

OUR CHRISTMAS GREETING.

THE DESERET NEWS extends hearty greeting to mankind on this great Christmas holiday. This paper voices the heartfelt sentiment of the people who wrested these vales from desolation and wrought the wonders that we now behold, in wishing all nations and peoples a happy Christmas season. We join with them in celebrating the birth of the world's Redeemer. It matters not whether the Christ opened his blessed eyes in this world on the day we designate, the Babe of Bethlehem, at whose coming the angels sang and humanity received a fresh inspiration and history commenced a new era, WAS born of Mary some twenty centuries ago; and while merry bells are ringing, and old and young are feasting and rejoicing, and the spirit of benediction is paramount, we join in the glad acclaim and thank the Eternal Father for the gift of His beloved Son, to lift mankind to a higher plane and introduce the dominion of love and the reign of peace. What marvels His advent has wrought! Despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, the lowly Nazarene who was mocked and scourged and put to the most ignominious death, in awful agony, with thieves for his companions, has left upon this earth an influence that is felt in every land. And now uncounted millions of the most enlightened among the nations, bow at the mention of His name and do homage to His memory and His majesty! Wherever His doctrines are taught and are more than a theory, kindness, compassion, forbearance, brotherhood, faith, hope and charity abound, to the banishment of wrath, cruelty, intolerance, oppression and hate. And even where they are but sentiments to be admired, the fact that they are deemed beautiful and good, has its effects in modifying the tendencies to evil and checking the worst impulses of selfish and striving humanity. No monarch that ever ruled over kingdoms, no warrior that cut his way through serried ranks to earthly fame, no statesman that impressed his mind upon the laws of nations, no poet that sang the harmonies of verse or orator that swayed the multitude with the gift of eloquence, in all the ages of this globe's career, ever left so deep, abiding and ever-increasing impress on the souls of men as did the reputed son of Joseph the carpenter, the condemned Jew, Jesus the Nazarene. And today we sound his praises and chant the story of His humble birth and His triumph over death, after twenty centuries have rolled away since the shepherds heard the carol of the heavenly host announcing His earthly advent. "Glory to God in the highest!" We echo the sweet strain and thrill with the angelic benison, "Peace on earth, good will to man." This is the sentiment that wells up in the souls of the Saints at this joyful Christmas time. We want everybody to be happy. We desire no one's injury. We aim at the uplifting of all mankind. We hope that plenty and good cheer will gladden every home; that the poor will not be forgotten; that the children shall be made joyful with anticipated gifts; that scattered families may come together; that estranged friends will be united; that all strife shall cease and angry tones be hushed; that music and melody may fill the air and vibrate in the breeze; that moderation will prevent excess, that the Christ spirit shall permeate society and that each succeeding Christmas day, shall bring us swiftly nearer to the time of universal brotherhood, the era of the Redeemer's reign, when good will to man shall everywhere be felt and peace on earth become a glorious and perpetual reality!

THE CHRISTMAS "NEWS."

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to every reader of the Deseret News! We hope the pleasures of the season will be enhanced by the issuance of this holiday edition. It has been prepared with a desire to please and profit the public and meet their various tastes and expectations. If it does not reach the full height of our ideal, it is a paper of which we need not be ashamed. The information it contains has been gleaned with much patience, labor, diligence and expense. All the work upon it has been performed with fidelity and intent to be accurate. Every writer, compositor, artist, mechanic and pressman has done his utmost, to make this number the best ever printed in this mountain region. The Christmas "News" has obtained an enviable reputation throughout the civilized world, and is regarded as one of the best specimens of American journalism. We believe this edition will compare favorably with others and will please our patrons everywhere. In addition to the many articles on different subjects which are all of value and interest to some of our readers, the half-tone pictures and portraits that embellish them and help to illustrate the attractions of our city and the progress of our State, are finely executed and the tints that are given to them add much to their beauty. The mechanical work, too, is of an advanced order, and the entire publication is an evidence of culture and progress in Utah. It tells the story of the rearing of homes and public buildings, the products of field and farm, the great output of the mines, the achievements in railroad engineering and extension, and in telephonic connection, the increase in trade and commerce and manufactures, notably in sugar-making, in art, science, music, social union, religion, morals, and every department of industry and education. As a souvenir of the season, the Christmas "News" will be a fitting present to send to distant friends, and will speak louder for our growing commonwealth than many encomiums by letter or speech. It bears the stamp of skill and industry, and shows what kind of people inhabit these western vales, and have transformed an arid wilderness into a scene of delight, where rich products, lovely flowers, peaceful dwellings, business marts, grand churches, splendid schools, modern conveniences and all the improvements of advanced civilization, combine to glorify the land and render it a panorama most desirable and inviting. This number of the "News" should be scattered far and wide and find a place in every home in Utah. We are proud of it as the product of our own people, and we congratulate all who have contributed by brain or muscle, thought or toil, direction or compliance to the achievement which has been accomplished, and which we now send forth with joy and satisfaction and with all the compliments of the season.

