

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

IGRENZO SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING.
(EXCEPT SUNDAYS)
Office at South Temple and East Temple Streets
Salt Lake City, Utah.Charles W. Penrose, Editor
Hercule G. Whitney, Business Manager

Subscription Prices:

For Year	Advance	\$2.00
For 6 Months	"	1.25
For 3 Months	"	.75
For 1 Month	"	.25
For 1 Week	"	.10
For 1 Day	"	.05

EASTERN OFFICE:
104-105 Times Building, New York City. In
charge of H. F. Cummings, Manager. Foreign
Advertising, from our Home Office.

Correspondence and other reading matter
for publication should be addressed to the
EDITOR.
Address all business communications
THE DESERET NEWS,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, - FEB. 23, 1901.

DON'T BE IN A HURRY.

There is a bill before the Legislature for the abolition of the office of District Attorney. The reason for its presentation appears to be the non-necessity of the office. It is claimed that the county attorneys are competent and able to perform the duties that are imposed upon the district attorneys, and therefore the latter are a needless expense. It is argued that the abolition of the office would make a great pecuniary saving to the State.

Before action is finally taken on this measure, it ought to be carefully and calmly considered. The law creating the office was passed only two years ago. The incumbents, elected by popular vote, did not take their places until the first day of the present year. They are to hold their offices for four years from that date. They will do so even if the bill now offered should be passed.

Why this haste to abolish an office which has not yet been tested as to its necessity and benefits? The law, as well framed in the Statutes of 1899, is well framed and the duties of the office are clearly defined, and the compensation is fixed at a reasonable sum. The need for this office, which is a State position, was seen in the importance frequently attached to criminal cases which occasionally arise, calling for experience and legal ability of a high character.

County attorneys are usually engaged in county affairs and in the prosecution of petty offenses, pretty closely. There may be a few small counties where they have sufficient time, and also the necessary qualifications, to attend to the prosecutions for high crimes before the District courts. But as a rule they have enough to do in the legitimate sphere allotted to their position. The judicial district, it seems, ought to have its district attorney as provided in the statute of two years ago.

The second and third judicial districts certainly need a district attorney each. In fact the third district requires an assistant attorney. The business of the court is greater than one man can fully transact. To abolish the office in these districts would be detrimental to the public interest. The members from the populated districts will readily see this, and we hope they will take an interest in the matter, and enlighten others in regard to it. The expense, of course, has to be considered, but that does not count against the need for criminal prosecution of felonies, conducted with ability and legal learning.

Would it not be better, seeing that the present incumbents will hold their offices four years whether the bill passes or not, to let the matter go over until the next Legislature meets, two years from now, by which time the test will have been made, as to the necessity and benefits or otherwise of the law as it stands at present? There is no pressing requirement for instant action. The haste to repeal a law, passed at the last session of the Legislature, looks like a reflection upon it by the present body. If experience shows it to be harmful or needless, then action could be taken upon it without that appearance. In any event, we suggest that this measure should not be passed in haste to be perhaps repented of at leisure.

ANOTHER DENIAL.

A special to the Deseret News from New York today, states that the Herald of that city prints a Washington dispatch this morning announcing that Senator Thomas Kearns gives an emphatic denial to the report previously published by the New York Herald, that he had bought or offered to buy Saltair from the "Mormon" Church. He denounces it as a rehearsal of an old story started in this city without any foundation in fact, and declares it to be entirely untrue.

Of course there is no well informed and sensible person here who places any credence in the sensational and libellous canard. The motives that prompted its fabrication and the malice that saturated its repeated utterances, are pretty thoroughly understood and appreciated. The source from which it emanated was enough to condemn it in the minds of Utah people, and we should not have noticed the matter now, when it is as dead as a smoked herring, but for the mention of it by an prominent Journal as the New York Herald, and the response by the United States Senator who has been libelled by the paper that started the story.

LAW AND LIQUOR-SELLING.

The riotous disturbances in Kansas seem to present two sides to the public, as is usual on almost every question of fact or principle. Most people condemn the course of the turbulent agitators, led by Mrs. Nation, regarding it as lawless, unjustifiable and promotive of much more harm than good. Others take the ground that as Kansas is a prohibition State, and the business of liquor selling is unlawful and a public nuisance, seeing that the officers of the law do not take any ac-

tion for its suppression, the saloon-smashers are justified in their crusade, with all its scenes of violence and destruction.

