

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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Horace G. Whitney - Business Manager.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.
(In Advance.)

One Year \$10.00
Six Months 5.00
Three Months 2.50
One Month50
Saturday Edition, Per Year 3.00
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.

THE DESERET 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, JULY 13, 1906.

"IT"

"It" the moon was made of green cheese, and "it" a meteor should alight on a chunk, and "it" that should fall on the earth, what a great commotion it would make in the sea, or a terrible jar on the land, and a great depression in the cheese market. That is about as rational, logical and probable as the "ifs" and "buts" and alarms of some local anti-Mormon scribbles. In relation to political hypotheses in which the "Mormon" Church figures on their distorted imaginations, "it" some "hierarch" should decide that the State must go Democratic, or Republican, or some other way, and "it" he should so announce it to the children in the Sunday schools, and they should thus be told how to vote, or "it" it should be proclaimed in the Tabernacle, what a blow that would be to the liberty of the citizen. To assert such a catastrophe every free American should decide not to train with either party but to line up with the impracticables in the "if" faction and strike a blow upon the unresisting air in aid of the has-beens and would-bees who lust for place and self. "If" they could only produce some reliable citizen whose word is worth a cent, who has been told by a hierarch how he must vote at an election, and "if" he could prove his assertion, and "if" such a story could be made to stick, what a sensation could be made whereunto to startle the nation! But, alas! the whole set of "ifs" is all that is left when the nonsense is analyzed.

"DOOMED" AGAIN.

There is no eastern paper that is more virulent against the "Mormons" than the Troy, N. Y., Press, and there is none that knows much less about our people, their religion, their motives and their condition. A short time ago it made this remark among others equally foolish:

"When the railroad entered Salt Lake City Mormonism was doomed."

The fact that "when the railroad entered Salt Lake City" it was largely owned by "Mormons" and that they built it from Ogden to this point, and had been engaged in the construction of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads that joined there, in both of which President Young and other prominent "Mormons" were financially interested, does not seem to be known to the Troy Press. As to the "doom of Mormonism," that has been sounded hundreds of times but it has only been like the flat boom of a cracked drum and worse than the clanging of a broken cymbal. On that point the Rochester N. Y. Post-Express made this telling reply:

"So? Then how do you account for the fact that Mormons have quadrupled in numbers, and not only control one great State of the Union, but are reaching out to other States and Territories, and have grown amazingly in wealth? We can see no sign of doom for the Mormons. One of the greatest mistakes ever made by the American people was to admit their foul nest to Statedhood."

The Rochester paper has watched the progress of the "Mormons" but is as much in the dark as to "Mormonism" as is its Troy contemporary. We have here as fine a State and as fine a people as any in the Union, not so large as the State of New York nor quite so rich, but equal in everything that goes to make up good citizenship and tends to progress and improvement.

The Press still harps on the "polygamy" string, as though that was the sole source of the music of "Mormonism," and ignorant of the fact concerning its civilization from the instrument. But, never mind, both the Troy and the Rochester papers will some day get a little light into their darkened minds on the so-called "Mormon" question, and will find that it is no more a "foul" subject than it is a "doomed" affair. The "doom" prediction was about half a century ago and it is about time that it was buried.

STARTLING TRUTHS.

In copying some statements on the increase of crime in this country from the New York World, we remarked that some facts brought to our attention should be added to the World's figures. This is what we said on that point:

"We have seen it stated of Chicago that there are in that city about 24,000 couples living together without being married and more than 30,000 women employed in stores and offices after being deserted by their husbands. The number of professional prostitutes is estimated at 20,000. According to the reports it is claimed that in that city 10,000 unborn children are murdered every year."

This so evaded an apologist for vice and assault of "Mormons" who will not desert the wives whom they married in the old times of Utah, that the "News" was accused of "fabricating these particulars and framing an indictment against anti-Christianity." Deserving from our usual silence as to that source of falsehood and abuse, we gave our authority for the statistics and showed up the absurdity of the charge against "anti-Christianity." Of course we did not attribute the gigantic evils cited to "Christianity" but to its opposite. Yet the same ribald and ridiculous defender of infamy continues those libels and distortions of the truth, so we will quote directly from the magazine that is our authority for the few

figures we presented, with apologies to our readers for noticing the local defamer and literary contortionist.

