

applied to county purposes? or is it "entirely outside of the law?" Again, the second statement "that the poll tax" is the only resource from which officials may draw for the use of the road," is made in forgetfulness of truth, and regardless of the facility for detecting the untruth. Chapter 29, laws of 1880 cannot (in our opinion) in any manner be construed as restricting county officials to the "poll tax" alone, as a fund for maintaining and repairing "county roads and bridges." Does the writer presume that one-fourth of the poll tax remaining after "the other three-fourths shall be used by said cities for improving, first, Territorial and county roads running through such cities; and, second, on any other streets or alleys in said cities," (vide Sec. 14, p. 53, laws of 1880), is it assumed, I say, that the one-fourth remaining will be sufficient to maintain and keep in good repair the 360 miles of county roads—50 miles of which is canyon roads, washed by spring freshets yearly, together with two bridges, on Bear River, upwards of two hundred feet in length each; two on the Malad River, three on Box Elder, one on Deep Creek, and many others on small creeks and sloughs running through the county, involving a heavy outlay of means annually to keep them in good condition? If it is, this writer's ideas of "County Governments" are very primitive.

The writer next places the expenditure on improving county jails among the "private revenue," as it is termed; and the reason assigned is "because the jail is not of any use and never has been." If this be true, it is because there has been no elastic writers on "County Governments" here; for then the law might no longer be charged with the folly of creating a useless thing, by providing "that each county in the Territory is hereby authorized to erect a county jail for the safe keeping of prisoners." (vide C. L., p. 128.) But perhaps the jail expenditures are classed with the "private revenue," on the grounds that like the district pounds they don't belong to the county at all. Concerning the latter, here are his words. "As to district pounds the county has nothing to do with them," written in the very teeth of the statute which provides: "That the County Court is hereby authorized to provide and keep in constant repair, a good and substantial pound in each precinct," (C. L., p. 177) and "precinct" and "district" are declared equivalent terms in sec. 3, Ibid. Now if a writer makes false statements concerning special facts like these, when the truth is so accessible, what will his general deductions indicate? But we will not persevere his glaring misstatements and erroneous allegations any further at present.

Having the "financial report" from Tooele County before us, we would have been pleased in this reply to have drawn a comparison between the expenditures of that county while under the "Liberal" rule and those of Box Elder county for the same length of time, but space will not permit. (In said report we find that nearly every item of disbursement is almost double, and some as high as six times that of ours for the same class of expenditures.) But perhaps we may be pardoned while we briefly notice a few items of said report. Take for instance the insignificant item of \$7,257.58 charged up to pauper account. It would seem from this showing that the pauper commodity was the chief article of import to this unfortunate county at that particular time. A rather singular and very remarkable condition of affairs is here suggested, viz.: That the disappearance of this "pauper" element was simultaneous with the termination of "Liberal" rule in that county. The query naturally arises from whence came this army of "paupers," "tax eaters," etc? And whether have they fled? We again quote from the "report":

"To amt. paid for witness and jurors' fees, \$2,661.90."

"To amt. paid County Judge, Selectman, Treasurer and Sheriff, \$3,912.75, regular fees."

"To amt. paid for extra services of Judge, Selectman, Clerk, Sheriff, Treasurer and Coroner, \$2,515.50."

These are some of the methods, Mr. Editor, by which these advocates of economy (heaven save the mark) would seek to bring about "a complete and lasting reform" in the administration of public affairs in Utah, and by which "Liberal" reforms the paper of the county fell from par to fifteen cents on the dollar.

And be it further remembered that our most "Liberal" and "loving" "Jerusalem" friends were then laboring under difficulties; they were somewhat trammelled in their operations; slightly embarrassed, if you please—from the fact that the eye of the Territory was upon them. They were occasionally required to furnish reports of their doings to a Legislature composed of honest men; but remove those obstacles, take away these encumbrances and little inconveniences, relieve them of restraint, place them in possession of and give them universal control over the Territory and its finances, and what would be the result? Can any one predict? If we may judge the future by the past, and if "coming events cast their shadows before," it will not be difficult, neither will we need to draw very largely on our imagination to enable us to arrive at a correct conclusion in the premises. Sir, there would be a horde of lazzaroni, ragamuffins and impecunious bummers scattered broadcast in every county of this Territory, such as Tooele County in its palmiest and best days for "paupers" has never yet seen.

