

## DESERET EVENING NEWS

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SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 10, 1902.

## OLD SLANDERS REVIVED.

We have received from California some reports of the travels and exertions of Dr. T. C. Cliff, formerly of this city, who is engaged in the same kind of work on the Pacific coast as that in which he was employed some time ago in the cities of the East. That is in maligning, misrepresenting and abusing the "Mormon" people, their doctrines and their intentions. Several newspaper clippings accompany these communications. Also a batch of pamphlets which are being circulated under the auspices of "The League for Social Service," and called "Anti-Mormon Leaflets." The purpose of this work is to obtain signatures to a petition to Congress, and also to raise money which appears to be the chief end in view in all these "Mormon"-eating expeditions. The following quotation from one of the leaflets shows this point sharply:

"In order to aid us in raising the necessary funds to carry on this special work, the Council has taken the following action:

"Any person paying \$5 or more shall be enrolled as a Sustaining Member of the organization; and any person paying \$1 or less than \$5 shall be enrolled as a Contributing Member."

"At least \$15.00 will be required to carry on this movement effectively; and every one interested is earnestly requested to contribute according to his or her ability and generosity."

Among the contributors to the literature thus being circulated are some of the old resident preachers in this city, whose familiarity with the "Mormons" and their affairs generally, ought to have precluded their rushing into print with a lot of ancient dilapidated stories concerning things that are past and even if true, which they are not, have no proper reference to the present. A number of ladies residing here, associated with the sectarian churches, have also been unwise and unchristian enough to append their names to the stuff which is being scattered abroad, for the purpose of injuring the Latter-day Saints and hindering their missionary work throughout the land. It is a matter of regret that such people can find nothing better to do than this sort of endeavor. It would seem that their time and energies could be better employed in the elevation and redemption of the poor, the ignorant and the sinful, than in dealing out stale gossip and bearing false witness against their neighbors.

We do not intend to waste valuable space in taking up the subjects touched upon in these pamphlets, as the falsehoods which they contain have been exposed and refuted in these columns many times. We presume they are comparatively new to many of our California friends. But we think the Elders laboring there are fully competent to meet the issue raised, and set forth the truth which will win its way eventually no matter who may be engaged in disseminating falsehoods. We are encouraged in this view of the matter by a report of a lecture delivered by Dr. E. Cliff on Sunday, February 2, at Pioneer Hall, Sacramento, in reply to the charges and statements made by Dr. Cliff, as reported in the Sacramento papers. The best and the best of the lecture, which deserves to be published in full, but we have no space to publish it, and it goes over ground that has often been occupied in these columns.

Elder Frederick Cliff has fully met and exploded the accusations made by the Methodist preacher Cliff, in his discourse called "The Menace of Mormonism," which were that polygamy is still practiced in Utah; that the "Mormons" are not patriots; that they are deficient in intellect; that they lack four principles, namely, God, Home, Patriotism, and Intelligence.

Elder Cliff took up these points seriously, explained the belief of the Latter-day Saints in Deity; that their God is the God of the Bible represented to man in the personality of Jesus Christ, and revealed by the Holy Ghost. He showed the establishment and prevalence of "the home" in Utah and contrasted it with many so-called "American homes" in various parts of the country. He proved the present status of the marriage question in this State and the misrepresentations of Dr. Cliff on that point; touched on the Bible references to the subject, and pointed out that the monogamic system was established by Roman influence and not, as supposed, by the New Testament. He gave irrefutable evidence of the patriotism of the "Mormon" people, and also of their intelligence and support of education in all its branches.

Dr. F. Cliff's lecture was replete with information about "Mormonism and the Mormons," and formed a complete answer to the Cliff slanders, which had the effect of crowding to its utmost capacity the hat in which Elder Cliff delivered his address. He is president of the Sacramento conference, and the cause in

which he is engaged has received considerable aid from the efforts of the Methodist maligner.

We learn by letter from the president of the California mission, that the Cliff barangues have been of considerable benefit in attracting the attention of persons on the coast to the meetings of the Saints, who would probably have passed them by without notice but for this agitation. God will cause "the wrath of man to praise Him." It is unpleasant to be misrepresented, and a feeling of indignation is naturally aroused when it comes from the lips and pens of men and women professing to be pious Christians and teachers of religion. But it will be overruled for good in the future as it has been in the past, and our Elders everywhere have reason to feel encouraged whenever opposition of the kind aroused by anti-"Mormon" preachers stirs up the populace. Our friends in California are profiting by the discussion that is promoted, and since Dr. Cliff delights in the kind of work by which he is gaining his living, we hope the society that hires him will be able to continue his pay. Eternal Justice, however, will mete out his reward as sure as the sun shines and as God is over all.

