

commerce have been initiated, and the projected reciprocity with Latin America is supposed to be productive of vast results.

To come nearer home. In the history of Salt Lake City a great event has taken place. The government of the city was transferred from the People's party to the "Liberals" in February. Until this transfer occurred, Salt Lake City was one of the best governed cities in the world. Life and property were safe. Peace and order were the prominent characteristics of the community. Taxation was not a burden. But before the close of the year what a change has taken place! One prominent city official was short in his accounts at the rate of over two hundred dollars a month, and had to vacate his office. Several of the city's guardians have had to be discharged. The city has become the Mecca of tramps, footpads and burglars. The frontier towns of the continent are sending their thieves, pimps, sand-baggers, burglars and gamblers to Salt Lake. So horrible has the condition of the city become that the more decent of the "Liberals" have inaugurated a campaign against the conduct of the officials of their own choosing.

They declare that vile houses of resort, gambling hells, saloons, and other places of evil have multiplied and are in full operation with but little check, even on the Sabbath day. This confession and movement by members of the "Liberal" party is significant of its failure on the one hand, and encouraging to the cause of morality on the other.

The Variety Theatre—that most infamous of all agents for the demoralization of youth, has made its appearance here. It only needs a whiskey license to make it one of the vilest curses that can be inflicted on a community. It is true it was denied that license last night by a mere scratch, but it will fight for a license notwithstanding, and woe to the community the day it gets it. That would be the opening wedge for a number of such places and then what the result may be it is saddening to contemplate.

Improvements in this city in the shape of banks, hotels, wholesale and retail stores, private residences, etc., have been extensive and commendable, and the population has been considerably increased.

While locally and generally there is much in the past year to deplore, there has been great advancement in science, art, religion and govern-

ment, and in the means for disseminating intelligence and cementing the nations as parts of one great family.

In bidding adieu to the departing year and welcoming the new one, we congratulate the good and true among all nations on the progress that is being made towards a better and brighter future. And to all our friends, at home and abroad, in every condition of life, we extend hearty greetings and hope that eighteen hundred and ninety-one will prove to them indeed A Happy New Year.

#### MORE BOGUS LETTERS.

A FEW days ago we drew attention to a despicable method, which is being resorted to by certain defamers of the "Mormon" people, of assailing the principles and leaders of the "Mormon" Church. That is by publishing in the East a series of articles pretending to come from "the oldest Mormon in the Rocky Mountains." It is to those who are familiar with "Mormonism" a clumsy and transparent fraud. To persons not acquainted with the subject, it conveys, as is intended, impressions likely to arouse the most violent animosity against the people supposed to be thus represented by one of their number.

We notice that the Salt Lake *Tribune* has commenced again to try something similar, with the same purpose in view. The bogus "Bishop West" letter is still fresh in the memory of the Utah public, unless it may be newcomers to the Territory. Other concoctions of that sheet of a kindred character, have been exposed and exploded. But in line with the swindle perpetrated on the eastern people, is a pretended communication from "Young Utah" part of which is published in a *Tribune* editorial, in which its scurrility and profanity find a fitting place.

The language and the style are thoroughly "Liberal" and Tribunish. Of course the intimation is that the letter, only four lines of which are given, was written by a "Mormon." And it is stated that they are "not different in sentiment from the last public speech—outside the tabernacle—ever delivered here" by a prominent apostle. The statement, like the letter, is a lie. There is no other word to fit the case. No "Mormon" wrote the lines in the *Tribune* editorial, no leading "Mormon" either expressed their sentiments or endorsed their language.

The meanness and cowardice of this style of attack are characteristic of no other paper than the *Tribune*, and are too low and contemptible for any other persons than its writers. It states of such communications that "the writers are of base blood." Just so. That blood crops out in their countenances as it does in their scribblings. There is nothing in journalism so base, and there are no words in the language that sufficiently express the utter depravity of the creatures that thus concoct bogus correspondence, to cover up their own corruption and form an excuse for further vilification. It is the paltry subterfuge of the criminal and the craven.

#### THE BLACKGUARDS REBUKED.

THE letter which we publish to-day from "Stranger" was written by a non-"Mormon" who arrived here from the East a few days ago, and who attended the services at the Tabernacle on Sunday. He is not the only visitor who has been both amazed and disgusted at the alleged reports of the services that appear in the columns of the vilest paper on earth. Resident "Gentiles" as well as tourists, have freely expressed their contempt for such blackguardism, and if there was the slightest sense of decency or regard for truth in the outfit that deals in it, these weekly outbursts of vulgar depravity would be promptly suppressed.

Persons who attend the Tabernacle and read these effusions of a corrupt and feeble mind, cannot fail to perceive that the writer is not only vile in purpose but ignorant in regard to the persons whom he labors so hard to revile. The names of those who officiate are scarcely ever given correctly. Persons who were absent are frequently named as the speakers, and the reports are so badly mixed in regard to the commonest facts as to render the pretended accounts of the services not only a witless and puerile attempt at burlesque, but entirely inaccurate as to persons and details.

These alleged reports have the appearance of being prepared by some one who did not take the trouble to attend, and who, probably, in drawing pay for his buffoonery, plays as false with his employers as he does with those he attempts to insult by his coarse and low-lived verbiage. But this kind of gutter grossness and pothouse profanity is perfectly suited to the columns of the Salt Lake *Tribune*.