

DESERET EVENING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(Sundays 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 \$2.00
Six Months \$1.25
Three Months \$0.75
One Month \$0.25
Saturday Edition, Per Year \$2.00
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 to:
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Entered at the Postoffice of Salt Lake City as second class matter on or before the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 19, 1906.

ANOTHER Foe IN THE FIELD.

A "Christian" weekly has been sent to us with a page devoted to the claims on public support of a society called "The Anti-Mormon Association." The chief object of the organization appears to be the sale of some pamphlets by its "General Secretary and Field Agent." In addition to this source of income, 10,000 members of the association are wanted at a dollar a head. A number of letters from different points are cited to show the interest some folks take in "the lighting of Mormonism." One lady, writing from Boston speaks of "the women of the Presbyterian Church who have been fighting Mormonism at Washington," alluding of course to the investigation that has been in progress, ostensibly to inquire into the right of a Senator from Utah to his seat in the United States Senate. The allusion shows exactly what the "light" is about. Another letter makes this astounding statement from Tennessee:

"There was an old man at my home this afternoon, by the name of Francis Miller, born here in 1825, and has lived here ever since. He is a member of the Methodist church in good standing. He positively declared to me that he had heard Hyrum Church a Mormon preacher, preach 'polygamy' before Joe Smith was killed."

Isn't that wonderful! Away back before June, 1844 somebody heard somebody preach "polygamy." Sound the trumpet, blow the horn and beat the drum and send the news to a startled world, inviting tens of thousands to send on a dollar a piece and also buy the leaflets that publish such remarkably "fresh news!"

Another correspondent, hailing from Kentucky, says he has "never debated with the Mormon Elders but wants the addresses of those who have," and adds:

"I have preached in several Mormon communities, also have had several debates with the CAMALITES. I would be glad to post up on all the issues of Mormonism and to take the field against them."

A belligerent in Texas writes: "I've found out by the help of the Lord and—'s' tracts that I can lick any Mormon Elder, and I'm on the hunt for one now continually." Another quotation will suffice. In reference to a question about the Prophet Joseph Smith, the answer to which is given below, the Weekly says, "the Josephites" got hot-very hot when they affirm it."

"The earnest, solemn words of David Whitmer with the shadows of the grave around him were: 'I now have as much evidence that Bro. Joseph received the revelation on polygamy and gave it to the Church as I have to believe that such a man as George Washington ever lived.'"

It appears therefore that the anti-"Mormon" association aims to make its fight against the Re-egant church as well as against the original Church founded by the Prophet Joseph, and to "lick" the elders of that denomination too. Well, we shall see. The good "Christian" cause of the assailants will doubtless be carried on, as long as there are dupes enough to donate a dollar to keep it up and "debaters" who are willing to buy the tracts which it has on sale. When the fun is all the association will collapse.

WILD BOYS AND GIRLS.

The Indianapolis Star observes that boys in highway robbery, and girls in wineromms and dancehalls, are the spectacles that are sending sword thrusts of pain and grief into parental hearts all over the land. Every city is agitated over its wild boys and wild girls.

This is a lamentable fact, but what can be done? In the first place, temptations are more numerous, and stronger, than ever. Saloons, and drugstores with saloon licenses, are found on every corner; show-houses where morality is made light of, and murderous criminals are paraded as heroes; "funny" journalism, where parental and all authority is ridiculed, abound. To these factors comes the unwillingness of many parents to labor with their children, day by day, and train them to walk in the paths of virtue. Life has become easy now-a-days, with the opportunities of earning money and all the modern inventions that are calculated to save labor, and trouble. But instead of spending the time thus saved from hard work, in mental and moral improvements, too many parents simply kill the time in bed, over an insipid novel, or around a card table, instead of on the training of their children. The latter they leave to chance, and the result is deplorable.

But how is it changed in this to be effected? A national awakening to the responsibilities of life, is needed. Parents will have to come to themselves and realize that their mission cannot be shirked. They know the infinite care that must be bestowed upon their business, if that is not to be a failure. They know that any accomplishment they covet can be won only by long, patient labor, be it in music, painting, languages, or any other line. But the duties of fatherhood, of motherhood, it is supposed, can be neglected. To mould the character of a child, can

be left to chance. This must be changed, if the condition complained of is to be amended. Many a wreck of a young life is due to the betrayal of the sacred trust of parents. Juvenile courts cannot take the place of parental care. Not long ago the papers of this country printed portraits of the paid mistresses of a departed millionaire. They told alluring stories of how magnificently she was provided for, and what a charming woman she was! As long as a corrupt press is permitted to paint such pictures of naked vice and send them into every home of the country, we need not wonder if girls go astray. Virtue is too often clothed in rags, not to look with admiration at the jewels and rich gowns of sin. A Hercules is indeed needed, to sweep the Augeas stable of modern society, in order to purify the moral atmosphere our boys and girls are made to inhale wherever they go.

