

the great movement. Today, as formerly, they are heading the great enterprises designed for the benefit of the whole; they are reaching hither and thither with plans for the general progress; they are interesting capital in projects to give employment to the people and to add stability and force to local institutions; and they are not hoarding means or carrying it away to other localities, but are devoting their all to the work of building up the State. Their presence is known and their influence is felt in every undertaking for the common good. Most of them have spent so great a portion of their lives in laboring without hope of earthly reward for the salvation of the people temporally and spiritually, that it is a part of their existence to perform unselfish acts for the welfare of others, and to bear, uncomplainingly to a very large extent, unjust criticism, misrepresentation and abuse.

But why should they have to bear this kind of treatment? Why should persons, presumably sincere in their claim of friendship for Utah, persistently seek to throw odium on some of her earnest workers? Why this pulling down process that is quite common, not among the majority of the people, but with a few who are very much in evidence by the agitation they cause? Why is it that almost every action or utterance of a leading man among the Mormons is assailed with suspicions by a certain class here, when there is not a mark other than of sincerity in all that man's life? Why, indeed, if it be not because those who seek to awaken suspicion are open to the charge themselves? Some of these questions ought to interest the parties who make them necessary, as they do the body of the people of the State who are watching affairs with a keen and careful eye.

The building up of the State is not to be accomplished by a continuation of these abusive suspicions and unwarranted expressions of distrust. The masses throughout the State are recognizing this fact; and if a continuance is precluded in the sentiment of the people is not likely to be long deferred in the act of stamping it with disapproval. What is past may be allowed to remain unless the present and future make another course necessary. The hope of the future is in keeping out the discordant elements which exist in the ungracious and unexcusable expressions referred to. It is better that their elimination be accomplished in a peaceful way, so that all may join without further disturbance for the building up of the whole State.

THE ST. LOUIS CALAMITY.

The thrill of horror which has attended the tidings of destruction by recent cyclones and by the awful disaster at Victoria is doubly intensified by news of the terrible visitation at St. Louis and other places in Missouri, as well as in some Illinois towns. The most graphic description that can be placed in words cannot give a full realization to people far distant of the fearful scenes in the stricken localities. The immense loss of property and sacrifice of life may not represent as much in bare figures as would that of some

great battles, but its character is more appalling in some respects in that many of the victims are women and children and all of them unprepared for such events in a time of national peace.

The later accounts may modify to some extent the reports being received, or they may show a worse condition than is now reported. But in its mildest aspect the situation calls for a broad measure of sympathetic expression. There is mourning in the land over the recent occurrences, which reach the magnitude of a national calamity; there is pity, not for the dead, for they are beyond mortal reach, but for the bereaved and for those who are suffering from physical injuries and a loss of property that works severe hardship. And this suffering will be felt in the states where it is inflicted for a long time to come.

Whether the climax in great catastrophes has been reached for the present in this country in the visitation at St. Louis, may not be determined now by mortal knowledge. But certain it is that the end of sorrows of this kind is not yet. The cyclones, the works of flood and fire, the records of accidents, have not come to a termination. But anticipate them as we will, when they occur they bring a painful shock whose effect is modified only in the realization that there is no ill in the design and works of Providence, and that in the death that comes to all it matters not whether it be in the tempest or the calm, it still is in the wisdom and mercy of an allwise and merciful Ruler of the universe.

A DIFFERENT YEAR.

There is no greater distinction between the years than between the positions that politicians assume upon the various issues brought before the public. This finds notable illustration in the variegated aspect presented by the record of political leaders on the money standard problem. Everybody remembers how the present secretary of the treasury, John G. Carlisle, once so friendly to silver in his expressions, made such an ardent fight against the metal in Kentucky and succeeded in defeating its champion there in the contest for senatorship. Another illustration on the opposite side of the political fence is that of Senator John M. Thurston, of Nebraska, once Union Pacific solicitor, and well known in this city, which he has visited frequently on business and pleasure. As a Nebraska paper, the Minden Courier, says of him, "before Thurston became senator he dearly loved to talk on bimetallicism. Every occasion to get his name in the paper was associated in some manner with this favorite theme. Now he is in Congress, and his every act is diametrically opposed to true bimetallicism," as understood by the free coinage advocates, and which is not "gold, with a small amount of subsidiary silver for change."

As "men make parties," the shifting of positions with great parties is just as marked, in practice at least; and there is every prospect that we will soon see an example of it in words as well. The Democratic party had a "free silver"

plank in its platform, but the practice of its administration has been in decided antagonism to the theory; the coming Chicago convention will decide whether that plank, receded from in part, will be again adopted, and subsequent events will have to determine what force can be given it if it is replaced. Eight years ago the Republican platform had a silver plank, when President Harrison was elected; and what is worthy of particular note in this kaleidoscopic business is the fact that it was written by Senator Stewart of Nevada. Where Senator Stewart is now in the financial councils of the party will be conclusively demonstrated at the St. Louis convention, but it is not the most likely thing in the world that anything like the Stewart plank, which reads as follows, will be adopted then:

The Republican party is in favor of the use of both gold and silver as money, and condemns the policy of the Democratic administration in its efforts to demote silver.

This shifting of positions indicates how uncertain and unsafe political party policy is to build upon, as a matter of principle. The game of politics as played today is largely one of expediency, in which the doctrine that the end justifies the means is given full play. With each different year there is a different phase, and no wonder that, in the turning of the great wheel, many people are looking for a good place to alight when their turn to drop comes. The wiser ones are those who do not make political doctrines and theories their chief support, but build upon a less unstable foundation, realizing that the shifting sands of politics are like those other sands which, when the storms come, give no safety to the structure erected thereon, but rather prove a factor in producing a disastrous wreck.

LIVING TOO CHEAPLY.

Guntton's Magazine, which holds a high place in discussing economic questions, in its latest issue takes up the proposition of semi-charitable organizations to establish ten-cent lodging houses and five-cent restaurants. The Magazine insists that such institutions are in the long run injurious to the very people they are supposed to benefit, because they induce the establishment of lower standards of living and an inferior estimate of social life.

There is much force in Mr. Guntton's argument on this subject. Pauperizing the physical and social life of the citizen always results in depravity; and if, as Mr. Guntton claims, the introduction of such institutions would tend to lower the general standard of living, the evils he depicts as following of necessity are not difficult to foretell. While economy is to be strongly urged in its superiority as to moral, intellectual and physical effects over habits of extravagance, the other extreme of niggardliness of living is to be carefully guarded against. People can become too stingy in the quantity and quality of that which sustains life, and when they do the effect is disastrous. It is a well demonstrated principle that the lower the standard of physical living the less