

**DESERET 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  
**Horace G. Whitney** . . . . . Business Manager

**SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.**  
(In Advance).  
One Year . . . . . \$2.00  
Six Months . . . . . \$1.25  
Three Months . . . . . \$0.75  
One Month . . . . . \$0.25  
Semi-Weekly Edition, Per Year . . . . . \$2.00  
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In charge of B. F. Cummings, manager.  
Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office,  
112 Park Row Building, New York.

**SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE.**  
In charge of E. 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 DESERET NEWS**  
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered as second class matter according to the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.  
SALT LAKE CITY, - SEPT. 14, 1905.

**A SPLENDID ARTICLE.**

Out West for September, published in Los Angeles and San Francisco, has a valuable paper entitled "The Truth About Mormonism." It will be read with pleasure by friends of Utah, and will surely add to the knowledge of the prejudice that has been aroused recently against the Latter-day Saints. Out West announces that while it takes no part in the controversy about "Mormonism," it is glad, apart from social religious questions, "to open its pages to a frank and unadorned statement from the executive head of a body which has had so great an influence on the economic development of the West, as has the Mormon Church." The magazine therefore prints in full a contribution on the important subject named, from President Joseph F. Smith.

The distinguished writer, after thanking the editor as a "real American, one of the upright unerring men of the West, for the privilege of making, by the latter's request, through the columns of his fair and fearless magazine, a plain and truthful statement concerning "Mormonism," takes up the recent charges of "commercialism," "tyranny of the Mormon tithing system," the cruelties said to be practiced by the Church upon the alleged "dupes and victims of the hierarchy," &c., &c.

He admits, to begin with, that "Mormonism" has a commercial or material side, but shows that it is not, by any means the largest or most important feature of the system. But he affirms that "the sacred system of government having in view the salvation of the bodies as well as the spirits of men, can successfully accomplish its mission without being temporal as well as spiritual in character." And further that, "It has always been a cardinal feature with the Latter-day Saints, that a religion which has not the power to save people temporally and make them prosperous and happy here, cannot be depended upon to save them spiritually, to exalt them in the life to come."

President Smith explains the nature and offices of the two Priesthoods in the Church, the Aaronic and Melchizedek, showing that they furnish "a full equipment for the government and conduct of the Church both spiritually and temporally." He also testifies to the manner in which they were bestowed by heavenly messengers. A brief outline of the system called the United Order follows, with an account of the building of temples, schools, mercantile and publishing houses and industrial enterprises of various kinds, by the Church at Kirtland, Ohio, and in Missouri. The introduction of the law of tithing in 1838 is set forth, and also the organization of the Stakes of Zion in which Apostles as well as Bishops performed a variety of labors for the benefit of the Church, both spiritual and temporal.

The gathering of the Latter-day Saints from various parts of the earth, the work necessary to be done that they might be a self-sustaining people, involving all kinds of legitimate business under the direction of the head of the Church, who laid out cities as well as gave spiritual instructions, forms an interesting part of the article. The martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith and the consequent dissolution of the First Presidency and the conducting of the Church by the Twelve Apostles with President Brigham Young at their head, is related, also the enlistment of the Mormon Battalion, the settlement of the Salt Lake Valley and the reorganization of the First Presidency, the great work performed by President Brigham Young, and the prosperity that attended the people through his industrial work, performed as a part of his prophetic office and calling.

The story is told of the establishment of colonies, cities, towns and villages, the introduction of irrigation, the building of mills, factories and mercantile houses, the sending forth of missionaries to various nations, the gathering in of the Latter-day Saints by ship, and railroad, and hundreds of teams hauling them from the Missouri river, the manufacturing of iron, the raising of cotton, the founding of woolen mills and the establishment of various kinds of industrial enterprises, all under the supervision of President Brigham Young, acting also in his spiritual capacity as the prophet, seer and revelator to the Church, as well as trustee-in-trust for its properties.