Our readers will see that the ministerial association of this city is engaged in similar labors to those of their confederates in the East and in the West. We publish in full their petition to Congress. It has been held back for some time, and it was supposed that it would be secretly endorsed and transmitted; but as we have secured a copy, we present it in full, so that the numerous readers of the Deseret News may understand what their professed friends are doing, towards building up this State and enhancing the interests of its people. It is just such efforts as those to which we have alluded, that have created a false impression concerning Utah and her people and retarded her progress for many years. But we have no fears for the future. The people of the United States are becoming better informed every day concerning us and our faith, and the old slanders have ceased, to a large extent, to do us injury. The truth will triumph and the light will shine!

## THE PEACE PROSPECTS.

London dispatches state that well informed politicians are of the opinion, that the Anglo-Dutch interchange of communications, notwithstanding the surface indications, may lead to the opening of peace negotiations. It is supposed that both sides are about tired of the struggle, and that they are looking for an opportunity of ending it with honor. Mr. Kruger is reported as having said that "If intervention could shorten the war, even only by a day, we should hail it with thanks in the name of those unfortunates suffering from the war. But we should not be grateful for an intervention which did not reckon with our aspirations for independence. A peace which one often hears proposed on the English side—subject first, then a sort of autonomy—that we will never accept."

On the other hand, the declaration of Lord Salisbury, the other day, that "the maintenance of our position in Ireland is the most vital object of the empire, and it can only be attained by strenuous exertions," is significant, almost to the point of being sensational. If it has any bearing upon the South African situation, it can only mean that that is of secondary importance as compared to the Irish question. It would imply that the government is in possession of information regarding Ireland, which would make a speedy ending of the Boer war more desirable than ever. In point of fact, he stated that an Irish government with power to accumulate arms and ammunition would constitute a more serious threat than that of the Boers. And then he added, with direct reference to the question of peace: "Any peace which recognizes fully the rights of the sovereign and gives us security for the empire we should accept, not only with willingness but with delight."

It is apparent by the various reports, that both sides of the contest, while making public declarations that they will not make concessions, are privately working for the purpose of arriving at an understanding. The reported failure of Lord Kitchener to capture De Wet, notwithstanding the elaborate plans for that achievement should aid the efforts for peace. For with that wonderful guerrilla leader still in the field, at the head of a not inconsiderable force, there can be no hope of a speedy termination of hostilities through unconditional surrender. An Amsterdam correspondent of the London Daily Mail claims that the Boers in Europe are willing to waive the claim for absolute independence, and that the discussion turns mainly upon the terms upon which banished Boers will be permitted to return, and upon the amount of damages to be paid to the Boers in the form of funds for the rebuilding of farms. If this is correct, the prospects of a settlement are bright.

## ENGLISH AND FRENCH.

M. Herbert, professor of a French institute of learning, discusses, in the Revue, the declining popularity of the French language, and makes some suggestions as to how this may be remedied. The article is partly quoted in the Literary Digest. The professor says that in Belgium, French is being supplanted by Flemish, and the government is aiding this movement. In England the people find it more profitable to study German than French. German professors take the place of French, at the schools, and French literature is being read less and less in England.

The writer suggests that Paris international newspapers be caused to appear regularly on the news stands in London, and that theaters be established for the diversion of the masses. He contends that while English may become the universal language of commerce, French should be conceded the first place in the world of letters and sciences.

There is no danger of any language disappearing as long as the nations that speak them exert any influence upon the affairs of the world, and have

writers producing something worth reading. When these conditions cease, as regards any one nation, its language ceases to be of value to foreigners, and is laid aside. English is popular because the people speaking it constitute a power in the world, both politically, industrially and intellectually. German popularity was greatly enhanced by the unification of the empire, following its triumph over the neighbor to the south. Russian is beginning to attract attention, and the reasons are apparent. On the other hand, languages that were once international, as Spanish for instance, are relegated to the rear, except for special purposes. There seems to be no artificial help for these conditions. They come about naturally, as certain effects from certain causes.

There is no reason why anyone should claim superiority for the French over the English, for scientific purposes. The English tongue is as rich in words as any living tongue. There is no thought, no matter how subtle, or how lofty, that cannot be expressed as forcibly, as clearly and as beautifully in English as in French. In fact, some of the best literature ever produced by man has been written in English. It is the vehicle through which some of the sublimest sentiments and the profoundest truths have been conveyed to man. In such facts must be sought the cause of its popularity. As a vernacular it is comparatively easy to acquire by foreigners, but that fact alone does not account for its success. Its intrinsic value and the worldwide influence of the Anglo-Saxon race have won for it the place it occupies.

