

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sunday Excepted.)
Corner of South Temple and East Temple
Streets, Salt Lake City, Utah.
Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager
SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance.)
Six Months \$9.00
One Year \$16.00
Three Months \$5.00
One Month \$1.50
Saturday Edition, Per Year \$2.00
Semi-Weekly, Per Year \$2.00

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

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

SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 24, 1907.

CONFERENCE NOTICE.

The Seventy-eighth semi-annual general conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will assemble in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Friday, Oct. 4, 1907, at 10 a. m. A full attendance of the officers and members of the Church is hereby requested.

On account of the general conference being held on the first Sunday of October, it is suggested that the last Sunday in September be observed as fast day in the Salt Lake, Kenner, Liberty, Pioneer, Jordan, and Granite stakes.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,
JOHN R. WINDER,
ANTHONY H. LUND,
First Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

NO PROOF YET.

The local daily dispenser of falsehood, the other day, made the unsupported charge that the Prophet Joseph Smith and his associates invented a revelation "commanding polygamy," to cover up their wrong-doings. We called attention to the fact that the charge was entirely unsupported by historic evidence; that, in fact, there is no revelation "commanding" polygamy, and that the revelation on the plurality of wives was given in answer to a prayerful inquiry concerning the principles upon which the ancient Patriarchs were justified before God. We quoted eminent authority stating that "there is not one word in the revelation, nor was there one word in the Prophet's teachings other than purity and self-sacrifice."

The Tribune took exception to this, but, instead of giving us any documentary proof of its assertion, the sheet argued that the "News" was breaking pledges by quoting from an authentic biography of the Prophet Joseph. Hurling this idiotic charge back, we repeated that the Prophet Joseph was a man who died with clear conscience, void of any offense toward God or man.

Now the sheet offers a "proof." It has discovered that the "revelation" referred to speaks of the "signs" of the Prophet, and this is taken to mean immorality, as if there were no other "signs." The Tribune quotes:

"Behold I have seen your sacrifices, and will forgive all your sins; I have seen your sacrifices in obedience to that which I have told you; go, therefore, and I make a way for your escape."

It does not quote the complete sentence, but cuts it off before the full meaning is conveyed. It quotes again:

"And let mine handmaid Emma receive all those that I have given unto my servant Joseph."

Here, too, the sheet fails to quote the words: "—and who are virtuous and pure before me." Then it quotes again:

"And I command my handmaid, Emma Smith, to abide and cleave unto my servant Joseph, and to none else. But if she will not abide this commandment, she shall be destroyed, saith the Lord; for I am the Lord thy God, and will destroy her, if she abide not in my law."

"And again, verily I say, let mine handmaid forgive my servant Joseph his trespasses."

After these more or less garbled quotations the sheet triumphantly exclaims:

"So the 'revelation' itself is ample evidence in support of the Tribune's contention that Joseph Smith had sinned in his amorous escapades with numerous women."

The reasoning here offered is, briefly stated, that because a revelation mentions sin and trespasses, therefore it had reference to "amorous escapades." If there were any virtue in that argument, it would be easy to prove every Christian man and woman guilty of "amorous escapades." In many churches the litany is read: "O God the Father of Heaven, have mercy upon us miserable sinners; O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us miserable sinners; O God the Holy Spirit, Comforter of the world, have mercy upon us miserable sinners." Does that mean that the entire congregation that repeats those prayers consists of men and women guilty of "amorous escapades"? Yes, if the Tribune logic were anything but nonsense. But there are, as every Christian knows, other sins and trespasses.

The Prophet says of himself that in his early youth he frequently fell into many foolish errors, but he added that no one need suppose him guilty of any great or malignant sins. In a letter to Oliver Cowdery that appeared in the Messenger and Advocate in 1844, the Prophet wrote, in part:

"—as my accusers are, and have been forward to accuse me of being guilty of gross and outrageous violations of the peace and the good order of the community, I take the occasion to remark that, though, as I have said above, as is common to most, or all youth, I fell into many vices and follies, I have not, neither can I be sustained, in truth, been guilty of wrong-doing or injuring any man or society of men; and those imperfections to which I allude, and for which I have often had occasion to lament,

were in light, and too often, vain mind, exhibiting a foolish and trifling conversation."

This may serve as an illustration of the fact that even foolish conversations are classed as "sin" and "trespasses" in the Church of God. It is certain that the Prophet went to his death with the clear conscience of a martyr. He said: "I shall die innocent, and it shall yet be said of me: He was murdered in cold blood."

