

ered an opportunity of holding services by the leading citizens of the town. They reported Jan. 1st that they intended accepting the invitation inside of a week. For the week ending December 14, 1890, their report shows four meetings held; all were public. During the next two weeks they held seven meetings, all public, making eleven services in three weeks. Last week's report is not yet in. The Tribune gives the date of departure as about December 10th. Their reports show that they were then at their post of duty. They did, however, on their own responsibility, spend Christmas week in Mingo county, West Va., by the kind request of friends, but are now in Martin county, Ky.

Concerning their ill-treatment, there is not a word of truth in it. Every week have Elders Beers and Warnick been praising the people of Martin county for their kindness to them. Indeed in the whole conference the brethren are being very kindly cared for, and report a good feeling existing toward the work.

LITTLE, BUT GOOD.

The above adjectives we deem to express the proper qualifications of all the law-making with which the Utah Legislature ought to busy itself for some years to come. In the transition from the Territory to the State, an extra amount of new legislation at the outset is made inevitable. But there is not nearly as much of this as some people imagine, certainly not as much as most legislators dream of. If our present statutes could be boiled down to half their present length—some of them stricken out altogether—there would be an increase in the law-abiding tendency, because more people would understand what the laws are. The Governor has already rendered great service in knocking out two or three needless or ill-placed measures, and he may be expected to continue the scrutiny during the whole of the perilous time that the Legislature remains in session. But in the rush of business, and in the perfect flood of enactments which are threatened, it is impossible to expect that any one man will be able to detect and weed every unnecessary and improper proposition. The lawmakers themselves must aid in the good work, by recognizing the duty not only to pass good laws but to prevent bad ones. A very little legislation, and that little to be of the best quality—this should be the program of those who desire the greatest welfare to the State and the highest measure of success to its officials.

A HINT ON LEGISLATION.

There is no denying the fact that among the taxpayers of the State, especially in the large centers of population, there is a decided feeling of unrest over the possibility that the present Legislature will inaugurate an expensive system of salaries and fees, and thus increase taxation in the State until, in sheer self defense, the reputation which the mass of the people here have as home-owners will have to be relinquished in favor of the rule of tenantry that is followed of necessity by working classes in the older states. It may be that there is no substantial basis for this uneasiness,

but it exists just the same, and some re-assuring action ought to be taken before long if it is to be removed.

We know that in the State there is a host of office holders clamoring for high salaries; that there are political "pulls" to cause the legislators to be drawn one way or another in favor of certain interests; that already particular classes or organizations are wielding a dominating influence over some committees, under the implied threat that if such and such concessions are not made the combinations referred to will "bolt the party" at the next election; that there are methods of chicanery in vogue which are liable to mislead careful and conscientious legislators into that which their better judgment protests against; and that all these forces are directed towards making as heavy drafts as possible upon the public treasury.

In the face of this condition we have no hesitancy in declaring that neither political party, nor all of them, can afford to pursue a course which will surrender the State to either or all of these schemes, in any degree whatever. The political party that would perpetuate itself in Utah is one that today stands firmly on the platform of economy laid out by the Constitution. That is what the mass of the people are determined upon, and they will have their way. The salaries must be just and the fees reasonable; and their justice and reasonableness must be determined from the standpoint of what the people can afford to pay for services rendered, not from the avaricious desire of the office holder. Experience has shown that plenty of good men can be found to serve the public for a fair salary; while enormous official emoluments prove but stronger attractions for the unscrupulous and wily politician to work his way into position.

As a matter of political reckoning, legislators who vote now to entail upon the State an extravagant and oppressive system of salaries and fees may look for their work to be undone a year hence, and themselves to be relegated to political oblivion; those who surrender their manhood as representatives of the entire people, independent of class combination, for supposed party advantage, will be no better off. There comes into the voting power of the State at the next election another element—yet not one that is either new or untried in some important particular. That element is possessed of a powerful sentiment against unclean political schemes and heavy burdens for taxpayers, and woe be to the party that indulges freely in either.

It is natural to look upon the country legislators as being less tied up with certain combinations than are city members; and this may be the case to a considerable extent in the State Legislature, although there are city members who have no such bonds on them, while there are some who have. The bulk of the country members, therefore, are looked to, to take a stand for economy and to maintain it at all hazards. If these, and those members from populous centers who unite with them to resist high salaries, fees and taxation, are not strong enough to do so in the first State Legislature, the people

will see to it that the next body will be composed of different metal. We hope this Legislature will anticipate any such action by being true to the economical, anti-class sentiment which permeates the masses of the commonwealth of Utah.

SALVATION FROM FOLDING BEDS

The decision of the supreme court of California on Monday is likely to have a salutary effect in the folding bed business, since it strikes at the root of the trouble. Under the rule laid down, a furniture dealer who recommends as safe a folding bed when he is aware of its dangerous character is liable for damage that follows; hence dealers will exercise a caution that will bring the manufacturer to time. In the California case E. Apperson purchased a folding bed from Joseph T. Perry & Co. The bed closed upon Miss Grace E. Lewis while she was preparing to retire for the night, and broke her arm. Miss Lewis brought a suit for damages against Perry & Co., but was dismissed out of court on the ground that the complaint failed to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action. The supreme court reversed the lower court, with instructions to overrule the demurrer and allow the case to proceed to trial. The court noted:

When the seller, as in the case made by the complaint before us, represents the article to be safe for the uses it was designed to serve when he knows it to be dangerous because of concealed defects, he commits a wrong independent of his contract and brings himself within the operation of a principle of the law of tort. The fact that beds are in general not dangerous would seem to enhance the wrong of representing one to be safe for use when known to be really unsafe, for the danger is thus rendered more insidious.

Hereafter people who purchase folding beds upon the assurance of a dealer that they are perfectly safe may feel that such assurance is an agreement that the dealer will make good in money any damage which follows the use of such piece of household furniture; yet there will be some persons who will persist in not taking chances of being smothered to death in these beds, even with the prospect of a successful damage suit in behalf of their executors.

IDAHO PEOPLE need not be particularly alarmed over the fact that a firm in Owyhee county has slaughtered a large number of horses recently. They are not converted directly into sausage, as is being done by about thirty establishments in Chicago. In Idaho they feed the horses to hogs before the sausage-making process goes on.

THREE MONTHS lighting of the streets in Detroit by the city's electric plant shows a saving of \$18,000 over the corresponding last three months of 1894, when the city had the lights on contract from a private corporation; and Salt Lake City could have an electric plant fully as easily as Detroit got it.

THE UTAH legislators should note the fact that the recent California primary election law has been declared unconstitutional. If Utah is to have a law, the weak points should be strengthened.