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SALT LAKE CITY, DEC. 12, 1905.

SLANDERING SALT LAKE.

For the reports of discourses in the Sunday churches, delivered on Sunday, it appears that the ministers of this city generally are in accord with the movement for the establishment of manufactures and other industrial concerns, and particularly in the denunciation of gambling, Sunday liquor selling and other social evils that have recently been declared against in various quarters. All that is commendable, so far as it goes. If it leads to anything practical in the direction pointed out, it will prove of value to the community.

At present it amounts simply to talk. We are aware that talking is often necessary to doing, and that theory precedes practice. But merely to declaim against vice and to praise industry, of itself accomplishes little or nothing. It is scarcely to be expected that gentlemen whose sphere of labor is chiefly confined to the pulpit will engage in the promotion of anything really practical, either for the establishment of home industries or the enforcement of laws and ordinances against vice. Therefore in doing what they can, consistent with their profession, they deserve commendation.

But associated with the themes enunciated upon by the ministers on Sunday, there was an endeavor to exaggerate conditions existing here that are unfavorable, and an implied censure of public officials, which was but the echo of political outcries and factional accusations. These can accomplish no good, either in getting at the root of existing wrongs or in giving capital and worthy people to this State. This was forcibly and eloquently pointed out by Rev. Elmer L. Goshen, in his discourse touching on the questions of the hour.

What benefit will accrue to anybody from magnifying evil and parading it before the country? Or what inducement will it afford to attract good people and their influence and means to a point where it is alleged the situation is so vile? It appears to be the special aim of some of the ministers to hold up this city before the world in such awful and lurid colors as to deter the virtuous, the honorable and the wise of the world from casting their lot with a community painted in such distorted tints.

It is really a fact, as charged by some, that Salt Lake City is such an awful place compared with other towns of a similar population? We do not believe it. That gambling, Sunday liquor-selling and vices that we need not name exist here in contravention of State laws and city ordinances is admitted. The Deseret News has done its part for many years in endeavoring to have those enactments enforced, so far as that was possible, but in doing so this paper has not magnified and exaggerated existing wrongs, nor unjustly attacked the officers of the law entrusted with the preservation of the public peace, and the suppression of crime.

We have not denied the existence of evils here, nor have we maintained that in a mixed community like ours they could be entirely suppressed. They have been in the world almost from time immemorial. They have followed the march of that which is called civilization down through the centuries. They are to be found in every city and town, not only in the United States but throughout Christendom where people of various faiths, professions and occupations freely congregate. Salt Lake City is no exception to this state of things, except that the evils complained of are not as great as those in other places in many parts of the world. We need not enter into the question of how they were brought here and who established and supported them, although that might be made a strong factor in the sum of the question. The point to be considered is how they shall be restricted, seeing that it cannot be expected that they shall be altogether eradicated.

Are we in favor of the enforcement of the laws and regulations against them? Most decidedly we are. The files of this paper will prove beyond question that we have ever urged that course. But there should be a steady and persistent course pursued in regard to them, and not merely a sudden flaring forth every now and then, for purposes ulterior to the great object in view. This sporadic outbreak of verbal vitriol and violent denunciation of public officials is of a despicable character, and brings out while the curtains are up and goes quickly out when the curtains are let down. It is periodical and not continuous. It serves as a sudden sensation for the pulpit and the press, and then passes by like the flash of a meteor.

We join in the desire and are willing to do our part in action to regulate, restrict and reduce to a possible minimum all the evils dilated upon, whatever may be the motive for drawing attention to them. But with the mixed population in this city it is not reasonable

to expect their entire extinction. Experience has shown that wisdom is necessary in handling them, lest they be scattered and diffused, instead of confined within narrow limits and kept down to the smallest possible dimensions.

We venture the assertion that there are many thousands of people living in this city remote from the business section, who know nothing at all of the crime and vice and corruption which are said to abound so greatly here, except what they hear from the pulpit and read in some of the papers. The great body of the inhabitants of this city and state are as free from these contaminations as are good and virtuous men and women in any part of the world. The evils existing are the exceptions. Honorable, virtuous and moral conduct is the rule. To hold up this city in any other light is a libel upon it, and is disgraceful to all who engage in the slanders. We should not and must not ignore such wrongs as really spot the fair face of this municipality, but we need not magnify, exaggerate and distort them for sensational or any other unworthy purposes.