In conclusion, we beg to state for the information and particular benefit of the writer on "County Governments," and that his righteous soul (if he has any) may rest in peace, that the County of Box Elder is perfectly solvent. Warrants on its treasury can be cancelled on sight. We enjoy the reputation of having some very good "roads" and excellent "bridges." We believe we have the confidence, good will and support of our constituents—the tax payers in the county—and that they are satisfied with our efforts to serve them. We are not here to cater to the silly whims of a mendacious scribbler for the columns of a corrupt and libellous receptacle of dirt and filth. And we claim that it is our business and duty to honestly apply the county funds (within the meaning of the law), where they will do the most good to the greatest number, and to the satisfaction of those interested. This we endeavor to do to the best of our ability. Our books are open to public inspection and we are not afraid of an impartial investigation in this matter. We care nothing for the spasmodic efforts of this diminutive scribbler. His tooling has neither hurt us nor astonished the natives in this burg.

I am, very truly etc.,

JOHN D. BURR,
"Late" Probate Judge,
Box Elder County, Utah.

[COMMUNICATED.]

A BUILDING BOOM FORESHADOWED.

THE great majority of the people of this Territory are identified with "the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints." It is by virtue of this fact that they are here at all, for surely no motive but that growing out of their religion would have brought them to this remote Territory, even had they been more than disposed to emigrate from their native land to the United States. The leading principles in regard to gathering were, that they might enjoy the society, join in the labors and reap the reward which comes from unity of action, with their co-religionists, and that freedom from the contumely of associates and opponents might no more be felt, or if felt, be of so little force as to be practically nil.

There has been and now is, a prevailing idea that the more the people can be united the greater will be the individual benefit, and this thought has received abundant confirmation in their experience; by this every colony has become established; the making of canals and ditches, fencing of farms, building of schools and meeting houses, the gathering of the poor, the organization of co-operative stores, mills, factories, even railroading and the building of telegraph lines, have, each in turn, grown from unity of effort, sustained by an assured consciousness of final success. Nor are there any failures in the history of the people of this Territory in any direction, where there was intelligent action and a determination to accomplish what was desired; every time when the heart was enlisted, unity produced its own exceeding great "reward."

Now we would almost expect that so rich an experience would have given every one to see that this power was invincible wherever applied, and further, that in order to

accomplish anything in the present or future, that experience of the past would always fall back upon this assured force, in preference to looking in any other direction. Yet how common it is, when any project is mentioned to call upon individuals rather than upon the people. By individuals is meant the capitalists, men of large wealth, of accumulated resources; as, if a thousand dollars subscribed by one man was better than a thousand dollars subscribed in single dollars by a thousand persons.

In fact, for all public good, the latter is a thousand to one the best, for the larger the number that you can interest in public projects or necessary enterprises, the more certain will be the final issue; besides, men of capital are not always loose-handed. A man may be a millionaire, and have "irons enough in the fire" to crowd him even closer than one living on a small but certain income. Besides, those who have accumulated, often in the very act become more afraid of the loss of a dollar than those who have not passed the same experience.

Reflection will show that there are industries now dead and some languishing, waiting for capitalists, when more than was needed could have been had from the people, if the organization of companies, with trusty men to govern and control had been the method of procedure. However, the intent of this article was not to treat upon general principles, but to call attention to a paragraph or two in the News of late date in regard to a scarcity of houses in this city, that is, houses for rent; and the suggestion was made that here was an opening for capitalists to so invest that it would pay and also supply this asserted demand.

It is inevitable that there should be a demand for houses, for our population is increasing very rapidly. It is said that the "Mormon" emigration of this season will reach 3,000 souls; then there are large numbers of young people marriageable and being married of the "Mormon" population, who all need homes as much as the emigrant; then there is a large influx of transients, of whom many may become permanent residents, and will, of course, need homes or desire to rent.

