

DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

FLORENCE SNOW, TRUSTEE-IN-TRUST.

PUBLISHED EVERY EVENING (EXCEPT SUNDAY)
 104-106 Times Building, New York City.
 Charge of B. F. Cummings, Manager Foreign Advertising, from our Home Office.

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, \$0.50
 Single Copies, 10c
 Advance payment, per year, \$5.00
 Semi-Weekly, \$2.50

EASTERN OFFICE:
 104-106 Times Building, New York City. In charge of B. 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 to THE DESERET NEWS, Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY, - DEC. 21, 1900.

ENCOURAGING PROSPECTS.

The Salt Lake papers published on Wednesday last a dispatch sent from Cheyenne, Wyoming, which announced the letting of a contract for the building of a cut-off on the Union Pacific railway to Salt Lake. The Deseret News made some comments on the effects upon this city, and the surrounding country, of quick connection with the east and the west, by means of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake road, and the eastern lines that are projected looking to rapid transit to the Pacific coast.

It now appears that the dispatch was premature. Indeed the letting of the contract is emphatically denied by responsible persons. It may be that the latter are right and the dispatch was wrong. We are inclined to the belief that, after all, there is something in the project, but that the contract spoken of has not been consummated. However, the denials and evasions of railway officials are proverbial. No men are less willing to give away secret arrangements than they. So it may always be expected that anything in reference to railroad matters not intended for the public will be shut up as tight as possible in railway circles.

The Ogden Standard is in high glee over the denials that have been made about the new contract, and tries to poke fun at the Salt Lake papers for their announcements. "But," he laughs best who laughs last," and it is not at all unlikely that the Standard will do its laughing over this matter, before very long, on "the other side of its mouth." That paper states that the Deseret News of Wednesday evening "exultingly said": "In the meantime Ogden is wondering where it gets off."

The Standard must have been very exultant and highly exulted, to have found that remark in the Deseret News. Careful scrutiny fails to disclose it in any part of Wednesday's "News." The remarks made in this paper over the probable efforts of further railroad connections in this city, we confirm with emphasis. We have no doubt that there will be, before very long, direct communication by rail between Salt Lake and the Pacific coast, and by a much shorter route than at present with the east, and on the Atlantic. But in forecasting that event, we entertain no wish for any unpleasant consequences to Ogden. Nor can we see why that city, or its press, should be so disturbed when anything occurs that promises to be of benefit to Salt Lake.

The Standard pleases to fear the railway enterprise in which certain well known capitalists are interested, as the San Pedro-Los Angeles-American Deseret-Alkali Waste-Salt Lake railroad. The probability is that the new road will turn out to be no joke, nor do we think it a subject for treatment as a jest at present. The plan for it is feasible, and its promoters are in earnest. They have the money at hand, too, for the construction work and equipments, and evidently mean business. If the desert and alkali wastes between points in Utah and southern California can be traversed by a line, connecting the City of the Angels and the City of the Saints, we don't see wherein Ogden or its journals will have any reason for criticism or caricature.

Much is said about the promise of the promoters of the new railroad being made repeatedly that it will be entirely "independent." It should be understood that this means it will not be owned, in any part, by or pooled with other railways, but that the company building and operating it will own it, "independent" of any other company or corporation. That it must be a new line entirely, and refuse connection with other roads, and not avail itself of existing railway facilities, is a notion not warranted by the assurances that have been given, and that is manifestly absurd.

Railroads do not usually parallel each other for long distances unless that course is absolutely necessary. Reason and personal interest are exhibited in railway ventures, quite as much as in other enterprises. We may therefore look for rational measures, when the new road commences to reach out from Los Angeles to this city, and as speedy a connection as can possibly be made with profit.

All the anticipations of results from the schemes now in process of incubation, for the purpose of facilitating direct rail communication with Salt Lake from the East, and thence onward to the West, are rational and full of promise. This city will be, before very long, a great railroad and business center and distributing point, and nothing can prevent the movement towards its high destiny. And we hope Ogden will share in the benefits to come, and receive enough to keep it from indulging in further jealousy of the capital of Utah.

WEST POINT HAZING.

The case of ex-Cadet Booz, who, it has been feared, was done to death by comrades at the military academy, West Point, is now being investigated. Two committees have been appointed. One by the war department and one by Congress, to ascertain the cause of the death. Naturally all good citizens are solicitous about the honor of the military schools, perhaps more so than about other institutions of learning, but this does not prevent them from earnestly desiring an impartial investigation, in order that the true facts may be brought out. In the European recruit schools, everybody knows, arrogance and brutality infect the air to a very large extent. American institutes should be different in this respect.

