

preme Court of the United States subsequently granted Hopt a new trial, thus vindicating the Governor's action in the most pronounced and authoritative way.

He approved the first absolutely free school law in the Territory, and has approved many other important laws. His reports to the government have been comprehensive and voluminous, and in these respects unique and valuable as compared with those of most of his predecessors, and his messages to the Legislature have always commanded approval.

The amount of the assessed value of property has increased during his administration more than one hundred and twenty-five per cent. During his administration as Governor the People's party dissolved and the organization of the people on national party lines occurred.

In 1891 he issued the call for the great Irrigation Congress which met in Salt Lake City. The holding of this congress in this city appeals strongly to the pride of the people of Utah. The attendance of many prominent men gave great importance to its deliberations, and the resolution adopted declaring in favor of the cession of the unsold non-mineral lands to the states and territories, may be said to have been the commencement of a movement which will finally result in such action being taken by the government.

His appointees to official position have been as a rule men of high character, and he has given no reason for the color of suspicion that any appointment was made to promote a personal or political end. We think he has always given as generous recognition to the Mormon people, as a man in his place consistently could; in the appointment of census enumerators in 1880 we were fairly represented and his record is exceptional among Gentile governors for his appointment of Mormons to office. When the Latter-day Saints in their general conference adopted the "polygamy manifesto" as their position in regard to that practice for the future, Governor Thomas transmitted a supplemental report to the secretary of the interior to the effect that the action of the people should be deemed to have been taken in good faith until there was good reason for thinking otherwise. This report was not made public and it was not known what his position really was until he made his annual report one year later. During this time he was subject to severe criticism, but he kept silent, preferring to wait until time would make his position clear.

He came to this Territory a young man of twenty-seven, and has served the Territory fourteen years, a longer service than has been rendered by any other official in its history.

When appointed Governor he was a citizen of Utah. Four of his children were born here and their mother sleeps the final sleep upon our soil. He has made Utah his home and now acknowledges no other; and in conclusion his moral character has always been above suspicion.

Pueblo (Colo.) will entertain the members of the G. A. R. this week, the annual encampment meeting on Tuesday, May 16.

## FLOODS, PUPS AND PEARLY GATES.

Watermaster Harvey was in complacent mood yesterday. He says there is no more danger of a flood than there will be of his finding a Saint on the other side of the pearly gates. "The trouble with those people," he said, "is that they want a flood, but we propose to fool them. The work of leveling the canal on Roper street is going ahead rapidly and all the rest of the system is in excellent condition."—*This Morning's Tribune.*

The News is also in complacent mood, and it ventures to hope that if there is no more danger of a flood than there is of Harvey meeting a Saint or anyone else on the other side of the pearly gates—than there is of Harvey finding even himself there—we have all been needlessly alarmed.

But in addition to being complacent the News wants to be truthful; hence it submits that what Mr. Harvey knows about Saints and about the pearly gates is quite equal to, if it does not exceed, what he knows about fighting high water or preparing against it. We are willing to stand or fall by the proposition that if Mr. Harvey is correctly quoted in the foregoing utterance he knows no more either about the danger of a flood or of Saints on the other side of the pearly gates than a speckled pup knows about the solar parallax.

## AN ECCENTRIC EXECUTIVE.

The governor of Oregon seems to be a rather supercilious sort of person. When President Harrison was making his western tour and approaching that state, Governor Penney would not go to the border to meet the nation's executive because, as the local official expressed it, he was as sovereign as the President and the latter could call on him. Yesterday Secretary Gresham sent the governor a telegram saying that it was feared there might be outbreaks in Oregon tomorrow, when the Geary exclusion law goes into effect, and requesting that the Chinese be protected from outrages. The only reply to this was—"Let the President attend to his business, I will attend to mine." Discourteous, boorish, unmannerly, unmanly and insulting!

This is a democratic nation and official station carries with it no social superiority; it does carry, however, authority and dignity corresponding with its prominence and consequence and the holder of any office, great or small, is entitled to respect therein, otherwise anarchy would prevail. It does not curtail in any measure the dignity of a governor to acknowledge the superior station occupied by the President or to pay him respect accordingly whether they agree on politics and public measures or not. We can be democratic in the dictionary sense of the word and be gentlemen as well, Great Britain and the toiles in our early politics to the contrary notwithstanding. But such behavior as that of Governor Penney is an argument on their side, and the less the American people endorse it or uphold him the better for us. It is only self-respect to treat the President with becoming respect; in honoring him we honor ourselves.

## IMPUDENCE ILLUSTRATED.

Some of the partisan papers are making much of a remark attributed to Congressman Talcott of South Carolina, and dwell with much unction on what they call the "manly conduct" exhibited by him. The statement is that he called on Postmaster General Bissell the other day and said: "I have not come here to crawl upon my belly to you, Mr. Postmaster General, or to Mr. Cleveland, for crumbs of office. I came here to assert my rights as a representative, and intend to do it."

To a certain class of people that kind of language in the place where it was uttered may seem manly and courageous; out here where the genteel in life obtains some recognition, it amounts to so much swashbuckler bravado. Just what "rights" the representative of a congressional district has in one of the executive departments of the government above or differing from those of any other American citizen, we confess an utter inability to understand. The President is presumed to take counsel of the senators in the matter of certain appointments and as a matter of courtesy, not of right, he frequently receives and acts upon the recommendations of representatives. But there is nothing compulsory in the matter and the "rights" spoken of do not appear. If Mr. Bissell had hidden his visitor a peremptory good morning and imparted something in the nature of initial velocity to his guest in the event of the latter's staying upon the order of his going, it would not have been amiss.

## THE LIQUOR QUESTION.

Considerable interest has been manifested in the Gothenburg system of regulating the liquor traffic, of which mention has previously been made in these columns. Minor details may vary some in different places, but the general outlines of the plan are always the same. A company is formed to which the exclusive right to the retail and bar trade in spirituous liquors in a given locality is granted. In consideration of this monopoly the company is pledged to appropriate its profits over and above a small interest on the invested capital to public uses. In Swedish towns, it appears, sevenths of the surplus is paid to the municipality, two-tenths to the district court, and one-tenth to the agricultural society of the county. In Norway, according to recent statistics, twenty per cent of the surplus has been spent for educational purposes, seven per cent for charitable purposes, seven per cent for road improvement, and two per cent for the furtherance of the cause of temperance through subsidies to teetotal societies and otherwise.

The plan has been in operation long enough to be considered more than an experiment. Unprejudiced judges pronounce it a success. Its advocates recognize the liquor traffic as a necessary evil, but by this plan it is entrusted to the supervision of the so-called better element of the community. The company has no interest in an increased sale of the intoxicants, as the profit must be given to the public. The