

influence of the Chamber of Commerce towards pushing the disfranchisement bill. He expressed himself unqualifiedly on the subject to members of the Committee on Territories who had the bill under consideration.

An allegation to the effect that Mr. Thomas had acted thus and "betrayed a trust" reposed in him by the Chamber of Commerce was scouted in certain quarters as a monstrous fabrication, out of harmony with his whole "honorable" career.

The charge has, however, been fully and unequivocally proved, and the same source from which emanated the denial that the Governor could be guilty of such conduct is now engaged in the sublime labor of showing that the perfidious betrayal of a trust, and the use of money, paid for another purpose, to cut the political throats of some of the men who contributed it, and acting with unmitigated deceit, is highly honorable. This is not the way it is put, but precisely what it amounts to.

As a consequence, those who are expressing themselves openly on the subject—without distinction as to party—evince ineffable disgust. No one has a single word of commendation for Mr. Thomas. But while the latter has suffered an inestimable depreciation in the opinion of people who favor straightforward work, the apologists for his course, especially in view of their former expressions in the opposite direction, have gone so far down as to be almost invisible to the naked eye from a moral and consistent standpoint.

AN IMPERISHABLE RECORD.

This city has a history which is imperishable. It is also unalterable. No matter what efforts may be made to change its character, they will prove unsuccessful. Too many dead witnesses have left behind them their testimony concerning the chief city of the Latter-day Saints, and too many living ones have a personal knowledge of its founding, growth and past character, to admit of any substitution of fiction for fact respecting any material feature of its history.

The tongue that would slander the memory of its founders will be forever effectually belied by the monuments they have left behind them, erected by their own hands, in the then unwitting attestation of the now recognized truth, that they

possessed characteristics which will make any people great. The outlook, from a moral and religious standpoint, which looms up before this city at the present time, is so dark that, in order to relieve its gloominess when contrasted with former conditions here, there is a determination in certain quarters to paint the past as black as possible.

But all such efforts to forestall or modify the contrast between conditions under former administrations of the municipal government of this city and those which are forcing themselves into prominence under the present regime, will prove abortive. A certain end in the divine economy is to be accomplished, and that result can be best attained by means of a striking antithesis between the past and future of the principal city of the "Mormon" people. Attempts to soften the opposites by representing that vice and crime formerly flourished here, will be utterly unavailing. They will but serve to draw closer attention to the glaring difference. With a graphic distinctness that will impress all beholders, and serve as an object lesson to the whole world, the distinction between the "Mormons" and their defamers will yet be appropriately portrayed, and the long delayed vindication of the former, in the esteem of mankind, brought about.

INCREASE OF VALUES.

THE early months of the present year have witnessed a rapid increase of values extending over the greater portion of the United States. We have had abundant local illustration of what has taken place in respect to real estate. True, "booms" of the sort we have been having here have occurred only in spots, but they have served to stimulate the values of real property over great areas surrounding them. In some States, such as Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Colorado, etc., the rise in real estate has been general.

Extensive districts in many parts of the South are experiencing financial revivals produced by an influx of northern or foreign capital, and the development of manufacturing interests and latent natural resources. There is marked activity in railroad building, and new fields are being penetrated, thus greatly enhancing values and producing business animation in regions hitherto regarded as wildernesses.

In addition to these local causes of increased values, the entire West

and South are feeling, to a marked degree, the effects of the efforts that are being made in Congress to pass legislation favorable to silver. The price of that metal has advanced rapidly, and farm products have shown a strong tendency in the same direction. R. G. Dun & Co's weekly circular dated April 26 states that Wall Street was assured that 54 millions of bullion notes yearly would be added to the nation's circulating medium, which, it was expected, would lift all prices. During the week wheat had advanced 2½ cents per bushel, oats 3 cents, and corn, pork, etc., had experienced similar upward changes.

Business is reported good pretty much all over the country except in the region of floods in the lower Mississippi Valley. The stock market of New York has been strongly stimulated by existing conditions. Exports of grain continue large notwithstanding the advance in prices, and men whose vocation is to make money are meeting with success as a general thing. But when such business activity exists the concentration of wealth is more rapid than when the wheels of commerce move less rapidly. Their present velocity, therefore, means that the rich are getting richer, and that if the poor are not becoming poorer, the gulf between them and the rich is broadening.

Financial forces have their part to play in the great events the world is to witness in the next few years, and they, in common with the other agencies destined to co-operate in bringing to pass those events, seem to be greatly accelerated in their operations of late.

UNNECESSARY EXPENSE.

UNDER the auspices and at the expense of the general government, the inhabitants of this city will be counted next month. Why, then, should the City Council appoint enumerators to do the same thing at substantially the same time? Is it necessary to check the government's count? Cannot United States census marshals be relied upon to give correct figures? If a carpenter were to plane the under side of a barn floor, the expense of the extra labor would be deemed a useless outlay. This is about the light in which taxpayers might properly view the \$3.50 to \$7 per day to be paid to the enumerators appointed by the City Council on Tuesday, April 29. That is the range of wages