

THE EVENING NEWS

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A CUP OF TEA.

"All wholesome herbs God hath ordained for the constitution, nature and use of man. Every herb in the season thereof; and every fruit in the season thereof; all these to be used with providence and thanksgiving." So says the Word of Wisdom, given by revelation through the Prophet Joseph Smith. Among the "wholesome herbs" which Mother Earth has provided for her ailing children is that stimulating, cheering, widely used and greatly abused production called tea.

The tea shrub flourishes chiefly in China, into which country it was introduced from the Corea about the fourth century, and its cultivation was extended to Japan about the ninth century of the Christian era. It was not until near the close of the sixteenth century that its use became known to Europeans, when the precious leaf made its way to England through India, whence it was forwarded in small packets and commanded as high a price as fifty dollars a pound. Its consumption now is enormous, and it has passed from the sphere of medicine, where it properly belongs, into the position of a general beverage and is regarded by many people as one of the necessities of life.

It is cultivated principally on the side hills, on very rich soil. It is an evergreen, but the leaves for use can only be gathered at certain seasons. The first picking, in April, gives the choicest yield, when the young buds just leaving the furth, afford tender leaves of the finest flavor, almost too delicate to stand the effect of sea transportation. Russia receives a great deal of the spring crop, overland, and pays a very high price for it. The next picking is in May, and the third later on in the year, the last being greatly inferior to the others and the leaves bitter and woody. The flavor is developed by roasting. Green tea for the market is manufactured by roasting immediately after the gathering and by hand-rolling and careful drying. Black tea is prepared in a similar way, but the leaves are allowed to remain for some time exposed to the air before being placed in the pans, and again after the first roasting, finally being dried over a charcoal fire. Thus either black or green tea may be produced from precisely the same kind of leaves.

Various flavors are imparted by the use of odoriferous plants. The green tea prepared for foreign markets are generally colored by artificial means. The dull green of the leaf without this manipulation is not attractive to the eye of the public. The leaf that suits the Chinaman does not please the European or American. Prussian blue, indigo and gypsum are used in China to put on the tint which recommends the product to the "heathens" of Christendom. This opens the way for immense frauds and the poisoning of millions of human stomachs, not sufficient to produce death, but enough to be the parent of many ills from which habitual tea drinkers suffer and wonder what is the matter with them.

Damaged leaves are doctored for the foreign market, and in England and America, old leaves that have been once used are gathered up and fixed to appear "as good as new." At one time a variety known as Lie-tea, was supplied in large quantities from China, and at first was in great demand, as it was of considerable strength and had a good, rough flavor. It was composed of tea dust, leaves of other plants, quartz, oxide of iron and starch. The importation of this mixture for the tea-pot has ceased, but "Christian" ingenuity has taken up what the Mongolian has laid down, and tea is manufactured in both hemispheres in a manner and to an extent which will surprise the uninitiated.

The large hotels and restaurants in the great cities find a ready sale for all the tea leaves they can save for use. These are re-dried on copper plates re-cured by a strong acid, and colored with various ingredients according to the kind desired. Among the articles used for this purpose are sulphate of iron, rose pink, logwood, plumage, starch, copperas, gum, catechu, China clay, soapstone, talc, turmeric, Prussian blue, gypsum, etc. Besides the re-dried leaves, the leaves of the aloë, beech, elm, horse-chestnut, ash, plum, willow, poplar, and hawthorn are "fixed" and mixed with genuine tea. Critical investigation with chemical experiments and the use of the microscope have proven these facts beyond successful contradiction, and cases before the courts in London and New York have revealed the existence of wealthy companies and extensive factories engaged in the manufacture of adulterated tea.

Who knows, when he sips his fragrant "cup of tea" what he is really putting into that delicate organism, his wonderfully constructed body? The peculiar "bouquet" which is so grateful to palate and nostril, may be a deception and a snare, and the strength essential to meet the stomach's cravings a sickness-bearing counterfeit.

Pure tea, and we believe that Utah is favored with this article to a larger extent than most localities, is not intended by the Creator for an article of diet. It is a medicinal plant, and in that sense is a wholesome herb. It should therefore be "used with providence." Its action is principally upon the nervous system. That is why it is so beneficial in some kinds of headache. It quickens the pulse somewhat, and stimulates the

skin to action. It is an antidote for opium and other narcotic poisonings. Persons constantly engaged in the handling and packing of tea, after a time are attacked with giddiness, headache and, finally, if they continue, with paralysis. Its principle properties as shown by analysis are tannin, casein, gum and fibre, with theine, water and minute quantities of mineral, and an aromatic oil which gives it its peculiar flavor. The nutritious matter is mostly thrown away in the waste leaves as hot water extracts but little of it, and the stimulating properties therefore are its chief strength.