A FINE PAPER.

Our morning contemporary, the Inter-Mountain Republican, issued its full Sunday edition with supplement, yesterday, and is to be congratulated on its fine appearance, variety of matter and general make-up. We notice that it has not adopted the very popular colored, syndicate funny sheet, and think it wise in the omission. While older folks as well as young people laugh over the jokes and illustrations of the widely copied comic plate, its influence upon the juvenile mind is not uplifting, but savors of disrespect for parental and other legitimate authority, and that kind of humor that promotes disregard for human rights and the general welfare. The same wit and skill and remarkable power of caricature displayed, as we think, in a wrong direction, might be employed in a way to encourage honor, kindness, obedience to law and family government, and to increase that respect for old age and the comfort, convenience and happiness of all, that would aid in building up character, and would be beneficial to every community, and therefore to the nation and to mankind universally. Fun, hilarity, wit and appreciation of the humorous, by all means; but ridicule of that which is good and trusting and generous, either by word or picture, in our opinion is in the wrong direction and is a waste of time and talent.

ON THE DIVORCE EVIL.

A national congress to discuss the divorce question is about to convene at Washington. Delegates from all parts of the country have met for that purpose, and among them are many earnest students of the problems involved. The deliberations cannot fail to be productive of good results, even if nothing more is accomplished than the awakening of the general public to a better realization of the menace to the American home that threatens destruction from a quarter against which no general outcry is made.

We have, some time ago, called attention to the statistics by the United States Commissioner of Labor for 1895, according to which the total number of divorces granted in this country during a period of twenty years, ending with 1886, amounted to 228,718. This number increased steadily, from 9,900 in 1867, to 25,548 in 1886. The increase of population was 60 per cent, and of divorces 63 per cent.

Bishop Doane is authority for the statement that there are more divorces in this country in one year than in all Europe, Australia and the British dominions. There are, he claims, 2,000 times as many divorces here as in Canada, though the population is only fifteen times as great. In some states there are one divorce to every six marriages, and in others one to every eight. It is claimed that in Chicago as many as 300 divorces have been granted in one day. No matter how liberal anyone may be in his views on the marriage covenants, the necessity of some means of checking an evil that has grown to tremendous proportions must be admitted.

In the first place, a better understanding of the marriage institution is needed. Anciently the marriage covenant was regarded as sacred, and the family was therefore built upon a most solid foundation. Gradually this view became obsolete; then it was easier to "marry in haste and repent at leisure." The least family disagreement is made a pretext for the appearance in a divorce court. This would not be so, were the nature of the covenant between husband and wife better understood.

In the second place, the leaders of society could do much toward stemming the tide of the evil. On this point the Rector of St. Bartholomew's church, New York, in a sermon once said:

"I do not hesitate to say that there are a score of women in this city who could put a check to this evil of divorce within a year. Let it once be distinctly understood that those much-desired cards to balls, receptions, dinners, and 'at homes' did not go to men and women who had been divorced and scandalously married again, and I tell you, my friends, that it would be surprising how many people would find they could live together. For responsibility goes with privilege, and those of you who are recognized as leaders in society, have got to give an account to God of your leadership of society, as truly as the minister is to account for his leadership of the congregation. 'When thou sittest a thief,' said the psalmist, 'thou consentest unto him and hast been partner with the adulterers. These things hast thou done and I held my tongue. Thou thoughtest wickedly that I am even such an one as thyself; but I will remove thee and set before thee things which thou hast done. Consider this, ye that forget God, lest I pluck you away and there be none to deliver you.'"

These are solemn words, that should be thoughtfully considered. Laws will not accomplish much, unless they have public sentiment behind them.

CHINESE POETRY.