PROGRESS OF THE CHURCH

THE progress of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, since last Christmas is highly gratifying. At home, there has been an increase of faith and diligence, better attendance at public worship, closer observance of the law of tithing, more liberality in offerings for the poor, increased efforts in Temple work for the dead, greater diligence in quorum and general official duties, closer union one with another among the members, and deeper affection and higher respect for the presiding authorities of the Church. Abroad, the missionaries have been devoted to the cause. No distance has been too far for them to travel, no obstacle to great for them to surmount, no privation or sacrifice too severe for their devotion. The printed word has been extensively distributed. The misrepresentations of the pulpit and the press have been met by sincere testimony and stubborn facts. The agitation aroused, though at first unpleasant, has invariably resulted in attracting attention to the truth and aiding in the extension of the good cause. The hosts of visitors who have come to this city have obtained right impressions of our people and our faith, and through the praiseworthy and gratuitous services of the Bureau of Information have taken away with them good opinions in the place of bitter prejudice. The erection of fine meeting houses

in Scandinavia has been attended with marked success, and similar projects have been determined upon at other points. The hostility stirred up in Germany by sectarian preachers, leading to the banishment of a number of our Elders, has not stopped the spread of the gospel, but is likely to result in arousing greater interest in the minds of thinking people. Throughout the European mission the work has received a new impetus through the visits and labors of President F. M. Lyman, extending into the Orient. Progress is being made by the Elders in Japan, so much so that the mission President, Heber J. Grant, has been able to return from that field and fill a mission and succeed Elder Lyman in Europe. The re-opening of the work in India is a cheering indication of the progress of the Church. Reports from all our colonies, from Canada in the north to Mexico in the south, speak of the increase of faith and good works among the Saints, while glad tidings come also from the missions in the islands of the sea. Additions to the Church by baptism are frequent, and prejudice is giving way before the light of truth and the force of exemplary conduct in the lives of the Elders everywhere. The cause of education is receiving much impetus through the monetary and other aid given by the Church to its academies and colleges and universities, and the high standard reached by our own professors and teachers. The financial condition of the Church has been so much improved that half a million dollars which is half the issue of its bonds have been called in for redemption, and the prospect is bright for speedy deliverance from the debts which were caused by the litigation and oppression of the period of severe persecution, now happily passed away. The First Presidency are to be congratulated on this good result of able management. And the Presiding Bishopric are to be commended for the immense improvements in the accounting required of the officers in all the stakes and wards of the Church, and in the manner of the keeping of the records. There are numerous evidences of vitality and progress throughout the Church in all its departments, and there is better order with a closer adherence to the revelations on doctrine and discipline than ever before. The auxiliary societies for the training and improvement of the little children, the young men and women, and the Saints of all ages, are in better condition for their work than ever, and there is a thoroughness in all that is done and projected that indicates vigor, determination, deep thought and wise direction and augurs well for the future of Israel. The Lord is with His people; they can never be confounded. The path of His Church is upward. Whatever may grow out of the present uproar against it, one result is certain; the Church will be the stronger, the world will be attracted towards its principles and its power, and the purposes of the Almighty will be accomplished, no matter what may happen to individuals and their desires. And each Christmas day will show the Church of the last times greater, grander, more beautiful and glorious as "the bride the Lamb's wife," preparing to receive her King, once the humble Son of Mary, now exalted as Ruler over all the earth. Hail to His advent and to his glad reign!

CHRISTMAS AT BETHLEHEM

ONE of the most singular facts connected with the celebration throughout the world of the nativity of Jesus, is that in the sacred spot where it is thought by many that the miracle of miracles took place, strife, bitterness and contention mark the festivities. At Bethlehem, in Judea, the natal day is observed with joyful rites by several divisions of multi-divided Christendom.

The Romans, the Greeks, the Armenians, in turn worship in the sacred grotto where the silver star is supposed to mark the place of birth. And there, particularly at Christmas time, the Latin worshiper must be protected against the fanaticism of his Greek brother. The Greek, in the same way, must be shielded from the hatred of the Latin, and the Armenian must be guarded from the misdirected zeal of the Latin and the Greek. For here, at the sacred shrine, fanaticism rules. The professed followers of Jesus would fain slay one another at His

feet, who came to proclaim "peace on earth and good will toward men."

