

TERRIBLE IF TRUE.

WE HAVE seen a copy of a letter from Provo which purports to relate a striking and lamentable circumstance said to have occurred in that town a few days ago. The essence of the statement is as follows: A young man—a member of a family of Latter-day Saints—entered a saloon and called for a glass of beer, which was handed to him. He held it in his hand and mockingly proceeded to pronounce upon the intoxicating stuff the holy ordinance of blessing and consecration. At the conclusion of this act of sacrilege he was instantly paralyzed and stricken down. In that condition he was conveyed to his home and shortly afterwards expired.

The statement comes from two sources, one indirectly from a person who came up from Provo and the other in the letter before alluded to, and which we have perused.

"MY POLICY,"

THE correspondence between the Department of Justice and Chief Justice Sandford which will be found in another column, offers considerable food for reflection. The "policy" of President Harrison's Administration, therein referred to, will be variously viewed by different minds. We have some opinions on the subject, which are based upon personal observation and some knowledge of the inner workings of the national political machine.

The policy of the Republican party, of which President Harrison is now the head and chief, is to retain the control of the government and extend and increase the strength of the party by all the means in its possession or capable of acquisition. The powers which it now holds as the dominant force in politics will be wielded for party interests, as fully as possible under constitutional and other restrictions, and if needful for its purposes, where it can be safely done, those restrictions will be stretched or ignored.

Utah is sure, at some not distant day, to go into the Union as a State, either on its own footing or connected with some other State or States. Its present Territorial condition cannot, in the very nature of things, be much longer maintained. The Republican party needs the support of as many new States as possible. While the South remains "solid" for the opposing party, the

fluctuations of public sentiment in other parts of the country cause the Republican interests to be insecure. It is not certain what party the States about to become part of the Federal Union will support.

Utah has been regarded as almost sure to be Democratic. This is the real and potent cause of the opposition to her admission. "Polygamy" has formed a convenient "cry" and pretended excuse for that opposition. So far as political questions are concerned that is now recognized as "a dead issue," or nearly so. It cuts but a very small figure in politics.

The policy of the Republican party concerning Utah is to swing her into line as a Republican State. This will be seen, by those who can look beneath the surface of things, in the course that will be pursued towards this Territory by the present administration. The Judiciary ought to be entirely exempt from the influences of party. But it is not, and has not been, since the power of the Government commenced to be exercised in the appointment of men to judicial offices who were strong partisans in the interest of the dominant political organization. The eight-to-seven action of the Supreme Court of the United States was more than a "straw" showing the direction of the party blast.

There are plans evolving to effect the purpose we have indicated concerning this Territory. The removal of a Democratic Judge and the appointment of a Republican successor is in line with them. Much more can be done by the Judiciary in support of the project than at first sight might appear. Time will show what we mean.

No real fault can be found with Judge Sandford's course on the bench. Nothing that his political enemies can say against him would weigh a feather on fair investigation. He has been "removed" arbitrarily, unlawfully and unjustly. We can understand why he quietly retires. He could have refused to step down and out, and the President could not find an atom of authority in constitutional law for the exercise of the power he has assumed to remove a judge before his term has expired. Some men would have fought out this question to its legitimate end. Others, less stubborn and pugilistic, caring, like Judge Sandford, but little for the position, would rather put up quietly with the indignity than appear to be struggling to re-

tain an office which they were desired to vacate.

The chief significance of Judge Zane's appointment is political, as was the influence which procured his re-installment. At the head of the movement was Senator Cullom, a strong man, a Republican leader with large backing in Illinois. We believe he will be confirmed when his name comes before the Senate; and, meanwhile, he will hold the office undisturbed under the power of the President to appoint *ad interim*.

We wish Judge Sandford every success in life that he could desire for himself. We believe him to be an upright, conscientious, high-minded jurist, we feel sure he has acted as his best judgment and sound understanding of law has dictated, and in his correspondence with the Administration he has certainly the best of the argument.

As we have before expressed, we do not look upon Judge Zane's re-appointment with the forebodings felt by some of our friends, and we trust that in every class of cases that come before him, he will bring to bear that profound comprehension of legal principles which he is known to possess, and that impartial justice, tempered with mercy, which should inspire judicial decisions and which invite admiration and command respect.

OFF WRONG AGAIN.

THE St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* is coming to be as thoroughly unreliable on anything relating to Utah and the "Mormons" as it is said to be in regard to democracy and the Democrats. For some time it has taken pains to publish every false report that has gone over the wires concerning the people of this Territory, and has offered comments that exhibit deplorable ignorance or willful perversity.

Its latest announcement is to the effect that the "Mormon" leaders are buying up land in Mexico and arranging to "sell out their valuable property and move in a body to form a new home in a country where laws against polygamy are less rigidly enforced." And the Gentiles of Utah are advised to "deal liberally with them" so as to insure the exodus and the "early admission of their Territory as a State."

When this exodus takes place the *Globe-Democrat* editor will be a con-