

UGHT TO BE ABOLISHED.

A FEW months ago, when the reign of terror in this city was at its height, E. A. Franks was authorized to establish and maintain a patrol system for the better protection of the people. At that time it was unsafe for pedestrians to be abroad on the streets after nightfall, owing to the liability of their being stopped, beaten and robbed by highwaymen, by whom the town was infested. Burglaries were of nightly occurrence, and the officials proper seemed powerless to maintain the peace and protect the citizens. The "Liberal" city government had shown a condition of imbecility, to say nothing worse, that caused them to be brought into general contempt.

It is difficult to estimate how much or how little the patrol system that was established as a side-issue to the police department had to do with the subsequent improvement that ensued. It cannot be denied, however, that a change for the better was soon afterwards apparent. There appears to be little room for doubt that the auxiliaries to the police in the shape of patrolmen had some beneficial effect, but there is no means of ascertaining the extent of it.

It will be observed that Mr. Franks has resigned his position in connection with the patrol system, and conveys the idea that it is disbanded, although some of the men who have acted under him seem to be reluctant to cut loose from it. For a number of reasons we think the step taken by Mr. Franks well advised and the organization ought to be dissolved. Its existence has been a standing rebuke to the late city government. It was an advertisement of their weakness, their inability to adequately protect the people and suppress the criminal classes, who flocked here because of the evident impotency of the officials. An election has recently occurred, and the present government ought to be given a fair opportunity to show whether or not they are an improvement on those who preceded them. Of course the chief trial as to potency comes with the winter season, when rough characters have much better opportunities for plying their criminal vocations than in the summer; that is an additional reason for dispensing with the patrolmen. Should emergency at any time demand their employment in future, whoever shall direct them ought to be a regular officer, paid by and directly responsible to the city government. The reasons for this must be obvious without argument.

It does not add to the comfort of citizens to feel that, in order to secure the protection to person and property under the regular system established for the purpose, they should be required to pay a side-tax for service of a semi-official character. The burdens that have of late been heaped upon the people have been sufficiently heavy without adding anything out of the usual official routine of taxation.

A DISCOMFITED HYPNOTIZER.

THE *San Francisco Chronicle* relates an amusing incident in connection with the operations of an amateur

hypnotizer, of Seattle. The victim of the unpleasant experience was a long-haired youth named Eugene Ingram, who had become an ardent devotee of the subtle art of mind control, having studied it under a professional lecturer. Being in Golden Park a few days ago, he determined to try the effect of hypnotism on the lower animals. For that purpose he climbed over the fence enclosing the section of the grounds in which the deer are kept. He selected a mild-looking doe as his subject, and appeared to be progressing nicely when he heard a patter of hoofs. Turning he saw a belligerent old buck charging at him in full tilt, with his head down and his eye aflame with anger. Ingram fled and reached the fence, but was too late to escape being helped over. An antler caught his rear, he flew upward several feet and landed on the ground outside the enclosure with a dull, sickening thud and an extensive rent in his pants. One of the attendants of the grounds who was near by assisted Eugene to his feet and supplied him with an ulster with which to cover the breach made in his unmentionables by the infuriated buck. Doubtless this hypnotizer, the next time he attempts to exercise his skill upon the lower animals, will keep the fence between himself and his subject.

COMMENTS ON THE UTAH BILLS.

THE discussion over the Faulkner and Teller bills promises to do much towards placing Utah in a proper light before the country. The facts and figures brought out will tell a far bigger story than the accusations and theories on either side. And the resort of the opposition to old fables, garbled sermons from a quarter of a century to forty years old, and wild prognostications of imaginary terrors, is strong evidence of a very weak cause. It is possible that neither bill will pass this session of Congress, but in any event, the work done by both the Democratic and Republican delegations cannot fail to be productive of good, and we are glad the examination has been so wide and free.

Several papers, in addition to those from which we have given quotations, have taken up the subject favorably and we here append some of their remarks.

The *Troy, N. Y., Times* says:

"The home-rule bill will pass the House as a Democratic measure. It will receive the support of all the Democrats in the Senate as well as some of the Western Republican senators who feel that the time has arrived when Congress may deal fairly with the Utah question, although not prepared to go to the extreme of admitting the Territory as a State. The Mormons are now on their good behavior. They have renounced polygamy, and the Gentiles in the Territory, who as late as a year ago were arrayed in fierce opposition to the Mormon element, are now satisfied of the sincerity of their intentions and are urging upon Congress the passage of the home-rule bill. Should this bill pass, as it probably will, and should the Mormons remain on their good behavior, it is quite likely that the next Congress will pass a bill bringing Utah into the sisterhood of States."

The *Philadelphia, Pa., Inquirer* describes the movements of the three

parties, and referring to the Home Rule measure remarks:

"At first glance this looks like an attempt to secure State autonomy by indirection; but it will be seen that the plan does not confer all the privileges of statehood. For instance, the representation in Congress would continue to be that of a Territory, not of a State. The government, too, would still be under the control of Congress, which could change or abolish it at will, and the United States statutes would remain dominant, with the advantage of a court to enforce them.

"The plan has received the endorsement of the Territorial Legislature and really seems to have much merit in it. Its projectors can at least claim that it is in accordance with the great American idea of self-government, which is at the bottom of the impatience always shown by the people of a Territory to have their province erected into a State, and whatever may appear on investigation, there are no demerits apparent on the surface. As applied to Utah it might be supposed that it was a scheme to retain the government in the interests of the Mormons; but this is met by the fact that the anti-polygamy laws will not be affected by it, and, besides, Gentiles of the Territory are quite as much in favor of it as the Mormons are.

"The proposition looks like a judicious compromise between the inferior condition of a Territory and the commanding one of a State, and would, perhaps, be an excellent plan to adopt in cases where it is not deemed advisable to confer full rights of statehood. It would make a kind of improved Territorial government, and that is something to be desired."

The *Harrisburg, Pa., Call* has this note of warning to the "Mormons" of Utah:

"The theft of Utah is going bravely on, and before another decade the progressing Gentile will own every building in Salt Lake City and the Territory which was erected by Mormonites' money. Everything is being swept by the moral crusade against the bigamous Mormon heathen, who will be made to suffer the tortures of the damned after the reformers have made a successful theft of the State. Republican and Democratic politicians are engaged in the work that used to be monopolized exclusively by the Indian traders. Some of these fine mornings the Mormon lamb will awake to the fact that he has been hopelessly swallowed by the political lion, whose conscience is as dull as a piece of pig metal when it comes to restoring the property of the benighted enemy of our truly beautiful American system of politics."

The annexed is clipped from an editorial in the *Toledo, Ohio, Bee*:

"The proposition to take a slice off Utah to prop Nevada up into a semblance of worthy statehood which it never possessed, is unwarranted effrontery. Utah has a larger population than Montana, Wyoming, Idaho or North Dakota had at the time of their admission. The trouble with Utah is, not the fear of Mormonism; the 'Gentile' population of Salt Lake City and the Territory would cope with that, as it has done, successfully. Local elections, more than any other cause, have had the effect of stamping out polygamy and the power of the Church. Shorn of these features the Mormon religion can harm not the most devoted member. If it were certain that Utah would march into the Union with a majority of Republican votes, her flags would soon be flying in the procession."

This is from the *Elizabeth, N. J., Herald*:

"Utah will sooner or later secure admission into the sisterhood of States.