Booz entered the academy June 30, 1898, from Bristol, Pa. Three months later he resigned on account of weak eyes, and about a couple of weeks ago he died. His father claims that he came home from West Point broken hearted and physically wrecked. It is charged that the young man was forced into a fight in which he was cruelly beaten, and that the "hazards" compelled him to take a burning mixture which injured the lining of his throat and made him susceptible to the disease that ended his life.

It is further claimed that the unfortunate cadet was of a religious turn of mind, and that this was the cause of his unpopularity in the academy. On the other hand it is claimed that the fight referred to was short and not at all severe, and that it is not true that there was any prejudice against him on account of his religion. It is not denied, however, that he was unpopular, but this is explained on other grounds.

Whatever the outcome of the investigation may be, its effect should be to do away with the brutal custom of "hazing" which young students seem to take such a delight in. That is but another manifestation of the cruelty that prompts young children to torment helpless animals. A young man may on various grounds refuse to take part in fist fights, and all manner of rowdyism, and yet be every inch a man, ready to do his full duty in a battle against the enemies of his country. It is not cowardly to refrain from participation in hoodlums, no matter how refined it may profess to be. Hoodlums are often the greatest cowards when the question is of genuine service to the country. Somebody has said that the best Christian is the best soldier, and paradoxical as that proposition appears, it is nevertheless true. A conscientious, faithful and gentle follower of the Nazarene, is likely to exhibit in the hour of danger the qualities that go to make up a soldier or sailor. He will perform his duty at all times. The Lamb of God is, in more than one sense, the lion of Judah.

A RATIONAL VIEW OF MICROBES

Of late years the enthusiasts who have been devoting their time to the study of microbes, and still more the newspaper reporters who have been looking at the discoveries made, through the magnifying glass of a lively imagination, have startled the public with all sorts of announcements as to the dangers of the omnipresent bacteria. They have warned the dear public both against eating, drinking and breathing until, were all the rules laid down complied with, life itself would be impossible.

Now we are told by Prof. Norton in Popular Science News that the danger is really to overdo the microbe business. He does not deny that there are some microscopic organisms that are the enemies of man, but he does assert that on the whole those organisms are beneficial. "The varieties," he says, associated with disease are comparatively few, by comparison with the others; and that, in the case of the bacteria that have been identified with specific diseases, it has never been satisfactorily demonstrated that they are the cause, and not the product, in such cases."

This latter information is important. For if that is proven correct, the entire germ theory will have to be further considered and the practices based on the assumption that the germs are the cause instead of the effect, may have to be revised.

The professor does not hesitate to say that "it is not at all unlikely that the next generation will see the present teachings thrown out, and a general recasting of theories."

OPINIONS ON HANGING.

Whatever views are entertained on the merits of capital punishment as a deterrent of crime, the opinions of governors of States where that mode of disposing of murderers no longer prevails, is of much interest.

Gov. Stanley, of Kansas, set out to ascertain whether the abolition of hanging had a tendency to increase mob violence, and to find out this he submitted a question on the subject to the governors of Colorado, Maine, Michigan, Rhode Island and Wisconsin.

Governor Thomas, of Colorado, says "the abolition has not increased the tendency to mob violence. The tendency is rather the other way," which is passing strange in view of the recent statements to the effect that the most inhuman lynching in that State would not have taken place except for the fact that the law did not provide an adequate retribution for the offense committed.

Gov. Powers, of Maine, is of the opinion that "the abolition of capital punishment has not increased crime or mob violence in Maine. We have had no lynching since it was abolished. We had one a short time before, I do not and I am confident the people of Maine do not favor its restoration."

Gov. Scofield, of Wisconsin, rather evades the question. He states that "there is so little mob violence in Wisconsin that it would be hard to conceive of more orderly conditions," while the governor of Rhode Island, Mr. Gregory, thinks, "there is nothing in the record of crime since capital punishment was abolished in Rhode Island to indicate the desirability of its restoration. To judge from the experience and the public sentiment regarding the matter, there is no likelihood that it ever will be restored."

Gov. Pingree, of Michigan, discusses

the subject more at length. His views are very pronounced. He says:

"No State which has a capital punishment law has any right to boast of the intelligence of its people. It is a relic of barbarism. There has been little, if any, mob violence in the State of Michigan, but I do not think this has been so because of either the existence of a capital punishment law or the absence of it. Whether there is mob violence or not depends upon the intelligence and temper of the people. I think that the people of Michigan have been less liable to commit rash acts as a result of excitement than the people in the South, where the negro question is such a serious and disturbing one."

