

SECRET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sundays excepted).
Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Charles W. Penrose - Editor.
Morace G. Whitney - Business Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance):
One Year \$2.00
Six Months \$1.25
Three Months \$0.75
One Month \$0.25
Saturday Edition, Per Year \$2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year \$1.00

NEW YORK OFFICE.
In charge of B. F. Cummings, manager
Foreign Advertising from our House Office,
No. 112 Park Row Building, New York.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE.
In charge of F. J. Cooper, 78 Geary St.

Correspondence and other reading matter
for publication should be addressed to the
EDITOR.

Address all business communications
and all remittances to:
THE SECRET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Postoffice of Salt Lake
City as second class matter according to
the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 13, 1905.

AT HIS OLD TRICKS.

A Salt Lake preacher who has figured for several years in the capacity of what is known as a "Mormon-eater," and who has not hesitated at uttering and publishing the most flagrant falsehoods about the Latter-day Saints, their tenets and their leaders, has found a place for the repetition of his stale deceptions in the columns of the Northwestern Christian Advocate. That is a very appropriate place for them. But the repetition of the "Mormon-eater's" lies and vilification of the "Mormons" have formed a specialty for some time in that religious magazine. The reverend (?) calumniator endeavors to show that:

"When the Mormon prophets and apostles use the phrase the 'kingdom of God,' they do not refer to the spiritual reign of Christ, but to the material and political supremacy of the Mormon Priesthood, as the only legal government that can exist in any part of the universe."

In pretended support of this travesty on the "Mormon" faith, he has culled from works by different writers, some sentences and parts of sentences, which, taken away from the explanatory context, are made capable of giving color to his assertions. He also cites remarks said to have been made by "Mormon" authorities, which they never gave voice to or entertained in sentiment. They were copied by him from garbled hostile newspaper reports and express the very reverse of the speakers' declarations. That is an old trick on the part of the sophisticated D. D. and one that is common among other anti-"Mormons" of his ilk.

The purpose of all his exertions in this direction is disclosed by himself at the beginning and the finish of his cunning contribution. It is to bring an influence to bear upon the Senate of the United States to exclude Reed Smoot from his seat in that political body. The Presbyterian divine who makes use of his clerical authority in the sphere of politics, is one of the most inveterate opponents of the "Mormon" church on the ground that it exercises political influence. Of course, it is a terrible thing for a "Mormon" dignitary to enjoy the rights of an American citizen, but a proper Christian thing for a Presbyterian priest to endeavor to direct the Congress of the United States in its political duties.

In the quotations which the casuist pretends to make from the writings alluded to, he is compelled, in order to accomplish his purpose, to insert in parentheses the words, "the Mormon hierarchy," when the intention of the authors of the works which he mutilates, is altogether different from that which the calumniator thus endeavors to convey. The term "The Priesthood" used by those authors, in most instances refers to the principles of divine authority and not to individuals upon whom it is conferred. We believe that the writer of the article in the Advocate understands that very well, and that he wilfully and intentionally perverts the meaning of the sentences he quotes, and to that end intercepts his own language, using the words "the Mormon hierarchy," which are not to be found in any of the works that he distorts and misrepresents.

It will be found on examination of his effusion and those of a similar character from a similar source, that the garbled and isolated extracts used for a shameful purpose, are never taken from the books accepted by the Latter-day Saints as their written standards of doctrine and discipline. Picked out and misused as they are, they are taken from the personal views of the individual writers. Whenever they are not in accord with the recognized standards of the Church, they are not to be considered as authoritative. Those standards are the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants and the Pearl of Great Price. This has been announced publicly times without number. It is well known, too, by the perverters of the truth who try to take advantage of expressions carefully selected from non-standard sources apart from associated explanations, and thus are made to do duty in the "Christian" work of misrepresenting the "Mormon" faith.

On the subject of "the Kingdom of God" and what is meant by the phrase, the First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have promulgated an authoritative explanation, which has been widely published repeatedly, showing that the Church is the spiritual kingdom of our Lord, and that the temporal government which the prophets of old foresaw and predicted would be set up in the latter days, is to be ushered in when He whose right it is to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, shall appear in glory. The word of the Lord by revelation to the Latter-day Saints on this subject is this:

"Wherefore, he subject to the powers that be, for He reigns whose right it is to reign and subdues all enemies under His feet. Behold, the laws which ye have received from my hand are the laws of the Church, and in this light

ye shall hold them forth. Behold here is wisdom." Doctrine and Covenants, page 219.

The authority of the Holy Priesthood is given to those who are called and appointed for the purpose of building up the Church of Jesus Christ and directing its affairs, both spiritual and temporal; but that does not include regulating the affairs of the nation or of individuals in their civil capacity or as citizens of any earthly government. Representations to the contrary are perversions of the truth and are made with intention to embroil the Latter-day Saints with the nation.

We believe in the coming and kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, who will eventually reign over all the earth and all nations, kingdoms and dominions will serve and obey Him. Preparatory to that divine rule, He has established His Church on the earth, and all that is propounded by writers in the Church concerning the literal kingdom which is to come, relates to that future divine dominion when "a king shall reign in righteousness and princes shall rule in judgment" and Christ shall be Lord over all.