The history of the Church under its successive presidencies after the death of Brigham Young is related, with a brief account of the troubles between the Saints and the National Government, and it is shown clearly that the so-called "commercialism," the system of tithing, the important organizations for the commercial interests of the people are nothing new, but were carried on and conducted under the authority

of the Church previous to the succession to the Presidency of the present leader, and that their policy and procedure were in full accord with those of their predecessors.

The character and aims of the present prominent opponents of the Church, who have invented the charges that are now hurled against the Church and its President are vigorously exposed, and some of their infamous falsehoods are denied and refuted. As to the tithing, it is shown that it is a purely "voluntary offering, willingly and cheerfully made by the Latter-day Saints in obedience to what they hold to be a law of God." That "the leaders pay tithing as well as the people. There is no element of extortion in it, and no shadow of oppression hangs over it," President Smith states further.

"The times of the Saints have been used largely from the very beginning for the support of the poor, the relief of the sick and afflicted, the care of the widows and the orphans. Other purposes for which these funds have been expended are, the building of temples and houses of worship, the emigration of the poor, the founding of hospitals and other benevolent institutions, and the maintenance of Church schools throughout the States of Zion, now reaching from Canada to Mexico. Outside missions have also been aided in various ways."

The following paragraph, we also quote, verbatim, from President Smith's article:

"The Priesthood of the Church, though possessing a legitimate claim upon the revenues as the revelation upon which plainly shows, have never pressed that claim, but have preferred to earn their own living and support their families by private labor, while giving their services gratuitously to the cause of Christ. In the Priesthood, and never has been, even our foreign missionaries usually travel, without purse or scrip. Only those who give their entire time to the Church, and have no other income, receive regular assistance from its treasury, and even this is limited to the actual needs of such workers and their families. The princely salaries paid to high civic officers, railroad magnates, insurance managers, and leading men of affairs throughout the country, are utterly unknown among the Latter-day Saints. I do not exaggerate when I say, without fear of successful contradiction, that our leading men, Presidents, Apostles and Bishops, who from the first have given their lives and labors in this cause, had they employed their time and talents in other pursuits, and sought their own aggrandizement, would have been able to command, as their reasonable compensation, many times the amount they have received from the Church for their simple support while devoting themselves unselfishly to its interests."

President Smith shows that all the talk about "heartless hierarchy," "oppressing the widow and the orphan," "grinding the face of the poor," "plotting treason against the government" and the rest of the common accusations hurled against the leaders of the Church are "so much burning and clapping, but are not taken seriously by the unimposed 'dupes and victims' not of the Mormon Priesthood, but of their libelers and defamers." The President concludes his very strong, able and convincing contribution to Out West with the following:

"Everything within the Church is done by common consent. Priesthood and people are united and possess each other's confidence. Withal, the Mormon people are shrewd and sensible. They know who their friends are and their eyes are open to the trickery and true inwardness of those who profess love and sympathy for them in order to alienate them from their leaders. They have no use for hypocrites, for the hypocrite and the traitor will never be won from 'Mormonism' by the modern Pharisee, who preaches truth and charity while he practices lying and persecution."

This number of Out West is truly pointed on first-class paper and is profusely and beautifully illustrated. The article accompanying President Smith's article are the Temple, the Tabernacle, the Beehive and Lion Houses, the Theater, the L. D. S. University buildings, the Brigham Young monument, the Woolen Mills at Provo, the Utah Sugar Mills at Lehi, the Dr. Groves' Latter-day Saints' Hospital, and a splendid portrait of President Joseph F. Smith. The whole number is of more than usual interest, and we commend it to our readers everywhere. It can be obtained at the Deseret News Book Store.

#### THE POWER OF LOVE.

The September number of Human Life is largely devoted to articles on women teachers, and the lessons conveyed are of timely interest, as the public schools have just opened. Among other papers there is a character study of Miss Kate E. McWilliams, who has taught school in Brooklyn for fifty years. The following is an extract from that article. Miss McWilliams is the narrator.