## UNsinkable SHIPS.

To make ships absolutely unsinkable is the latest ambition of shipbuilders, and, according to the Philadelphia North American, the object is about accomplished by what is called "the long arm system of power doors." By this device, the captain can by a turn of the arm close every compartment of the vessel and make it water-tight. It is all done in less than a minute. By the old method of making the various compartments of the ship water-tight, a large crew was needed, and it took more time than sometimes could be spared for the work. The operation of all the doors from the bridge, by means of a lever, is a vast improvement.

The special features of the new system are:

"1. All the principal doors are constructed in such a manner that they will move freely, tightening and releasing the pistons positively and automatically, so that they cannot foul or jam, and so that they can be shut against a rush of water. Each door must, at any time required, operate independently and with certainty through appliances on the spot, either by power or by hand, and must automatically tighten on impact by the last of the closing movement and automatically release itself by the first of the opening movement."

"2. The system is under direct control from one or more emergency stations placed where desired, so that all doors may be closed simultaneously at any moment by the person first cognizant of danger, and so that the emergency closing shall leave absolute control in the hands of any man at the door for his own safety and duties."

"3. The present endless variation in types of doors, sizes of opening and designs of fittings is simplified, standardized and reduced to certain well considered sizes, with interchangeable parts."

The new safety device has been tested, it seems, and found satisfactory. If this is so, the dangers of the deep are considerably reduced. For with an unsinkable ship, a voyage is a great deal safer than a railroad journey. Most of the modern disasters would not have taken place, had the water-tight compartments of the ship been closed in time. To battleships, the device should be especially valuable, and it seems that a number of our vessels are now being fitted out with "long arm power doors." The trans-Atlantic passenger carriers should all be provided with them. Too much cannot be done for the safety of the thousands of lives that frequently are entrusted to their hulls.

## COSTLY DRINKS.

The American Issue makes a lightning calculation to show to what extent the legitimate industries of the country would be benefited, if the money spent yearly in the saloons were invested in food, clothing, etc., instead of in strong drinks. The figures given furnish a strong text for temperance lectures.

It is estimated that each saloon in the country has an average of 40 steady customers who spend \$100 a year for intoxicants. That is a conservative estimate, but it gives a total of \$1,000,000,000 thus spent.

If this money were spent instead on the leading necessities of life, it would make an added demand for raw material of various kinds, to the extent of \$449,000,000, and give work for 1,024,472 men more on farms alone. To manufacture the raw material would require 372,836 men, while only 50,000 men are employed to change the raw material into the intoxicating one billion dollars' worth of drinks. If, on the other hand, this billion dollars were spent for food, fuel and clothing, it would give employment to 1,267,408 men, which would be 1,247,229 more than now employed, who would have work at good wages.

This does not take into consideration the expenses for broken down health, broken up homes, poverty, crime, and misery caused by the drink habit, when carried to excess, but that is an element which runs the cost of the traffic up almost beyond computation.

It is pleasant to know that Jessie Benton Fremont is not in want but in California.

Strange but true—the farther apart the factions in the City Council get the nearer they come to blows.

Most people prefer to lend a hand to lending a dollar. The reason is that they are sure of getting the hand back.

The railroads entering Chicago are fighting smallpox. They are fighting the good fight. May they come out victorious!

Uncle Sam is finding that he has more friends among the nations than a poor man suddenly made rich has among his relatives.

stition says that the giving of degrees in this country is overdone. In a very great degree.

Strange that a man should feel like thirty cents when he discovers that he has unwittingly taken a Canadian ten cent piece for a dime.

General Kitchener seemed to catch Dewet. But in this case as in so many others the best laid schemes of men and mice went awry.

President Theodore Roosevelt refused to sanction the brevetting of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt no doubt for the reason that self praise is no praise.

The scandal in the purchasing department of the British war office indicates that remounts were purchased on the principle of "my kingdom for a horse."

Paterson, N. J., has had a great fire. Seeing that the disaster came it is to be regretted that the hot beds of anarchy in that town did not go up in smoke.

There is much discussion about the Philippines and their form of government but the fact seems to be that the government of the Philippines is a straightjacket straitjacket.