He adds that, "a number of cases have been brought to my own knowledge, and I have issued pardons where the prisoners were sentenced to life imprisonment, and it was afterward learned that they were innocent."

We do not know whether these replies are satisfactory to the Kansas governor. If his action in the matter is to be based on these opinions, and nothing else, he can hardly change the policy that has been followed by a succession of chief executives of that State. There are, now, in Kansas prisons no less than forty condemned murderers, and the number may be increased. Still, the claim is that compared with its population, Kansas is about as free from crime of every kind as other States in the Union.

HOFF'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

Consumption cures have often been offered to unfortunates suffering from that disease, but as far as known with no assurance of success. Another remedy is now proposed by the celebrated Vienna physician, Dr. Hoff, and if what is claimed for it rests on facts, it at least deserves to be widely known.

The formula, as published in the Washington Post is as follows:

"Arsenicous acid 1 part, carbonate of potash 2 parts, cinnamyllic acid 3 parts, and distilled water 5 parts; heat until a perfect solution is obtained, then add 25 parts of Cognac and 2 parts of watery extract of opium which has been dissolved in 25 parts of water and filtered."

Or, if the Latin version is preferred: "Aqua arsenici, 1. Kal. carbon. dep. 2. Acid cinnamyllic. 3. Aqua destill. 5. Coque usque ad perfectam solutionem; deinde adde cognac 25. Extr. laudan. aqua. 2. Quod in aqua destill. 2.5. solum et deinde filtratum fuit."

Dr. Hoff recommends that this be taken at first in the quantity of 6 drops after dinner and supper, and that the dose be gradually increased to 22 drops. He adds that he has tried the remedy upon 200 patients, with the result that mild cases were quickly cured, and that partial cures were effected in several cases. When the disease has not progressed too far, patients are cured in two months, but severe cases may need to be treated a year, or more. It is absolutely necessary that the solution be taken after the meals. Dr. Hoff cites a case in which the patient had cavities in the lungs "big enough to put one's fist into;" yet he was cured in about two years.

The Washington Post adds that the Vienna physician is no quack with a nostrum to sell. He submits the results of his experiments for what they are worth, without money and without price, solely for the benefit of mankind, and the honor of the profession he represents. That fact is certainly worthy of consideration and appreciation.

Stories from China regarding German brutality make a good case for Chinese objection to admitting the Kaiser's troops to the empire.

What is the use of arguing with a contemporary that cannot understand, or will not admit, that "voluntary" and "compulsory" do not mean the same thing?

It is said that the Abyssinians yet hold some Italian prisoners as slaves. From her former experiences with the natives, Italy is not likely to attempt their rescue unaided.

Queen Victoria is said to be in feeble health. The suggestion brings to mind the fact that sudden changes in Great Britain ought not to be a surprise nowadays.

The American Bell Telephone company is a big winner today. The dispatches say that the Western Union suit for \$12,000,000 royalty has gone in favor of the telephone company.

Great Britain does not appear to be a land of Prophets, when one takes into consideration the many predictions of an early finish of the British-Boer war that were indulged in from the time of opening hostilities in October, 1899.

Some of the London papers do not like the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, and are making very faces. In time, however, they may come to realize that occasionally a bitter pill has a good effect.

The Logan Journal sizes up the Tribune's daily tirades against the Deseret News, in a pungent paragraph with the following conclusion: "And so the poor old Tribune thinks the 'News' uses its Church influence in favor of smallpox."

The adjournment of both houses of Congress was brought about in a peculiar manner today. The death of Senator Frye's wife and of Congressman Wise of Virginia is said to have affected both houses almost simultaneously.

The motion of the German Reichstag, for interference in the British-Transvaal war, to the extent of suggesting arbitration, only failed by a tie vote. If it had not been a question of policy, the motion doubtless would have carried. This shows that German sympathy is not with England.

The foreign envoys in Pekin say that within two hours of their secret meetings, Li Hung Chang has full information of what occurs. It must be that the walls of their meeting room have tongues as well as ears, since it would not do to charge any of the foreign envoys with being traitors.

London dispatches report a "black outlook in South Africa." This is not a joke relating to the negro population, but a note of alarm at the serious phase the Boer-British war is assuming about 400 miles from Pretoria, back on the British line of communications.

