

Denver, regarding misgovernment in that city. If our situation be worse than it is there, and it is so according to Mr. Wanless, who ought to be well informed on the subject, our plight is pitiable. Upon this point we deem it appropriate to make this quotation from the *Denver News*:

"The police force of this city can never be placed upon a basis of honesty and efficiency until it is taken out of the hands of the mayor and council and placed under the control of a metropolitan police board, which shall be composed of reputable citizens and non-partisan in its character. So long as the force is appointed as a reward for political service, so long will it remain inefficient and corrupt. A law establishing a metropolitan system in Denver would be a reform which would be highly appreciated by all good citizens.

It seems that the capital of Colorado is afflicted to a considerable extent with the same malady that is asserted to have taken hold of the political and social vitals of Salt Lake—a corrupt and inefficient police force. The cause of its status is the same as that which produced the deplorable condition of affairs here—an intensely partizan Mayor and City Council, who fill all appointive offices by process of reward for political services rendered.

This reward method unfortunately is not confined in its operations to the police force. It applied to the "Liberal" candidature for every office before the municipal election and has been operated under the Mayor and Council in relation to the smallest post connected with public affairs ever since. It exists universally even to the employment of manual labor. We assert it with emphasis, that no government so conducted can possibly conduce to the public weal. It is essentially corrupt from inception, and must be in operation, every cause producing its legitimate result.

The position taken by our Denver cotemporary regarding the responsibility for existing dishonesty and corruption, with the consequent lawlessness existing in that city, sustains the position that we have taken in the same connection with regard to Salt Lake. It rests upon the Mayor and Council. This being the case, a reformatory movement to be effective must be brought in some shape to bear practically upon them. Hence the justice of the suggestion heretofore enunciated in these columns, to the effect that the very first step should be to insist that the six alleged members—three from the Second and three

from the Fourth precinct, retire from the seats they occupy in defiance of law, decency and a decision of a competent court. In other words, that the Council be brought within the law.

At the city election which preceded that of February last, by an understanding reached with prominent "Liberals," four members of that party were placed upon the ticket of the People's Party, and by the latter elected to the Council. This action was taken in order to make the Council representative of the community, and take from it the color of partizanship. The party to whom this generosity was exhibited showed their gratitude at the last election by stealing six of the offices to which candidates of the People's Party were elected. This is "a new way to pay old debts." The two transactions made a difference, in favor of the "Liberals," of ten—the four offices generously given three years since to that party by the people and the "Liberal" steal of six at the election of last February.

A few spasmodic spurts of seeming official virtue not possessed will be as futile in checking the increase of lawlessness and immorality as barring a door with a boiled carrot against the assault of a steam battering ram. That which in itself is illegal is impotent for purposes of legal enforcement.

"BUCKET SHOPS."

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 5th, 1890.
To Editor *Deseret News*:

I observe in the dispatches frequent reference to what are called "bucket shops." I am aware that this title is given to some speculative concerns of a questionable character, but would like to be informed as to their exact nature. The term is not in local use, and I would not be surprised if a good many people imagined that a "bucket shop" is a place where buckets are made by machinery. SEARCHER.

The term "bucketshops" is not applied to a place where buckets or pails are made. It is a word now in general use wherever gambling in stocks or produce is practiced. Chicago may be said to be its home. The Legislature of Illinois tried to suppress the "bucketshops" but it was unsuccessful. The Chicago Board of Trade has been at war with "bucketshops" for the past five years. No member of that Board can operate a "bucketshop."

The bucket shop is an office run by a broker who deals in "margins," in "puts," "calls" and "straddles" in the stock or produce

markets. The bucket shop broker will invest sums as low as \$5. The patrons of the bucket shop are divided into "bulls" and "bears."

Properly speaking the "bucket shop" epitomises all that is dishonest and speculative in the trading world. It deals principally in what is called "options." These options embrace either a rise or fall of stocks or produce generally within a limit of thirty days. For instance, a man goes to a bucket shop and invests \$5 on an option of 100 shares of U. P. Stock. He buys for a rise. Suppose the stock is selling at the time at 76 and if within ten days it advances to 80, then the bucket shop patron can sell and pocket the advance. But if there is no advance before the limit expires, then all is lost.

THE RESPONSIBILITY.

THERE is an attempt in some quarters to place the responsibility for the lawless condition of affairs now existing in this city upon the police department. This position is illogical and absurd. The chief responsibility necessarily rests upon the leading officials—the Mayor and City Council.

To prove our proposition is simple. The officers of the police department are appointive, from the chief to the smallest officer on the force. Hence the department is the creature of the Mayor and Council. If there is inefficiency and corruption either at the head or in the ranks of the force the government have placed it there. Consequently they are responsible, or rather ought to be, to the people for the malfeasance and dereliction that are openly claimed to exist.

Seeing that the condition has been produced by the Council, it is their duty to remove it. But this will never be done until the Council itself is made strictly a legal body. It has not that virtue now; six of its members are usurpers—occupants of seats to which they were never elected. Those half dozen alleged Councilmen are an open and standing reproach to their party. We repeat what we have asserted heretofore—If those who claim to be so deeply exercised over the laxity of the laws' enforcement and the multiplication of dens of vice in our fair city are sincere, they will move toward a request for the resignation of the political interlopers.

By the way, we do not find a multitude arising to oppose our prop-