The doctrine preached by the Tribune, that the founders of the religion in which the Latter-day Saints believe were immoral men, is clearly most pernicious, and cannot be passed by in silence. It is a doctrine that, if accepted, would furnish an excuse for many of the young and inexperienced to go in the forbidden paths for which the Tribune so diligently is paving the way in this community—the paths that lead to destruction and misery. The Tribune, as we have proved from its own columns, has advocated the action and the brother as effective anti-Mormon agencies, and this unsupported attack upon the character of the Prophet Joseph is but in line with that policy. It is an encouragement to sin.

The founders of this Church were men of God against whose character no authentic evidence has ever been found. The testimony of President George Q. Cannon remains unimpeached: "The teaching of the revelation has been a test of personal holiness. The men who have seen in this commandment a holy and exalted duty and who obeyed in meekness and purity, have lived by their faith and have come off triumphant; while those who have sought to minister to evil passions have sunk and been cast out. There is not one word in the revelation, nor was there one word in the Prophet's teaching, other than purity and self-sacrifice." It was no license to sin.

We are not arguing for a practice that is no longer commended or endorsed or, in any manner, inculcated by the Church. But in the interest of truth and morality we denounce as false, because contrary to evidence, the charges of the Tribune. All who were personal friends of the Prophet testify to the moral purity of his character. He himself faced the portals of eternity declaring his innocence of offense. And he sealed his testimony with his blood. Against these facts, what does the unsupported charge of a character assassin amount to? But, it is dangerous to lower the moral standards of the men who have a prominent place in history, especially when history furnishes no warrant for so doing; for it is certain that to many who admire such men, it will be easier to imitate their alleged shortcomings than their virtues, though the latter be ever so brilliant and attractive. It is bad business that deserves the most severe rebuke. It is all the more contemptible when done for political purposes.

OPTIMISM IN EUROPE.

The reports from The Hague are no longer as full of hope as they were a short time ago. The proposition to make the court a permanent institution, which came from Washington and which seemed sure of adoption at one time, has met with unexpected resistance in committee, owing to the failure of the members to agree on technicalities. It was feared a few days since that the scheme would "be talked to death by the preposterous inequality of such orators as Senator Barbosa, of Brazil." That seems to have happened. Brazil's representative has been resolute in demanding that every nation should be entitled to select one member of the court, a position which the leading European powers have absolutely refused to consider.

But even if this proposition ultimately fails, the congress is not without its effects upon the events of the world. The efforts of Secretary Root and Mr. Choate to bring the matter before the representatives of the world, will not be in vain. They have had the courage to plant publicly and officially the seed of the science in international law, and their friends may hope to see it flourish in more friendly surroundings in the future.

In the meantime, the cause of peace is the subject of sweet songs in many capitals. The Anglo-Russia treaty aims at the removal of friction in all parts of the world where English and Russian interests have clashed. It amounts, it is said, in effect, to the crowning word of peace in the great task to which King Edward set himself on coming to the throne. It is even thought that the French government is preparing the way for more friendly relations with Germany. Europe is optimistic. Is it the quiet before a storm?

A DEAD LETTER THERE.

We have mentioned, in these columns, the New York law which went into effect this month, making it a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment and fine, for a married man or woman to violate their marriage covenant. In the only case that so far has reached a trial the jury failed to agree. The law was intended to lessen the number of divorces, by making the statutory offense a crime for which both a fine and imprisonment could be imposed. Under the old order of things married persons who were tired of living together, could arrange a scene, or agree on a charge of the statutory offense, and a divorce was secured. This practice would be stopped, it was thought, when the consequence would be not only divorce, but imprisonment. But if the jury will not sustain the law, it will fall in its purpose.

That the general public is but little interested in the conditions the new law meant to meet, may be gathered from the following comment by the New York World of September 19:

"From the nature of the case the law must remain, no matter how earnest may be the endeavor of the authorities to enforce it. It is a dead letter. Divorce is the inevitable accompaniment of the offense, no long as notoriety is avoided there is no motive except blackmail which would prompt an outsider to play the informer. Even the injured person would in the majority of cases prefer silence to public scandal. A jury will always be reluctant to find guilty of an offense incurring a full penalty a man or woman who, outside of private morals, is a

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useful and law-abiding member of the community.

"Absence of the motive of public policy in asserting out a warrant may be inferred in the Hirsch case. The injured wife said to the reporters that she brought action at this time because of repeated efforts of her husband to kidnap their child. If her material love had not been harrowed by these alarms neither she nor any one else would have made the complaint."

"Nobody will ever know what was made of the new law to collect blackmail, because blackmail falls when a case is made public. Revenge, jealousy, the desire to get rid of objectionable neighbors or the wish to obtain evidence in divorce suits, and other personal motives, may cause a few cases to be tried in court. But in the end the law will become a dead letter after the manner of similar statutes."

