

THE RUSE OF THE "TUSCARORAS."

THE decision of Justice Lochrie in the case of the "Tuscaroras" who want to be recognized as the Democratic party of Utah is, to us, rather amusing. It will be found in another part of this paper. The defendants, it will be remembered, filed a demurrer to the complaint and submitted it without argument. The Justice appears to think this was a submission of the case. For he not only overrules the demurrer, which it was expected he would do, but he proceeds to decide the case on its merits before any trial has taken place.

We say it was expected he would overrule the demurrer. Certainly. His association with the complainants, his holding his court in Boss Powers' office, the whole manner of the proceedings led to that anticipation. We suppose the defendants will take proper steps to have this matter settled by a competent court. Although the whole thing is looked upon as a farce, the purpose and intent of it are such that it cannot be treated with the contempt that it deserves nor subverted by the ridicule which it everywhere evokes.

SPECIAL TAXES FOR SIDEWALKS.

Editor Deseret News:

REFERRING to your editorial on "More Special Taxes" in last evening's issue and in view of the fact that many taxpayers are likely to oppose paying in the outskirts of the city, would it not be well to publish specific instructions to your numerous readers how to proceed legally against the construction of those sidewalks?

In our establishment, for instance, we differ as to whether remonstrance would be proper now, or must we wait until the City Recorder should publish his notice of intention to pave. Also, as to what proportion of the property owners may defeat such special tax?

These and similar points being understood there is little doubt but many property owners will oppose such burdensome taxation in the outskirts of the city.

THE TAXPAYER.

These questions have been asked by many taxpayers who do not want to be saddled with the expense of paying for cement sidewalks in parts of the city where there is little or no use for them. The answer is, the law provides that when the city proposes to lay sidewalks in any given district, if the owners of one-half in value of the property to be effected object, the work cannot be done. But the objection must be made by written protest to the City Council and signed by the owners objecting, and filed with the City Recorder by the time fixed in a notice to be given in a newspaper published in the city.

We understand the intention of the Council is at present to establish by ordinance the districts, and then proceed to construct the sidewalks as opportunity offers and circumstances warrant. When the districts are established, due notice will be given of the intention of the Council to build the sidewalks in any given district, and the taxpayers in that district will then have twenty days in which to decide whether they want the sidewalks

or not, and in which to file their objections if they have any.

These notices may not be published in the advertising columns of the DESERET NEWS, as it is not always the desire of the Council to reach the people who are to be affected by the assessment of a special tax. But we will endeavor to let our readers know when any attempt is made to extend works that are needless or merely projected to find labor for political tools. At present the only notice of the kind out is for sidewalks on West Temple Street, both sides, from South Temple to Second South Street.

SYSTEM VS. IRREGULARITY.

WE observe that an attempt is being made by persons associated with the city government to resurrect the proposition to rename the streets of Salt Lake. Those who are pushing this question ought to be able to show a little more originality. The same subject was considered and freely agitated by the Council that preceded the present municipal body, but it fell flat, having received little or no popular support. We have no idea that the proposal has any more public strength behind it than it had then. In addition to the lack of originality the resuscitation of this question shows, it suggests that those who are pushing it might engage their attention upon something more profitable.

It is to be hoped that the committee who are to be entrusted with the consideration of the proposed change will weigh the subject properly, with a view to the public convenience. We do not believe the public good would be subserved by such an alteration as the one suggested, because radical changes, breaking into a simple and easily understood system, would inevitably lead to confusion. This is the only city of considerable dimensions where a systematic naming of streets is practicable, and no sensible individual will claim that a regular titular order of streets is not immeasurably more simple and therefore preferable to the haphazard way. This is exemplified in New York, Washington, D. C., and all other populous cities. When localities are so constructed as to admit of a regular method of street-naming by numbers it is adopted. In such quarters it is comparatively easy for even a stranger to find his way about, but in those sections where there is irregularity and multiplicity, an individual seeking a specific thoroughfare is bewildered, and has to spend a great deal of time searching for policemen to give him directions. In a city of magnificent distances like this, the objection to irregular and multifarious naming of streets would have still greater force, as it would be more difficult for the people generally to become immediately familiar with the various localities.

The man who asserts that thoroughfares are not readily found in this city under the system of street-naming which exists, proclaims himself a blockhead. The Temple block, which is the most conspicuous object within the municipality, is the initial point. The streets running parallel with and past it, are North, South, East and West

Temple Streets; then beyond according to number. With one or two exceptions, under the prevailing method, a person who wishes to go to any particular street by electric car, has but to examine the signs on those conveyances to enable him to ascertain which one to jump aboard of. The Warm Springs and Liberty Park service is an exception to this rule, as the sign-board necessarily only names the two terminal points of the branch. But even here the utility of the systematic numbering is shown, as it simplifies the means of ascertaining the route of the car, and hence facilitates the obtaining of information as to the location of any particular street.

Even visitors admire the systematic naming of our streets, which they can understand without difficulty and are thus enabled to readily find their way about.

The question involved in the proposal to change the names of the public thoroughfares is this: Whether irregularity and confusion are preferable to simplicity and method?

JUSTICE FOR WOMEN.

AN important convention opened at Chicago to-day. It is a gathering of delegates from the Federation of Women's Clubs, at the Central Music Hall. The chief object of the assembly is to discuss the methods of conducting the clubs, so that the best results may be obtained and uniformity, as near as practicable, may be reached by these organizations throughout the world.

Incidentally the subjects of dress reform—chiefly for workingwomen, equal pay for men and women for equal work, equal suffrage, and equal rights in divorce will be discussed by the convention. These are all live questions, and light upon them should be had by women as well as men.

That women, when they set their minds upon it, can conduct public meetings with profit to the assembly and with due regard to parliamentary rules and the rights of both speakers and hearers, has been abundantly demonstrated in the great women's congresses and conventions, and in the local club meetings and assemblies held by the ladies in various places.

In Utah the Relief Societies and Young Ladies' Improvement Associations have afforded opportunities for training in this direction, and we have frequently noticed that ladies here, both young and old, can conduct meetings with a dignity, courtesy and ability which many men would profit by imitating.

The subject of equal pay for equal work is gradually being forced upon public attention. Its rational discussion by women cannot fail to impress fair-minded people of both sexes with the justice of the cause. If a piece of work of any kind performed by a woman is as well done and answers exactly the same purpose as if executed by a man, what sound reason is there why it should not command the same remuneration? Yet it is the custom to pay women less wages than men, not only for time work in which there might be a show of reason for discrimination,