

2 Populists. The death of Senator Gibson of Louisiana, which occurred yesterday, will make no difference in the political make-up, as both the governor and legislature of that state are strongly Democratic and one of that faith will undoubtedly be chosen or, for the present, appointed. The House stands as previously given; the Democrats will have 90 plurality if they again elect the two from Rhode Island; if not, the plurality will shrink accordingly.

FROM BAD TO WORSE.

A few days ago the empress of Germany went shopping in a jeweler's store in Berlin and while there was subjected to the greatest indignities by a mob of citizens both outside and in the building. It is said that even after the imperial shopper had regained her carriage a finely dressed and respectable looking woman opened the door of the vehicle and peered insolently in as if mentally taking her majesty's measurement. This made the latter exceeding wroth and she bestowed upon the perpetrator of the rude insolence a shower of verbal missiles in such manner as only a "woman scorned" can. Emperor William, on hearing of it, as usual flew into a violent passion and at once issued an order that thereafter, when he or his wife enter any shop or store to make purchases the police are to shut off that portion of the street from the public until the imperial pair have finished their shopping and retired—a matter involving some considerable delay in the matter of locomotion in that neighborhood, if her majesty trades so leisurely and lingeringly as most of her sex have the reputation of doing.

This circumstance has more than one side to it and is invested with more of consequence than the indifferent reader would suppose. On one hand the royal family has a right to be protected from rude treatment and by such means as were adopted if others are unavailing; on the other, considered alone, such an order is despotic, arrogant and inconsiderate and will provoke more harsh comment and be the source of greater irritation than it will do good. William's grandfather is reported to have done a good deal of shopping in his later days, so did his father; these mingled freely with the crowds, especially at holiday times, and it is not recorded that they or either of them ever had to close up a street in order to get along without annoyance. When we think of how free their official lives were from repressive measures toward the populace and how frequent such things have become in the life of the present ruler, it makes us understand at once how it is that holding aloof, exercising tyrannical authority, and always acting the part of "bully" and "boss" once begun must be kept up and increased in order to maintain authority at all. When, under normal circumstances, the head of a nation or a community cannot mingle unreservedly with his people it argues one of two things—that he has no confidence in or liking for them, or they have none

for him. Once create suspicion and it is to re-enact Frankenstein, who raised a demon by his incantations, but could not control it thereafter.

Richard III, after gaining his crown by the slaughter of the kings, found that the legitimists, had still heirs in the line of succession, and that therefore his "goodly kingdom rested on a weak foundation;" whereupon he soliloquized—

Conscience, lie still;
More lives must yet be drained.
Crowns got by blood
Must be with blood maintained.

Paraphrasing which we would say, power wielded by the exercise of power must be continued in that way or not at all. Nothing destroys confidence so easily as to show a want of it. It does not follow that those in authority should mix up with the rabble, should give levees to loafers or invite mendicants to sit at their tables; between these two extremes of conduct there is a happy medium which most of William's predecessors seem to have understood and exercised but which he unfortunately does not or will not comprehend.

THE "INVESTOR'S" PRIZE ESSAYS.

We referred some weeks ago to an offer that had been made by the *United States Investor*, published at Boston, New York and Philadelphia, to give \$1000 in prizes for the best essays respecting American cities and towns. Three distinguished congressmen, Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, Speaker Charles F. Crisp and Hon. Julius C. Burrows will be the awarding judges, and the competition closes December 31st, the above-named periodical expecting to begin the publication of the essays on Saturday, January 7th, 1893. We note that among the 120 towns and cities from which contributions have already been received Salt Lake City alone represents Utah. As other writers from this and other towns may be interested in the matter and as there is yet time, we again give particulars of the competition.

The prizes are three in number: For the best essay respecting any American city or town, \$500; for the second best, \$300; and for the third best, \$200. Each essay is to deal with the merits of the city or town chosen as its subject, either as a desirable place of residence; as affording opportunities for investment; as a place of peculiar location; as a place of unusually rapid growth; as a place in which an unusually large amount of capital and labor is employed in any particular industry; as a place possessed of great undeveloped resources, such as water power, coal and iron, etc., which is peculiar because it has long escaped attention; as a place of great historical interest; or as possessing any other claim to unique interest or special distinction. In awarding the prizes, the judges will consider the literary merits of the essays, as well as the merits of the town or city described. They will not, however, go outside of the essay itself for evidence that the town or city possesses any special interest.

Among the ambitious cities that are already represented in the competition

are Tallapoosa, Florida; Oskaloosa, Iowa; Pemaquid, Maine; Tacoma, Washington; Nauvoo, Illinois; Baraboo, Wisconsin; Muskegon, Michigan; Arkadelphia, Arkansas; Niagara Falls, New York; Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In such a goodly company as this there are a score of Utah towns that could be made to cut a very respectable figure.

AN EX-EDITOR'S SATURDAY TALK.

The frequency with which divorce cases arise in our courts at the present time must attract the attention of the old settlers of the Territory, it being in such striking contrast in this respect with former times. A stranger, reading the newspapers, might draw wrong conclusions concerning the state of society here; for numerous divorces are not creditable to any community. A careful examination of the applications for divorce, however, reveals the fact that the great majority of them are made by people who have recently come to the Territory. There was a time when advantage could be taken of one of the statutes of the Territory and divorce could be obtained with comparative ease. Many persons availed themselves of the opportunity thus afforded, and came here for the sole purpose of obtaining divorces; but as soon as public attention was called to the abuses and wrongs likely to be done to innocent parties by the operation of this lax statute, the Legislative Assembly at its first meeting thereafter changed the objectionable law and threw around it the proper safeguards. There is no good reason to suppose, therefore, that the applicants for divorce in our courts in these days have come to Utah for the purpose of securing a dissolution of the bonds of matrimony.

The influence of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has always been opposed to divorces. Members of the Church have been urged to be especially careful in forming alliances with the opposite sex, because when formed according to Church teachings, they are not intended to endure for time alone but for time and all eternity. A sacredness is thereby imparted to marriages such as is not felt among the members of other churches or of other communities. The members of the Church are, and have been, taught that it is their privilege to ask the Lord for direct guidance in all matters, and, as marriage is so important an act, and so deeply affects human happiness, they have been especially urged to seek divine guidance before entering that state, or even before entering into any contract with one of the other sex with a view to matrimony. The object of all this care in giving these teachings has been to make marriages indissoluble as far as possible and to obviate the necessity of separations and divorces. The effect of these teachings upon the people can, perhaps, be best judged by the results. I feel sure that investigation will prove that among the Latter-day Saints there has been but a comparatively small percentage