It may not be a rule without exception that a cause of any kind is to be judged by its effects. Yet it may be regarded as true in general, and applicable in the present instance. What are the results of the smashing campaign in Kansas? Demolition of valuable property, (not saying anything about intoxicants) disturbance of the peace, defiance of official authority, mobocracy, tumult and murder. What else? Attention has been forcibly directed to the violation of law by liquor vendors, and the apathy of the police authorities in relation to it. But it does not appear that anybody has been converted from the liquor habit, or that any permanent cessation of the liquor traffic has been secured.

One principle that should obtain in general practice seems to be lost sight of, by the supporters of the Nation movement. That is, the suppression of lawlessness belongs to the law, and does not devolve upon private individuals, no matter what may be their views or convictions. There is a right way to proceed against wrong. As error is not to be overcome by more error, darkness by greater darkness, evil by increased evil, so defiance of law is not to be put down or punished by lawless force. The law is ample for its own vindication. Even if it lags, from the supineness or failure of its officers, it is not to be executed by private persons according to their peculiar notions. There is still a legal method of procedure against the officials who do not perform their sworn duty. The law must be administered by the officers of the law, and the multitude must not take it into their own hands.

The influence attending the disgraceful and anarchistic scenes in Kansas, is evil in the extreme. It tends to promote mob rule; to deride and revile the constituted authorities; to justify destruction of private property by private vengeance; to stir up lawless strife and the use of deadly weapons; to substitute brute force for reason and light. It bears the spirit of rampant mobocracy, and should be opposed by every lover of his country and defender of law and order. The liquor traffic cannot be suppressed by such improper methods, and there is no temperance in such intemperate and unlawful proceedings.

NOT A "CORRECTION."

We have received a letter from Dr. S. E. Wishard, well known by reputation to most of the people of Utah as a pronounced anti-"Mormon" of the sensational and not over particular type. We print the first paragraph of the letter below and omit the portions which are impudent and abusive. He says:

"My attention has been recently called to an article in your paper in which you quote me as saying that 'if either (political) party hopes for success, it has to nominate a 'Mormon' for no other stands a chance for election.' Let me do myself the pleasure of correcting that statement, and of asking you to publish the correction as widely as you have published the statement."

The "article" to which Mr. Wishard refers, was simply a reproduction of a report of his remarks published in other papers. It will be observed that he offers nothing in refutation of that report of his foolish attack. We must say that we have more confidence in the published reports than in his bare assertion, which scarcely amounts to a denial. It harmonizes with other of his utterances in different places, and he merely says in reference to it, "Let me do myself the pleasure of correcting that statement." He does not correct it, but takes an opportunity to gnash his teeth at the Deseret News which is in no way responsible for the report of his anti-"Mormon" and gentle public utterances. If he desires a "correction" published as widely as the report of his speech, he had better make a real "correction" and send it to the papers which are responsible for the original report.

A DISPUTED PASSAGE.

A correspondent of Panaca, Nevada, sends us the following question:

"Would you please answer through the columns of your paper: What ground has Judge North B. Ladd in his Commentaries on Hebrew and Christian Mythology for making the following assertion: 'The statement in Josephus (relating to Christ) has long since been recognized by all critics to be a clear case of forgery, made in the time of Eusebius, and probably by him, as he was well known to be a forger of Christian writings.' If he has no evidence, what are the facts in the case?"

The fact is that the passage in Josephus which refers directly to Jesus is by modern critics regarded either as entirely forged, or corrupted by interpolations. Those who hold the latter view think that Josephus wrote: "At this time appeared a certain Jesus, a wise man, and He drew to Himself many Jews. And when at the instigation of our chief men Pilate condemned Him to the cross, those who had first loved Him did not fall away. To this day the sect of Christians, called after Him, still exists."

In this simple statement, which has some internal marks of genuineness, it is supposed that some pious copyist interpolated the statements that Christ was a worker of miracles, a teacher of such as received Him with joy, and that He appeared to the disciples after His death.

Those who reject the entire reference as forged do so chiefly on the ground that it is supposed to have been unknown to Origen and the earlier fathers, although the fact that a writer does not mention certain lines in extant books cannot be taken as a proof that these lines did not exist at the time.

There is ample evidence that Josephus was well acquainted with the events of gospel history. His references to the martyrdom of John the Baptist and James the Just prove this. But Josephus did not write history for the sake of preserving facts, impartially. He wrote for political purposes, endeavoring to ally the storms that raged against himself and his people, on account of their stubborn resistance to Roman authority. He could not, for

this obvious reason, give prominence to the fact that the Christians, who were also bitterly hated by Rome, were the followers of a Jewish Prophet. To gain his purpose he naturally had to ignore as much as possible the existence of the Nazarene and His disciples, and this he did studiously. He could, however, mention in passing that such a man as Jesus had lived, and that He was put to death at the instigation of the chief men of the Jews, for that would be a proof of the loyalty of the Jews to the Romans—the very point Josephus sought to establish, as far as possible, after what had taken place during the rebellion in which Jerusalem was destroyed. Everything considered, it is more likely that the disputed passage was penned by Josephus, and amplified by a copyist, than that it was entirely forged.