To-Morrow, a Chicago monthly, in its issue for July, 1906, has an editorial addressed to the clergymen of that city, giving some startling particulars from which we copy but a few paragraphs, and they are not the strongest or most suggestive. The editor says:

"There are twenty thousand professional prostitutes in Chicago, twenty-four thousand couples living in adultery without the form of marriage, more than twenty thousand women employed in down town stores and offices who have been deserted by their husbands. According to the Health Department there are more than forty thousand abortions a year performed in Chicago, but all of these irregularities are but a small percentage of the extent to which commandments, preachers, judges and law makers are completely ignored."

In order to really measure the utter failure of the present system in preserving monogamy the following facts are astounding:

"There are more than fifty hotels in Chicago ranging from twenty-five to three hundred rooms each, the entire income of which is derived from renting rooms to illicit couples, at prices ranging from fifty cents to twenty-five dollars, besides this, every other hotel in Chicago advertises its proprietorship of this class of patronage when properly veiled, to the extent of from ten per cent to ninety per cent of their total receipts."

"Every department store and every drug store are daily and nightly to the knowledge of owners and managers made rendezvous of clandestine couples, some of the best located drug stores averaging as high as one hundred and twenty-five meetings per night, all with full knowledge of the proprietors who reap their reward for silence by selling them toilet articles, drops, apparatus, etc."

"A short time since, with the aid of three 'experts' I made a careful investigation into the lives of some three hundred prominent professional and business men, as their doings are currently known and understood among their associates in the various Chicago clubs, with most interesting results. Among those whose 'records' were thoroughly sifted were found a few among lawyers, physicians, bankers, business men, commission men, and hotel keepers who apparently lived monogamist lives, but of all the railroad men and newspaper men investigated, not one was found who did not break the Seventh Commandment."

The subject is not tedious with sweet moral perfume, but the lifting of the lid from some of the professionally virtuous cities and circles of the land, suggests the necessity of applying the parable, of the mote and the beam, when "Mormonism" is held up for public reprobation. The notion that the exposure of social infamy in American cities is an "indictment against anti-Christianity," is worthy of the addled brain in which it was formed and the perverted soul that can bring forth nothing but anti-Mormon vapors.

NO CAUSE FOR ALARM.

The revelations of fraud, graft, crime, and rotten business methods, recently made in this country, are especially regrettable because of their existence under free institutions and democratic government. In the Old World such evils will thrive under the old regime which was established for the benefit of the few, as against the interests of the many. In this country, with the people governing themselves, there should be no room for the human vampire.

To many foreigners the cause for which the American Republic stands, appears to be lost in the whirlpool of agitation and commotion caused by "revelations" and "inquiries." But this is not the view all take. The Mexican Herald voices the sentiments of both Americans and foreigners who understand American conditions, when it says:

"There is no more hopeful sign in the huge democracy to the north of Mexico than its periodical outbreaks against all sorts of villainy. A morally dead nation would float unresistingly to the edge of the abyss, and then swiftly take the downward plunge. It appears to be the fate of the United States, the world's greatest example of popular self-government to work out its destiny amid storm and strife. The air is always clamorous with voices. The press, which speaks for the people, is untrammelled, as one may see by reading the newspapers published all over the Union. The sensational papers exploit all scandals; the serious and decorous journals present these matters and suggestions, for remedies and sound arguments against evil-doers. The net result is good. Where the people rule this must always be the way public affairs are ventilated and debated. The people's vast parliament never reveals its weakness."

"Latin liberals, looking to the Great Republic for their inspiration, need not despair. The cause of popular freedom is not going to be lost."

No truer words were ever spoken. There have always been pessimists ready to predict evil, whenever the ominous creaking of a bird has disturbed their slumbers. They forget that the hand of the Almighty is over this country, for the accomplishment of His plans and purposes among all the nations of the earth.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

At last Dreyfus has been completely vindicated. Thirteen years ago he was accused of being a traitor, who had sold certain military secrets of France to a foreign government. He was convicted, degraded, and deported to a lonely island, where he was being slowly killed by the torturers whose duty it was to guard him. The case became one of world-wide notoriety. Everybody outside France felt convinced of the innocence of the young officer, but it took the untiring labor of years, by Dreyfus and his friends, to compel, by the weight of public opinion, the French authorities to admit the mistakes of the courts and do the victim of a foul plot full justice.