"Morality is not enacted by Legislatures."

Some truths are expressed in these paragraphs, which the defamers of Utah would do well to consider.

New York has a lying society. It seems to be lying low.

In British Columbia the "yellow peril" is to the yellow races.

Beggars shouldn't be choosers nor seekers of franchises dictators.

General Grupe has demolished the camps of the Moorish scamps.

The striking telegraphers must find time hanging heavily on their hands.

Vienna is said to be the best bred city in Europe. Its bread is the most famous.

Mr. Marconi has arrived in Newfoundland. Presumably he came by wireless.

In politics there is a difference in the booming up and the looming up of candidates.

The Standard Oil trust is being brought to book, and its officials are bringing its books.

And Keweenaw Mountain Lands all in his glory frowned down on the flag of the oil companies.

Indiana labor organizations have decided to take part in politics. New look out for blocks of twenty-five.

Down in Georgia, which has gone "dry," they are saying "water, water everywhere, but never a 'drop' to drink."

Millionaires are the result of prosperity, and if there are too many millionaires there is not too much prosperity?

The organ of the anti-Mormon party says that Fred T. Dubois is not a lawyer. True indeed. He is only a "Statesman out of a job."

"Keep the Philippines!" says Admiral Dewey, who took them. The admonition is hardly necessary as there is no serious thought of letting them go.

Mrs. Yeamens, America's oldest actress, will retire from the stage in November. There must be ballet girls older than she, her age being but seventy-two years.

Coal prices this winter are to be record breakers. They will also break many people whose means are very limited but who must have coal or freeze.

Copper needs a little burnishing up. Cassie Chadwick, who used so many blinds to hoodwink people, has herself gone blind. In a way she has been hoist by her own petard.

A local court is going to grant a wife a divorce because the husband will not speak to her, no other cause being alleged. It isn't a statutory ground but seemingly a dumb-as-a-stature ground on which it will be granted.

So far as immediate practical results are concerned, the second Hague Peace conference doubtless is a failure, but the ideas there put forth will be as broad cast upon the waters; and after many days they will return.

THE LONG "A" IN LUSITANIA.

Philadelphia Record.
The first trip of the Lusitania has aroused no little discussion as to the pronunciation of the ship's name, many well-known speakers assisting on giving it the sound of Lusitania, to rhyme with Britannia. Americans, however, should have no difficulty with this fine old Latin word, as its "a" is sounded like the "a" in "Tate," and the name rhymes correctly with our own Pennsylvania, Campania, Lucania and all other words with the single "a" as a prefix. Ancient Spain, then itself styled "Hispania," this province corresponded pretty nearly to modern Portugal, and is now used, indeed, as a political synonym of the present Portugal. Lusitania has long been famous for its grapes, and readers of Tennyson will recall the poet's use of the name in his "Lycial Monologue," written at the Cock Tavern, his favorite London haunt. The first stanza runs:

O plump head waiter at the Cock
To whom I must resort,
How goes the time? 'Tis 5 o'clock,
Go fetch a pint of port, I beg,
But let it not be such as that
You set before champagne-cases.
But such whose father—grape grow fat
On Lusitanian Summers.

A knot, or nautical mile, is considerably more than a land mile; to be exact, about 26 yards more, or roughly every seven knots are equal to almost eight miles. It means that the Lusitania has a speed of about 30 miles an hour, as fast as the ordinary suburban trains exceed that rate of speed, it gives a vivid and graphic idea of the great ship's progress.

HINDOOS NO LESS MENACING THAN JAPS.

San Francisco Bulletin.
The riots against the Hindoo laborers at Bellingham are the first symptom of a new racial problem that will afflict this short while, the entire Pacific Coast. Hindoos are flocking to this country in large numbers. They are accustomed to live at the point of starvation, and as laborers they will underbid and outdo the whites, but the Japanese as well. They are British subjects, moreover, and have the treaty rights of Englishmen. Within a year or two the United States will be compelled to consider the admission of definite and decisive policy toward Asiatic immigration and stick to it. It is inevitable that the policy of this government, no matter whether it may displease other powers, shall be one of exclusion. Students, tourists and other non-competitors in the labor market may be admitted, but laborers must be kept out. This policy will be

forced on us by the instinct of self-preservation. The opposition to the Asiatic laborer springs not from mere racial bigotry, but from a clear perception that unrestricted immigration of that kind will lead to intolerable social and industrial evils. To exclude Japanese and Hindoo may seem a harsh measure, but it is better to adopt that measure, no matter what it leads to, than to permit the development on the Pacific Coast of a situation similar to that in the black belt of the South; the situation of two mutually antagonistic races occupying the same territory and competing with each other industrially and socially.