It will not help the Merchants and Manufacturers' Association in their praiseworthy endeavors to invite capital and industrial enterprise hitherward, to picture this community as festering with infamy, overrun with vice characters, steaming with iniquity and sweating under statutes unenforced, the prey of faithless officials, oppressed with priestcraft and dominated by ecclesiastical tyranny. That is a false and shameful picturing of a city and a state that stand high before heaven as peaceful, God-fearing and pure when compared with other cities and states of the American Union. Men of honor, of wealth and of genius may come here and dwell among us with perfect safety, and find avenues for the employment of their talents and their means for their own profit and for the general welfare. Life and property are as safe here as anywhere in the country. Homes may be built and dwell in where no sound of revelry or echo of vice or taint of infamy can reach them.

To daub this region of quietness and freedom and domestic harmony with the pitch and slime that have been used for years by persons who ought to be engaged in a different work, is too vile and malevolent and condemnable to be characterized in language suitable to our columns. For consistency's sake, let us pull together for the promotion of good feeling, the development of our resources and the building up of the state and its material interests, and for its growth in everything moral, intellectual and spiritual, instead of proclaiming to the world that this is no fit spot for Christians to make their abiding place.

HOW TO GET TOURISTS.

Commenting on the effort of the Salt Lake City Commercial club to divert tourist traffic this way, a writer in Harper's Weekly calls attention to the fact that it is so much easier, and cheaper, to cross the Atlantic, than to take a trip west, and that Europeans understand, so much better than we do, the art of making it agreeable to tourists.

The writer admits that a great many eastern people are solemnly conscious that they need to see more of their own land, and that they will not be fully capable of realizing the American idea and comprehending the American spirit until they have traversed the great prairies, and seen the great mountains, the great rivers, the great mid-western and far-western towns, and the western ocean. So, too, more and more, they feel the need of better acquaintance with the southwest and the south. If, he continues, it is possible to make it easier and less expensive, and more certainly entertaining for them to travel at home, an effort in that direction is well worth making. We are bound to go to Europe in shoals, and on the whole it is good for us. But we would travel more at home if it was made easier for us to do it. Our rich people do it now, and do it for fun. Poorer people think they get more for their money as yet by crossing the Atlantic.

It must be admitted that there are some suggestions of value in these sentences. Europe has its place of historical interest, beautiful scenery, and tourist guides to take care of the travelers, as well as fine accommodations. In this country, too, are places of the greatest historical interest, and unexcelled scenery; but we need guides to direct the tourists, and the cooperation of the railroads to place an American tour within the reach of the citizen with but limited means. The accommodations will come, in time. As the American tourists show an inclination to go this way, the Westerners will soon rival the Swiss and Italians in entertaining them.

ON THE NAVY.

Secretary of the Navy Bonaparte has been severely criticized for his suggestion that the old frigate Constitution be destroyed. He argued that the relic is really not the genuine "Old Ironsides" because the ship has been more or less rebuilt. But this argument is not accepted. "What," asks one of the critics, "who speaks for a large number of citizens, 'this goes into the secretary's personality, I should say, keep her, even if she has not 10 planks of the old original hull. Still it represents in symbol the old Constitution, as the English Victory represents the old Trafalgar ship. Go on supplying new planks, as the old ones rot out. We ought to keep all historic things of that sort, with which there is associated patriotic sentiment. I cannot see what the secretary's idea is. It is not the value of the ship, but the value of the sentiment, and that can never be replaced, at any cost."

On another question, however, Secretary Bonaparte has struck a popular chord. When he admits that our navy is large enough and that we only need the substitution within the next six years of five new battleships and two new armored cruisers for worn-out or

antiquated vessels, he speaks the sentiments of the great majority of American citizens. We do not need a navy large enough to inspire other nations with awe. We need not rival the European powers in navy building. If it is true that big battleships become almost antiquated before completed, it is folly to invest enormous sums of money in such war engines.

