the Chinese capital and begun an attack to relieve the besieged. With the rapid advance made, it is questionable whether the Chinese assailants have not fled already. In this event, which is by no means improbable, it may be that the legations already find themselves free from the attack that has been pressed upon them for two months past.

In the advance from Tien Tsin, Gen. Chaffee has availed himself of the knowledge gained by Americans in their dealings with uncivilized people of the Far East. With the Chinese once started on the retreat, they have been kept "on the jump." The others of the allies have adopted a similar plan, but the Americans took the initiative, so far as the limited accounts of the fighting show. In fact, their alertness in this procedure brought them a heavy loss, caused by the blunder of a Russian battery, which opened fire on a position supposedly held by the Chinese, but which already had been captured by Americans. Then, when the mistake was discovered and the Chinese retired from Yang Tsun, the allied force continued to roll them back to the very gates of Pekin. They are now, with but one day's march for the international—and, by the way, while the end of that day is August 15, in point of fact it corresponds with August 14, today, this side of the "line."

Will the Chinese make a stand at Pekin? That is a question the reply to which is subject to diversified opinion. Whether they will or not one thing is certain. If the legations are yet able to offer resistance, the Chinese will not make a fight against the relief column merely for the sake of an attempt to overcome the legations. They may stand to protect the part of Pekin held

sacred from foreigners, but that is the most they will do, and even that is doubtful. In any event, the allied force at the gates of Pekin means the relief of the beleaguered foreigners.

But when the legations are reached, what then? Will the allied column return with them to safety? Possibly so, but probably not, at least immediately. The retreat would be more hazardous than the advance has been, and its moral effect would be disastrous to the international prestige. The native population soon would be convinced that the allies had been defeated, and that China was triumphant over the world. This would make matters much worse than before, and would precipitate massacres of foreigners and native Christians throughout parts of the empire yet in comparative quiet.

There can be no retreat at present from Pekin. Other columns must be pushed forward to hold that city and the road thereto. Plenty of work is ahead for Count Von Waldersee and the 200,000 men expected to be under his general supervision. Peace, if it is to be made now, must be dictated by the powers from the Chinese capital. This done, and Americans can retire from the contest, either having joined in a settlement of China's future or having left that to subsequent determination.

But will the powers be content to dictate terms at Pekin? America and Britain will, and possibly Japan. Yet there are doubts. The last named power would be satisfied, if all other powers were willing. But what of Germany, with its war of revenge on China? What of Russia, with its cause bell of Chinese invasion at the Amur, and its greed for Chinese territory? And what of France, whose representatives also have been attacked and soldiers slain, and which has large Chinese interests? America may be satisfied easily, because she has no designs on Chinese territory, but not so the others. Only a dread of disastrous quarreling over the spoils will hold them back. If they can agree on an anti-Chinese policy, then goodbye China, as an empire.

But the idea of immediate importance is that the Chinese have been swept back by a small relief column. The release of the surviving legations therefore is looked for. Beyond it all, however, is the further relief, that the much-vaunted "yellow peril" no longer threatens. The Chinese cannot overrun and conquer the world. They cannot maintain their own empire against any one of a dozen of the larger nations that are farther advanced in civilization. Even Spain could whip China if she could get her troops across the ocean. There is no "yellow peril" to this generation, except as quarreling over the "yellow" man's country may precipitate a world's conflict.

COLLIS P. HUNTINGTON.

The dispatches today, August 14, announce the death of Collis P. Huntington, president of the Southern Pacific railway. Though he was well advanced in years, his demise was unexpected, and removes from this stage of action one of the most notable men whose lives are connected with the development of the Great West. Though known chiefly as a railway magnate, Mr. Huntington's financial interests were many and varied, and his wealth was gained through superior ability in carrying out great enterprises. As a millionaire, Mr. Huntington was often criticized from the standpoint of those who hate capitalists without being able to give a reason why; yet his vast and ever increasing fortune was used in giving employment to thousands of people. It was not hoarded, but was placed in the channels of active industry, being a powerful lever in building up and developing the Pacific Coast region especially. In this way his money was put to a good use, and he thus merited the title of a public benefactor.

As a citizen he was deservedly esteemed for his integrity and signal ability in the line of business where his operations extended. As a friend to Utah both in his general conduct and on many occasions of special action on his part, he merited the good will of the people here, and their friendship and cordial respect were freely extended to him.