The Boer guerilla warfare bids fair to last a long time yet.

After spending two or three weeks in "beating round the bush," the Tribune now comes out with an open show of its driving drift. But the editorials in the Deseret News last January prove beyond question the utter falsity of the Tribune's latest puerile effort, and stamp its assertions as nought but malicious mouthings. 'Nuf sed.

From the accounts of fearful atrocities that are being renewed in Turkey, toward the Armenian Christians, a good opportunity seems to be approaching to close up the Turkish rule in that part of the world. If the other European powers do not act, it is only a question of a few years before Russia will tighten her grip on that section of the earth.

The great storm on the west coast of Europe is just being reported. There is heavy destruction of property, but fortunately little loss of life. The fact that the ferry boats on the Mersey had to stop will recall, to those in Utah familiar with conditions at Liverpool, memories of some severe storms. It is only in times of great danger that the Mersey traffic is interfered with.

One of the judges of the Third judicial district of this State is ill and absent from this city, and in consequence the business of his branch of court is falling away behind. Isn't it about time that the other judges called in assistance, as the law provides, rather than leave too heavy a burden on the incoming judiciary? A week's work now would do much to relieve the tension complained of.

ARMY LEGISLATION.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

The House of Representatives passed the army reorganization bill by a vote of 166 to 133, or 55 majority. It continues the present status of the army at the maximum of 100,000 men for two years from the 1st of July next. This is a clear indication that the administration expects the war with the savage hordes of the Philippines to continue for two years longer. It is a heavy burden upon the people's treasury, but the nation has got its foot in it and we must fight it out.

New York Mail and Express.

While the army bill in its amended form provides for many modifications of the measure originally proposed by Secretary Root, it retains all or nearly all the more important features of his plan and affords an excellent working basis for military reorganization. The changes which have been made relate chiefly to the manner of making promotions and filling vacancies in the various military bureaus. Mr. Root's plan is to have permanent promotion detail from the line is abandoned, and in its place it is provided that when vacancies occur they shall be filled by appointment by the Secretary of War after competitive examination of the applicants. The measure also provides for an increase in the number of artillery officers, for a more efficient system of examining boards and for the management of army cantons by civilians instead of by enlisted men as heretofore.

Worcester Spy.

We think it is a double insult to express a belief that the soldiers of the United States may become an agent of oppression and tyranny in the United States. If such a time were ever to come, it would have been when the great armies of the civil war were disbanded to return to neglected families in the North and ruined homes in the South. There was real danger then that was felt by the whole country, but it passed away, and it must be admitted today that the men who fought to save the Union came back and proved themselves as valuable citizens in peace as in war.

AS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.

When England gets over the war fever which is now blinding the popular sense of right and justice, we do not believe that British opinion will tolerate this despotic system of government in territories where the people have a right to govern themselves by self-government. The amendment to the address moved by the liberals "that it would conduce to the pacification and future good relations of the races in South Africa, if measures securing the liberty and prosperity of those who surrender be announced at the earliest possible moment," points out the enormous and radical error of the Chamberlain policy in neglecting to commence such measures long ago.

Sacramento Bee.

England is doing her best to alienate the people of South Africa, and the treatment they are receiving will go far to unite them in a general sentiment for independence. It was predicted before the war that, no matter how long it might last, the outcome would be the loss of her South African colonies by England. And that prediction bids fair to be fulfilled. The Afrikaners will bide their time, but when England next becomes involved in war with some one of the great powers their opportunity will come in South Africa to strike a winning blow for freedom.

Chicago Record.

Finally, the South African states are the newest colonies in contemplation for federation when peace shall be restored to them and the authority of Great Britain over the Boer republics is fixed at last. Doubtless the United States of South Africa will be formed before many years. Perhaps we are yet to see an era when governments, like industries, will form "trusts" in order to economize in office expenses.

Milwaukee Wisconsin.

If the activity of the Boers still in the field in South Africa is part of a plan to make a desperate show of tenacity in guerrilla warfare, while Mr. Kruger is in Europe trying to induce some of the powers to intervene in favor of a settlement on a basis of independence, the fighting burghers are certainly doing their part. Lord Kitchener announces that Delarey, with a force of 500 Boers, attacked a convoy between Pretoria and Rustenburg, killing fifteen of the British troops and wounding twenty-three, and burning half of the vehicles. It is also reported that Gen. DeWet is very active, and at last becomes heading for the town of Odendaal, with Gen. Knox in pursuit. But this successful activity in the field is not matched with success in diplomatic circles on the part of Mr. Kruger.