With this latter class at present the writer is not interested, but with the "Mormon" increase he is. They are members by the same covenant with the majority. The "Mormon" immigrants come here strangers to local customs and trained to a system of dependence for bread and home; they come to a free country, and more than that, to a Gospel of spiritual and mental freedom, yet so arranged that the welfare of each is, as it should be, the interest and study of all. They need to feel and sense the power of this unity aforementioned, and to feel it at such a time and in such way, that it shall be a grateful fact as well as a pleasant and touching theory; and in pursuit of this idea, this controlling spirit, this outward test of brotherhood, these immigrants want no man's rented house, only as an expedient; they want one of their own, so that they may have a foothold for their families, and a stake in the commonwealth, and it is more than questionable whether it is desirable on their account to multiply houses to rent.

What is needed for them is not that capitalists should build for them and rent to them, but that there should be in every ward local organization; and in every stake, central organization; to secure land, build houses, furnish them, and by judicious arrangement induce these our brethren and sisters to become owners of the same. Let an installment or other plan be adopted and the tried and tested, the true and faithful, the industrious and the honest, be so trained to economy and prudence that the lien of such organization would be speedily extinguished.

If the outside world can organize building societies, surely the Latter-day Saints can do so. Organization is said to be their forte. Let the spirit of it extend so that all the people may be blest abundantly. If the building boom for the outsiders is going to continue, let us have an inside boom also, and if carpenters and brick-makers, and brick-layers and plasterers, and lumber-men and rock haulers are all engaged, let an army of new mechanics be created from an abundant youth who are everywhere anxious for something to do; the homes of this Territory

could be doubled in a very little while; hundreds of poor houses could give place to better; any amount of building spots could be filled if we would organize the industrial forces that are round about us, and set them at the manipulation of the raw material that is everywhere abundant. The Latter-day Saints are in this Territory and adjoining ones to stay. Our missionaries are yet abroad, the spirit of gathering is yet active, homes by thousands will yet be needed, and whether anybody else or any other community is united, this ought to be in every good word and work.

Probably our Boards of Trade could find an opening for work in this direction; it is certainly within their province, and would be as practical and beneficial as any thing which seems to have come from them as yet. Show our converts, our brethren, the way to live; help them to live; be interested in the gathered of Israel and it will repay more than a hundred fold.

M. E. PECULIAR PROGRESS.

At the meeting of the general Missionary committee of the M. E. Church held in New York, when the amount of appropriations for missions of the United States [to be administered as foreign missions] was being considered, the Utah mission was taken up, and Secretary Fowler asked for an appropriation of \$13,000. He said he was not hopeful of Utah, because "during all the years of missionary work there, not a single Mormon had been converted by all the missionaries sent there by all the churches. They get a few of the children and once in a while a Gentile." The result of the debate was the appropriation of \$5,000 for the work, \$2,000 for schools, \$2,000 for the payment of a debt contracted in fitting up a school-room, \$2,000 to complete the purchase of a lot in Salt Lake City adjoining the church and \$1,500 for work among the Scandinavians in Utah—\$12,500 in all.

If it were not for the assistance received from the East, the poor Methodist hirelings of Utah would soon have to cease their ineffectual preachings. "They do not convert a single Mormon," but "get a few of the children and once in a while a Gentile," for which success \$12,500 per annum would appear rather a large outlay. The progress of Methodism in Utah has been like the boy's winter trip to school which landed him at home—one step forward and two slides backward. Perhaps if its scrub orators would try their lips at something else besides abuse of the "Mormons," and their hands at something besides taking up contributions, they might score a little better success. Who knows?

The whole railway mileage of Europe on January 1st, 1882, was 107,306 miles and was only about 2,500 miles more than that of the United States, while against the 2,455 miles constructed in Europe in 1881, the United States can show about 9,400.

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Luke Shuman, executor of aforesaid parties,
will please take notice that I have expended
on your respective interests in the above prop-
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years past, amounting to the sum of \$150.00
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Virginius, and the sum of \$75.00 on W. C.
Reamer, or successors interest, in the Holden
Tunnel; and if you do not reimburse me with-
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