The Mohammedans have taken upon themselves to keep the peace among the various factions of belligerent "Christians." Thirty years ago blood was shed in this supposed sanctuary, and the tension between the different churches is always great. For that reason the Sultan has deemed it necessary to station soldiers at the entrance to the holy shrines, and these watch over the worshippers. Day and night Mohammedan sentries guard the birthplace of the Nazarene; not because they revere the spot, but because they do not wish the professed disciples of Jesus to tear one another like wild beasts. And thus it has come to pass that the followers of Mohammed, the alleged apostle of sword and blood, have become the preservers of the peace among the professed worshippers of the Prince of Peace.

And yet, the condition in Palestine is but typical of that in parts of the "Christian" world. So called "Christians" hate one another because they have different ranges of vision, and fail to see alike. Many of them would rekindle the flames, and reopen the dens of the inquisition, were it not for the arm of the state that restrains their zeal. The spirit of Olaf Trygvessen, who struck the proud queen in the face, because she refused to receive baptism, is still abroad. Strange to say, infidels lifted their voice against religious intolerance during the last century, so persistently and so powerfully, that the world was compelled to listen, and today it is largely the state that stands for peace among the different alleged followers of the Nazarene.

These have a great Christmas lesson to learn. It is that Jesus is the Savior of mankind not merely of a small part of it. It is that faith, opinion, confessions, avail nothing, unless they result in the formation of a character such as given us for a pattern by the Son of God. We do not underrate the great work of advancement that has been done during the era of Christianity, but it is evident that the entire world, including the so-called Christian part of it, must be re-conquered for Jesus, through His Gospel. It has not yet been given to Him except partially. But He must become all in all.

PRIZES FOR PEACE.

IT IS strange that during all these centuries, since the gospel of peace was proclaimed upon earth by heavenly heralds, none should think of rewarding the promoters of peace, until the Swedish inventor of dynamite, Mr. Nobel, conceived the idea of devoting part of his fortune to that purpose. And he was probably inspired to do so by that noble woman, Baroness von Suttner, who has devoted her life to the cause of peace. These remarks are pertinent, because only a few days ago the Nobel prize for efforts for peace was awarded to William Henry Cremer, publisher of the London Arbitrator.

Alfred Nobel in 1864 made nitroglycerine comparatively safe to handle by combining one part with three parts of Hanoverian "kieselguhr," or rotten stone, thus making the now familiar dynamite. Nobel later invented blasting gelatine and one of the many smokeless powders. It is the immense fortune he amassed on such inventions, that now goes to the encouragement of efforts for peace, and its triumphs. The prizes have been distributed for only three years. The following are the prize-winners: 1901—Roentgen, X-ray discoverer; Van't Hoff, physicist; Behring, discoverer of antitoxin for diphtheria; Sully-Prudhomme, poet. 1902—Lorenz and Zeeman, Dutch physicists; Fischer, of Berlin, investigator of uric acid; Major Donald Ross, investigator of malaria-carrying mosquitoes; Mommsen, the great German historian. 1903—Bequerel, discoverer of the Bequerel rays; M. and Mme. Curie, finders of radium; Arrhenius, Swedish chemist; Dr. Finsen, the Dane, discoverer of the Finsen rays for lupus; Bjornstjerne Bjornson, poet and dramatist.

Anciently it was the custom of monarchs to reward specially the war-makers, those who achieved success in destroying life and property. They were made dukes and princes, and endowed with wealth and honor. To their memory statues were raised, and their names were inscribed upon the pages of history, as heroes. It is a step forward, from this view of merit to the recognition of the more humble, patient labor of the peace-

maker. Human society has slowly advanced from the so-called patriarchal condition, in which the family was the unit, and each head of the family a sovereign. Wars were then more frequent than now, because there were more little "kingdoms," the interests of which often conflicted. When the consolidation of families commenced, the cause of peace was to that extent advanced. With the smaller units amalgamated, diversified interests became common, and, consequently, causes of conflict were removed. This consolidation is still going on, in the interest of peace. Race after race will unite, and finally all the races will know that they are one great brotherhood. That is the grand central idea of the Gospel of Christ. He came for the express purpose of gathering into one the scattered children of the Father. The work is going on before the eyes of the world today, and it will be accomplished. Each time the festival of the year comes, let the song of angels be repeated, for it is as full of meaning today as it was when its beautiful strains first filled the hearts of the shepherds with unspeakable joy and anticipation.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