If this wholesome herb was used with judgment and skill and that prudence inculcated in the revelation from which we have quoted, many of these numerous disorders which have become so common, particularly among the ladies in these latter times, would be avoided. It is evident that it was not intended by the Creator for a beverage, even in its unadulterated state. And when we consider the deleterious substances with which the manufactured article is coated, we can well understand why, one reason assigned for giving the Word of Wisdom its divine author was, "In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days." "What we have a cup of tea?" Yes, if you need it as a medicine, if the condition of your body requires a stimulant, and judgment, not appetite, should decide this question. And seeing that a great many people will have their cup of tea, no matter what may be said or proven, we hope our merchants and grocers will do all they can to protect the public stomach, and import only those brands which they have reason to believe are genuine, uncolored and unadulterated. If not, there will be sickness in the "comfortable cup," and the degree of death in the pot.

ANTI-MORMON INCONSISTENCY.

We are permitted to make the following extract from a letter received from a lady in Michigan by a friend in this city. The writer is a member of the M. E. Church:

"Please accept my thanks for your information concerning Mormonism. It gave me some new ideas, let me assure you. That the Mormons have been and are much abused and persecuted people I have no doubt. What you have said about the persecutions the Mormons have endured during their residence in the Eastern States has awakened my sympathy for them. I think that if our public men at Washington would lead pure and upright lives themselves, and would try to set examples worthy of imitation by our young men, and try to break up the dens of infamy and shame which abound in all our large cities to such an alarming extent, the nation would have greater cause to honor them than it will if they do not stop to stop to practice polygamy by the 'Mormons.' I think it would be fully as becoming, if our public men would not raise such a hue and cry about polygamy, if they were going to practice polygamy, I would be open and fair about it. I think there are many things more to be feared than polygamy. I never thought much about Mormonism until lately, and probably would not have had the subject been agitated to me by the press. I am sure for my own self that I should never fancy Mormonism, but those that do believe in it have a right to their opinion. Like consistency in all things, and it seems to me the height of inconsistency to see men trying to break up a community composed of people who are peaceable, and who have more real religion than their persecutors, inasmuch as they only practice what they preach, while their persecutors preach monogamy and virtue, and practice polygamy and vice. I could not believe in polygamy, and would not marry a man who did. I should be too selfish to share a husband's love with another woman, I know. But if other people choose to live in that condition, even if it were in my power to do so, I would not prevent them. In all ages of the world there have been discussions arising from a difference of opinion on religious subjects, and in all instances the stronger party seemed to take delight in persecuting the weaker. St. Paul's benediction: 'And now bideth faith, hope and charity, but the greatest of these is charity.' It contains as much truth to-day as when it was pronounced in the church at Corinth long centuries ago, and it is one which our virtuous (?) congressmen could take to heart, when considering the Mormon question, with a great deal of propriety."

BY TELEGRAPH.

FOR WHOLESALE UNION TELEGRAPH LINES.

EASTERN.

The Hull-Bliss Case.
New York, 20.—The republican journals are furious at the decision of the Hull-Bliss case in the House, yesterday, regarding it as a palmarious case of democratic injustice.

The democratic papers are silent, but the Sun says: Curtin's contest for Young's seat (20th Pennsylvania district) will probably be successful.

Not Satisfactory.
The Tribune says, sarcastically: The noble work of meeting democrats in chains to which republicans are elected will now go on with beautiful celerity and regularity. There are abundant precedents in favor of sending any democrat who swears he won't.

Criticism on Senate Committee.
The Times, in a criticism on the Senate committee, says: Of the financial committee, Bayard and Sherman are good, Voorhees and Beck are the wisest of inflationist and repudiator leaders while Wallace is wavering. Of the republicans, Ferry, Jones, and Allison are no better than Wallace.

The Federalist Gate Money Distributed.
Rovell received \$18,898.31; Ennis \$11,938.98; Harriman \$3,679.63. Rovell takes away \$4,000 more than the total gate money for the first six days. The contest for the bill in London was begun a year ago yesterday.

