

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-day Saints.
LORENZO 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
Horace G. Whitney, Business Manager

Subscription Prices:
One Year, \$5.00
Six Months, \$2.50
Three Months, \$1.25
One Month, .25
One Week, .10
Single Copies, 5c
Foreign Edition, per year, \$10.00
Term—Weekly.

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

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE
E. A. Craig, 41 Times Building

CHICAGO REPRESENTATIVE
E. A. Craig, 27 Washington St.

SAN FRANCISCO REPRESENTATIVE
C. R. King-Sullivan & Co., 49 Examiner Bldg.

SALT LAKE CITY, FEB. 20, 1900.

THE SAME SPIRIT.

It is frequently asserted, when opposition is rife against "Mormonism," that its opponents are not fighting the "Mormon" religion, but are only contending against a certain feature of their faith, which was once carried into practice contrary to statutory provisions specially enacted against it.

This is a very specious pretense. History shows that a similar plea was entered by most of those persons who were engaged in the work of persecution against the Prophets and Saints of olden times. Even the sectaries who brought about the crucifixion of the world's Redeemer, pretended that He was in rebellion against the authority of Imperial Rome; that He sought to assume the power in Palestine that was held by Caesar; and His followers were accused of sedition. The power of the state was invoked for their destruction.

The same spirit and the same pretense appear in the opposition to the Latter-day Saints. The desire for their injury and the destruction of their leaders is abundantly manifest, although the Church of which they are members has put aside the objectionable marital system on which the fierce antagonism to them was predicated. The hatred and malignity and misrepresentation which were said to be caused by that system are still exhibited.

The spirit of this hostility was rampant at the very beginning of the preaching of the Latter-day Gospel, and long before plural marriage was taught or practiced in the Church. No such excuse was or could have been put forth, for the attack made upon the saints by their bloodthirsty enemies, when the mobs led by so-called "Christian" ministers assailed them, in Ohio, in Missouri, and in Illinois. It is a miserable pretense today.

The opposition waged against the Church and its leaders would not cease if, one by one, its leading tenets were abjured. So long as the authority of that Holy Priesthood remains, which has been brought down from God out of heaven to the earth, just so long will the Powers of Evil who are unseen, work in the hearts of the children of disobedience, and the animosity which crops out in all the attacks upon the Church in various forms be made manifest. It matters not. There is a Power at the head of this great work which is above them all, and in Him and by Him it is certain to prevail.

WE DECLINE TO "DOUBLE."

A short time ago the Deseret News gave some particulars of a visit to this city by a person named E. E. Folk. This notice was occasioned by the delivery of a discourse by that individual in a church in Chattanooga, in which the Latter-day Saints and their faith were grossly attacked and misrepresented. This language or most of it, was published in the Chattanooga News in a synopsis report of the proceedings. Subsequently, an interview was had with Elder Ben E. Rich, which was also published in the Chattanooga News as a reply to Mr. Folk. We received copies of the paper containing these reports and also some notes of the Folk lecture from a writer who was present when it was delivered, and we made some comments thereon.

Mr. Folk came to this city ostensibly to inquire into "Mormonism," but really to collect data, chiefly from its enemies, wherewith to attack it when he returned to Tennessee. We therefore related the facts of his call upon President Snow, who simply turned him over to the editor of the Deseret News, and we explained the circumstances and nature of the conversation that ensued.

Mr. Folk, who figured here as the correspondent of the Nashville American, and at home occupies the position of a sectarian minister with the title of Rev., appears to be particularly savage on the "Mormon" question, and although we have already noticed his effusions that appeared in the Chattanooga News, he sends us a long letter containing a repetition of his remarks with the request that we publish them in the Deseret News. At the same time he expresses a doubt as to our response and informs us that he has sent the same communication to another paper here, which is to publish it if we do not.

As the kind of pabulum it contains is much more suitable to the columns of the other paper than to those of the Deseret News, we respectfully decline to "double" with that journal, and cheerfully relinquish any first claim we may have upon the production of the letter, which in any case would be sure to appear in that contemporary, because of the venom it contains against the "Mormons" and against the editor of the Deseret News.

ALARMING TEACHINGS.

Professor William G. Sumner, of the Social Science department at Yale, is receiving some attention in the Eastern press. He is alleged to have said

recently in a lecture to the senior class, that 90 per cent of the marriages nowadays turned out unhappily. He is being censured for stating as a fact what evidently is merely a random guess. It would be, probably, just as correct to say that 90 per cent of all human earthly existences, single or married, are unhappy. It would be just as easy to prove—or rather just as impossible to prove or disprove.

Scientists often base theories and draw conclusions on but imperfectly observed, and erroneously classified facts. And the public accept the conclusions because they are stamped with the authority of scientists, forgetting that whenever the special scientist leaves the field of investigation in order to form theories from the facts found, his authority as a special scientist ends, and he places himself on the level of anyone, who is logically as capable of drawing inferences as he is.