It was the famous preacher C. H. Spurgeon, who confessed that, in a moment of weakness, he had actually indulged in the pastime of making rhymes, thus indicating what he thought of the gift coveted by so

many. Had he been permitted to live and witness even John Chinaman take a ride on the winged Pegasus, he might have been induced to modify his ideas of poetry being a symptom of weakness. It is certain that China is awakening and feeling her strength, and it is equally certain that without this remarkable returning to life and activity of a long dormant nation, we would not have had a Chinaman breaking out in rhyme, as was the case at a recent meeting in New York of the Patriotic Sons of Cathay. The poem was written by Yan Phou Lee and was entitled, "China Awakening." Here it is:

"Awake! my country, sweet Cathay! Awake! here dawns a glorious day! Awake from slumbers long and deep! Awake from soul-dumbing sleep! Dream not of greatness past and gone; Of peaceful conquests nobly won! The day of greater things has come; Duty calls thee—will thou be dumb? Myriad foes encompass thee; Arise, my country, and be free! Let tyrants feel thy righteous rage, Make foes restore thy heritage. Awake! my country, sweet Cathay! Rise and resume thy rightful way! The Prince of Progress stands o'er thee—He breaks the spell—lo! thou art free."

LECTURED ON SMOKE.

At Rochester, N. Y., the smoke question has also become a live issue. A civil engineer of Chicago recently in a lecture, told the Chamber of Commerce of the experiences of his city with the smoking chimneys. He said there was a time when smoke was considered an indication of prosperity, but as a matter of fact, now it is actually the barometer of stupidity; smoke is a nuisance, damaging health and property, and 50 per cent less damage.

Concerning the damage caused by smoking chimneys, he said:

"It is estimated that the damage resulting from smoke in Chicago aggregates \$40,000,000 a year, or \$18 per capita. The population of Rochester, according to the last census, is 181,872, and as you are not such vile sinners, in smoke production, as the people of Chicago, I will rate the damage down, give you the benefit of the doubt, and in round numbers will call the damage \$1,000,000. To show you the reasonableness of my estimate, let me say that the figures are made on the basis of 1 1/2 cents a day per capita, and if this basis be correct you have a loss of \$985,000."

The lecture was, no doubt, interesting; it was illustrated with stereopticon views, and so on, but the reports of it do not mention whether the lecturer proposed a practical remedy for the abatement of the expensive nuisance. And that is, after all, the chief point.

Spring alighted yesterday and lighted out today.

It is to be the Panama or the manana canal?

"See America first," Mr. and Mrs. Longworth.

Bad as is the camera fiend the drink fiend is worse.

A good many of the speeches on the rate bill are third raters.

Put craps on your Stetson hats. The man who made them is dead.

One needs a day of rest after reading so much about the wedding.

China wants to be let alone to work out her destiny in her own way. What right has a heathen nation to have a destiny or to work it out in its own way?

Why is it that health inspectors do not go round and tell people to comply with the ordinances, until nuisances become so unbearable that neighbors are compelled to complain?

Dispatches from China, tell of an impending uprising against foreigners. The Chinese minister at Washington tells a different story, saying there is no danger. After all, time will tell.

Emperor William has directed that a lot of cartoons of himself be allowed to circulate in Germany and that no prosecution be brought. It was a wise thing to do. It takes much of the sting out of the cartoons and makes the emperor popular.

Not a library outside of Derby Neck has tabooed Jack London's books. Jack had hoped that from this little acre to a mighty oak would grow, but he was doomed to disappointment. There hasn't been the slightest increased demand for his books.

"We have heard as many opinions on the railroad rate question as there are members of the committee, and each man is afraid to bring the court review feature to a vote," said Chairman Elkins. Simply a case of every man being his own lawyer.

A German revivalist calls Berlin the wickedest city in the world. Other cities have been similarly designated, and among others, Port Said and Chicago, not to mention any in closer proximity to Salt Lake City. The fact is that anyone can find very nearly that which he is looking for, wherever he goes.

One of the most important measures that will be introduced in the British parliament is one that is said to be aimed at large land owners in the kingdom. It provides for a tax on land in accordance with its value. It will affect holders of immensely valuable ground in the fashionable parts of London, for instance, who under the present system of taxation do not contribute their share to the public revenue. It is supposed the measure will be defeated in the House of Lords.

PROUD OF THEIR BABIES.

Kansas City Star.
"American fathers are the most affectionate in the world," said a traveling Englishman the other day. "I never heard any young married men talk with such affectionate pride about their babies. The usual Englishman is either boisterous or simply satisfied. This morning I saw one of the pleasantest sights imaginable. I was riding in a street car. Opposite to me sat a young couple with a baby. The husband was holding the baby. He was a broad and sturdy fellow and he held the pink and white mite very tenderly. He was not in the least embarrassed. He had one muscular finger playing about the child's mouth, and all the while the pink gums snapped at it he looked as proud as a prince and beamed all over his honest face. Now, you'd never see a sight like that in my country. I shouldn't mind sending another every day to children of such fathers."