Interpolations are not unfrequent in ancient writings. They are found, as critics have proved, even in the New Testament. And it is not necessary to suppose that they always are the work of dishonest scribes. A copyist would at times make his own note on the margin of a manuscript which he copied, as foot notes now are made at the bottom of printed pages. Another copyist, in copying this manuscript might incorporate the notes in the text itself, without knowing perhaps whether the original author or a later scribe had first written them. In this way many interpolations have found their way into the texts, and it is at times difficult, at this day, to determine what is genuine and what is spurious. That Eusebius, however, was an unscrupulous forger of ecclesiastical history is not proved. That he was mistaken in many things may be true, but as a rule, he is sustained by later impartial investigation.

The disputed lines in Josephus have been thoroughly studied by the world's ablest scholarship, because contemporary testimony, outside of the New Testament, about the Savior, is rare. The opponents of Christianity are reluctant to admit this direct reference to His birth and death, and its friends are equally reluctant to reject it. It is certainly not material for the historical basis of Christianity, for the writings of Paul, and the Gospels cannot be successfully challenged as historical documents. But it is nevertheless of some importance. And the truth is, no doubt, to be found in the explanation that Josephus originally wrote a brief allusion to the death of Jesus, as brought about by the Jews, and that a Christian copyist enlarged what he had written, perhaps in a marginal note which later found its way into the text.

ABOUT LENT.

A large portion of the so-called Christian world is now observing the season known as Lent. The word is from the Anglo-Saxon "lencten,"—to make long—a name suggested by the fact that the season comes in the spring, when the days begin to lengthen. Its origin dates back to the early centuries of our era, and it was instituted for the purpose of giving believers in the Son of God ample time to prepare for the proper contemplation of His sufferings, death, and resurrection. It was dedicated as a period of the year particularly set apart for fasting, prayer, alms-giving, abstinence from worldly pleasures, and religious meditation. It is still strictly observed in the Roman church, and to some extent in other churches, but Protestants generally do not regard it as a divine institution, and consequently do not enforce its observance.

Religious systems generally have appointed periods of fasting and self-abnegation. The Moslem dispensation prescribed one great day of fasting, on which the people were to "afflict their souls" from "evening to evening." This day was associated with the great day of atonement. From this law the Roman church, we presume, obtained the pattern of the numerous fasts. The Mohammedans, too, have their Ramadan, the month in which the first part of the Koran is said to have been revealed to the Arabian prophet, and during this month all the faithful, whether at home or abroad, are supposed to abstain from food every day, until after sunset.

In the Church, as is well known, the first Sunday in every month has been appointed as one of fasting, while the further observance of this self-denial is left to each individual, as he or she shall be directed by the Spirit, when special spiritual, or even temporal, blessings are sought for. This agrees perfectly with the teachings of the word of God upon that subject, both in ancient and modern dispensations.

The great principle that underlies fasting is well expressed by the Prophet Isaiah: "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy home? When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?" This is the divine doctrine of fasting. It is the object for which it is instituted. It is not confined to days and seasons, but extends throughout the entire life of a true follower of Jesus. Special observances are valuable, as they aid in the fostering of this spirit of benevolence and unselfishness, but if days and seasons are substituted for that spirit, they are merely empty forms.

The state of negotiations in China seems to be a state of innocuous desuetude.

A theater trust has been formed. It is plain that its purpose is to "play" the public.

In an exchange Marion Harland gives a recipe for making claret punch. For "claret" sheJeffres' or Fitzsimmons' "punch" is best.

And now it is said that the sewing silk houses are to combine. Such a combination would come pretty near being "velvet."

The Senate has been called in extra session for March 4. It is the usual custom when a new administration is inaugurated and is merely for the pur-

pose of confirming or rejecting nominations.

Speaking of checks to higher education, what's the matter with Harvard? During the last week she has received about a million in checks.

Hon. Ed. H. Anderson for Surveyor General of Utah is an excellent appointment and will give very great satisfaction throughout the State.

In Chicago it is proposed to build more schools for cripples. That would be useless in our own city, for already our schools are crippled for money.

Congressman Mann of Chicago favors repealing the countervailing duty on foreign sugars. It might be just as well, as the duty appears to be un-availing.