As to the Senator from Utah, who is at present the target for the shafts of religious malevolence and hatred and wrath, he was the choice of the party to which he belonged, and is not in the Senate as a representative or prelate of the Church in any sense of the word. He holds the rights of a citizen in common with all others, and was duly elected to the office which he holds, without the taint of fraud or corruption, or any influence but that of his political associates, some of whom, but only a portion, were members of the same Church as that to which he belongs. There is nothing in his election, in his relationship to his religion, in his oath of fidelity to the government and constitution of this land, in his personal character, or in anything that he has ever done, which can be fairly regarded as a disability or as a reason why he should not serve his country and his constituency in any position which they may select him to occupy.

The bigoted relics of iniquitous times occupying sectarian pulpits and writing for religious magazines have no power, thank God, to put the "Mormons" to the rack or the thumb-screw, to bind them with fetters or burn them with fire, to plunge them into loathsome dungeons or torture them physically for Christ's sake. But they use such weapons as are at their command to vilify, misrepresent, attack, abuse and hold up to public scorn and vengeance, men whose character is above just reproach and in their shameful work distort, pervert and misapply doctrines and principles which when stated truthfully, and as they are believed and understood by the Latter-day Saints, will stand the test of reason and scripture, of law and logic, and cannot be controverted or suppressed. They will prevail and flourish when such modern Pharisees and disciples of the Accuser of the brethren as those herein indicated are keeping him company in the regions of utter darkness.

"HE PEDDLED GOSSIP."

With that heading the Northwestern Christian Advocate publishes the following paragraph, which we reproduce as a fitting cap for the head of the "divine" who furnished the article for that paper on which we have made some comments. It is so applicable to his case that we could not forbear clipping it on this very opportune occasion:

"He was a presiding elder, and had abundant opportunities to acquire and distribute gossip. Each quarterly meeting furnished him a lot of interesting material to relate in confidence to the next preacher he met. It was in this way that he got his gossip. He carried nothing else. He finally lost the power to do anything else well. His light failed. Preachers and churches looking for information and inspiration got gossip. The quality even of that grew steadily worse, as the man himself did. The habit became fixed upon him. He carried a district of gossiping preachers. The men who could not stand it got out. The ministry degenerated. The kingdom languished and almost perished. Vision ceased, with the usual result. Part of the gossip was meant, clean and unclean. But he peddled it. This is that presiding elder's biography in three words: 'He peddled gossip.'—R."

PAN-AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The third international congress of American republics will meet in Rio Janeiro next month. It will be an important gathering. Secretary Root has announced his intention of attending at the head of the delegates from this country, and each of the countries in this hemisphere will be well represented. The congress is the visible expression of the pan-American idea, and we believe it is a means of fostering and strengthening that idea.

The suggestion has been made that this congress consider some plan for the formation of a pan-American council to which could be entrusted the duty and responsibility of maintaining the Monroe doctrine. That is a good suggestion. Such a council would be in a position to speak in behalf of a united America. Its existence would be a guarantee to our neighbor republics, that that doctrine is but a cover for certain aggressive plans of the United States. It would be a strong connecting link between the different republics in this part of the world, and might prove the beginning of closer relations of both a financial and political character. For these, and other reasons we hope the suggestion to form a pan-American council may be realized.

But whether any step is taken now in this direction, or not, the congress will be of great benefit to all represented. It will bring all Americans closer together. There are many trade opportunities in Latin America, and as the governments become stable and property rights secure, they will be seized by American capitalists more generally than now. American capital will be invested in railroads, mines, docks, factories, farms and ranches, and the interests will be so closely in-

terwoven that some sort of a common council will be needed to look after them. The pan-American congress is a splendid beginning of a pan-American assembly, which may become a model to the rest of the world, just as the American Constitution has become a pattern to all who strive for the establishment of liberty among men.

THE SULTAN ACCEPTS.

And now the Sultan is said to have given in to the European powers, and accepted the plan they propose for the management of the Macedonian finances. We believe Abdul Hamid insisted on representation on the European Macedonian commission and carried his point, as to that.

This should insure a better era for that part of European Turkey known as Macedonia. There should be no further arbitrary levy of taxes. The condition of the farmers should be bettered, as life and property become secure. Brigandage should be suppressed, and Macedonia should be prosperous as Egypt and other happy countries liberated from Turkish misrule.

It is quite possible that Austria has maneuvered this European move, in order to obtain paramount influence in Macedonia without the expenses of a war, and without the risk of European interference. It is possible that Austria is merely trying the Russian tactics for the annexation of Manchuria. This is the opinion expressed in Germany. But, even if that is the case, Austrian influence is preferable to Turkish. The scheme is to appoint a fiscal commission with power to draw up a budget and collect taxes, and also to reorganize the police force throughout the country.

