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DESERET NEWS 'PHONES.

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For the Chief Editor's Office, 3193. For Desert News Hook Store, 74-L. For City Editor and Reporters, 359-2 For Business Manager, 74-R. For Business Office, 389-2.

TIME, TIMES, AND A HALF

A correspondent of Coalville, Utah, haks for an explanation of the expression, "Time and times and the dividing of time," in Daniel vii: 25, and a similar expression in chapter xii: 7.

Among commentators it is quite generally held, on what appears to be suf ficient grounds, that the expression stands for a period of 1260 years. It the seventh chapter the prophet sees in a vision four world powers, represented under the forms of four great beasts, arising out of the commotion of the sea, or the nations of the earth. The last of these powers is divided into ten, represented by ten horns, and three of these are subdued by "a little horn"-a tyrannical power that is said to "speak great words against the Most High" and "wear out the Saint's of the Most High," for the period mentioned, or for 1260 years, when comes the triumph of the Saints. In the twelfth chapter, interwoven with the history of secular empires, are found predictions of the persecution of "the hely people" that also was to last for 1260 years, or "time, times and a half." So far, commentators are agreed, but the difficulty is to determine on what precise date this period of 1260 years, which has also been called the reign of anti-Christ, commenced. This can be said, though, that the best calculato some time of the first part of the last century as the end of that dark period and the beginning of the deliverance of the "Saints of the Most High." This is note-worthy, since that was the time during which the Lord raised up the Prophet Joseph and laid the foundation of the Church in this dispensation. Habershon, for instance, suggests that the period of 1260 years came to an end in the year 1843 or 1844. Another view represents that end as having occurred in the year 1822. Both these dates are epochs in the history of the people of God. In the year last mentioned, the youthful Prophet of the Lord was being prepared, under divine tuition, for the reception of the marvelous revelations that formed a beginning of the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this age and generation. About the first mentioned date, the life work of the Prophet was about to be concluded, and the Church of Christ was pre-

ends of the world. We are not of those who would discourage the diligent study of the difficult writings of the ancient prophets, though the facts and dates they have recorded often are beyond the calcula. tion of human wisdom. On the contrary, we believe that the prayerful study of these writings will result in both spiritual and intellectual benefit. But it should always be remembered that it is more important to grasp the moral lessons conveyed in those writings, than to fathom the mysteries. The great lesson conveyed in this book is this, that the political concerns of this world, the rise and fall of empires, the changes and revolutions in states and kingdoms, are all known and taken cognizance of by the Almighty Ruler of the Universe. As Prideaux has very well observed, when we read the pages of history or look around upon passing events. we see much that is almost too painful to behold; but when we study the sure word of prophecy, then, like the Psalmist, we sater into the sanctuary of our God and understand, to some extent, what the outcome is sure to be. Then without inquiring into the minute questions of details, we are led to admire the general results of the glorious plan. We are led to place less reliance on human calculations and conjectures, and to look forward to the glorious day when All the redeemed shall sing in chorus, "Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omni-

puring for the exodus that preceded its

establishment in the valleys of the

mountains, from which position its

light has gone forth to the uttermost

potent reigneth." The Book of Daniel was written during the captivity in Babylon, perhaps the most terrible experience in the existence of the ancient chosen people, and yet it contains some of the grandest revelations concerning the future of that people, and the human race. Everywhere in that book the providence of the Almighty is seen overrula ing the evil plans for the good of the people. Such are some of the moral

lessons contained in this ancient document, and they will always be among the most precious inheritances of the people of God.

OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

A short time ago the public library of Somerville, Mass., put on its shelves southern book on Provident Lincoln. It was as rabid as rabid could be, and from the northern point of view a villification of the martyred president. A protest was made by the G. A. IL. against retaining the book and the library authorities ordered it removed, This fact has brought out the followng letter on the subject from Colonel Thomas Wentworth Higginson, written to the Boston Transcript:

"Allow me, as one of many years' experience in the management of public
libraries and also as a member of the
Grand Army of the Republic, to express my regret for the attitude taken
by some of my comrades in procuring
the removal of a certain memoir of
President Lincoin from the public library of Somerville, through their objections. I have not heard even the
title of the book, but one thing is clear:
It is essential to the usefulness of a
public library that it should possess, if "Allow me, as one of many years' expublic library that it should possess, if possible, books representing the most various and even opposite views on the most important subjects. This is peculiarly to be desired in case of a public man and in proportion to his eminence. No such man can be properly understood without knowing the opinions of his enemies, if he has any, and the charges they have to bring against him. Without access to these, his character

can never be justly judged or vindicated. All further restrictions may safely be left to the librarian. Every large public library includes necessarily many books not sultable for unlimited circulation among the young and ig-norant, while they may be indispensa-ble to serious and mature students. This the librarian must decide; but the moment books are banished from the li-brary because they bring unjust charges against an eminent man, a serious limit is set to the usefulness of the institu-tion, and all manner of political and sectarian narrowness may follow."