It seems that Field Marshal Count von Waldersee did not start on his expedition as contemplated. This appears to be clearly a case where second thought is best thought.

A mountain of gold bearing rock is said to have been discovered near this city. In past times rock and shale from the same vicinity have been used for making bricks.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, author of "In His Steps," has been writing upon "the servant girl problem." It is needless to say that he has not solved it any more than he has squared the circle.

In deciding to abandon saloon smashing to take Journalism, Mrs. Nation makes a very great mistake. As a saloon smasher the eyes of the whole nation were upon her. As a journalist she will be lost sight of entirely.

Pat Crowe offers to give himself up if guaranteed against lynching. The Omaha officials, as for that matter the officials of Nebraska, should be able to grant his request. If he is innocent he should have the benefit of that fact. If he is guilty, he will be in the hands of the officers and they will have every opportunity to prove it. Give the Crowe a chance to prove that he is not so black as he is painted.

The loss of the steamer Rio de Janeiro is a most heart-rending affair. Many of the passengers were returning to the land of their birth, and that land was but a mile or two distant and their hopes were at the highest. The matter of responsibility for the terrible catastrophe concerns the public far less than the great gloomy pall that it casts. The company to which the boat belonged seems to have been very unfortunate in the loss of vessels.

The awful calamity detailed in our dispatches from the Pacific coast, is one of the horrors of the times and shows the fallibility of human beings, notwithstanding the training of a profession and the experience of practice. The presence of that unseen rock on which the vessel foundered, surely must have been known to the pilots of the port to San Francisco, and the failure to steer clear of it was one of those errors which have the appearance of fatality. We sympathize with the friends of the lost and missing, and admire the heroism of the gallant captain, who stayed with his vessel to the last and went down with it to the depths unflinchingly.

ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

New York Churchman.

If a church is to express the Christianity of a nation, if it is to be a national church, and at the same time a Catholic church, it must have its roots in the past. It must be able to appeal with confidence to antiquity, but it must be able to give scope to men who see truth from many sides, to who approach religion from whatever direction with the conviction that it is a revelation of God in Christ. Those who who took part in the (Fulham) conference did not accept in terms its suggestion of a common standing ground, they did accept it in spirit, each reserving his own liberty, none of them untrue to catholicity, and none of them untrue to reformation. It is impossible, perhaps it is not even desirable, that there should be entire accord in the metaphysical statement of spiritual truth. In our finite reachings after the infinite. It is only in heaven that it will be given us to see him as he is.

Pittsburg Presbyterian Banner.

If now the question arises, Should we make our creed longer or shorter? we must meet it by first answering the question, What doctrine should enter into the regular teaching of our office-bearers? But how again are we to answer this question? By what test are we to determine what Scriptural doctrines ought to have place in the official teaching of our church, and what should be omitted? Is there any doctrine taught in the Bible which should not find a place in our creed? Such questionings as these look toward a lengthening of our creed until it becomes an outline of all inspired doctrine.

New York Evangelist.

Somebody complains that this material age is incapable of vision; that poetry or philosophy is now impossible. We have sometimes wondered what Socrates would have made of the telephone, or Homer of the modern battleship or a Broadway trolley-car. If you put Milton into Mr. Chamberlain's office, or gave John Calvin into command of the New York Aldermen, it is quite likely they would cut a smaller figure and find new proportions as well as new conditions. But for all that, philosophy is a verity and poetry is still a vision. And when a Presbyterian goes to lamenting the decay of vision and recalls the great seers of a past age, he should remember that not one of the poets and philosophers he so sincerely regrets, cherished our confession of faith.

New York Independent.

Marriage is the foundation of society; it should be the first foundation for the best society we know. Society requires the best development of woman as well as of man. It makes neither a tyrant and neither a slave, but each the helpful mate and adviser of the other. In such society as the Christian religion has developed, with education and culture the right and the achievement of the woman as well as of the man should be recognized.

The Boston Congregationalist.
We have read with regret the Confessions of a Minister's Wife in the February Atlantic. It is accurate to portray ministers and peoples "in mad search for dollars," as depending upon church fairs, concerts, etc., to raise money, especially for benevolence? Are ministers and churches estimated prin-

FOR ONE WEEK ONLY,

COMMENCING ON MONDAY, FEB. 25TH.

We will sell our entire line of

Flannelette Night Gowns and Knit Underskirts,

NEW SPRING GOODS

A Fine Line of Silk and Albatross

WAISTS,

and

Ladies' Spring Suits

JUST ARRIVED.

At a Reduction of

33-3%

All New and Seasonable Goods.