And now that Europe is, for the time being at least, pacified by Turkish promises, the occasion would seem to be opportune for the United States to ask for a complete account. For a long time our government has tried to secure fair treatment of Americans and American institutions in Turkey, but in vain, notwithstanding fair words. About a year ago we sent ships to Turkish waters to enforce our demands. The American minister to Turkey, Mr. Leishman, reported that the demands of our government had been granted by the Sultan. But from that time to the present, throughout the empire American institutions, it is said, have been directly discriminated against and the privileges and immunities readily conceded to similar institutions belonging to other countries are open and emphatically denied our own. It is claimed that Turkish officials are beginning a campaign of open discrimination against Americans and American institutions.

The whole question ought to be taken up again now. If it is found, as claimed, that American missionaries have presented unjust claims, or that they demand more than their rights guaranteed by treaties, nothing more is to be said on the matter. But if they insist only on their rights, and on justice, our government should speak in their behalf a language that cannot be misunderstood.

Balfour is very liberal in his condemnation of the Liberal ministry.

The Mac's and not the Napoleons of finance it will be in the future.

Lord Rosebery's patting on the back of the Liberal cabinet looks much like a slap at Campbell-Bannerman.

It is most likely that there will be many canal emergency appropriation bills before the canal itself emerges.

If there are any of the life insurance companies that have not made campaign contributions they should stand up and say so.

Syracuse university has been given \$250,000 for a stadium and \$100,000 for a library. Learning must follow where athletics lead.

When Chaplain Hale prays that senators may be given strength to bear each other's burdens, he comes pretty near being personal.

The New York life insurance investigation continues to furnish so many sensations and surprises that it is becoming a joy forever.

Emperor William has ordered that all his chauffeurs must be total abstainers. Automobileing alone is dangerous enough without any added stimulus.

Colonel Mann, the publisher of Town Topics, says his paper is intended to uplift society. The public impression right along has been that T. T. was intended to blow up society.

The London council tore down Temple Bar and erected a monument to the original monument. In much the same light Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte seems to view the frigate Constitution.

A dispatch from Constantinople says the Sultan has accepted the scheme for the financial control of Macedonia as embodied in the last collective note of the powers. If the powers are wise they will not forget what Burns said about the schemes of men and mice.

The verdict and sentence in the case of Midshipman Merriether will generally be approved. It will be hard to convince the public that fights between the midshipmen have not been winked at by the naval academy authorities, or at least that the authorities have not refused to see what others saw, and which they might have seen had they been so minded. Much, if not most, of the trouble at the academy has arisen from the insane and absurd "code of honor" which in most cases is a code of tomfooleries.

A LARGE ENOUGH NAVY.

Buffalo Courier.

Some of the new ships have not reached the water before being declared obsolete by the persons who are insistent for the biggest navy. The biggest vessels that the strained resources of a great nation can buy, so that America may keep to the front in the ridiculous race with other maritime powers. Whereas a few years ago the most powerful ships known cost two or three millions, such battleships as are now planned will cost with their armament from eight to ten millions—prodigious sums, which might far better be devoted to permanent improvements than expended for warships that in a few years will be worthless for any purpose. And the strongest reason for checking the wild policy of naval expansion is that the country does not need any more ships for national defense.

THE OLDEST NEWSBOY.
Chicago Chronicle.

The oldest newsboy in the world is to be found at Joliet and he is a very familiar figure to passengers at the railroad depot. He is Orlanus Page and he was born in 1839. Although approaching his ninety-seventh year, he is never missing from his post and is always ready to supply the public with his stock of newspapers. He maintains the most remarkable extent, as he rises at 4 o'clock every morning in order to meet the early trains. He is also engaged until late in the evening.

A HIGH SEAT IS HARD TO GET.

Baltimore American.

Poor William Jennings Bryan. He tried to buy the way seated on which Admiral Togo sat when he attended the jubiliations over his victories, but as the chair had been used for that sort of ceremony 200 years it naturally did not happen to be for sale.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Among the subjects that occupy the handsome pages of Recreation for this month are: "My Death Valley Game Preserve," Harry H. Dunn; "The Great White Bull," F. L. Harding; "December," Carolyn B. Lyman; "The Mystery of the Blue Goose," Dan Beard; "A Curious Letter Box," Tappan Adney; "Making Pictures of the Home Folks," Felix Bayard; "The Mystery of the Blue Goose," Dan Beard; "An Owl of the North," C. William Beebe, and "A Deer Hunt in the Hills of Alabama," John Boyd.—22 West Twenty-fourth street, New York.

Human Life for the current month contains several interesting articles. Among these are, "Miss Helen Gould and her Charities," and "Confessions of a Newspaper Man." There are several papers on current topics, and numerous illustrations, and the number is in every respect up to its usual high standard.—Human Life Publishing Co., Boston.

The first number of the Mother's Magazine has made its appearance among the publications of the season. It is handsomely illustrated, carefully edited and makes a fine appearance in its artistic cover. The editor is Marion Adams, said to be selected for the position on account of her ability and training for that class of literary work, and she is assisted by an able staff.

The magazine opens with "Current News of Interest to Mothers." It has an "Open Parliament for Mothers," a Christmas story entitled, "A Mother's Home Decorations," and numerous other topics of interest to the gentle rulers of the American home.—David C. Cook Publishing Co., Elgin, Ill.

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60c grade for	40c	\$1.25 grade for	50c
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