That is the proper attitude to take and it is not much of a public library that doesn't take it. Directors and librarians who take a narrower view than this have no business to be in charge of a public library. Buch institutions should never be made partisan but should be catholic in every respect. Colonel Higginson has done a

FOR A SANE CELEBRATION.

Warnings against the prevailing dangerous method of celebrating the Fourth of July are heard in all parts of the country. Some will, of course, disregard wise counsels, as long as possible, but we believe there is an unmistakable movement for a more rational celebration of the nation's great day. At least, there has been a decrease in fatal accidents, since attention was called to the danger of the noisy celebration. Thus, last year, the figures obtainable showed 183 deaths from injuries sustained by various kinds of fire-works on the Fourth of July, while the year previous, the death list footed up 466. If the discussion in the press has to some extent been instrumental in saving lives, as indicated by these figures, it has certainly not been in vain,

The death list, however, is still too large, and the list of injured is still larger, being for the last year not less than 3,986. And these figures do not tell the entire story, since hundreds of cases never reach the public print, and

are therefore not included in the record. The annual expenditure for dangerous Fourth-of-July toys is another item, amounting to millions. One man, ufacturer asserts that the store sales of fire works amount to \$15,000,000, To these expenditures are to be added those for pistols, and various other implements which are not generally included in the class of fireworks.

It is not necessary to demand the absolute discontinuation of the time-honored custom of setting off fireworks in commemoration of the birth of the independence of the country, although it probably will be admitted that the day could be better observed than by din and noise that remind one of riot. ous anarchy, rather than law-defined liberty; but it is necessary to insist that dangerous explosives be handled only under experienced supervision and not given over to children who may, or may not, know how to handle them with safety. To let children do as they please with firecrackers, bombs, and firearms, is almost criminal negligence. Boys should not be permitted to throw firecrackers under horses in the streets and some one should see to it that they do not do it. They should not be permitted to put torpedoes on the streetcar tracks in front of passing cars, because the unexpected, loud reports may cause serious injury to some nervous passenger that may happen to be in the car. The vicinity of hospitals should also be free from the invasion of the noisy celebration, in the interest of patients. It is not unreasonable to demand the enforcement of effective rules and regulations for the safety of life and property. It has been figured out that in 10 years in 10 cities. 1,100 persons were killed, 5.593 injured, more or less seriously, while the fire losses reached the sum of \$5,659.000. This covered only 10 cities. A perform. ance that has such results does not deserve the name of patriotism. It has the appearance of hoodlumism.

AN OLD SUBJECT.

According to an item in the Baltimore Sun, a demonstration that a whale could never have awallowed Jonah, is given on the site of old Marsh Market, where a whale seventy feet long is on exhibition beneath a tent. The throat of the whale, we are told, is only about five inches in diameter. and the exhibitor says that a whale's throat is never larger than that. The whale is said to have been caught in the Arctic sea by the whaling steams ship Neptune and towed to the shore. where it was chemically treated and "embalmed" in arsenic, ten months being required to complete the work. The exhibitor says that the whale weighed 150,000 pounds when killed; that sixty barrels of oil were taken from its body and 40,000 small herring from its stom-

It is passing strange that a great

number of those who refer to the Biblical story of Jonah, seem to be entirely oblivious of the fact that the author of Book of Jonah does not say that it was a whale that brought the prophet to the shore, in such a miraculous manner, but a 'great fish." Were this fact kept in view, many comments on "Jonah and the whale," and the dimensions of the throat of that huge animal would ap-

pear irrelevant. The translators of the New Testament have used the word "whale" in Mat. xii. 40, but scholars tell us that the Greek word so translated is a general term for all kinds of sea monsters. If this is the case, it is an exact equivalent of the word in the Book of Jonah, which is rendered "a great fish." Eminent commentators have suggested that a shark would have been able to perform the part ascribed to the sea monster of the Hebrew author. It is an old subject thoroughly discussed.

CZAR'S UNCERTAIN POLICY.

The Russian Czar has been said to be impossible to understand, because of the duplicity of his character. It has been pointed out that he has no well-defined policy, but contradicts today what he ordered yesterday, and thus makes all calculations as to his future course uncertain.

His treatment of the Zematvo delegates seems to bear out this delinea. tion of the imperial character. The Zemstvos represented at a meeting in Moscow adopted an address to the Czar, the most remarkable, it is said, that was ever presented to a Russian autocrat, because it demanded certain political reforms as rights to which the people were entitled. So bold were these Russians, that it was predicted that they would not even be granted an audience. But they were received and heard, and the Czar assured them of his intention to summon popular representatives to sid him in the government of the empire. The Czar's promises, although indefinite as to time of fulfillment, were apparently satisfactory to the delegation, for it is said to have been deeply impressed. The Czar was evidently under the influence of some good genius when he received that delegation, and his heart was filled with good intentions.