Chicago is making war on the smoke nuisance. That is a great city and can afford a war. Salt Lake is a small place but it affords splendid opportunities for a guerrilla smoke war.

There would have been but one objection in interrogating the British government as to its attitude in the Spanish-American war, and that was a Norman conquest of the United States.

It would seem that the reason Miss Stone is not released is that there is too much red tape about the negotiations. The officialdom more value is frequently set on red tape than on life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Erastus Massachusetts was greatly exercised over the gipsy moth. Now her anxiety is over the brown tail moth. The thing for Massachusetts to do is to lay up her treasures where gipsy and brown-tail moths and rust cannot get at them.

The British, American and Japanese ministers at Peking have renewed their opposition to the Manchurian arrangements of Russia and China. Being diplomats they know what they are doing and the reasons therefor, but to the uninitiated it looks rather as if those arrangements were the particular business of Russia and China.

At Omaha the other evening "Hamlet" was performed by Prof. J. S. Long of the Iowa school for the dumb. The piece thus describes the performance:

"Prof. Long portrays all the characters without the aid of the voice. His movements were pleasing, and the swift mixture of gestures and signs was too complex for any but the most trained to read the language of the dumb. It was impossible for the spectators who possess all the senses to appreciate the words of the poet and follow the saddest prince through his soliloquy. The speeches of sweet Ophelia were empty motions to the listeners, who heard nothing but the movement of the reader's feet as he went swiftly over the stage and an occasional gasp of approval from the lips of the mute spectators, who gave rapt attention."

In this Iowa mute another Quintus Roccus whose motions were said to be more eloquent than Cicero's words?

## THE WATERBURY FIRE.

Boston Transcript.  
The beautiful and prosperous little city of Waterbury, Conn., is the latest candidate for sympathy and help. The destructive conflagration which raged there nearly all night and broke out afresh in the morning has played sad havoc with the business portion of the town. First reports almost always exaggerate the loss, and we hope that the rule holds good in this case, as it has with generous allowances the blow is a heavy one. It must be gauged by comparison, and for the size of the place it must rank among the big conflagrations. In fact, it is the largest single addition to the fire record of the country that has occurred this year, which is more than a twelfth zone. People in Boston know what such a visitation means, and this is hardly less to Waterbury than the "big fire" of 1872 was to us.

## New York Mail and Express.

The calamity which has visited the thriving little city of Waterbury is one of the first magnitude for a place of 50,000 people, and a shocking one from every point of view. Great fires have grown relatively few in this country of late, owing to better building methods and improved fire apparatus and methods. The condition of Waterbury does not seem to have invited a conflagration in any special way, but the calamity arrived, nevertheless. The people are plucky, and, though hard hit, declare their ability to take care of themselves, without any aid from the outside world. The fire has inflicted a loss of millions, but the principal manufacturing industries of the place have happily escaped.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.  
Waterbury, Conn., 33 miles west of Hartford and 88 miles from New York, is delightfully situated in the valley of the Naugatuck river. It is a city of over 45,000 inhabitants. In a place of that size the loss of \$4,000,000 by a great fire is a crushing calamity, and the Waterbury fire will therefore rank among the memorable conflagrations of the past five years.

## Boston Herald.

It is not improbable that the estimated loss by fire at Waterbury, Conn., has been exaggerated, and that when a calm figuring up of the values of buildings and contents destroyed has been made it will be found that the worth of the property burned was under \$2,000,000, rather than over \$3,000,000. It was fortunate for the people of Waterbury that the fire was confined to the mercantile part of the town. Waterbury is the seat of number of active manufacturing industries. It is one of the brass producing centers of this country, and the factories and foundries located there give constant and profitable employment to a large number of exceptionally intelligent wageearners.

## CORONATION PLEASANTRIES.

Chicago Record-Herald.  
English court officials say it would be absurd for Americans to expect that the President's daughter should receive special attention if she were to attend the king's coronation. The court official still has a very poor opinion of anybody who hasn't inherited a title, your Uncle Samuel along with the rest of them.

## Kansas City World.

Dispatches from London state that the event of the coronation is working

a hardship on the English babies that are seeing their first glimpse of this world of ours. Fond papas and mamas are saddling a bunch of foolish names on helpless infants, for no other reason than that the names are connected in some way with the event of Edward's accession to the throne. Little Corona and Corollus are still too young to feel the burden that has been laid upon them, as is likewise Edal, whose name is made from the first syllables of the names of the monarch and his spouse. In a similar manner Sir Francis Knollys has constructed the name Louvins and pinned it on a little bundle of pink femininity.

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