"Once I had a lad boy in my school, he was big and mischievous. I talked to him and he became ambitious to have the star attached to his daily report, with us the star is placed on the right hand of the report. I told him that if he did not get it, I would not give him a star. 'Did you try, David?' I asked. 'Did you try real hard?' 'Yes, I tried, oh so hard to be perfect, but I couldn't get the star.' 'Then I will privately to the teacher of his room and asked to see his exercises. I could see that he had tried. 'Why didn't you give David a star to-day?' I asked. 'He wanted it so badly.' 'Why, I couldn't give him a star on such writing as that,' she replied. 'Yes, I know, it's not so very good, but it's better than he usually writes, and you can see he tried. If you had only given him the star, too, you would have won that boy.' The next morning I called David to me and said, 'Now you try real hard again and see if you don't get the star.' And he did try and he got it, too. Yes, I think kindness is the greatest of all gifts for a teacher."

#### THE CHINESE BOYCOTT.

Some of the papers that at first belittled the Chinese agitation against American trade in that country on account of our Chinese exclusion laws, are now treating it as a most serious movement, and suggest the propriety of retreating in a measure, by making it unpleasant for the Chinese minister in Washington. They claim that, as he is encouraging the fight on this country, he ought to be made to explain his connection with it, and if unable to do so satisfactorily, he ought to be proclaimed, they argue, persona non grata.

#### RUSSIA'S WEALTHY CHURCH.

Recent discussion in the press regarding Russia's ability to pay a war indemnity lends interest to an article in a London paper, on the immense wealth in the possession of the established church of that country and used only for devotional purposes.

According to the London Sphere, St. Isaac's cathedral in St. Petersburg is said to have cost \$30,000,000. Its copper roof is overlaid with pure gold, \$250,000 having been melted down for the purpose; its bronze doors are the largest in the world, while the dome is supported by malachite pillars worth \$1,000,000. In the cathedral of Kazan in the name of the Almighty blazes in diamonds from a cloud of beaten gold, under which are solid silver doors twenty feet high. This church contains a beautiful picture of the Virgin covered with gold and jewels valued at \$100,000. In the monastery at St. Alexander Nevski is a silver shrine of the founder, weighing 3,200 pounds. There are 1,400 churches in Moscow, many of which contain priceless treasures. To celebrate the deliverance of Moscow from the French the Cathedral of the Holy Savior was built, at a cost of \$50,000,000. Its five cupolas are covered with pure gold. The robes of the Russian clergy are the richest in the world. In the house of the holy synod marvelous vestments are to be seen. One is embellished with the Nicene creed embroidered in pearls. There are several mitres studded with diamonds, rubies and emeralds, also golden croziers of rare workmanship.

In some other countries the accumulated wealth of the churches was confiscated at different times, to meet the needs of impoverished national treasuries, but to lay hand on the church property for such purposes, in Russia, would be to invoke the spirit of revolution even among the conservative masses of the people. The Russian church treasures cannot be counted as available assets of the state, as long as the leaders of the ecclesiastical affairs are able to close the doors against the spirit of reformation.

#### ARMENIAN MASSACRES.

The trouble in Russian Armenia appears to be the outcome of a clash between the Mohammedans and the so-called Christians of that region. Much property has been destroyed, and thousands of lives have been sacrificed. In Turkey it is nearly always the wild Kurds who execute the secret orders from Constantinople and destroy Armenian villages. On the Russian side of the line the Tartars seem to perform a similar function. But do they also have their orders? Are they waiting, as alleged, a "holy war," or are they on the war path by the permission of the leaders of the Russian war party?

The Armenians, as a rule, are a peaceful people devoted to commercial pursuits. They have agitators and unruly spirits, and the provocations to revolution are always present. But many of them are peaceful traders, shrewd and successful. The wild Tartars are always ready for a campaign of plunder, and they frequently select the prosperous Armenians for their victims, though they, undoubtedly, would be equally ready for a campaign against wealthy Mohammedans.