Worcester Spy.

England, instead of being at rest about matters in South Africa, is greatly disturbed over the outlook. Considerable bodies of Boers not only elude capture, but from time to time become aggressive, and it is feared there actually is fear in Cape Colony of invasion. Furthermore, despite the strength of the war party, as shown by the recent elections, it is manifest by the scenes in parliament that the opposition is undaunted and that the government has at home a formidable power opposed to its policy.

RUGS FOR CHRISTMAS

We don't make much display, but OUR PRICES TALK. Our Special Offering in the Carpet Department for the Holiday Trade is in our Rug Department. We are offering

A NICE 36 IN. SMYRNA RUG FOR \$2.75.

We have one a little heavier, same size for \$3.25. And we are going to give

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We also have a fine line of NAVAJO BLANKETS, Indian Placques, Carpet Sweepers, Foot Stools, and Table Covers, all going at REDUCED PRICES. These make beautiful as well as useful Xmas Presents.

Call and see us before purchasing elsewhere.

Dress Goods Sale Continues Till Christmas.

Z. C. M. I. T. G. WEBBER, Supt.

GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS.

So many things to tell of. So many things for you to get, and just think, only two more days for you to get them. No wonder the store is alive with busy, bustling buyers. Each day the rush gets greater; you'd better get in before the last day. Just a few memory joggers tonight:



THE HATS.

Look the long list over and you'll find no more interesting subject than hats. You'll find nothing that he probably needs any more, either. We've told our hat story so often that you probably know it. Hence this is just a reminder that they make handsome Christmas presents for men or boys.
 Men's soft hats, all shapes and stiff hats, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$5.00.
 Boys' hats, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50.
 Men's and boys' caps, 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25.

THE SUSPENDERS.

We sell more of these sensible presents each season. Guess it's because people are buying more sensible presents each year.
 These for presents are put up one pair in a box.
 And they're made for wear as well as looks.
 Prices run 75c to \$3.00.
 Some with some silver buckles.
 We've the regular kinds, 25c to \$1.50.

BOYS' FANCY VESTS.

These will tickle the boys—they're the swell thing.
 They're made just like dad's, single and double breasted styles and of same materials.
 Prices \$2.00 to \$4.00, sizes 4 to 14 years.

THE HOUSE COATS.

A cosy home—an easy chair—a cigar—a book—a house coat—comfort.
 Probably an old story to you, but maybe some friend would like to learn it—and would sooner learn it at Christmas time than any other.
 As last season, the double faced cloth ones are probably the most popular. The collars and cuffs are turned back to show enough of the plaid to make a very striking effect. These at \$7.50 to \$10.00.
 Some very pretty plaids and checks at \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00.
 The handsome fancy worsteds at \$12.00, \$15.00, \$18.00.

THE BATH ROBES.

Selling more bath robes this year than last. People are finding out more each year the comforts of one. Two styles—cashmere and elderdown, with a price range of \$2.50 to \$10.00.



THE NIGHT SHIRTS.

Now, what more suitable present could you give than a night shirt. It's the last thing a man puts on at night.

Hence, you'll be the last person he'll think of.
 In they come in twill at 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50; outing flannel at 50c, 60c, 75c, \$1.25; satin, \$1.25 and \$1.50, and silk at \$5.00.



THE NECKWEAR.

Such a swell lot to choose from you'll almost get bewildered at the showing.

We've neckwear at 25c that you'll be surprised at, in bows, tecks and four-in-hands.
 The 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 grades come in all the popular shapes. Puffs, regular four-in-hands, tecks, flowing end four-in-hands.
 And we'll give you a tip.
 A man can't get too many cravats.

THE GLOVES.

Can't tell too often of the gloves—for we know just how much a man appreciates them.
 No need to be extravagant in your glove selection for we have them as low as it's safe to go—50c—then 75c and up to \$2.50 for the best that are made.
 Wool gloves, 25c to \$1.00.
 And men's gloves, 50c to \$1.00.
 Some lined, some unlined.

THE HANDKERCHIEFS.

Just now there's a mighty rush to the handkerchief section. Last year you left these little things till the last minute—and then some of you were disappointed. We've more this year, but we're selling more, which means come today. Silk are most popular, 25c to \$1.50.

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 The Grandest Minstrel Organization in the World. Record of the past a Guarantee of the Future. Street Parade Monday at 1:30 p. m. Sale of seats opens Saturday at 10 a. m.

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