Z. C. M. I.

T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

cially by the net results as indicated by mere numbers of additions? Are preachers afraid to say what they believe least some of their hearers or some denominational dignitaries take offense? Is an honest minister, who makes the religious life practical and genuine, almost, if not actually, certain of having his salary reduced and of being tried for heresy? Does the caste spirit dominate the churches? Are missionary gifts seldom genuine and loving? These questions answer themselves, for any one whose acquaintance with Christian churches is wide and intimate. This minister's wife could support every one of her statements by reference to this or that minister or church. But she has left, however unwittingly, the impression that the evils alluded to are general, if not universal, and are characteristic and dominant.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The leading article in McClure's Magazine for March is a character study of Edward the Seventh, written by George W. Smalley, the American correspondent of the London Times, and illustrated by a collection of photographs. Life Portraits of Queen Victoria is another feature. The series is made up of reproductions from photographs and paintings. They cover the life of the queen from infancy to old age, and are accompanied by descriptive text. Theodore Roosevelt, vice president elect of the United States, contributes an article entitled, "Reform Through Social Work." "Disbanding the Union Army" is the title of an article by Ida M. Tarbell. This describes the extraordinary feat accomplished by the Federal government at the close of the Civil War, when, without any disaster, a million soldiers were returned to quiet pursuits. Among the contents of the magazine are "What We Know About Mars," by Edward S. Holden. "Billy's Tearful Word," a story written and illustrated by Frederic Remington; "The Law of Life," an Alaskan story, by Jack London; "Dan McCarthy," a story of the New York Police, by J. Lincoln Steffens; and an installment of "Kim," by Rudyard Kipling.—The S. S. McClure Co., New York.

SALT LAKE THEATRE.

GEO. D. PYPHER, Manager.

First presentation here of the most successful Pastoral Play ever produced in America.

One Entire Week, Commencing Monday Night, FEB. 25.

Wednesday MATINEES Saturday

Mr. Wm. A. Brady
Has the honor to provide

Way Down East

In its entirety. The same as given in the principal cities

—SEAT SALE NOW ON—

Evenings—25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.50.
Matinees—25c, 50c, 75c, and \$1.00.

Out of town patrons can have seats reserved by mail, wire or phone.

NEW GRAND THEATRE.

M. E. MULVEY, Manager.

TONIGHT

The Year's Dramatic Sensation.

NELL GWYNN.

A Greater Play than

"THE LITTLE MINISTER"

Seats now on sale.

STOCKS, INVESTMENT'S AND BONDS.

Utah Bank and Commercial stocks and other high grade investment securities bought and sold. Loans on stocks. Dividend paying stocks bought and sold. Investments made from institutions. Trustees of estates and capitalists will receive the best of attention. JOHN C. CUTLER, JR.
24 Main Street

Cutler Bros. Offer

150 Pair Men's Pants, per pair	\$1.00
100 Pair Young Men's Pants, per pair	.90
50 Men's Suits.	3.50

Just received 500 Vestee and Double Breast Coat Knee Pant Suits for boys ages 4 to 15 years.
Gentlemen's Suits made to order from Provo Mills Cassimere.
L. D. S. Knit Garments, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50.
Orders by Mail solicited.

CUTLER BROS. CO.,

36 MAIN STREET, SALT LAKE CITY.

A LOOSE TILE

Who has it? Have you? Then let us fix it. Better still. Let us put an entire new set in. We have the finest to be seen in the world. ROYAL WORCESTER. In gold and palissy decorations. Special SEVRES finish. Old Ivory and Gold Bath Room tiles in all colors. And then our beautiful MANTLES. Mahogany, Bird's Eye Maple, Curly Birch, Golden Oak. Come and look at them. Do. You won't regret it.

THE SALT LAKE HARDWARE CO.,

Sign of the Big Gun. 42, 44, 46 W. Second South.

TABERNACLE, Thursday Evening, MARCH 14th, at 8:15

ONLY APPEARANCE IN SALT LAKE CITY OF THE

SEMBRICH

OPERA COMPANY.

Under the Direction of C. L. GRAFF, in COUNOD'S

"FAUST"

With the Following Great Cast:

Marguerite	MADAME SEMBRICH
Siebel	Madame Mattfeld
Martha	Signor Dado
Mephistopheles	Signor Bensaude
Valentine	Signor Galazzi
Wagner	Signor de Lara
Faust	

Conductor, Signor Revignani.

Grand Orchestra and Entire Chorus and Tabernacle Choir.

SCALE OF PRICES, \$1.00, \$1.50.

Sale opens Thursday, March 7th at Daynes' Music Store. Mail orders received on or before that date accompanied by check will receive attention, and seats will be assigned as near as possible to the location desired.