The beginning of this celebrated case was the finding by a French charwoman employed at the German embassy, of a paper torn into four pieces. She took this to the French Intelligence office, and there the fragments were put together and read. This was the famous bordereau. Its text was:

"Sir—Although you have not asked to see me, I send you some interesting intelligence."

"(1) A note on the hydraulic brake No. 123, and how it is worked."

"(2) A note on the modification in the gear modifications will be brought forward in the new plan."

"(3) A note on the modification in the formation of artillery."

"(4) A note referring to Madagascar."

"(5) A note referring to the field artillery gun practice—March 14, 1904."

"This last document is extremely difficult to procure, and I have only a few days at my disposal. The minister for

war has sent a particular number of copies to the corps and these corps are responsible for them. Every officer possessing one must return it after the maneuvers. If you like to take out of this what interests you, and give it back to me afterwards, I will replace it; provided that you do not require me to copy it in extenso and to send you a copy."

"I am just starting for the maneuvers."

Dreyfus was accused of the authorship of this writing, and so much excitement was stirred up about it, that the mob, after the first trial of the prisoner, madly shouted, "Kill the traitor!"

Emile Zola the noted French novelist aroused the world on the evident innocence of the unfortunate Dreyfus, and Major Piquart, one of the friends of the unfortunate officer, began a private investigation on his own responsibility and became suspicious of Esterhazy, one of the chief persecutors of Dreyfus. He found that Esterhazy was a disolute officer, head over heels in debt, and also that his handwriting resembled that of the incriminating paper. These and other facts being made public, the people clamored for a trial. The court-martial whitewashed Esterhazy, but that only made things worse, for he fled to England, and there he made a statement under oath that he, and no other, had been the writer of the bordereau. And yet when Dreyfus faced the new court at Rennes, and evidence in his favor was piled high, they found him guilty "with extenuating circumstances."

A pardon followed, but Dreyfus was not satisfied. The day after he was freed, he said: "The government of the republic has given me back my liberty. This is nothing to me without honor. Beginning today, I shall unflinchingly strive for the reparation of the frightful judicial error of which I am still the victim."

Looking at the hypocritical verdict of the court at Rennes, it is evident that the government, though convinced of the error committed in this case, was afraid of making any admissions that would reflect upon the "honor" of the army. It was the honor of one officer on one side, and the honor of the army on the other. But for the fear of the military, Dreyfus would have been vindicated at least seven years ago.

It is remarkable also that the German representatives in France during this long period, did not say a word in favor of Dreyfus. They knew from whom the bordereau came. They knew that Dreyfus was not the author. And yet they did not, as far as known, give any information that might have served the ends of justice. It would not have been good policy, we presume, for them to speak out. That would have deterred others from offering interesting information. But Dreyfus is now fully vindicated, and France will undoubtedly honor him and let him, and make him forget his past sufferings. In the hours of the deepest affliction he bravely cried: "Vive la France!" and we fancy he will not regret that he never lost faith in his country. To the untiring efforts of his faithful wife, Dreyfus owes the trial at Rennes that gave him liberty and placed him in a position to labor for his complete vindication. The final outcome is the reward of love, and that faith which is a force strong enough to move mountains.

Pittsburg divorce scandals are always more or less enveloped in a cloud of smoke.

All who had anything to do with Hope suspected him, yet all placed confidence in him.

The Washington, D. C. Ice trust has been indicted. When will the Salt Lake trust turn come?

There is said to be a split in the British cabinet. Must be because the material was not well seasoned.

Carrie Nation can be arrested, but she cannot be stopped, as well try to stop the whirlwind as to stop her.

Dreyfus' complete vindication is a splendid illustration of the saying, "Truth though crushed to earth will rise again."

Commissioner Bingham is forming a "vice squad." Will it be a "monster" of so frightful men as to be hated, needs but to be seen?