There is really, at least among the more enlightened nations of the world, a sincere desire for a reduction in the expenses incurred by the maintenance of armies and navies. Baron d'Estourmel de Constant, the noted French agitator for abolition, said not long ago that "the English government, like ourselves, is involved in a vicious circle. It desires a general reduction of naval expenses, but it dislikes to confess its embarrassment by being the first to speak of it." As to the principle, he added, "there is perfect agreement in France and England, but nobody wishes to take the first step."

This, we believe, is true. The nations of the earth are becoming aware of the fact that they can spend their substance to better purposes than wasting it in engines of destruction.

To denigrate the Constitution may prove a Bellerophon.

Edward Atkinson is dead of acute indigestion. He invented the Aladdin stove!

Russia faces more crises and puts a better face on it than any country in the world.

James J. Corbett says he wants to become a great actor. Already he has become a great talker.

Being in the educational drawer of the new cabinet, Augustine Birrell may issue some more Obituary Dicta papers.

The death-knell of cable cars has been sounded in Chicago. The city council has said to them, "Trolley-bia."

The lot of the Pole is not a happy one. They seem to fear German occupation of their country more than Russian domination.

"I will deny nothing, nor will I affirm anything. I have learned a lesson from the past," says Senator Depew. "Me, too," says Senator Platt.

What E. H. Harriman said to T. J. Ryan will interest the public much more than what the governor of North Carolina said to the governor of South Carolina.

In Albany it is reported that Senator Chauncey M. Depew will be asked to resign his seat in the Senate. If he is, it will remain to be seen whether to ask is to receive.

It is quite as important to have legislation regulating accidents on railroads as rates. The rate of accidents is unreasonable beyond the peradventure of a doubt.

Bishop Lawrence has been arranging the Back Bay for its civic lethargy. And it has always been supposed that the Back Bay and Beacon street were perfect in each and every respect.

Of course there is politics in the elevation of John Burns to a place in the Campbell-Hanneman cabinet, but there is also recognition of a strong individual and a great personal worth, outside of America. England is probably the only country where a man of Burns' antecedents could by any possibility reach such a station in public life.

The court-martial that tried Midshipman Meriwether has acquitted him on the charge of manslaughter and found him guilty of such violations of the rules and regulations of the naval academy as to warrant a recommendation for his dismissal. This looks much like a case of straining at the gnat and swallowing the camel.

This is what Roosevelt Field said of Mark Twain on Mark's seventeenth birthday. "And there are some who hope that he will seize this opportunity to announce that he has gone out of the humorist business, that he has earned his rest, and that in future he will do his best to try not to be funny. The good things Mark Twain has said in the past will be quoted and admired and laughed over many years after he and we now on earth have been tucked away, but the things he has been saying in the last year, while put on the first page by way of compliment, are not likely to make much of a stir in coming literary circles. There is nothing more fitting than the graceful subsidence of a septuagenarian humorist." If Mr. Field will only read what the great humorist said at the dinner given in his honor, he will change his opinion about there being no more humor in Mark Twain. The lack is on Field's appreciation.

DISTANCE A GIRL DANCES

Chicago Journal.

A young man fond of dancing recently took a pedometer with him to a ball and found that in the course of the evening he had covered thirteen and a half miles. The average length of a waltz was half a mile, of a polka three-quarters of a mile, of a gallop or schottische a mile, and of a lancers a quarter of a mile. A girl usually dances more than a man and is calculated to cover more than sixteen miles in a single evening.

THE "GOSPEL OF FLANNEL"

Full Mail Gazette.

Now as to the great gospel of flannel. Let us clearly understand that the indispensable character of any garment, worn next the skin is that it be absorbent. It does not matter where the warmth that is bodily conducting layer is placed so long as the layer next the skin is absorbent. This property depends upon the material but upon its texture, and wool may be woven into non-absorbent form, while other fabrics may be woven into perfectly absorbent forms. Flannels of cotton wool vary widely in this regard, as every surgeon knows. There are flannel garments which are totally unfit for covering next the skin, and, worse than that, they are almost as incapable of absorbing moisture or of permitting ventilation as is India rubber. These

facts are beginning to be recognized, and I could name quite a dozen firms which now make a point of supplying linen, silk and cotton undergarments which are perfectly absorbent and far more comfortable than wool to sensitive skins. Cricketers, too, are learning rightly to appraise the virtues of flannel, and nowadays one sees relatively few flannel shirts in the field, their place being taken by lightly woven and often perforated linen or cotton shirts, which are better in every respect.

