

for the purpose, and may want a fabulous sum for its use, but whoever may be entrusted with the job of seeking a desirable location should not pass it by.

The citizens of Utah should awaken to the importance of this proposition. There should be some initial movements now in progress. This is no beet-and-carrot show. The history of fifty years should be on exhibition. The story of the patient toil of the Pioneers in the whole region that was once called the Great American Desert must be read in the objects that will be presented. Everything that tells the great story of half a century of development of the golden West must be in sight in this great western world historical exhibition. Such is the opinion of C. R. SAVAGE.

The proposition of our esteemed correspondent is worthy of more than passing consideration. No one knows more of the artistic than he in such exhibitions, and few have greater knowledge of the practical part. His statements of what ought to be in the accommodations for the fair as to space hit the nail squarely on the head; as do also his hints of what should be the aim in the general plan. As to the place he names, everybody hereabouts knows its beauty and accessibility; and to his remark about the cost of securing the park, we venture to add that the owners would regard themselves as wholly deficient in patriotism if they were not eager to present it for such purposes at the minimum figure—a consideration of limited privileges connected with the exhibition, without the outlay of a dime on the part of the management. Now is the opportunity for others of our citizens who have had some experience in such matters to present some of their ideas. The obstacles to surmount as well as the means of surmounting them are appropriate topics for consideration.

#### REGULATORS IN SHAPE.

It is not often that mobbers get on the right side of a conflict, but they did it with fine success in Florida the other night, as related in the dispatches. Of course the mobbers, or regulators, as they are generally termed in that locality, did not mean it for things to go that way, but they barked up the wrong tree, with the result that, instead of succeeding in the murder of their intended victim, four of the fifteen regulators received death wounds, and six others were placed so it would take a surgeon's care to pull them through to health again.

Bowen Sykes, the man whom his lawless neighbors sought to "regulate" in the usual brutal fashion of mobs, may not be as popular in the district as he might be; if he is a decent citizen he probably would not be liked by the class which attempted to compel his removal pain of death. But he has proved his courage and skill as a fighter, and in all probability has gained a prestige that will cause regulators to steer clear of his premises in future. His vigorous and effective defense against the mob was strictly within his legal and moral rights, and he deserves public commendation for accomplishing what many Florida officers have failed to do, i. e., maintained the law against the lawless mob when the

latter appeared to be the most popular. His determination to remain in the neighborhood and enjoy his rights and his home, if he has to kill every man in the Peru neighborhood of Hillsboro county, Florida, probably will be respected in future by regulator bands, who have been taught that he is a man of business when their methods are applied.

A few more persons of Sykes's stamp, in that particular in which he has become prominent in this instance, would go a long way toward removing from the South much of the opprobrium which attaches to that part of the country in the minds of peace-loving citizens, who admire Southern hospitality and chivalry but abhor the assassin methods so frequently resorted to by neighborhoods when they acquire a dislike for an individual, justly or otherwise. It would be a good thing for Southern reputation, in the minds of those who have a kindly feeling for the generous, open-hearted Southerner, if this "regulator" business were placed on the same plane there as train robbing is in Arizona.

#### PERRINE'S COMET.

Little school children yesterday, in different parts of the city, came home from school with considerable anxiety in their hearts as to the fate of the earth on Saturday next. They had an idea that our planet was to be annihilated either through a collision with a comet or through some other terrible accident, caused by the disarrangement of something in this part of the universe. The matter has been discussed in higher and wiser circles than those formed by small children.

A few weeks ago Professor Perrine of the Lick observatory announced the discovery of a little comet, and calculations founded on further observations made it probable that it was moving toward the earth with the velocity of 1,700,000 miles a day. Accordingly a collision, it was said, would occur on March 14, provided the observations and calculations were correct. A noted astronomer, Garrett P. Serviss, gave the matter his attention and announced that, according to his observations, the wandering star was a very small one, probably of the size of the earth, and that instead of nearing the earth it was going away and would rapidly fade out of sight. This view seems to be correct, for if the comet were approaching us at the rate of 1,700,000 miles a day and were by this time so close to us as to make the danger of a collision on Saturday probable, it would by this time be a prominent object in the sky. Besides, the earth is travelling through space at a rate of about 19 miles a second, and if the comet's course, when first discovered pointed directly our way, on the 14th of March we would be 40,000,000 miles away from that point and consequently pretty safe. There is, then, no danger of a collision on Saturday.

It must be remembered that the course of a comet cannot be calculated with the same mathematical precision as that of a planet. Time and again predictions of this kind have been made and failed of fulfillment.

Astronomers are inclined to the supposition that a comet is nothing more solid than a dust-cloud, and that even if a collision were to take place, the consequences would not be serious. The earth would receive a layer of dust, and the impurities thereby imparted to the atmosphere might be the cause of epidemics, but it is not believed there would be any alteration of the earth's position. Comets have at times been so near other planets that their course in space have been materially interfered with, but the planets themselves remain as they were before.

#### THE SWEET AND BITTER WAYS

To any project of municipal or other improvement, great or small, there always are and always will be objectors. In cities now highly advanced in all that pertains to convenience, health and progress, there have been taxpayers who opposed street-lighting, waterworks, street cars, sewers, pavements and restrictions as to the class of buildings within fire limits. This opposition has been generally on the score of expense, whereby the taxpayer's pocket would be injured; but sometimes it has been on the ground that the proposed improvement was not yet necessary; and in some cases it has been of a purely individual or sectional character, the reason adduced being that the contemplated work would directly injure the property or antagonize the whim of the person or section affected. In most cases, however the benefits of the whole have been found to be benefits to all its parts; and rarely have earlier opponents have been able to make such a showing as to dispute the proposition when once it has been put into operation. Moreover, the genius of American polity, and indeed that of every other civilized people, is that the will of the majority in these matters should prevail: the greatest benefit to the greatest number is deemed, and properly, a safe motive in all that pertains to governmental affairs.

All this is no reason, however, why any just objections should be ignored without consideration. Men and communities acquire rights which are to them precious and inalienable. These may not be lightly imposed upon or disregarded. Even where the people affected are deemed by the majority to be factious and whimsical, sectional and unreasonable, there are generally ways and means of accomplishing desired results without permanently antagonizing anything more than a very small minority, at most. Conciliation and compromise, a fair recognition of the claims of the opposition and an honest endeavor to meet and satisfy them, are features which in a dispute are the most effective kind of argument. Molasses always catches more flies than vinegar.

We commend this view of the question to all who have in mind measures against which they may well anticipate opposition. On the other hand, we would also commend to the opposition that in order to avoid being roughly ridden down by the majority they confine their basis of hostility to broad fairness, a manly conception of the