

posed weaker party is invariably victimized by the class who profess loyalty while they are enemies in fact to the nation, being engaged in the abolition of its safeguards against oppression and anarchy.

A WISE SELECTION.

EVERYBODY who knows the business activity and capacity of Mr. W. H. Rowe will share in the opinion that he is in every way adapted to fill the situation to which the Directory of Z. C. M. I. has appointed him—that of Assistant Superintendent. The same view will prevail in relation to the post he has so long filled as the head of the manufacturing department, of which he has made a gratifying success. It is to be hoped that the latter important feature will not suffer detriment in consequence of Mr. Rowe assuming the harness of his new position. Doubtless, however, the Directory have provided against any such misfortune as that.

THE PICTURE RUSSIA PRESENTS.

THE Louisville *Courier* moralizes thus in regard to the condition of the Czar and his empire:

"The fear of assassination has thrown the Czar into a nervous fever, the proposed Russification of Finland has created the deepest dissatisfaction, and the Czar, owing to the rebellious character of the students, has threatened to close all Russian universities for a year.

"One wonders what is going to become of this gigantic empire, whose flag now waves over one-fifth the land surface of the globe. The public prints of every civilized country are filled with accounts of the strange things that are going on there. Life, liberty and property do not seem to be safe anywhere in the dominions of the Czar. He himself has most to fear. It has not been many years since one Czar was blown to pieces, and it may not be long before another meets the same fate.

"Russian despotism is now complete. All power centers in the Czar, and his surroundings are such that he could not wisely and virtuously administer his authority if he would. His own fears drive him to cruelty. Fifty thousand persons are sent every year to the coldest and wildest parts of Siberia, and of those who remain no man will know when his turn will come.

"If the Russians were like the French they would have a revolution bloodier and more terrible than that which made every King quake in his throne in the last century. But the Russian, cooled by his Northern snows, is slower to act than the impulsive Frenchman. Nevertheless, the present order of things in Russia can not last forever, and revolution seems to be the only end of it all."

A saloon is like a harbor—most of the wrecks are to be found outside the bar.—*Terre Haute Express*.

UNJUST REFLECTIONS.

THOSE who are unjust are also prone to be inconsistent. Former city councils have been criticised unsparringly on the alleged ground that they did not establish nor encourage public improvements, and in the same breath in which members of the present city government have expressed this sentiment, they have cast reflections upon previous councils because they did not tax the Salt Lake City Railroad Company. This inconsistency was displayed in the City Council Friday, April 11th. Many times during the discussion of the resolution granting a franchise on certain streets to the Rapid Transit Company, was the immunity from taxation enjoyed by the old company, referred to, in a manner to reflect upon the predecessors of the present Council.

The reasons which can be urged in support of a tax on the Rapid Transit Company did not exist when the franchises of the old company were granted. At that time the population of the city was small compared with the present, money was scarce among the classes who would otherwise have patronized street cars, the cost of the plant was greater than now, and the revenue bore no such relation to the expenses as it does today. In the early years of the street railroad in this city, a light tax would have been sufficient to extinguish the enterprise, and the policy pursued of granting it immunity from such a burden was in line with a commendable public spirit.

Now all this is changed. The city is a populous metropolis, and money is abundant in comparison with what it was in former years. The cost of operating rapid transit lines has been greatly reduced by modern invention, and the profits of such a plant may now be made to far exceed what was possible a few years ago.

Last evening Mr. Hall moved to amend the pending resolution so as to make the per capita tax to be paid by the Rapid Transit Company one and one-fourth, instead of one and one-half, mills, and said in support of his motion:

"Mr. Mayor, two and a half mills is one-twentieth of a five cent fare, and one-twentieth of anything is five per cent of it. Now five per cent comes pretty near being tithing, and if anything has kept this country back, tithing has. I am opposed to such a high tax on the gross revenue of the company."

Mr. Hall's motion was agreed to by the Council. A few moments

later, in speaking to another phase of the pending matter, Mr. Cohn stated that as early as some time in the seventies the City Council had provided for the collection from the old road of a per capita tax of five mills. Mr. Hall rose and asked:

"But was the tax ever collected? Is it not true that every year a representative of the road would come before the Council and declare it was too poor to pay the tax? And is it not true that the Council always remitted it?"

These interrogatories were put in a semi-sneering manner, and Mr. Cohn made no reply. These particulars are given that Mr. Hall may see himself as others see him, as he was probably unconscious of having stultified himself, and crossed his own record, within the space of a few moments. We repeat that those who are unjust are also prone to be inconsistent.

DESTITUTION IN IDAHO.

AN unexpected, not to say surprising disclosure comes from Idaho, yet all is simple enough when explained. The fact that the inhabitants of a fertile prairie region about ninety miles long by about forty wide, embracing a population of about 2000 souls, and situated in the central part of that Territory, are in such a condition of destitution that relief is being sought from abroad in order to provide them with food until another harvest and with seed grain, will be learned in Utah with astonishment and regret.

The people of the region named, which is known as Camas Prairie, have been reduced to serious straits by the misfortunes which are narrated in another column, and it is to be hoped that the relief they so greatly need will be promptly furnished. The grasshopper scourge may, under some circumstances, do almost as much towards producing destitution as a flood or conflagration, and the sufferers from such a visitation are entitled to sympathy and assistance.

One feature of this misfortune will be as deeply deplored as the poverty it has produced, by a certain class in Idaho, and perhaps a great deal more. A call for aid from abroad to relieve the threatened hunger of several hundred families in the Territory, can scarcely fail to have a depressing effect upon the movement looking to its admission as a State, and the politicians who are working to advance themselves politically and the admission bill in Congress are the ones who will