A serious feature of the present disturbances is the destruction of oil plants and refineries, in which German and French capital is largely invested. It will become incumbent upon Russia to restore order, and the question naturally arises whether these disturbances will not furnish the Czar an opportunity of sending soldiers to the troubled region for the purpose of extending his sphere of influence in that direction as a compensation for the loss of prestige in eastern Asia.

#### TEA.

Tea and coffee are pretty well known; are they not? There's no end of cheating in them.

#### A COMPLETE COMPARISON.

Washington Star.  
"You spend your money very foolishly," said the friend and counselor.  
"Yes," answered the young man with a grin, as he waved the well-meaning person away with a bunch of violets. "But not so foolishly as some of the people who invest their money in my company."

#### THE JOLLY MUSKETEER.

With Full Cast, including Emma Lucy Gates and Emma Ramsey Morris. Enlarged Orchestra. PRICES: Box, \$10.00; Main, \$5.00 and \$2.50. Thursday.

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Why doesn't Mr. Rockefeller get a peck? It couldn't call forth more comment than that. We have.

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The President repudiates an alleged

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interview with him that appeared in the Petit Parisien. He is after you, my dear Gaston Richard.

John Chinaman is about the only oriental who hails the peace of Portsmouth with unfeigned joy and as an unalloyed blessing.

What kind of a lending committee has life insurance companies that will lend a colored messenger boy millions without any security?

Baron Komura is really in danger. His physicians radically differ as to what ails him. May be come out triumphantly in spite of their contentions.

At Chicago Mr. Bryan took occasion to announce that he was not announcing a candidacy. What the future may bring forth neither he nor any man can tell.

A hundred million pounds of prizes are consumed annually in the United States. This is a little more than a pound a piece for each one of the people.

The difference between English and American railroad accidents is that the former seem to be accidents while the latter usually appear to be due to criminal carelessness.

"The land raffled off in Utah last month is so altogether undesirable that no one can understand why the government took it away from the Indians," says the Kansas City Star. The Utah lands are not nearly the "bad lands" they are painted.

"The year 3,144," says a well known London sociologist, "will see the final triumph of women. There will then be 100 per cent more women than men living in Great Britain. Twelve centuries later there will be only one man to every three women." That will be the year of the true "roaring furies."

Mr. Witte just before sailing, told the newspaper men who gathered to bid him farewell, that he now realized as never before the truth of the saying that "the pen is mightier than the sword." In his hand it certainly proved to be mightier than the sword in Kurapatkin.

#### AS IN THE EARLY DAYS HERE.

San Francisco Chronicle.  
According to the Lewiston, Me., Journal, Swan Island, in Hancock county, is as near being a perfect Utopia as any community can ever expect to become. The island covers an area of 13,000 acres, and has a population of 1,000, largely engaged in lobster fishing. Thieving and pauperism are unknown in the community, which has, therefore, no need for either a jail or an almshouse. The doors of all habitations are without locks. All laws are automatically enforced. There are three churches and the same number of schools on the island. Taxation is light and none of the inhabitants is either poor or rich.

#### A SACRIFICE.

Boston Herald.  
The rich have a hard time of it when they try to forsake their paths of pleasure. Here is one Miss Stewart of Marlborough avenue, New York, who has a man arrested for cruelty to his horses, and is told by an unfeeling patrolman that she will have to appear against the prisoner as early as 9 a. m. Superior to all considerations save those of duty, Miss Stewart firmly replied: "I have not risen as early as that in fifteen years, but I am necessary I will be on time." Of such stuff as this are even college settlement girls made.

#### REVISED MAXIMS.

San Francisco Call.  
Honor thy father and thy mother—if they will give you half of a chance to do it and still maintain your reasoning faculties.

A rolling stone gathers no moss—but it sometimes accumulates a noticeable pouch.

Ignorance of the law excuses no man—but it sometimes accounts for penitentiaries in pleadings filed by lawyers.

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