Collis P. Huntington was a great man, whose works will stand for many decades as a monument to his untiring energy, business sagacity, sound judgment, and eagerness to be in the front rank of the enterprising men of the age, which position he attained to. Utah's people will sympathize with those called to mourn, and will hope that the furtherance of the labors with which he was connected will be carried on by those not less devoted to the general good.

THE ZIONIST CONGRESS.

The fourth Zionist congress of Jews now in session in Queen's Hall, London, is a notable gathering. It is attended by delegates from all parts of the world, many having come from America, Russia, and the countries of the European continent. Among the notable leaders present are Dr. Herzl of Vienna, Dr. Max Nordau, Prof. Mendelsohn, a distinguished Russian Jew, Dr. Francis Montefiore, Prof. Gotthold of Columbia university, and Dr. Mamorick, chief of the Pastore Institute in Paris.

The Zionist movement is one of the signs of the present time, and it is especially notable amidst the wars and rumors of war that roll like thunder over the world. It appeals to those who believe in the forecasts of the Scriptures, like the star of Bethlehem, whose rule righteousness shall fill the earth and peace be established. The Zionist movement has for its object the gathering of the Hebrews to the land of their fathers, and the establishment there of a home for the scattered race. It is no chimera. It is led by men of faith and of practical business sense. It has overcome much opposition, and is growing as it is rolling along, like the little stone in Daniel's vision. But when the time shall have come for the full realization of the plans of Zionism, the time cannot

be far off for the beginning of the millennial reign, of which Prophets have spoken from the earliest ages and until now. The fall of the chosen race was the "reconciliation of the world;" their restoration will be much more; it will be "life from the dead," as the author of the Romans puts it. The Zionist congress cannot but be followed with great interest throughout the world.

HOW CHINA IS GOVERNED.

The present trouble in China has occasioned the distribution of a great deal of literature concerning that strange land and its equally strange inhabitants. As a consequence much more is known now about those subjects than a couple of months ago.

The governmental system of the vast Mongolian empire presents an interesting object for study. The emperor is the representative of God on earth, and is supposed to hold in his frail hands the destiny of his numerous subjects, if not of the entire human family.

The empire is divided into eighteen provinces, each governed by a viceroy, who has, under the emperor, absolute sway in his territory, and who rules the provincial administration in all its departments, military, judicial, political and financial. The viceroys have a cabinet composed of officials who attend to the affairs of the various departments. The provinces are divided into prefectures, which are subdivided into districts, and each district has its ruler. All towns and villages have municipal governmental organizations of their own.

The emperor has a cabinet consisting of four members, two of whom must be Manchus and two Chinese, and this cabinet has two counselors whose function is to see that the cabinet takes no action in contravention of the laws laid down in the "Regulations of the Tsing Dynasty" and in the sacred books of Confucius, which declare that the government of the state shall be based upon the government of the family.

Under the cabinet there are seven boards, which form the various branches of the executive part of the government. They are: The board of civil appointments, which looks after the public service and its officials; the board of revenues, which manages imperial finances; the board of rites and ceremonies, dealing with customs and observances; the military board, in charge of defense; the board of public works, the judiciary and the admiralty. To these is added the "Young-ii-Yamen, through which the imperial government deals with the foreign powers.

Besides these boards there is an organization of censors composed of fifty members, with a Manchu and a Chinese for presidents. Members of this board may bring any complaint whatever before the emperor, and a censor is always present at meetings of the seven great boards of the empire.

Were the moral status of the Chinese people and the officials what might be expected of the professed disciples of the great philosopher Confucius, they ought to be well governed, for the system has certainly attained a high degree of perfection. The defects are in China, as elsewhere, rather in the material of which the engine is constructed than in the machinery itself.

DRINKING BLOOD.

It is sometimes asked whether civilization is gliding downward, after having reached perhaps the summit? The question is again suggested by the fact that the Parisians, who claim to be the very cream of civilized society, have taken to drinking blood. It is no longer done by diseased persons on the recommendation of a physician, but by frequenters of cafes and restaurants, who call for the beverage under the name of "beef juice."

