DESERET EVENING NEWS

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

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Charles W. Penrose, - - - Editor
Horace G. Whitney, Business Manager

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AN INTERESTING RELIC.

With this issue of the "News" is inserted a fac simile of the first number of the paper, an exact reproduction of the Deseret News as it came off the press on June 15th, 1850. We do not doubt that the little souvenir of the "News" fiftieth birthday will be received and perused with interest by our friends, and that it will be preserved as a relic of the struggles and achievements of the Pioneers. It was as remarkable a feat in those days, considering the conditions with which they were surrounded, and the meager facilities at their command, as many of the startling journalistic exploits of modern times.

Regular subscribers, and purchasers of the paper at news stands, should see that they obtain the fac simile with the beautiful illustrated supplement and the regular part of the paper. Nearly thirty thousand copies of the reproduction have been printed to supply readers of both the Daily and the Semi-Weekly issues.

We also call attention to the superb supplement which we present to our readers, and ask them to note the present splendid work turned out by this office, and rejoice with us over the progress that has been made in fifty years.

RELIGIOUS PROGRESS.

The Deseret News was started on the 15th of June, 1850, under the auspices of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Its motto was, "Truth and Liberty." It has been for the half century that has passed, and will be in future, the official organ of that Church, and devoted to the principles expressed in that motto. It has taken an important part in the promulgation of the doctrines of the Church, both by editorial articles and the publication of discourses delivered by leading Elders. It has therefore been one of the agencies by which important changes in religious thought have been effected in Christendom.

Fifty years ago the Bible was worshipped by the vast majority of professing Christians, and belief in its verbal inspiration, "from lid to lid," was insisted upon as essential. Not only were the sayings of the prophets of the Old Testament, and the utterances of the Apostles of the New considered to be the very words of God, but the historical, genealogical and allegorical portions were regarded in the same light. The Latter-day Saints were denounced as disbelievers in the sacred volume, because they took a rational view of the books it contains, accepting it "so far as it is translated correctly," and receiving as the word of God, "all that He has revealed," outside as well as inside of that book, and "all that He does now reveal," with the expectation, that "He will yet reveal many important things" concerning the Kingdom of God and the salvation of mankind.

Today all religious denominations are discussing the authenticity of the books of the Bible. New versions of the scriptures have been published. Learned divines dispute with each other as to the authority of different passages, and the fact that the Book of books does not contain the entire word of God, is acknowledged by many thousands of investigators, while the possibility of further inspiration is beginning to impress the minds of thoughtful men and women.

Fifty years ago it was deemed deserving of denunciation to doubt the orthodox doctrine of the Trinity. Though impossible of comprehension as then enunciated, and contrary to common sense, it was insisted upon as fundamental to the Christian faith. "Mormonism" was placed outside the pale of Christendom, for its rational conception of the Godhead and its declaration of the distinct and substantial individuality of each Divine person, their unity being that of perfect harmony of purpose, design and action.

Today, although there is much division of opinion on this important subject, it is treated more patiently and reasonably, and blind acceptance of the "mystery" is not so strongly enforced as necessary to the faith of a Christian. Millions of people deny it and, though flying from one extreme to another, are not liable to the anathemas which would then have followed them on their departure from the established creed.

Fifty years ago the idea that revelation ceased with the vision of St. John on the isle of Patmos was almost universally entertained. Also that the gifts of the Gospel possessed by the early Christian Church, ceased entirely with the first century, and all claims to their present or future enjoyment were delusion or imposture. The "Mormons" were utterly condemned for testifying to their restoration.

Today manifestations professing to be divine, healings, spiritual communications, marvels of various kinds are accepted as realities by millions of mankind. Many of them are illusive, some of them Satanic, others but a fraud. Yet their reception by the multitude marks a revolution in the public mind, and a virtual admission of the possibility of the truth of the "Mormon" doctrines of continued revelation, and the present enjoyment of all the spiritual gifts spoken of in ancient Scripture.

Fifty years ago the sprinkling of infants in the name of the Trinity, improperly called baptism, was deemed essential to their salvation. The horrible idea that unbaptized infants were everlastingly lost, prevailed to an astonishing extent. "Mormonism" met the heresy with the announcement that "Little children were redeemed from the foundation of the world," through Christ's atonement, and therefore needed no baptism. That it was instituted as an ordinance "for the remission of sins," and that no child could sin before reaching the age of accountability before God.

Today, though "christening" is a religious custom followed to a large degree, still that form is not viewed except by extreme sectaries as it used to be, nor do parents shudder at the thought of the eternal doom of a child that died without the performance of that rite.