ENGLAND'S NEW DEPARTURE.

London Tribune.
The vast resources of modern industry make the material basis of such a life easier of attainment, to quote more backward races, to carry fire and sword among smaller peoples, to paint the map of the world red, to swell the national consciousness with the pride of victory, and to purchase that glory at the price of a people's impoverished, ill-housed, ill-fed, half-employed. It is possible again to direct them so that the ever-increasing gains of industry may be widely diffused among a contented and peaceable people, finding their pride in their own political and industrial freedom, and in showing an example to the world of self-restrained power. For ten years we as a nation have walked upon the first path. Now we enter upon the other.

BUSINESS SHARKS.

Bench and Bar.
Lawyers everywhere should warn and protect their clients and acquaintances against the depredations of a class of unprincipled promoters and so-called "business opportunity" financiers who operate somewhat extensively in New York city and less important financial centers. These are they who pretend to possess or be able to control, unlimited capital for the establishment or development of "sound" commercial or industrial enterprises, but who in reality subsist on advance fees and an unscrupulous share in the charges of experts, accountants, auditors and even disreputable members of the bar, with whom the business opportunity shark is too often at league. The capital, of course, is never furnished.

REPEAL MORTGAGE TAX LAW.

New York Herald.
"The mortgage tax law," says William H. Rowan, in a communication urging its repeal, "is bad from beginning to end." Mr. Rowan is right. Viewed from whatever point you may it is an iniquitous tax, ostensibly levied at the money lender, and paid every time to the poor borrower. The legislators who created the law were primarily responsible for the iniquity. The legislators now convened in Albany are responsible, collectively and individually, every man of them, for not repealing the law promptly.

VIEWED WITH ALARM.

Springfield Republican.
The people of the United States view with dismay, not unmixed with anger, the fact that the coal miners and operators seem to be drifting into another great strike, which would affect the industries of this section of the country, imperil domestic comfort, and cause some measure of widespread distress, such as prevailed when the last battle was fought. The fact that the trouble is slated for April 1 would mean less misery, but no less nuisance and general annoyance. No matter how much coal has been accumulated by the operators, prices will be advanced and such a situation precipitated as will mean nothing less than a calamity. Our civilization falls when such a menace as this has to be periodically faced. The rights of the public are too little considered upon the one side and the other.

JUST FOR FUN.

"How Absolute the Knave Is!"
The Artist. "Can the editor see me now, do you think?"
The Sharp Boy. "No! O' course not! 'e's in 'is room, and got the door shut."
—The Sketch.

The Survival of the Dearest.
"Protection is every day receiving its death-blow."—The Lynn News.

A Thirst for Knowledge.
Elsie—What's that, Daddy?
Father. "A cow."
Elsie—"Why?"—Punch.

A Word to the Wiser.
Father John. "Have you nothing better to do on a Sunday, Peter Mugger, than to be hunting for rats in the ditches?" Don't you think it would answer ye better if you bought two nice little pigs and had some profit of your money instead of wasting it on terrier dogs?"

Peter. "Och, yer reverence, sure it's the quare fool I'd look hunting for rats on a Sunday mornin' with a couple of young pigs at me heel!"—The Tatler.

A digestive tragedy is hidden beneath the callous words in which people tell the story of a poor man who, at an election dinner, refused the waiter's offer of toothpicks thus: "No, thanks. I've eaten two 'elpa of them already, and I don't want no more."—London Telegraph.

What has become of that Russian agent? "The ultimatum American suggests that April 1 would be a good date for it to meet."—The Atlanta Constitution.

Keeper. "Hi, boy! You can't catch fish here without a permit."
Boy. "Well, I'm getting on well enough with a worm!"—The Sketch.

The following sublime paragraph is from one of the latest fashionable novels: "With one hand he held her beautiful head as he chided waves, and with the other called loudly for assistance!"—Tit-Bits.

It doesn't bother Castro to have the French get gay. He eats an ultimatum for breakfast every day. —Chicago News.

"Gracious!" exclaimed the shocked old lady as she adjusted her spectacles. "If you big boys don't stop pummeling that little lad he will have to go to the hospital. I hope you don't call that playing soldier!"
"We ain't playing soldier," retorted the tough boy in the green sweater. "We're playing naval cadets."—Chicago News.

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