An exchange says: "The method of its preparation, however, leaves no doubt in the mind of an ordinary observer as to the name it rightly owns. Every one is not allowed to see the process, which is simple but ingenious. A block of raw beef is put into a powerful hydraulic press, and jammed down until the last drop of moisture is extracted, leaving a hard white mass resembling half-tanned leather and a glassful of scarlet blood. The latter is artfully flavored with cayenne and spices, darkened in color, and handed out to the consumer who pays four or five francs for the drink, and goes away under the impression that he has swallowed the king of pick-me-ups."

LONDON YELLOW JOURNALISM.

A story comes from Pretoria, telling of an alleged conspiracy there to kill British officers, with the exception of Lord Roberts, whom it was desired to carry off as a prisoner. Possibly there has been some scheme to strike at the British in Pretoria, as such things are to be expected in a state of war. But the account given, which comes in a special dispatch to the London Daily News, sounds overmuch like a cock-and-bull story, to use an English phrase, for acceptance without confirmation.

At its outset, this story will be weighed in connection with the general tenor of sensational dispatches published by the English press as news from foreign lands. If the English newspapers really desired credit for conservatism and a fair degree of accuracy in publishing such items, there might be no real cause for doubting the truth of the story. But all through the South African campaign the London papers have given prominence to the most ridiculous pro-British stories, many of which the British officials themselves have found it necessary to disavow as false. This fact, therefore, suggests that such dispatches need several grains of salt in the way of confirmation, to carry them down.

Another illustration of the extreme unreliability of English newspaper correspondents is given in the Chinese troubles. From the assertion that all the ministers in Pekin had been massacred down to the story that Li Hung Chang had committed suicide, the great volume of false dispatches from China has come through English newspaper sources. The papers all over this country are caricaturing the "Shanghai liar" as a Chinaman and picturing him as capturing the pennant from Munchausen and Ananias for downright misrepresentation. But the object of the cartoon is no Chinaman—it is rather a half dozen English news-

paper correspondents, who have been giving to the world these fake dispatches, which are largely responsible for the idea that the Chinese are doing all the misrepresentation, and which have produced much of the existing troubled condition.

A newspaper representative who values his character for truth and honesty is a public benefactor in such crises as the world is passing through now in relation to China. But men of a different character are a blot on civilization, and this must be the judgment on the bulk of London newspaper correspondents in the Far East. Herebefore the London newspapers, with an I-am-hillier-than-thou expression of countenance, have declaimed against yellow journalism in America, but their own offense in the same line is as a mountain to a molehill. The mask of pretended morality worn by London journals is being torn away in face of the fact that with few exceptions American journals are more careful and energetic in giving real news a preference over sensationalism than are their London contemporaries.

New York papers have come to calling each other "micro-filing frauds." They should be well daubed before long.

A New York paper begins an editorial with "Where this is written the thermometer stands at one hundred." No wonder the article is highly.

The plans for the recapture of Tien Tsin and Taku have been "sanctioned by the emperor." A good many things in China end with the emperor's sanction, and this is one of them.

Uncle Sam used a lot of ammunition in the war with Spain. But the lot he got ready and did not use, owing to the early collapse of that war, is coming in handy for the Chinese campaign.

If the school children and clever little girls who make pretty sewing and crochet work will prepare something for the State Fair, they will receive every encouragement from the management.

The Deutschland is queen of the ocean. The great Hamburg-American liner has beaten all former records, crossing from New York to Plymouth, England, in five days, eleven hours and forty-five minutes.

Boer victories are no longer reported from South Africa, thanks to the censor. But the statement that Gen. Carrington has retired from Zeeuist to Mafeking means that the Boers have forced him to retreat.

Li Hung Chang's doctor says the weather and the unsettled state of the country would not be good for the viceroy's health in a journey north. Evidently that is a correct diagnosis, especially of the "unsettled state."

That London story of President Kruger giving millions to the Democratic campaign fund is of a kind with other London yarns on Oom Paul. The aged burgher has plenty of use for the little cash he may have left, without wasting it on foreign politics.

An effort is being made to establish the silk industry in Maine. When it is remembered that silk-raising is mainly extra work which comes on women and children rather than on men and boys, the prospect is not great in Maine for a startling success.

Some of the New York papers criticize the "hideous outcry over ice" in that city, and profess to wonder why nothing is said about oil or gas. From the excessive hot spell in New York, one would think the people were justified in making ice the "paramount issue" for some time yet.