THE DESERET NEWS has frequently given friendly advice to the labor unions to keep friendly advice to the labor unions to keep from infringing upon the rights of capital and of non-union workmen. We have also uttered words of warning as to probable counter organizations, if the course pursued by some of the unions is continued. The Citizens' Alliance, a branch of which has just been formed in this city, is an indication of that which is bound to come, unless the societies that presume to dictate how employers shall conduct their business, and to prevent employees from working for a livelihood if they will not join with the agitators, reform their rules and mend their ways. This paper has never questioned the right of working people to combine for mutual benefit and protection. It is the disposition to interfere with the freedom of labor and the rights of property that we deprecate and oppose. The organization called the Citizens' Alliance is a sign of a rising bulwark against the encroachments and lawlessness that are injuring society and arresting progress, and if this resisting force is not found sufficient, it will develop into reprisals and hostilities, that will surely result in the suppression if not the destruction of the threatening combinations. We regard the Alliance as an essential means to secure that protection, both to capital and labor, which has become an absolute necessity, and with which individual and corporate employers may and doubtless will become identified, and by means of which a check will be put upon the assumption of hired agitators and the turbulence of frenzied mobs, who, while prating of freedom, are the greatest foes to human liberty. The Citizens' Alliance is a striking sign of these "striking" times.

PUBLIC, NOT PRIVATE.

THE notion that the militia has been ordered and kept in the field for the special benefit of the Utah Fuel company, is one of those flights of fancy which some newspapers indulge in to curry favor with the grumblers and agitators. It is wrong and absurd. The National Guard is preserving the public peace and protecting life and property, thus aiding the civil officers in their sworn duty. And this became absolutely necessary because of the riotous and threatening attitude of the striking miners. It is a public and not a private service that the soldiers are performing, and the Governor should be sustained in his course for the welfare of the State. Don't be obstructive or ridiculous!

As a Christmas issue today's "News" is facile princeps.

Remember the sick and the indigent and let no one suffer in want!

According to Senator Foraker, Senator Hoar is the national custos morum.

A Harvard professor has shed light on scarlet fever. Strange to say it isn't a red light.

A Harvard professor says that the use of slang denotes an active mind. So does lying.

Patent leather shoes are going out of fashion. Evidently the patent has expired.

Men may come and men may go, but the U. S. Shipbuilding company enquiry seems to go on forever.

Thus far the native hue of Senator Hoar's resolution has not been sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought.

The killing of nine stags in a single afternoon shows that if the Kaiser has any ailment it is not "buck fever."

Herbert Spencer said of Carlyle that his conversation was one long damn. And yet there was no way to stop it.

Mr. Bryan, now in Russia, has expressed a desire to have an audience with the Czar. The Czar has not expressed his desire in that matter.

How mighty is the press! The United States Supreme Court has abolished the rule forbidding newspaper men to make notes of arguments before it and discussion by it.

The story that a sergeant of the N. G. U. was discharged by the Excelsior Mercantile Co. at Nephi, because of his absence with the militia, we are pleased to learn is untrue. Particulars will be found in another part of this issue of the "News."

The mother houses at Rome are dissatisfied with the price paid for the friars' lands because they did not get the unearned increment consequent upon the American occupation. The unearned increment has been a stumbling block elsewhere than in the Philippines.

One hundred years ago Dec. 20 France turned over the Louisiana territory to the United States. The price paid was fifteen million dollars. It was the greatest real estate transaction in all history; the price the cheapest and the land the most valuable. It was one of those great events of history that can never be repeated.

"Walk about Zion, and go round about her; tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following. For this God is our God for ever and ever. He will be our guide even unto death." These closing verses of the Forty-eighth Psalm are suggested by the views of our city on the fifth and sixth pages of this Christmas number of the Deseret News.

Advices from London say that the present winter is likely to be extremely hard on the poor of that great city. The Salvation Army is already besieged by more than twice as many applicants for relief as it is usually called upon to provide for at this season of the year, and every night between 3,000 and 4,000 people are being turned away from the "shelters," to sleep in the streets. It is necessary sometimes to look at the conditions prevailing in some parts of the world, in order to appreciate the blessings enjoyed by the people here, where there are none that are actually destitute.

In view of the stories that are being revived about oaths and obligations of a seditious and treasonable character, said to be taken in the solemnization of endowments in "Mormon" Temples, we publish in this issue discourses delivered by two of the First Presidency at the General conference in Salt Lake City, April 6, 1903. In addressing the vast congregation which filled the Tabernacle to overflowing they spoke plainly on that subject, and if what they said was untrue, it would have been noted and resented by thousands present who had received those sacred ordinances. Their testimony is of great value at the present time.

Senator Nelson of Minnesota thinks that we may yet have trouble with Russia concerning the opening of Manchurian ports, and other senators agree with him. Trouble there may be, but not serious. Russia cannot afford to plunge into war with a great power. Revolution is ripe within her own borders. The Finns would hardly let the opportunity of a war pass, to strike for the independence that they have been robbed of. There are Armenians at the other end of the empire, who are dissatisfied and restless. There is a Polish question, too, that possibly can be revived. And Japan is not entirely satisfied with Russia as a neighbor. That country cannot afford to start a serious quarrel with the United States. It would not be safe.