Fifty years ago hell was preached as a place of literal fire and brimstone, where lost souls, that is, all who do not go to heaven, welter in torment without cessation, for ever and ever, hopeless, with no chance of redemption from their excruciating agonies and wild despair. "Mormonism" proclaimed the eternal mercy as well as justice of the All-Father, explained the figurative expressions in holy writ concerning the punishment of the wicked, and declared the final redemption of all the souls of men (except a very few that cannot and will not reform) when they have paid "the uttermost farthing" of a just penalty.

Today, the flames and smoke and roaring furnace, with horned imps and writhing victims to eternal wrath, are regarded by the majority of religious people as anything but realities, and the "torments of the damned" as mental conditions, the results of "the stings of conscience." Again the other extreme is reached, and in many pulpits hell itself is denied, while in others its preaching is out of fashion.

Fifty years ago the fate of all mankind was fixed at death. After that it was unalterable. Up to heaven if one believed in Christ, down to hell if he did not believe. The heathen, the Jew, the irreligious of all races, the vast multitude of mankind who, through any circumstance, "the accident of birth," or lack of opportunity or inclination, did not learn of Jesus or failed of faith in Him as Christ, perished for ever. Thus Satan was to gain the victory and the Savior to rescue but a few individuals out of the countless myriads of mankind. "Mormonism" preached the ministry of Christ after His crucifixion to "the spirits in prison," and the "deliverance of the captives" even "them that were bound;" the power of a disembodied soul or spirit to believe, repent and reform and, therefore, the possibility of its redemption, through obedience to the Gospel not received when in the flesh. It was scouted by the religious world and held up to violent reprobation.

Today the eschatology of even orthodox ministers is so modified as to admit the probability of salvation for the heathen and others who had no earthly opportunity to learn of Christ. The subject is agitated in the churches and religious colleges, and though the old, hard doctrine is still maintained by some in theory, a more liberal conception of the plan of redemption is prevailing, and Divine mercy is exalted above the once universally received notion of eternal implacability and vengeance.

Fifty years ago the Calvinistic tenets of predestination, election and reprobation were unquestioned in Presbyterian, Baptist and other churches. It was taken for granted that, before the foundation of the world, the Almighty foreordained a certain number of men and angels to be His elect, and that all the rest of His creatures, young and old, of all races, sects and conditions, were doomed to His everlasting wrath, and endless misery in the torments of hell. That Christ atoned only for the sins of the elect, and that those few, chosen "out of the rubbish of nature," were to be saved, not because of any good acts of their own, and the lost were to be doomed, not because of any wickedness they had done, but all was prearranged and determined before they were born. So that no matter how good a person might be, if he was not of the elect, he would be eternally damned, and no matter how wicked another might be, if he was among the elect the blood of Christ would wash away all his guilt, and he would shine in the glory of God. Even the election of infants was part of this monstrous doctrine and remains still in the "Confession of Faith." "Mormonism" showed that, while certain persons were predestined to occupy important positions on earth, in church, in State, in war, in peace, in various movements for the progress of mankind, and the accomplishment of divine purposes throughout the ages and among the different races, and were born into the world at the time and under the circumstances predetermined, yet salvation was free to all without distinction, predicated upon their acceptance of the Gospel of Christ when it should be presented to them. That man is a free agent, with the power of volition to receive or reject truth, and is therefore a responsible being, and will consequently be judged for his individual acts and will receive the reward or punishment which divine eternal justice, tempered with mercy shall determine in each case. That the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from sin all who willingly obey His Gospel. For this the Latter-day Saints were opposed and often persecuted and cast out as evil.

Today the diabolical theory that the Eternal Father created millions of His children for the express purpose of plunging them into everlasting torment, is repudiated by the great masses of professing Christians. Though it still remains in the written creeds of some of the churches, it is not believed except by a few dogmatists who refuse to bend to the force of modern sentiment. A great demand has recently been made for the revision of the entire creed that embodies the awful declaration, and even many of the most prominent exponents of Presbyterianism openly repudiate it and denounce it as a libel upon Deity. This change is notable and a striking sign of the progress of religious thought.

Fifty years ago the popular idea about heaven was that it is a perpetual repetition of a religious Sabbath. That the redeemed ocupied their time in sacred singing, playing on harps and bowing before the eternal throne. That they are immaterial, etherial beings, with nothing substantial in their forms and nothing material in their existence or enjoyments. "Mormonism" taught that heaven would be established on the earth, after its purification and renewal; that the redeemed will be resurrected, immortal, substantial individuals, engaged in various pursuits in an advanced and perfected state of society, families associated, in their order, exercising all their powers, spiritual and physical, in a refined, sinless and ever progressing state of exaltation and happiness. This was ridiculed and rejected as materialistic, gross and unscriptural.