The wind has turned, however. The Czar has evidently been induced to change his mind. For now it is officially announced that he was misunderstood in that interview. It is not denied that he promised them a representative assembly, but it is pointed out that it was not the intention of the Czar to gather the "representatives of the people on the basis of the existing constitutions of the countries of west ern Europe, but that the conditions of such a convocation were to be based on an order of things corresponding to Russia's autocratic principles, and his majesty's words, it is claimed, "contain absolutely not the least indication of the possibility of modifying the fundamental laws of the empire." In other words, if there is to be a representative assembly, it will be one called by the Emperor and represent-

ing him, not the people. The representatives of the Zemstvos will meet again ,and it will be interesting to see what course they now will They seem to be as determined as the Czar is vacilating.

Mrs. Mary Rogers will take a much needed respite.

No bell tolled for Mary Rogers for the Bell told 'em not to,

A pessimist is one who hates to se anybody or anything prosper.

Is the subway the only thing in New York that needs ventilating?

One so conservative as Mr. Cleve land should make insurance doubly

And now from the sweet girl gradu-

ates are being evolved the lovely sum-Morris K. Jesup has been knighted

by an academy of sciences of benight

ed Russia.

There is a hitch in the peace negotiations, Probably it is nothing more than a slip loop,

No sheep ranch in the country has so many "sheepskins" as President

Roosevelt has. It would appear that in his speech to the zemstvoist delegation the Czar

was 'jest fooling. Things seem to move more smoothly on the north sdie of South Temple

street than on the south. Odd that those who are on the shady side of fifty cannot stand hot weather so well as those who are not.

There is no doubt but that Oyama has one more good fight in him. Several, probably, if necessary,

Is war to be made a continuous per formance, the scene shifting from Manchuria to France and Germany ?

Twentieth Century Limited. The train has been withdrawn. On the armistice matter it looks as though Russia is procrastinating and bluffing. That was the game she play-

There will be no more accidents to

he New York Central-Lake Shore

staked much and thus far has lost all "A Japanese cadet has just been admitted to the naval academy at Annapolis. It might not be a bad idea now to send an American cadet to Japan," says the Springfield Republican. On the centrary, a very good idea,

ed just before the war began; she

ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

Jerusalem waiting for the promise while duty calls us to the great field of service. Why should we remain pleading for a larger measure of the Spirit when we are not fully employing the measure already bestowed?

Northwestern Christian Advocate, How tardily the world is coming to realize the truth of the Apostle's sayrealize the truth of the Apostle's saying, "The greatest of these is love." And yet it is only by realizing and practicing this principle that civilization is either to advance or even hold its own. We have gone about as far as we can with other methods. Just now we are it process of changing our educational and prison methods and our methods with the insane from force to love. The relations between nations our methods with the insane from force to love. The relations between nations and those between labor and capital seem to be still directed largely by the arts of the warrior and of the diplomat, but there are many signs of the new day when love will reign here as elsewhere. Even the relations of animals to man and to each other are seen to where. Even the relations of animals to man and to each other are seen to be more and more guided by love than force, and the old saying about nature being red in tooth and claw is now known, in the light of modern science, to be an inadequate if not a wholly untruthful generalization. Love is not only the greatest thing in the world, but it is one of the things which shall abide. What is contrary to it must pask away. away.

Henry Ward Beecher.

I remember full well the time, not perhaps when first I had formed a de-cisive purpose to give myself to Christ, but when Christ first appeared to me to be the chief among ten thousand and be the chief among ten thousand and altogether lovely. I had procrastinated: I had excused myself, sometimes through ignorance and sometimes through reluctance; but there came a day, a morning, when there rose in my mind o sense of a saving God who not only poured out His life once, but was pouring it out eternally, to make His goodness and wisdom the medicine of wounded hearts. The thought came to me that it was God's nature to love His children for the sake of curring them. Not that He was by Christ doing it as a special favor, but that it was His nature to love sinful creatures like me, to heal them, and to use the infinite stores of His goodness and the marvels of His grace as medicine for sin-sick souls. It was a thought that neither time nor death nor eternity can ever nor death nor eternity can eve

Andrew A. Bonar.

Andrew A. Bonat.