The geologist, for instance, is authority on the strata of the earth, their order of formation, their composition and distribution and so on, but when the problem is to read from these facts the history of the planet, the geologist is as such not more likely to find the exact truth than any one else who may be familiar with the facts revealed by geology.

It is the same in theology. The learned theologian may know all about criticism, exegesis, interpretation, and so on, but a common cobbler may be just as capable of forming a sound system of theology as is the most learned professor. In sociology, too, the professor may know a good many figures and facts, but he is as liable to err in his conclusions, as is any layman. Prof. Sumner erred, if he is correctly quoted. A number of sociologists err similarly.

It is no doubt true that there are a great many unhappy marriages. The divorce courts testify to that fact. It is also true that the divorce business is increasing at an alarming rate. But it is far from true, that 90 out of every 100 married couples lead a life of misery because they are married. It is not true in Utah, and we cannot believe the world at large has sunk as low as such a condition would indicate. The professor may personally have had some disappointment in life, but he would not be justified in assuming that his experience is general.

At any rate, what the growing generation need to hear from their teachers is the sacredness of the marriage relation, and their duty to build homes in which purity and virtue reign. To discourage the young man from entering upon the responsibilities of husbands and fathers, what is that but to encourage a life which is sure to make marriage a failure? And if such teachings are tolerated in our leading institutes of learning, no wonder if unhappy unions are growing numerous to an alarming extent.

AS TO PUERTO RICO.

Opinions are by no means unanimous as to the obligation this country is under to Puerto Rico, by virtue of the annexation of that island. There has been some strong lobbying done for the purpose of excluding from this country some of the most important Puerto Rican products, but on the other hand, many Congressmen believe that the islanders should be given all the advantages of their annexation to this country. They should have free trade with this country and enjoy American liberty to the fullest measure. This, it would seem, is an inevitable inference from the Paris treaty by which the island was ceded to the United States and accepted as a part of the American Union.

The Chicago Times-Herald, which generally is well informed on such matters, states that so far as it has been able to learn, President McKinley has not changed his views on this question, since he wrote this paragraph in his message to Congress:

"It must be borne in mind that since the cession, Puerto Rico has been denied the principal markets she has long enjoyed, and our tariffs have been continued against her products as when she was under Spanish sovereignty. The markets of the United States should be opened up to her products. Our plain duty is to abolish all customs tariffs between the United States and Puerto Rico and give her products free access to our markets."

Nothing has happened since last December to change "our plain duty" in this regard. The Puerto Ricans depend upon their markets for existence. If their loyalty to this country is to be rewarded by closing both European and American avenues of trade, they must, indeed, regret the day they welcomed upon their soil the American hosts. It should need no argument that the hoisting over the island of the American flag entitles the people to the benefits of American institutions. It would be illogical to treat Puerto Rico differently from Alaska, for instance.

BECOMING INSANE.

A great number of cases of insanity among soldiers seem to be one result of the campaign in the Philippines. A few days ago eleven were sent from the west coast to Washington, and thirty more were expected that week. About 250 insane soldiers have, according to reports, been sent east the last three months, and it is said there are 200 more on the way from Manila.

It may be that the reason for this is that loneliness and homesickness in a tropical country, where there is much deprivation and suffering and very little diversion and entertainment, show their effects in this way. The monotony of the soldier's life in the Philippine jungles, particularly during the latter months, when there has been but little actual fighting, must have been almost unendurable.

But it is also probable that the higher civilization and consequent refinement of the American people has a tendency of unnering the American youth for the horrors of warfare. To the simple savage the killing and torturing of fellow-beings, and the wanton destruction of property are but sport. In barbarous ages, the sacrifice of enemies was the occasion of feasting, dancing and music. Modern sentiment is different. It found its expression after the terrible naval fight of Santiago, when one of the American commanders said:

"Don't cheer, boys, the poor devils are dying."

The same sentiment must fill the soldier on land with pity for the victims of his deadly missiles. No wonder, if to some the strain becomes too great, and reason gives way.

The highest civilization is not favorable to the war spirit. As the idea of the brotherhood of man prevails, wars must cease.

THE PROPHET'S SISTER.

The announcement has already appeared of the death of Mrs. Katharine Salisbury, who departed this life at 10 a. m. Feb. 2nd, 1900, at her home near Fountain Green, Hancock Co., Ill. Special interest is attached to this event because Mrs. Salisbury was a sister of Joseph Smith the Prophet. She was the daughter of Joseph Smith Sr. and Lucy Mack Smith, was the eighth of their ten children, and was born in

After the organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, she was baptized, in June, 1830, by Elder David Whitmer, one of the three witnesses to the Book of Mormon. She passed through the persecutions which attended the progress of the Church in early times. She was married to William Jenkins Salisbury, Jan. 8th, 1831. He died in 1853 at Webster, Hancock Co., Ill. By him she had eight children, five of whom are deceased. The three who still survive, all reside in Illinois; Solomon J., at Burnside; Don C. at Carthage, and Frederick at Fountain Green.