Today the harp-and-song idea of heaven is rapidly fading from the thoughtful mind. The truth is gradually dawning upon the religious world that the future state will be a perfected social condition of real men and women, immortalized and glorified, having pursuits and pleasures adapted to their advanced position, and surroundings, separated from all things that are evil, annoying and degrading, and basking in the sunshine of the Eternal Presence.

Fifty years ago the generally accepted theory of the origin of the Book of Mormon was, that a clergyman named Solomon Spaulding wrote a religious novel called the "Manuscript Found," which, by some means not fully explained, came into the possession of Sidney Rigdon, who conveyed it in some mysterious manner to the youth Joseph Smith, who fabricated it into the Book of Mormon and palmed it upon the world as a divine revelation. Testimony that could not be impeached was given that Sidney Rigdon knew nothing about the Book of Mormon until it was shown to him by Parley P. Pratt many months after its publication. Also that the alleged particulars concerning "The Manuscript Found" bore no resemblance to those of the coming forth of the Book of Mormon. But the religious world accepted the Spaulding story with all its contradictions and absurdities, and it was adopted by learned compilers of encyclopædias and historical volumes.

Today the Spaulding story lies prone, utterly shattered and without a particle of support. "The Manuscript Found" has been brought to light after long concealment. It is preserved in the library of Oberlin College, Ohio. It bears no resemblance whatever to the Book of Mormon. That is conceded by every person who has compared the two works. Scientific and theological experts have examined them both, and have given their testimony that there is no likeness of any kind between them. Explorers and antiquarians have brought to light ruins and relics, which give evidence of the truth of the historical portions of the Book of Mormon and aid in placing it in its proper light before the world. Prejudice concerning it is breaking down, and though some religious ministers still repeat the silly story of half a century ago to account for its origin, the Book of Mormon stands today as a divine record believed in by hundreds of thousands and a marvel to the world.

Fifty years ago persecution raged against the Latter-day Saints. They had fled before its murderous attacks and the fury of mobs led by religious ministers and fanatics. They had founded a commonwealth in the wilderness, where they could be free to worshop God according to the dictates of their consciences, unmolested by Christian violence. But abroad, in many places, hostility to their faith was exhibited in ruffian form, and a disposition was still manifest to destroy them and their creed. They were a small community in the midst of these mountains, and it was late in the year 1850 that the territorial form of government extended to them by the nation commenced to take shape. Yet the Church sent forth its missionaries to foreign lands, and several European nations for the first time heard the sound of the everlasting Gospel restored to earth in the latter days.

Today Utah is a flourishing State of the Union. Its influence is increasing. Its value is becoming recognized throughout the world. The Church occupies a strong position as a religious power, with an organization admired if sometimes feared by the great ecclesiastical systems that oppose it. But the rifle and the cannon, the torch and the fire-brand, the dungeon and the chain, are no longer the weapons used wherewith to fight the "Mormon" Church. More civilized and Christian methods are now adopted, and though misrepresentation is rife, physical force is not approved in the warfare against "Mormonism." The world is progressing.

It is not claimed that the great changes in religious thought that have taken place during the past half century, have been brought about solely through the preaching of "Mormonism." But it has been a potent factor in the working of these problems in religion, and has had its effect upon all the ideas and notions to which we have referred, and many others which we have not space to mention. There are many thousands of people, and not a few religious ministers, whose opinions have been greatly changed through the influence and teaching of "Mormon" doctrine. They may not be willing to admit this, but it is a fact nevertheless, and the Deseret News has done its part in the good work.

"Mormonism is the heavenly leaven, which is working in the world. It will eventually "leaven the whole lump." That which it has wrought in fifty years is a token of its future effects. It is the work of Almighty God. It cannot be exterminated. It will prevail over all opposition and will stand forever. For its achievements in the past, to God be all the glory. For its prospects in the future we render Him thanksgiving and praise.

DEFAMATION OF THE DEAD.

In Munsey's Magazine for June appeared a most virulent attack on the leaders of the "Mormon" Church, which we have already noticed as to many particulars. There is one paragraph which calls for some further remarks. It is in relation to the parents of the Prophet Joseph Smith. The writer, C. C. Goodwin, editor of the Salt Lake Tribune, not content with making vicious aspersions on the character of the martyred Prophet, had this to say in regard to his dead father and mother:

"As a rule candid men, when they seek fairly to investigate 'Mormonism,' recoil on the very threshold. The parents of Joseph Smith are the first stumbling block. A father that searched for buried treasure with a stick of hazel, that sold blessings at three dollars each, that in his person filled all the requirements of a vagabond; a mother that was low, vulgar, mercenary, and utterly untruthful—what could be hoped for from the son of such a pair?"

