

This point of secret consideration is further proved by the reason given by Mr. Pembroke in support of this motion to insult the people of this municipality by summarily tabling their petition for a reduction of the tax. He said:

"I don't see what good it will do to refer this petition. We didn't go blindly to work in determining the amount of money we would require for contemplated improvements. We went to work methodically, found out how much we would want and fixed the rate accordingly. I move to table the petition."

This not only "gave away" the secret conclave consideration of the rate of tax, but the thoughtless little man unwittingly testified in that brief speech that the popular charge that the assessment notices had been purposely withheld because of their probable anti-"Liberal" effect at the August election, was correct. The methodical and careful consideration of the tax question was not practicable without the full assessment roll. The fact is that this effusive alleged Councilman frequently, without intending to do it, divulges something connected with the council not intended for public use. Would it not be advisable for the "Liberal" bosses to gag him, that the running from his mouth may be a silent stream?

There is a feature of the contemptuous treatment a respectful mammoth petition received at the hands of the alleged councilman that is specially disagreeable. When the great public has its nose pinched it is preferable to have the operation performed by a man and not a mosquito. There is one mitigating condition connected with it, however; Mr. Pembroke did not insult his constituency, for the simple reason that he doesn't have one. He never was elected to the seat in the Council which he occupies. This is a fact which is notorious. It was decided by Judge C. S. Zane in the Third District Court. The "Liberal" bosses appealed from that decision to the Territorial Supreme Court. When the time arrived for that body to consider the case, in order to defeat the ends of justice and retain this usurper and three others, the appeal was withdrawn.

It is indeed humiliating that men who were never elected to the positions of public trust they seem to occupy would accept of such a situation. The position becomes aggravated almost to a ludicrous degree when such persons undertake to treat the community contemptuously.

This latest performance of Mr. Pembroke will doubtless cause him to be more and more regarded as a pimple on the official posterior of the municipal corporation. If the eruptive speck were touched by the needle of justice, the cuticle disfigured by its presence would present a much pleasanter aspect.

It may not be out of place at this juncture to direct the attention of the alleged councilman to the following extract from the Territorial statute in relation to the incorporation of cities:

"No officer shall be directly or indirectly interested in any contract, work, or business of the city, or the selling of an article, the expense, price or consideration of which is paid from the treasury, or by any assessment levied by any act or ordinance."

It is also competent to ask the same gentleman, and the Council for the matter of that, how the various appropriations to him for corporation printing, as every now and then appear on the minutes, can be reconciled with the foregoing statutory provision.

This is about the size of a man who would attempt to practically deny to the people the inalienable right of petition, by treating a statement of their grievances with manifest contempt, in offering a motion to table it peremptorily. Fortunately for appearance' sake, at least, the Mayor and the balance of the Council assumed a virtue, which it is not believed they really possess, and showed an outward respect for the pronounced wish of the people by referring the petition to a committee.

THE BOUNTIFUL FIRES.

FIVE fires in one town—Bountiful, Davis County—inside of scarcely more than the same number of weeks, all of them evidently incendiary, is a serious matter to the people of that thrifty community. The aggregate loss approaches eight thousand dollars.

The sentiments that have been engendered among the residents of the town are perhaps more regrettable than the losses to individuals, although they are bad enough. Women and children are in a state of mental trepidation; so much so that they retire at night in a perturbed condition, lest some prowling wretch should, during the night, set fire to their premises, and perhaps destroy their lives.

There is another feeling that runs extremely high—that of exaspera-

tion. We are informed by a prominent resident of Davis County that had the villain or villains who have malignantly destroyed the property of citizens and disturbed the peace of the people been discovered a few days ago, there is little room for doubt that they would have been visited with dire and summary vengeance.

Such a result of the incendiarism would be a great misfortune, notwithstanding that the fiendish criminals might deserve the severest punishment that could be accorded them. If the degraded scoundrels should be discovered the law should take its course, and no act of lawless violence be perpetrated upon them by the injured and justly indignant populace. Leading men have been, in anticipation of the discovery of the incendiaries, laboring with the people to induce them, in that event to do no violence to the wretches who have thrown the community out of balance.

THE IDAHO "MORMONS."

THE Montpelier, Idaho, *Observer* appears to be an outspoken and vigorous paper, not over particular about hurting the feelings of its opponents, but ready to do battle for the rights of the people regardless of their tenets or their popularity. We clip the following from its issue of August 30:

"The poor Mormons are getting it all around. They say that they won't vote; the Democrats say they can't vote; the Republicans say they shan't vote; while the various rag-tag and bob-tailed appendages of all parties and no party go into spasms on a mere reference to the subject.

"There is some honor in expressing sympathy for the under dog in any fight, and we would say to our Mormon friends that if they can weather through the dirt and heat and stand the playful abuse of all parties until election closes, the sun thereafter may shine brighter, for then the stars give additional light, and the successful candidate will hunt some of you up, pat you affectionately on the back, give you to understand that a holy horror animates their bosoms—and other parts of their insides—at your disfranchisement; after which, with brass enough to run a foundry, they will ask you to go on their bonds. The Mormons complain of being deprived of their political rights! What in the name of sense do they want—the earth? They can eat, sleep, pay taxes, go on bonds, raise carrots, etc., etc. If they do not get satisfied pretty soon, it may be necessary to hurl at them some of Mr. Underwood's 'animated lead,' to bring them to their senses."

In relation to the arrests that have been recently made for political purposes the *Observer* says:

"We are frequently asked the true inwardness of the past two years and why nothing has been done until now,