A holy life is made up of a number of small things; little words, not eloquent speeches or sermons; little deeds, not miracles of battle nor one great heroic act of mighty martyrdom, make up the true Christian life. The little constant sunbeam, not the lightning the waters of Siloam that "go softly" in the meek mission of refreshment, not the "waters of the river, great and many," rushing down in noisy torrents, are the true symbols of a holy life. The avoidance of little evils, little sins, little inconsistencies, little weaknesses. le inconsistencies, little weaknesses, little follies, indiscretions, and imprulences, little foibles, little indulgences of the fiesh; the avoidance of such lit-tle things as these goes far to make up t least the negative beauty of a holy

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Harper's Bazar for July has, as always, an excellent list of contents in the field covered by that publication. These are some of the subjects to which space is given: "Concerning Sinners," Margaret Deland: "When Curly-Wig Goes Gardening," a poem, Francis Barine: "American Women in English Society" I. "Anglo-American."
"The Grand-Duchess Sergius," a poem, "The Grand-Duchess Sergius," a poem, Edith M. Thomas: "Spring Days in Paris," Flora McDonald Thompson; "The Warning," a story, Eugene Wood; 'His Confidante," a poem, Samuel Minturn Peck, "Midsummer Fashlons," A. T. Ashmore; "Germany's Agricultural School for Gentlewomen, J. Macklin Beattle: "Hockey in Wamen's Colleges," E. H. Westwood; "Home Nursing of Today," Eveleen Harrison; "Flowers and Their Arrangement," Martha Cutler; "How We Saved for a Home," a poem, Elsie Duncan Yale; "The Sunday-night Supper," Christine Terhune Herrick; "Original Bead Trimmings," Jean M. Thompson; "Our Girls," Anna Ogden; "Embroldery for Summer Gowns," Penelope Kay; and "Hints to Housewives," Jane Calhoun,—Franklin Square, New York,

In the July issue the Century con-tinues its policy of presenting reports, by experts in their different lines, of by experts in their different lines, of the progressive work and investigation of the world, with the first of two papers on "The Electric Railway" by Frank J. Sprague, former president of the American Institute of Electricia papers on "The Electric Railway by Frank J. Sprague, former president of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Following so closely upon the rescript of the czar concerning Poland, David Bell Maggowan's paper on "The Future of Poland"—written, of course, before the rescript was anything but a hope—is freshly interesting, Personal recollections of the expedition which resulted in opening the ports of Japan to the world are contributed by John S. Sewall, under the title "With Perry in Japan." The personal narrative of this epoch-making expedition of 1853-4 comes with special timeliness when eyes and thoughts are turned toward Japan, In the July Century, too, there is a further installment of L. Frank Tooker's vigorous novel of the sea, "Under Rocking Skies," and six short stories for leigure hours. Eden Philipotts' "The Earthquake Child" is a quaint tale of peasant life in the Alps, Marguerita Arlina Hamm has another of her stories of the New York Egyptian "clony."The Baby and the Camel." Philip V. Mighels' "A Nevada Samarisan" is a smile-provoking tale of a blind elephant, an unfortunate circus owner, an adoring dog and a western editor. Lucia Chamberlain in "The bilid elephant, an unfortunate circus owner, an adoring dog and a western editor. Lucia Chamberlain in "The Lap o' Land" contributes a study of Irish character. Lawrence Mott, the Harvard under-graduate who seems to have opened a new vein in fiction, has another story of "Jules of the Great Heart," iaid in the Northwest Territory, where he has great several summers: where he has spent several summers; and George S. Chappell, writing out of intimate knowledge of art student life in Paris, has set down some amusing incidents in the existence of one Glibert. "A Hard Worker." There is a rectic tribute. "The Passing of Joseph tribute, "The Passing of Joseph son," by Richard Watson Gilder er contributions in verse from Burton, John Finley, John Cheney, and Florence Earle 'oates.-Union Square, New York.

Pearson's Magazine for July presents an attractive collection of summer reading, both in breezy short stories and in timely special articles. Chief among the latter is R. H. Graves' "Our Annual National Slaughter," recapitulating the enormous army of Fourth of July victims annually killed or maimed while celebrating Independence day. "Points About Sea Swimming," and "The Camping Wagon" treat of subjects that will interest every one longing for the wilderness and relief from the heat of a sweltering city. Charles M, Harvey contributes a timely article on "The Fortunes Earned by American Railroads," Charles C, Johnson in an article entitled the "Star Spangled Banner" tells of a wonderful Pearson's Magazine for July presents Johnson in an article entitled the "star Spangled Banner" tells of a wonderful industry of patriotism which has sprung up among us. "The Swish of the Lartat" is an account of how, recently, the cowboy king won his laurels as champlen roper. "The Profession of Getting Hurt" and "How to Make Money Out of Pets" complete the list of articles. Of fletion there are ten contributions, beginning with the return of Christian Statesman.

Having received the Spirit it is the duty of God's people to use the gifts of the Spirit. It is possible to tarry still at Astor Piace, New York.



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