There was not the slightest occasion, in the sketch in which it appears, entitled "The Truth About the Mormons," to introduce the falsehoods contained in that paragraph. The motive that prompted the publication of these slanders on the dead we leave the public to determine. That there is nothing good or praiseworthy in it must be evident to all just people who have read the article.

In the year 1845 a work was published in England entitled "Route From Liverpool to Great Salt Lake Valley, Illustrated." It was from the gifted pen and brush of the well known artist Frederick Piercy, who is not a "Mormon." It contains a sketch of Lucy Smith, the mother of the Prophet, from which we take the following. It was accompanied with a steel engraving of the lady, a copy of which we here insert:

MOTHER LUCY SMITH.

"Lucy Smith, mother of the Prophet Joseph, was the daughter of Solomon and Lydia Mack. She was born at Gilsum, Cheshire, New Hampshire, on the 8th of July, 1776, and was the youngest of eight children, four of whom were girls. Solomon Mack had just attained his majority when the war between France and England, which grew out of the disputed North American territory, was proclaimed. He entered the British army, and had two teams in the service of King George II., employed in carrying Gen. Abercromble's baggage, and was present in 1758, at an engagement on the west side of Lage George. He was engaged in more or less military pursuits until 1759, when he was discharged, and married an accomplished school teacher, Lydia Gates, the mother of the subject of this memoir. She was the daughter of Nathan Gates, a wealthy man, living in East Haddan, Conn. She was of a truly pious disposition, and had an excellent education, which peculiarly fitted her for the duties of a preceptress to her children, especially at a period when schools were rarities in the half cleared and thinly settled districts. Lucy profited by the talents and virtue of her mother.

On the 24th of January, 1796, she was married to Joseph Smith, and received from her brother, Stephen Mack, and John Mudget, his partner in business, a marriage present of $1,000. Her husband owned a good farm at Tunbridge, on which they settled. The fruits of this marriage were seven sons—Alvin Hyrum, Joseph, Samuel H., Ephraim, William and Don Carlos; and three daughters—Sophronia, Catherine and Lucy.

In 1802, Lucy Smith, with her husband, moved to Randolph, Vermont, where they opened a mercantile establishment. Mr. Smith here embarked in an adventure of gensang, to China, but was robbed of the proceeds and was much involved thereby. To liquidate his debts, he had to sell his farm at Tunbridge, to which he had then returned, and to use his wife's marriage present, which till then had remained untouched. From Tunbridge they removed to Royalton. They remained there a few months, and then went to reside at Sharon, Windsor county, where Joseph the Prophet was born. They again returned to Tunbridge and Royalton successively, but, in 1811, their circumstances having much improved they quitted Vermont for Lebanon, in New Hampshire."

We did not intend to refer to this subject again, but the defamation of the dead resorted to by the anti-"Mormon" writer who frequently pretends to be a friend of the Latter-day Saints, has created a strong feeling of indignation among them, and we have received many requests to refute the outrageous libels with which the magazine article abounds. We have only this to say further in relation to Father and Mother Smith, that they were both respectly connected. Their ancestry is on record. They came from good New England stock, which figured prominently in the conflict with Great Britain and the establishment of this Republic. Joseph Smith, the Patriarch, on his deathbed pronounced blessings upon his children, one by one, like the Patriarchs of old. The couple were strongly religious in character and were ready to make any sacrifice for the truth, and were firm adherents to the faith introduced by their son, the inspired Prophet of the nineteenth century.

Z. C. M. I. Specials This Week

Piece Wash Goods.
Perfectly lovely line. Beautiful Shirting Percales, 36 in. wide, was 20c per yard,
NOW 15 CTS.

Summer Wash Goods
In Lawns, Dimities, Piques and Linen effects, for dresses, waists and wrappers. Most beautiful line ever shown here.

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Our window special. Beautiful patterns, lovely colors, were 50c, now only 25c.

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Choicest goods in the city. 75 cents to $15.00.

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Black and colored. Also elegant ladies' Carriage Parasols.

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NEW, ALL COLORS, 75c to $5.00.

CROCKERY and CHINA DEPT.

Wedding Presents.
Perfectly beautiful—as June Weddings are. If you want RICH CUT GLASS, we have it, and all else.

Elegant China, Latest in Silver,
Endless variety of articles, useful, ornamental and novel.