Mrs. Salisbury in her latest years resided at the latter place. She did not move with the Church to Utah, but became associated with the "Josephite" or "Reorganized church," and remained so until her departure, at the age of 88 years, 6 months and 4 days. The funeral was held at the Webster church, Feb. 4th, 1900, the place where her husband died, and she was interred in the Webster cemetery, in the presence of a large number of friends, by whom she was highly esteemed.

This removes from the earth to the spirit world the last of the children of Father Joseph Smith, the original Patriarch of the Church.

Senator Bard of California is now being pestered with newspaper inquiries as to whether he is a poet.

One of Jay Gould's sons is going into politics. The chances for collisions are greater than on railways.

It is said that Gen. Cronje has been cornered by the British. The essential point of insasing is yet to come.

It is said that Kentuckians are so certain of peace being re-established that they now extend empty hands to shake.

An exchange places Senator William A. Clark of Montana among "successful Americans." There is food for thought in that.

Russian troops are within two days' march of Herat. The march will not be begun till Russia is equally well advanced in other parts.

Having found his balloon useless in Kimberley for purposes of escape, Cecil Rhodes should send it to his partner in Ladysmith, Dr. Jameson.

The premier of Spain and the premier of Britain are at odds on a question of veracity regarding the recent Hispano-American war. There is the consolation that attending circumstances preclude both parties from warlike acts.

A Democratic senator announcing himself as in "favor of a high protective duty," "against cheap foreign labor," may be regarded by some as a political anomaly; but in Montana politics nothing is anomalous.

A Kansas editor has had to raise the price of five cents a line at which he published the effusions of so-called local poets, because of the pressure on his advertising space. Rhyming in Kansas must be a pastime for the wealthy, though they may not be wise.

The intimation that Russia and France are backing the changes in Chinese policy is a warning to other nations that the partition of China is to be largely a division of territory between the European powers named, to the exclusion of the others.

It transpires that the good news at the British war office was not that Cronje was "hopelessly surrounded," but was a character to indicate that the relief of Ladysmith is close at hand. Certainly this later news is more welcome than the former just now, as a humanitarian event.

The announcement is made that the Western Union has purchased the Deseret Telegraph lines in Utah. This gives the purchaser an avenue of quick communication to nearly all parts of Utah, and some extensions may be made which the old company was not financially able to build, but which are needed for the public service.

Uncle Sam's army is to be re-organized, according to a bill introduced in the House of Representatives on Monday. There also seems to be some planning for a large army to organize, in which event the citizen soldiery of the nation should be remembered in a way to keep the regular establishment at a minimum.

It is observable that in the present retirement of the Boers from the vicinity of Kimberley, the retiring force seems to be accumulating a considerable amount of supplies and prisoners taken from their pursuers, while the Boer loss in men is reported by the English to be few thus far.

Those envelopes which ex-Consul Macrum claims to have, with the official "V. R." stamp on, should be an interesting sight to British high officials who "are loth to believe" that their underlings would be guilty of the act complained of. An investigation would discover that "arrogant over-officiousness" occasionally crops out in British official service, as in that of the United States and other nations.

The late Marquis of Queensberry left in his will the request that "no Christian mummery or tomfoolery" be performed at his grave. As the deceased

never had sufficient acquaintance with Christianity to know whether or not there was any "mummery or tomfoolery" about it, his impudence in applying a coarse epithet to that which he was ignorant of is inexcusable, though it is quite characteristic of the egotistic and bigoted school of blasphemers to which he belonged.

The London Chronicle this morning probably is a little excited when it says that the only barrier between Russia and England, to the former making war, is a moral one. European nations have not displayed any indication of allowing the moral code to stand in the way of pushing aggression to their own gain, and Russia is not likely to be the pioneer in that direction. If the bear menaces the lion, a reason for withholding the threatened blow lies in physical rather than in moral restraint.

To those contemporaries that insist that peace will come to Utah, when the "Mormons" no longer are law breakers it is sufficient today that there are fewer law breakers comparatively among the "Mormons" than among any other class of people; that the best American citizens in this region are found among the "Mormons," and that peace will come to Utah, as soon as the traitors of the "Mormons" cease to break the divine law against falsehood, and become broad-minded, liberty-loving American citizens. Most of them are persons who do not comprehend the first principles of American citizenship.

