

## EDITORIALS.

THE address of Judge McKean, made by him to the Grand and Petit Juries before dismissing them yesterday afternoon, and which we publish in another column, disappoints us. We supposed from the charges which we heard were made in it that it might contain some points of weight; but the strong points are not there. The whole address is the impotent attempt of a soured and disappointed man to gloss over his own defeat and to charge others with results of which he and his clique are the sole authors. There was a tone of exultation about Judge McKean's harangues a few months ago; they were the expressions of a man who felt conscious of triumph; but what shall we say about his latter utterances? In this last an acknowledgement of defeat is in every line. There is plenty of venom, but no argument; and men who are victorious rarely descend to spleen. His ravings about the priesthood are as untrue as they are destitute of sense. It is sheer folly to talk about the "High-Priesthood" refusing to permit the expenses of the United States Courts to be paid, unless they are allowed to control these Courts. The United States pays, and has always paid, the expenses of its own Courts, and the Government has not depended upon the "High-Priesthood," or upon any one else, to settle these bills. Courts held for the adjudication of Territorial cases have had their expenses settled by the Territory. But Judge McKean rules the officers of the Territory out of Court, declares they have no authority, and yet expects these officers to pay the expenses of his Court; and because they do not comply with his wishes and unlock the Territorial Treasury for him to thrust in his hand, he indulges in this tirade about the "High-Priesthood."

In his eagerness to accuse the people, and to do the leading men of this community injury, he does not perceive the dilemma in which he has placed himself. He says the "High-Priesthood" refuse to permit the expenses of the United States Courts to be paid unless they are allowed to control the courts." How was it before Judge McKean came here; was there any trouble about the expenses of the courts being paid? Did the "High-Priesthood" only permit the expenses of courts to be paid on the condition that they should be allowed to control those courts? This is the plain and the only inference to be drawn from Judge McKean's remarks yesterday. The expenses of courts were paid, and the corollary is, if we accept Judge McKean's statement, that the "High-Priesthood" controlled those courts. An expression of arrogance and affected superiority which we are quite prepared to witness in him; but which the courtesy of the profession would restrain a modest, sensible man in his position from placing on record, even were his predecessors scoundrels. We are proud to say, however, that we have had some gentlemen here as Judges, men of culture, erudition, and in every respect the peer at least of his Honor, and in their behalf we repulse with disdain the covert assault which he makes upon them.

Judge McKean seems to have an idea that the "High-Priesthood" are to blame for the law requiring ballots at elections to be numbered, as though this practice were something unheard of before. This is an old, worn-out charge against the method of conducting elections in this Territory, and he seems not to know that it is a practice not confined to this section. Here again he betrays his ignorance, as he can easily learn if he investigate. As to the boast that he will stay here as long as he chooses, it is simply childish twaddle. Who has said he could not? Who has disturbed him, or who is likely to disturb him? We can assure Judge McKean that whether he stays or goes is a matter of utter indifference to the people of this Territory. They contrived to live and prosper here for twenty-three years before they knew of his existence or made his appearance among them, and they fully expect to continue to live and prosper after he takes his departure.

He says in his address that the favorites of the "High-Priesthood," which were elected to the offices of Marshal and Prosecuting Attorney, were ruled out by him, and the Supreme Court of the Territory has affirmed the rulings, and these officers cannot be recognized by himself and his confederates. What is the extent of this admission? Nothing less than that he and his fellow-judges have ruled out of court officers who were legally elected, under the statutes of the Territory of Utah—officers who,

ever since the Territory was organized, have exercised the functions of which he and the other Court have deprived them! We are quite willing that Judge McKean should have the entire credit of this action. If there be glory attached to it, he is welcome to it; but what does this admission of his amount to? Simply this, that he and his fellow-judges have constituted themselves a Triumvirate in this Territory, overriding all statutory enactments, the action of the Legislative Assembly and the will of the people, and trampling upon all precedent. This is what he and his fellows have done, and he acknowledges his share in the proceeding. And yet, he with consummate impudence, denounces the "High-Priesthood" for using its influence and power at elections! If all he charges them with were true, they at least observed the law; but what language shall be used to describe the conduct of a man, who like him, has defied law and all public sentiment, who among a free people has attempted to make his will supreme, and would, if he could, trample them in the dust? Judge McKean has tried to make a prediction. The role of a prophet, however, is one in which he will never shine. We will venture to predict that if he continues to pursue the course of tyranny, disregard of law and overbearing insolence which he has adopted since he came here, he will be hurled from position, and become that most wretched of all creatures—a politician without an office; and that, too, despite all his zeal in trying to crush out the "Mormons;" even Methodism won't save him.