This is Berry Season,
We have Berry Sets in great profusion, for the table; Fruit Jars for preserving Fruit, and Vessels for cooking it.
Try the best Rubber Ring on the market, the Golden Seal. It saves time and trouble, and insures your Fruit as safe and sound.

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

How do you like our jubilee number?

"Can we colonize?" asks the Baltimore Sun. To which we reply: "Can a duck swim?"

The fire department is all aflame over the question of the confirmation of the new appointees.

A Connecticut man has made a will thirteen feet long. It must be a rythmical document.

General Otis says the Filipinos are hungry for books. Evidently they want to chew the cud of reflection.

Admiral Dewey would not accept a nomination for the vice presidency. Still there are others who would.

The bell of the bicyclists is still heard on the sidewalks. And very often on the sidewalks in the prohibited districts.

Aguinaldo is truly between the devil and the deep sea when our morning contemporaries play shuttlecock with him.

Iowa may secure the vice presidential nomination at Philadelphia, and yet her ambition may result in nothing more than a Dolliver romance.

General Roberts being shut off for the present, it would be just as well for the other British generals to "shut up" until he can be heard from.

Kelly-Kenny says the Boer war is the "rummiest" thing he ever saw. But at what a terrible price is this "rummiest" of war spectacles produced.

South Africans in London regard the capture of Pretoria as an empty triumph. How could it be anything else when the Boers had evacuated it?

The third Duke of Wellington but once in his life tried to make a speech and then failed to utter one word. This far surpasses Single Speech Hamilton's record.

The taking of the census of the city has been completed. What is the population? The State director of census knows but the rest of the people must be content with guessing for a while.

Philadelphia is the center of attraction just now, and will continue to be for the greater part of the coming week. The only real question to be decided there is who shall be Mr. McKinley's running mate.

United States District Judge Townsend, of New York, has decided that in certain respects Porto Rico is a foreign country. In other words the United States and Porto Rico are a kind of "not brothers, no relation."

The lengthy and rambling effort of the Tribune to get around its geographical and historical errors, is simply a cloud of dust, but it does not obscure the fact that the present Utah was part of Upper California at the time the "Mormons" came to this spot. The Tribune declared it was not, but was a part of New Mexico. It was wrong as usual, and it tries to make out it was right, as usual, by twisting and evading, as usual. It will not work.

M. Waldeck-Rousseau has partly alienated the French Socialists by declaring that men who desire to work are entitled to as much protection by the authorities as those who do not wish to work. It is the only right and reasonable view that can be taken of this question. That any other should be entertained is that which causes surprise. Demagogism is responsible for the pernicious theory and practice that a man who seeks work has no right to take the place of a man who has gone on a strike.

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MEN'S NEGLIGEE SHIRTS.

They Are Just the Thing Now!

Some of them are Silk Front, colored all over, with cuffs to match, price — $1.25 and $1.0

Some are made to wear with white collars and cuffs; colored all over or colored bosom and white body, prices— 65c and 75c

And others of fine percale at— 75c and $1.25

We have a big stock and would like you to help us dispose of them.

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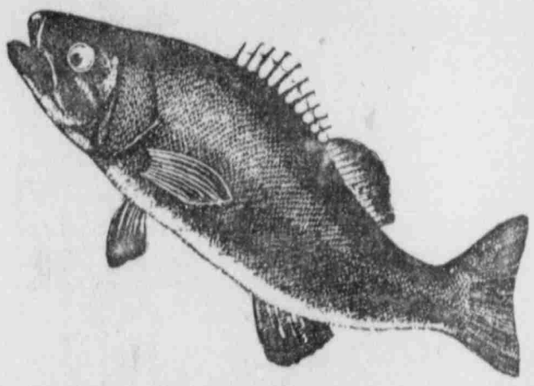
GOING FISHING?



This is the size you'll catch if you buy your tackle from us. We can sell you a complete outfit for

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Just fancy: One split bamboo rod, brass reel, with click, 75 feet waterproof line, one dozen good trout flies, and three feet single leader—the whole lot for $1.49. We can't sell you the BAIT, because we haven't a license, but we have everything else you want.

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GARDNER DAILY STORE NEWS.

TODAY—About Dandruff and the New Cure—Eldred's Antiseptic Hat Pad.

Dandruff is the disagreeable scurf that forms on the head as a natural excretion; it dries and comes off in scales.

It causes irritation, which is, sometimes, unconsciously followed by constant scratch of the head.

It is annoying to people who wear dark clothes, and it gradually affects the hair, causing it to fall out.

This can positively be prevented by wearing Eldred's Antiseptic Hat Pad inside the hat.

The heat of the head vitalizes the antiseptics and disinfectants in the pad, making the impure air pure.

The price is 50c.

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