The Goebel senate in session at Louisville is said to have adopted this resolution:

"As the Christ life was sacrificed to class hatred conspiring with imperial power, so the life of William Goebel paid forfeit to a conspiracy of monopolistic power, with modern imperialism."

And the "Christian" ministers have raised no protest to speak of against such a use of the name of the Master. American patriots have had no indignation meeting, although it is openly charged that in this country monopolists and imperialists run rampant. Happy Kentucky, whose children are not accused day and night before the bar of the country, by fallen angels.

The chief engineer of the transport Manuense, the British ship against which there was so much complaint when it was being used to transport U. S. troops to Manila, has confessed that he signed a false statement as to the vessel's seaworthiness, under pressure from the owners. There should be sharp punishment in this case, both on the official who made the false paper and the ship firm that required it. The sufferings of the troops on the unseaworthy vessel, and the risk the government ran on the certificate made, justify a rigid prosecution of the case against the culpable parties. The government should not submit to such criminal treatment.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Scott's Tailsman, with an introduction by Julia M. Dewey, is one of the best examples of Sir Walter Scott's literary style. It is intended for school and home reading.—American Book Company, Chicago.

A Rational Grammar of the English Language, by W. B. Powell, A. M., and Louise Connolly, is an effort at presenting the rules of the language without the terminology of Latin grammar. This may be modern. Still, if the study of the English grammar is to be a stepping stone to the study of other languages, the Latin terminology cannot conveniently be discarded altogether.—American Book Company, Chicago.

The list of contents of The Living Age of February 17th, has the following among other contributions to contemporary literature: "Is it the Voice of the Hooligan?" by Sir Walter Besant, Contemporary Review, "Present-Day Problems in Italy," by Pasquale Villari, Nuova Antologia, "The New Criticism," by Urbanus Sylvan, Cornhill Magazine, "The South African Conspiracy Against British Rule," by A. Theodore Wrigman (Canon of Grahamstown Cathedral), "The Only Son," "The Re-creation of the World," by the Rev. A. M. Fairbairn, D. D., principal of Mansfield College, Oxford Speaker.—Boston.

Cram's Magazine for February treats of "The Unchanging East," "The Partition of Africa," "The Far Eastern Situation," and a number of questions pertaining to History, Geography and Current Events.—61, Plymouth Place, Chicago, Ill.

Poems by John Dryden, with a historic introduction form the contents of the current number of Cassell's National Library, New Series, edited by Prof. Henry Morley.—Cassell and Co., New York.

A very interesting article on "How Real Diamonds are Made of Sugar," appears in the March number of Pearson's Magazine. The remainder of the list of contents is as follows: "Historic Mysteries," Allen Upward; "Field-Marshal Lord Roberts," A. Character Sketch, Major Arthur Griffiths; "A Game of Chess," illustrated by Arthur H. Buckland, Robert Barr; "The Great Seal Rookeries," illustrated with photographs, Marcus Tinsley; "Night Road Romances," Edgewell Sutcliffe; "A True Story," Being the Adventure of Certain Golf-Players, B. Fletcher Robinson; "Haymaking by Wire," illustrated with photographs, Dr. F. Scharlach; "The Derelict of the North Atlantic," E. and H. Heron; "The Treatment of Women Convicts," Mary Fernor; "Stories of Other Worlds," George Griffith; "The Jumping Horse," illustrated with photographs, Herbert C. Frye; "Prisoners of War," illustrated with photographs, Turner Morton; "Ye Ballad of Lady Clare," illustrated, Philip Hemery; "Nature's Next Moves," Barry Pain; and "The Art of the Age,"—New York.

"The Better Testament" is the title of a little volume by Wm. G. Schell, the purpose of which is to demonstrate the superiority of the Gospel over the Law of Moses. The author thinks there is quite a general tendency among "Christians" to confuse the two covenants, and that some information as to the nature and scope of both is much needed. His proposition is that no one before Christ could live a life of perfect holiness; that the old covenant, including the Decalogue, was abolished by Christ, and that the Gospel standard of ethics is far more perfect than the Mosaic standard. During the discussion of the various matters suggested by his theme, the author is led to take up such questions as tithing, capital punishment, marriage, healing, etc. There is much in this little volume that will commend itself to a thoughtful reader, but it is also quite evident that its author has not at all times grasped the meaning of the Scriptures he quotes. His ideas of the Church are those of one but imperfectly acquainted with the first principles, but they are far advanced if compared to those gen-

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erally prevailing in the world.—Gospel
Trumpet Publishing Co., Mountsview,
W. Va.

The "official" biography of the late
famous evangelist, D. L. Moody, is being
prepared by his son, William R. Moody,
and will before long be published by
Fleming H. Revell company. Numerous
biographies have already appeared, and
the work prepared by Mr. W. R. Moody
is intended to correct the errors of
former unauthorized works and new-
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