OUR ASSURED PROSPERITY.

Chicago Record-Herald.
Ex-Judge Gary, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel Corporation, is the latest witness to the solidity of our business and industry. Undisturbed by the low prices for steel, and encouraged rather than worried by the falling off in orders, he predicts solid, substantial prosperity for the future. Mr. Gary estimates the amount of capital which the country has needed and couldn't get at from \$50,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000. Not being able to get it, a slowing down of business was desirable. That is what we have had, and the adjustment is being easily and successfully made. He predicts "without qualification" that the investing public will soon be appreciating the exceptional opportunities it now has to pick up good bargains in stocks. All this has been known to every careful observer, even since before the time that the Wall street outcry against the policies of President Roosevelt was at its loudest.

JUST FOR FUN.

Nautical Vernacular.
Said the boarding house keeper, "Ah, me!
I should love to sail over the sea,
But I never can go on the ocean, and so
I must always a land lady be."
"Though this boarding house may be my pride,
It is not like a ship on the tide,
Yet I please today there is one slow-away
Right here, on the star-boarder side."
—Harper's Weekly.

Didn't Try a Fork.

Guest (to waiter)—I can't eat this soup.
Waiter takes it away and brings another kind of soup.
Guest—I can't eat this soup.
Waiter, angrily but silently, for the third time brings another kind.
Guest (again)—I can't eat this soup.
Waiter, furious, calls the hotel proprietor.
Proprietor (to Guest)—Why can't you eat this soup?
Guest (quietly)—Because I have no spoon.—London Tit-Bits.

The Ceaseless Round.

Life is a great expense account.
A ceaseless round of toll.
No sooner is the ledger paid
Than we have to order coal.
—Detroit Free Press.

Trying to Forget.

"Beg pardon, sir," said the waiter, with outstretched palm, "but 'aven't you forgotten something?"
"No," replied the departing guest; "but I'm trying to forget it. Good day!"—Catholic Standard.

Just a Way They Have.

Men seldom die for women.
But we notice now and then
That a few gray hairs cause
Some women to dye for men.
—Chicago News.

Paid For.

Stela—Do you believe that Miss Olden came by her complexion honestly?
Mabel—I know she did. I saw the receipted bill for it.—Chicago News.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The migration of the elephant from the ancestral home in the Payum desert all over Europe and through North and South America, according to Prof. Henry Fairfield Osborn of Columbia, is, with the single exception of the peregrinations of the horse, the most remarkable feat of travel in the whole history of creation. The story of this migration is told by Prof. Osborn for readers of the October Century, as part of his article on the discoveries of the recent African expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, of which expedition he was in charge. "The Outlook for Tariff Reform" is discussed by Congressman Samuel W. McCord. Mr. McCord's paper is primarily into the question of schedules, believing "there would be a difference of opinion even among Republicans as to the extent and character of the revision;" but he declares strongly for free trade in lumber and also for the abolition of the tax upon works of art. The director of the Cornell University College of Agriculture, Prof. L. H. Bailey, has another of his valuable papers dealing with American youth and American farms, discussing this time "The Common Schools and the Farm Youth." Gen. Howard gives some intimate memories of Grant. Of the illustrations to be specially noted are four pages by Thornton Oakley picturing "The Lion in Port," a portrait of the sculptor, Saint-Jacques, and the painting by Ellen G. Emmet; another of Timothy Cole's new series of wood engravings of French masters; Jean Baptiste Simon Chardin's "The Blessing," and, as frontispiece, a reproduction in color of Mr. Sigismund de Ivanowski's portrait of Miss Eleanor Robson as Constance in Robert Browning's "In a Balcony." There are new chapters of the stories, "The Frenchman's Boy" by Burnett's "The Shuttle," and Elizabeth Abbott's "Come and Find Me," and short stories by Owen Johnson, Dorothy Deskin, Evelyn Van Buren, Robert Hays Schaffner, and Andre Warner and Harriet A. Nash.—New York.

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9 ft. x 12 ft. Smith's Saxony Axminster, regular \$30.00, this week	\$24.00
8 ft. 3 in. x 10 ft. 6 in. Smith's Best Axminster, regular \$27.50, this week	\$21.50
8 ft. 3 in. x 10 ft. 6 in. Roxbury Brussels, regular \$27.50, this week	\$21.50
8 ft. 3 in. x 10 ft. 6 in. Roxbury Brussels, regular \$24.00, this week	\$18.00
9 ft. x 11 ft. Smith's Tapestry Brussels, regular \$15.00, this week	\$12.00
9 ft. x 12 ft. Best Hoge's Fiber Rug, regular \$15.00, this week	\$11.50

During next week the prices on all small Rugs will be greatly reduced.

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