We want the public to understand the secret reason of all this denunciation. Judge McKean ruled the Territorial officers out of Court; and as he says in his address, he wanted the officers appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate of the United States to act as the officers of the Courts. So far as that went everything was smooth and lovely. The Judge was supreme, and he felt correspondingly elated. But, after awhile, the question of pay came up; for after all the patriotic talk of a certain class, you stop the money and the patriotism oozes out very fast. The Legislative Assembly had recognized the officers of its own appointment, and had left funds subject to their order to pay the expenses of Courts; but they had left no funds subject to the order of Judge McKean or the United States Marshal. When this fact transpired, the previous elation became more subdued. It might not after all be so nice an arrangement as had been hoped. If there could only have been some purchase rigged by which access could have been had to the Territorial Treasury, what a happy time there would have been. But an Assembly which is prudent and economical enough to keep a Territory out of debt, ought to be shrewd enough to take care of the funds during recess.

Then the Department at Washington was appealed to; but the Department could not see the point. Government had not been in the habit of paying such bills, especially to gratify the vanity of men who were out here trying to play "Big Injun," and to convince the poor, benighted "Mormons" that they were as great men as Brigham Young. When that recourse failed, visible gloom fell upon the unhappy Triumvirate and their courtiers. This feeling has continued to increase more and more, as the prospect of their appeals being unanswered became more dark, until, at last, it finds utterance in this splenetic wail of Judge McKean's, which we publish to-day.

This address was gotten up on purpose to reach the Government and to create sympathy in Congress for the unhappy and struggling Triumvirate. They want money, and money they must have; they cannot live without it. To get it, every member of the "ring" is urged, every lawyer and man who has any influence in town is appealed to, all the officers are conjured to write to their friends in Congress to do all in their power to procure relief. Judge McKean talks about the Legislative Assembly being paid by the United States; he evidently does not like this. Somebody has tried at Washington to stop the appropriation of the amount usually made for this purpose and to have it turned over to pay the expenses of Courts. Is Judge McKean or his associates who are engaged in this business? This we suppose is quite right for Judges to do; but what would be said about it if the "High-Priesthood" were to engage in such underhanded, sneaking business? Somebody has told at Washington that the Court House cannot be obtained here, for the double purpose of convinc-

ing the Government of the bad feelings of the "Mormons," and to get an appropriation of \$2,400 to pay for a suitable building. Will Judge McKean inform us if it was the "High-Priesthood" who did this; if not, who it was? Judge McKean ought to know that the Court House could be obtained at any time and at ten dollars a day—not \$2,400 a year mark you—with all the necessary accommodations of jury rooms, &c. Who could have sent this lie to Washington with the hope of obtaining \$2,400 through it, and doing the "Mormons" an ill turn at the same time? Judge McKean can probably inform us whether this was the work of the "High-Priesthood," or not. We should imagine not, for the "High-Priesthood" have had these rich mines of which Judge McKean speaks under their thumbs for "about twenty years," and it is not likely that they would resort to such a despicable method of obtaining a paltry \$2,400.

We understand the Triumvirate and their satellites still indulge in the hope that the customary appropriation made to pay the expenses of the Legislative Assembly will be diverted by Congress to sustain them in their attacks upon the liberties of the people of this Territory. They seem to think that Congress will abolish the Assembly and substitute in the stead thereof their Triumvirate. This they no doubt imagine would be a very nice arrangement, especially if the power to levy and collect and spend taxes were granted them. Upon the entire face of the proceedings of the Triumvirate in all their rulings, charges and addresses, where the Territory, its officers and its affairs are concerned, there is plainly apparent the anxiety to obtain control here so that public funds can be handled to suit their views. The "ring" is composed of an impecunious crowd—men of such meagre talent and inconsiderable character, that in their own sections they could scarcely make a living, and who hoped by accepting Utah as a home for a short period to make a raise. This they appear determined to do even if it be at the expense of the rights and liberties of the people.