It was a mistake when Russian and British cannon fired on the Americans at Yang Tsun, and none knew of its unintentional character better than the fourteenth infantry, which suffered; neither do any regret the blunder more than the Russians and British who made it.

The Americans ought to have a still greater respect for the fighting quality of the British soldiers. In the advance on Pekin they raced into action shoulder to shoulder with the "boys in blue" leading all others in face of a gallant fire. The Stars and Stripes and Union Jack were planted together, far in advance of the others, in the sharp struggle to relieve the foreigners in Pekin.

The narrow escape of several persons at the mattress factory fire on Monday afternoon shows the necessity for an official inspection of all such buildings, to see that there are sufficient means of exit in case of fire. Window jumping is not a means of escape that should be forced on employees in any factory or workshop; but there are too many that have it so, and will continue in that line unless brought to time by official action.

In discussing Chinese affairs a Massachusetts paper says of the attitude of the American government that "if it is right to push our commerce, it is right to push our religion as well." Our New England contemporaries makes a grave blunder. The government is legitimately in the commerce-promoting business; that being one of the fundamental purposes of government; but it is not pushing a religious scheme. It pays bounties and subsidies, and frames tariffs to help commerce and industry, but it offers no government assistance for a man to be an Episcopalian, an Agnostic or a Unitarian.

SOUTH AFRICAN POLICY.

Los Angeles Express. A dispatch from Pretoria says that Oom Paul has had enough and is anxious to surrender. Provided a satisfactory promise is given as to his ultimate destination. The Boer forces are said to be in a pitiable plight, the few remaining under arms being in an almost starving condition, while great destitution prevails throughout the country. Under these conditions, in the interest of common humanity, hostilities should at once cease. It is contended that it is impracticable that President Kruger or President Steyn should be allowed to remain in South Africa, and it is more than probable that England will not permit them to remain somewhere, probably St. Helena, where they can be under surveillance, but this is an after consideration, and can be settled after the burghers are allowed

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We will also sell, during this week, everything that is left of our immense stock of COLORED SHIRT WAISTS REGARDLESS OF COST.

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Z. C. M. I. T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

to go to their homes and resume their usual avocations.

Cleveland Plaindealer. The war in South Africa is so near its end that the British government is ready to indicate its purposes towards the two conquered states. Yesterday, in answer to a question from the opposition, Secretary Chamberlain, in parliament, admitted that the views of the Canadian and Australian governments had been obtained and that they were in perfect agreement with the home government as to the course to be pursued. The two republics are to be completely blotted out and the territory annexed to the British crown as colonies. They are to be governed with the aid of the military at first, local self-government being gradually conceded to them as may be found advisable and safe.

Boston Herald. Great Britain is already at work devising schemes for the colonization of Englishmen in South Africa in such numbers as to break the power of the Boers and reconstruct the industrial and social fabric. This must be done on the subject for three months or more, without accomplishing results that are especially promising. The thing most desired is to induce English farmers to go into the wilds and practice agriculture in a way that will astonish the Boers, and show them that they do not know their business. To this end there are to be inducements of homesteads and bounties.

Chicago Record. The world will watch with great interest to see what Great Britain will do in case, as now appears not impossible, it receives the surrender of President Kruger. The rumor that the president is meditating a surrender, but wishes to know first what England proposes to do with him, may be premature, but it is certain that if he is taken the question of his ultimate disposition will have to be met. The ground upon which Napoleon was sent to St. Helena was that he was a public enemy and a menace to the peace of nations. In order to keep him in restraint in Europe it would have been necessary to imprison him and so he was placed in tolerable comfort on the remote island. The same plea can hardly be urged in the case of Kruger, who has waged war with but one foe and is not a "public enemy" in the sense of the phrase as applied to Napoleon. Of course, the thing to do with Kruger is to let him go home on parole and smoke his pipe peacefully for the rest of his days.

New York Mail and Express. Things in South Africa have reached such a stage that Uncle Paul Kruger ought to call his troops together and tell them to go back to their farms. They have made a first-class fight, but there is nothing to gain by continuing it, and they can put down their arms with no loss of honor. The world will rejoice when it hears that those sturdy Dutchmen are again employed in the vocations of peace.

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