Another Match.
A match is announced for Saturday evening, at Gilmore's Garden,

between Simpson, one of Rowell's trainees, who has a 10 mile record of 57.20, and Norman Taylor, of Vermont, whose record is 58.05, and Joseph Green, of Virginia, whose record is 58.45. Simpson is to run 10 miles, the others 20.

The Bullion Club.
The Bullion Club, last winter, elected ex-Premier Gladstone a member, and has received a reply, saying that the club ought to be made in a medium of not less value than that in which they were constituted. That gold is the best standard is not, in strictness, any standard at all. The club has also letters from Dr. Zahnson, Mexican minister, conveying the promise of the government of Mexico to furnish the club all the official documents relating to the mining of silver in the country, and from Gen. Prado, President of Peru, accepting the election as corresponding member of society, stating he had ordered that all official documents relating to mineral resources should be prepared and forwarded to the club.

Alaska Affairs.
The Sun, to-day, returns to the discussion of Alaska affairs. It says: There is very little to be said about the trouble with the Indians has been exaggerated by the settlers in the hope of getting troops to Sitka and Fort Wangel again for the sake of their custom. At each of these places there are about ten stores, with business enough for two. The steamship company feels the loss of transportation by the withdrawal of the troops, and brings down alarming stories from Alaska with each monthly trip.

The Tribune says: Menotti Garibaldi and his 3,000 followers might well avail themselves of the abundant information which is to be had in this country on unoccupied lands, before setting sail for New Guinea with the intention of establishing a colony on the southern coast of that island. An Australian island, in Texas or California alone these immigrants would find more favorable conditions as to soil, climate and proximity to markets, than exist in the remote country in which they propose to found a new Italy. Moreover, no military organization would be needed in these states for protection.

Let them Roam.
The Cincinnati Commercial says: A new republica ticket has been proposed—Blaine and Booth—for the east and the far west. It will boom equal to Tilden and Thurman. If we must additionally call in the artful aid of alliteration, let Blaine and Booth boom.

Keeneyism.
The Tribune, to-day, says: Keeneyism seems to have become a possession of both political parties in California. The republican state committee filled its address with and lot rhetoric on the Keeney question, and party orators followed the same example in their speeches. Beecher delivered his lecture, "Why the Chinese should not go," to a very large audience in the Reformed Church here, last night.

No Prospect.
The World says: There seems to be no possibility of inducing an English University crew to row in the United States this summer. It publishes a letter from the president of the Cambridge University boat club showing that there is no prospect of the Cambridge crew coming west on account of expenses and other engagements.

New York Stocks.
Money, very active at 4 @ 7; Governmental firm; Stocks closed quiet; Western Union, 103; Quicksilver, 124; Pacific Mail, 100; Wells Fargo, 99; New York Central, 114; Erie, 24; Panama, 128; Union Pacific, 72; Bonds 103; Central Pacific, 109; Sinto Tunnel, 71.

Culinary Explosions.
PORTVILLE, 20.—By an explosion in a Pottsville shaft colliery Louis Murray and James Mulhern were instantly killed, and William Murray severely, and a man named Boas slightly injured.

Destructive Fire.
ST. LOUIS, 20.—A Democrat special says: The town of Pineville, the county seat of McDonald, Mo., was almost entirely destroyed by fire before daylight this morning. Only the court-house, one hotel and two business houses are said to have escaped destruction.

Zamacoena Welcomed.
A formal welcome to St. Louis was given to Honor Zamacoena, the Mexican minister, last night at the great hall of the Merchants' Exchange. Over 3,000 ladies and gentlemen were present. A brief and graceful address of welcome, on behalf of the city and citizens generally, was prepared by Mayor Overholser, but owing to the illness of that gentleman, was read by Hon. George Baird, ex-president of the Merchants' Exchange. To this Senator Zamacoena replied in a short speech, giving a brief sketch of the commercial relations between the Mexican and European countries since the independence of Mexico; the past and present condition of the Mexican minister, last night at the great hall of the Merchants' Exchange. Over 3,000 ladies and gentlemen were present. A brief and graceful address of welcome, on behalf of the city and citizens generally, was prepared by Mayor Overholser, but owing to the illness of that gentleman, was read by Hon. George Baird, ex-president of the Merchants' Exchange. 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