

THE DESERT WEEKLY

PIONEER PUBLICATION

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.

ESTABLISHED

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

JUNE 1850.

NO. 24.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1891.

VOL. XLIII.

THE BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE.

And who the bravest of the brave;
The bravest hero ever born?
'Twas one who dared a felon's grave,
Who dared to brave the scorn of scorn.
Nay, more than this; when sword was drawn
And vengeance waited but his word,
He looked with pitying eyes upon
The scene, and said, "Put up thy sword!"
Could but one king be found today
As brave to do, as brave to say?

"Put up thy sword into the sheath,"
Put up thy sword, put up thy sword.
By Cedron's brook, thus spake beneath
The olive trees our valiant Lord,
Spake calm and kinglike. Sword and stave
And torch and stormy men of death
Made clamor. Yet he spake not, save
With loving word and patient breath,
"Put up thy sword into the sheath,"
The peaceful olive boughs beneath.

Ye Christian kings, in Christ's dear name,
I charge you, live no more this life.
"Put up thy sword." The time they came
To bind and lead him forth to die,
Behold this was his last command!
Yet ye dare cry to Christ in prayer
With red and reeking sword in hand!
Ye dare do this as devils dare!
Ye liars, liars, great and small,
Ye cowards, cowards, cowards all!

O God, but for one gallant czar,
One valiant king, one fearless queen!
Yea, there would be an end of war
If but one could be heard or seen
To follow Christ; to bravely cry:
"Put up the sword, put up thy sword,
And let us dare to live and die
As did command our valiant Lord;
With sword commanded to its sheath,
The blessed olive boughs beneath."

—JOAQUIN MILLER

RELIGION, VICE AND CRIME.

THE "Liberal" city government received some tremendous home-thrusts at the hands of some of the clergymen who participated in the Thanksgiving services yesterday. Union services were held at the Methodist-Episcopal Church at 11 am.. There were on the platform, Dr. Iliff and Rev. W. D. Mabry of the Methodist Church, Rev. H. B. Steelman of the Baptist Church, Dr. McNiece and Rev. F. L. Arnold of the Presbyterian Church, and Rev. J. B. Thrall and Rev. W. S. Hawkes of the Congregational Church.

The Rev. R. J. McNiece, in the course of his sermon, is credited by the "Liberal" organ with speaking as follows:

"I have had my home here now for nearly fifteen years, and feel myself a part of the city. I cannot help being interested in everything pertaining to its welfare. And because I love this city and its people, I want to see a city government here that will give our city a good name from the Pacific to the Atlantic; that will furnish ample protection for us when we walk these streets at any hour of the night; that will furnish protection for our homes whether we are in them or absent from them. And because some of us are the descendants of the Pilgrims and of Cromwell and his Ironsides, we do not intend to sit idly by and let our city drift to the dogs. But let us be discriminating. Let us admit that some of those whom we elected two years ago have been faithful and tried to do their duty, though in a minority. Undoubtedly if our city charter put in the hands of the Mayor the power he ought to have we should have secured better government. But certainly it is another cause for thanksgiving that the official term of some of those whom we elected two years ago has only sixty days more to run! Then we will lay them up on the shelf to dry and try to put Americans in their places who will do their duty and enforce the laws."

The report then comments thus: "During the delivery of the preceding paragraph the great audience broke out in repeated applause, and followed with laughter the speaker's humorous sentences about the shortness of the remaining official term of some of the city officers being cause for thanksgiving, as well as the approaching opportunity to lay them up on the shelf to dry, along with other unseasoned lumber.

In the evening, in the same building, a very lively and interesting meeting was held. The printed programme called for an address by V. B. Dolliver, on "The Nation and the Liquor Traffic," but as that gentleman did not put in an appearance, Rev. F. E. Carr, who was acting in the capacity of secretary of the meeting, spoke, with characteristic vigor, upon "The Church and the Liquor Traffic."

We quote from his discourse, as reported in the paper already referred to:

"There is too much apathy on the part of Christians toward the subject of the suppression of saloons. When we, as Christians, fail to do our duty in endeavoring to down this monstrous evil, by

voice and by ballot, we ally ourselves with the rum-sellers. The church is in league with the liquor traffic when it fails to do its duty toward the extermination of the saloons, when its members vote for whisky-sellers and whisky-drinkers. If we have it in our power to save drunkards and do not do it, are we not responsible? Promises and talk amount to nothing unless backed by action. You may talk until the hills grow dim with age, but unless you act your talk is but wind, and cheap wind at that. Oh that whiskyism would keep men from being put into office! God forgive the man who would vote for a whisky-seller in the name of decency, in the name of morality, in the name of reform—yet such a thing has been done, and done here in Salt Lake City. We have got to begin scratching tickets. We can never get temperance and reform by praying to God and voting for liquor men. We have a very good object lesson in this city. I am prepared to say that until the present men in office in this city change their ways or are succeeded by better men, you will have no laws to restrict the selling of liquor or upholding the public morality. The duty of the church is to preach the Gospel of temperance and enforce prohibition as much as possible. There are enough votes among the churches to turn the scale of political destiny either way. It is our duty as Christians to turn them in favor of prohibition."

The reverend gentleman is said to have spoken with great force and fluency, and his allegation that the church was in league with the liquor dealers created a strong sensation. He was followed by Dr. Iliff and the Revs. Gillilan and Hunt, who, at that time, took no issue with him or the position he assumed. However, Dr. Mabry, who stated that he had been delayed owing to having been engaged in "marrying a Mormon girl to a Gentile boy," and therefore had not reached the meeting until order was called, took the floor. He is reported as having spoken in opposition to Mr. Carr's charge to the following effect:

"He was surprised, yes, astounded that a minister of the Gospel would say to the world that the church was in league with the liquor traffic. He objected to such a statement going out from that body that the church had any such connection; he entered a vigorous protest against the assertion. The church had all it could do now to fight the world, the flesh and the devil without having to bear the burden of being allied with liquor dealers. Because a member of the church went astray was no reason why the claim should be made that the church was wrong."