A Baltimore physician blames the present period of prosperity for the increase of insanity. He must have been doubly prosperous.

The Massachusetts board of health has been investigating canned meats. Canned baked beans will not be investigated by it, they always, in the Old Bay state, being above suspicion.

A Kansas City Ice King started in business in 1896 with a capital of six hundred dollars and now he is worth half a million. His success is doubtless owing to long prices and short weights.

A lady of New York who has been coming with her husband in the Black Hills, owes her life to songs, which saved her from a mountain lion, which attacked her. Was the animal charmed, astonished or frightened?

A delegate to the British sanitary inspectors' conference said he knew of a cow suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis that was sold, killed and eaten. But that was for some consumption and not for export.

A gentleman of this city received a London catalogue issued June 3, on June 11. On the 11th he ordered some books by mail and received them on July 10. This is a straw going to show "the terrible condition of the Salt Lake postoffice."

The Interstate sheriff's convention in Des Moines condemns in strong terms the juvenile court laws of various states, declaring they signify fail to accomplish their object. Good in themselves, if properly drawn, they are too often administered by an incompetent judge in a harsh, arbitrary and tyrannical manner.

THE IMPENDING CONFLICT.
Hannis Taylor in North American Review.

As all the world knows, the peculiar vantage-ground occupied by corpora-

tions in the United States is the outcome of the judge-made law laid down in the Dartmouth college case, wherein it was held, contrary to English ideas, that the charter of a private corporation is a contract, within the meaning of that clause of the Constitution of the United States which declares that no state shall make any law impairing the obligation of contracts. For a long time, the effects of that decision were salutary, as the national wealth was vastly increased through the confidence which it imparted to corporate enterprise. But, since the corporate power and wealth thus nourished have become a menace to the commonwealth, the supreme court has been doing all in its power to narrow the scope of the decision, by widening the declaration that the obligation clause does not restrain States in the regulation of their civil governmental institutions. While the bar would justly regard the entire overruling of the case in question as revolutionary, it may be well for all who are interested in its authority to remember the fact that the power that made can unmake, the power that created can destroy.

IT'S UP TO CANADA NOW.

Collier's Weekly.
Congress did well by Niagara. The preservation of that waterfall appealed to many so much that the pressure on Congress to act was very strong, and the bill which it passed seems likely to accomplish its purpose. It treats the Niagara river as a navigable stream, and the New York state franchises therefore as invalid, as navigable boundary streams are exclusively owned by federal control. Whatever the present power companies are permitted to do is only at the government's will, and the total withdrawal is limited to an amount intended to keep the deterioration from proceeding further. The life of the bill, and the permits under it, is three years. By the end of that time it is expected that there will be a permanent treaty with Canada for the preservation of the falls—a step toward the accomplishment of which the President is directed to begin negotiations. Mr. Roosevelt is genuinely interested in saving the falls and will now proceed promptly. Canada, we are sure, will make an enlightened and generous response.

JUST FOR FUN.

Knew Slang.
Teacher—Now, Johnny, what was the cause of the American revolution?
Johnny—we had the spirit of '76 and the British had the spirit of '23.—New York Times.

Proprietorship.

"I suppose," said the student of economics, "that your city has never taken up the subject of municipal ownership."

"Oh, yes," answered Bronco Bob. "We have to give it a little thought. Every now and then one of the boys gets to thinkin' he owns the town, but we generally manage to get him quieted an' docile before there's any real harm done."—Washington Evening Star.

Willing to Compromise.

"Papa, last night I dreamed that for my birthday you gave me a bicycle and mamma a watch."

"Yes, dear, but you know that dreams always go by contraries."

"All right, then, you give me the watch and mamma the bicycle."—Motto per Ridere.

Where It's Warmer.

When you're sweeter in summer—when you hear the thunder roll—just think about the fellows that are freezing at the pole!

No use worryin' 'bout weather—it's a dolt's of the best.

Though it sets the sky a-blazin' from the wide east to the west:

Say this in dark an' dawns:

"Weather come an' weather's gone just well melt in summer as freeze up later on!"

—Atlanta Constitution.

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