GENTLE ART OF MAYHEM.

New York World.

Certain young gentlemen, by reason of natural fitness and great experience, have developed into great generals of football. They are the Napoleons, the Marlbores, the Ozymarks of the game. Born of clean, decent stock, trained in the finest schools of the nation, never exposed to the degrading influences of the prize-ring, these young gentlemen nevertheless have developed a cynical indifference to bruises, maiming and even death itself. They work for money, they train the college teams. They teach the gentle art of mayhem to the younger generation.

SKATING ON A HOTEL ROOF.

New York World.

Philadelphia.—An ice-skating rink on the roof, 210 feet above the street level, is planned by the managers of the Bellevue-Stratford and as soon as there is an assurance of continued cold weather the plan will be carried out. The guests will then be able to enjoy the sport by simply taking the elevator instead of making the long journey to the park lakes. Already some who have heard of it are considering the question of engaging it for private parties, and carnivals on the ice on the Bellevue-Stratford roof may become one of the events of the winter's gaiety.

New Grand Theatre

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A chance for ladies to see a prize fight. Thursday, "UNCLE JOSH SPRUCEBY." Prices—Night, 25c, 50c, 75c; Matinee—25c.

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ALL THIS WEEK.

Matinee, Wednesday at 2, Saturday at 2:15.

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The Parisian Belles

A SHOW THAT PLEASES ALL. Gold Watch and Cash Prize given to best amateur performers Friday night.

Commencing Saturday matinee, "LONDON GAIETY GIRLS."

Prices—Night, 25c, 50c, 75c; Matinee—25c.

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Has never been shown to such advantage as in the variety of toilet articles we are showing in this rich wood. All of the articles are inlaid with silver of simple but exquisite design, and we have just enough of these goods to make them exclusive gifts. They are shown in hand mirrors, military brushes, combs and hair brushes.

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Where the Cars Stop.
The Great Prescription Drug Store.

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To make this a Greater Salt Lake! Every time a house is painted here, it helps the whole town. It helps it more if the paint is M. & P. (scientifically correct).

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Both Phones 374. By the Monument.

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new store a line of drawings from the

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for your inspection.

Please call opposite and south Salt Lake Theatre.

The recently accepted designs for Buttons and Labels for the Manufacturers' and Merchants' Association come from this studio.

Orders also taken for decorated china for Christmas gifts. Miss Eva Snow, artist.

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PRESCRIPTION DRUGGISTS,

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A Hat will make a most appropriate Christmas Present, affording its recipient something beautiful, and at the same time useful. We urge you to come early to make selections.

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Children's Dresses and Coats, Undersuits, Dressing Skirts, Silk Kimonos, Wrappers, Mercerized Petticoats, entire line of street and dress skirts, Evening Coats and Novelty Street Coats. All Plaid and Silk Waists, at—

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Good Furs make ideal gifts—gifts that can be put to practical use, year after year. We have a splendid Stock of them in Collarettes, Boas, Scarfs, Ties and Collars. A choice line of Fur Lined and Fur Trimmed Coats.

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Our Entire Line of Flannelette Gowns and Skirts, for ladies and misses, in white, plain pink and blue, and all fancy mixed stripes. Nothing reserved. The Bargains are:

60c grade for 40c \$1.25 grade for 80c

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85c grade for 60c \$1.75 grade for 1.15

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TILL THE LAST RUSH COMES

But do your Christmas shopping early, while assortments are complete, and while you can have our best attention. All stocks are in good shape in the morning; in the afternoon they are likely to be disordered.

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\$100.00

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Thirteen years ago Oscar Grosholtz, the ticket broker, trusted a man. The man didn't pay. He sued him. The judgment got old and he turned it to us for collection.

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