In conversation with a gentleman of high standing from the East—a public man himself, and thoroughly familiar with public life—he remarked, in speaking of the class of men who came out here as a general rule as officers, that when men, who were past forty years of age, accepted a carpet bag appointment in any of the Territories, for the salary paid such officials, it might be viewed as an evidence that they were men of low grade at home; for gentlemen of reputation and ability who had arrived at that age, if they should meet with misfortunes and be reduced in circumstances, could do better and recruit their fortunes more rapidly in a community where they were known, than by accepting a political appointment and coming out to a distant Territory, where the expenses of living in anything like genteel style could hardly be met by the salary paid by the Government. We thought there was considerable soundness in the remark, and it afforded us an explanation of the eagerness which is manifested to get the unrestricted control of all the business of the courts, and to allow no Territorial officer to act in any position where fees are to be obtained. Under cover of the outcry which they raise about the "Mormons" and their reported misdeeds, they hope to be able to perpetrate any enormity they choose without obstruction or condemnation. By this course the people of Utah may be blackened, and while attention is directed to them, money can be made without it being suspected that for its sake the howl was raised. We submit to the great public if this is not a confoundedly mean and despicable method of raising money.

There is one glorious feature about our position here—we are not likely to suffer for the want of the appropriation which the Triumvirate are eager to obtain. So far as the majority of the people are concerned we presume they are quite indifferent as to what becomes of it; and so far as the Assembly is concerned there is not a member whom we know but what would readily make a donation of the amount to the Triumvirate, if they thought they stood in need of it and were only decent men. There is scarcely one of them who has not spent hundreds of dollars in time and means for the Territory and country, and such men can well afford to give \$120 to assist any charitable object, and not feel the loss of the amount. They are men who make their living by honest industry and good management, and who have never depended

upon a government salary or pay for the means to sustain themselves.

WE are pleased to learn that the County Court is taking steps to extend the 8th West Street canal, which has already been dug as far as Col. J. C. Little's farm, further south. Judge E. Smith and the County Surveyor laid out sixty rods of the canal yesterday, the digging of which will be let out at an early date on private contract to responsible parties. It is the design, we understand, to extend the canal until the whole of the bottom lands near the Jordan will be drained by it; but when this work will be accomplished depends to a great extent upon the ability of the Court to carry it through. It is needed now, and, if possible, it should be pushed through this spring. There is a large tract of land in that direction, in close proximity to the city, that is too valuable to be left unused; but which the water has rendered valueless. Our city is being rapidly extended, the people are pushing out. In the direction of the Jordan there have been many improvements made within the past two years. Houses have been built, fences have been erected, and exertions made to reclaim the land and bring it into cultivation. Of course the reclamation of the land must depend upon private enterprise; but the county owes it to the citizens to render them aid in constructing roads and in making their journeys to and from their farms and residences practicable. As the land is now, in the direction of which we speak, it is next to impossible to travel back and forth with an empty team for a large portion of the year much less with loads. While this is the case, there is no encouragement to make improvements. In fact, it is this difficulty which has caused this land, which was fenced and improved in former years to fall into partial neglect; but we may say here, parenthetically, that claim jumpers need not think, on this account, that they can locate upon it with impunity; for all that region has been taken up and much of it has been fenced and been under cultivation for many years.

By digging this canal the County Court makes roads practicable through that section of the county. This is one excellent reason which they have for pushing the work through at once. But there is another reason, more weighty than this, for attending to this at once. It is a noticeable fact that for the past few years, since we have had high waters, and these bottom lands have been flooded, we have had an unusual amount of sickness in the city and neighborhood every fall, and many children have sickened and died. This sickness was not common in former years; but made its appearance here with the high waters. We think much of it is due to the spreading of the water on the bottom lands; and as a proof that this is the cause we may mention that last summer this 8th West St. canal drained a large amount of the land immediately west of the city, and it will be recollected that we had less mortality among children than we had previously for several years. We have heard it stated that if the water in the bottoms was the cause it would not be likely to affect the 20th Ward, where sickness is as prevalent as in any portion of the city. But we see no reason why it should not be equally affected. The miasma rising from the bottom land, would, in our opinion, be more likely to affect the residents in that locality than in the bottoms; for if it arose and floated off, the bend of the mountains behind the 20th Ward, would be as likely to cause it to settle there as any other agency that we know about.

But whether this be so or not, the experiment of draining the bottom lands should be tried. Life is too valuable to be risked needlessly by a neglect to remove even a probable cause of sickness. For sanitary reasons, therefore, if for no other, we think the County Court should be sustained in proceeding vigorously with this work; and in saying thus much we feel assured that we but express what would be the voice of the entire community, and especially of parents. We hope to hear that the County Court will feel itself justified in pushing this work ahead as rapidly as possible. Let it be done early in the season, that the land may drain before the hot summer sun shines upon it.

A loquacious young man came to Isocrates to learn the art of oratory. Isocrates asked him double price! "Why charge me double?" asked the youth. Isocrates replied: "Because I must teach you two sciences—the one, how to be silent; the other, how to speak."