

which they were named as a reward for what we regard as dishonest official political work. A man who does not take an upright course in one position cannot reasonably be expected to take it in another.

We congratulate the honest, intelligent voters on the "Liberal" side who administered to this detestable pair a well merited rebuke, which was also a properly directed slap on the brazen cheek of the rabidists of the party.

MAKING THE FLAG COMMON.

THE Stars and Stripes were placed at half-mast February 11th over the Scott-Auerbach building, Cohn Bros', and a few other structures. A report was current that the cause of this demonstration was the result of the election Feb. 10th. A direct inquiry elicited the fact that it was in consequence of the death of Isadore Greenwald, a member of the "Liberal" drum corps.

We mean no disrespect to the deceased drummer, but submit that the lowering of the national flag because of the demise of a man whose chief public importance arose from his beating a drum in a political campaign is rendering the emblem of liberty rather cheap. We have an idea that some of those who did the lowering share that view. But the drum corps requested it, and that was enough. Contributors to profitable political results have to be conciliated or they are apt to become tyrannical. The friends of the deceased, who was, so far as we know, a worthy man, ought to have manifested their respect in a more fitting and appropriate manner.

HE DOES IT SO SWEETLY.

It appears that Governor Thomas was interviewed by an Associated Press reporter, and the result telegraphed east on Sunday, Feb. 2. His talk was of the usual anti-"Mormon" character. He is an expert back-stabber with a greased knife. He dwelt particularly upon the escheating of the property of the "Mormon" people by the government, offering a sleek apology for the commission of the robbery, while saying substantially that the class to which he belongs did not ask for the thievish measure as it would give the Saints occasion to claim that the Gentiles robbed them.

It is curious that Governor Thomas should be oblivious to the fact that the faction to which he belongs had repeatedly threatened to assail the property of the majority, and that

the act was the natural outcome of their operations and representations.

The Governor directed the attention of the reporter to the law of 1862, which prohibits any church from accumulating property to a larger amount than \$50,000. This inhibition was "defiantly disregarded." In proof of this defiant disregard he ran up a list of property which he said had been amassed by the Church, and in his inventory showed a *defiant disregard* for the truth. As an instance, he stated that the Church owned "stock in the Deseret National Bank," which assertion is utterly false. It seems from this that his stock of conscience is in need of augmentation.

He said in a "child-like and bland" way:

"It was this vast accumulation of property in violation of law which led to the act of Congress escheating the surplus property to the benefit of schools."

This apology is not logical, although it may do for political capital, which the Governor was evidently intending to manufacture by his statements. If it were consistent it would apply with equal force to the other churches which have far exceeded the amount prescribed by the act of 1862. But no such application could come from the gentleman who entertained the reporter on Sunday. It would be opposed to the theory of his mutterings about the law being defiantly disregarded. The act in question is in defiant disregard of a plain inhibition of the Constitution. The property escheated was private property. It belonged to those who donated it for beneficent purposes. It was in no sense public property. The Constitution says:

"Nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation."

The private property of the Latter-day Saints has been taken for a public purpose without any compensation whatever, in "defiant disregard" of the supreme law of the land. And it has been done too at the instigation of the class to which Mr. Thomas belongs. He should read the Constitution and become familiar with the safeguards it has thrown around the citizen, and then try to formulate an apology for the escheating business upon that basis.

A PROSPECTIVE CONTRAST.

SHOULD the People's Party be defeated in a contest over the election, or should it be decided not to make

such a contest, a result will, in all probability, attend an administration of the city government by the "Liberals" which will reflect lasting honor upon the party retiring from power. The result we here speak of will be in the nature of a striking contrast.

From the day of its founding until now, the government of this city has been honest and economical to a degree which has made it remarkable, not to say a model, among American cities. Associated with this honesty and economy has been a degree of good order rarely equaled in a city of similar size, embracing such a variety of population as has existed here for many years. It is granted that the liquor traffic and the social evil have at times flourished to an extent which overstepped the limits of good order, but this was owing to the aid and comfort they received from authorities higher than the city officials. But, as a rule, immorality and vice have been compelled to hide themselves within extremely narrow limits.

Taxation has been very low, ridiculously low many people have said. The highest rate ever fixed for a city rate was, we believe, seven and a half mills, and that was on a low valuation. Usually the rate has not exceeded five mills, and that has always been on a low valuation until since the advent of a boom tendency, two or three years ago. Salaries have also been low, never higher than business establishments pay for similar service. A disinterested, genuine and paternal regard for the peace, welfare and prosperity of all classes of citizens has characterized the city government under the administration of the People's Party until now.

We may confidently look forward to the drawing of a contrast between "Liberal" rule and that which has been under the People's Party, so vivid as to impress all beholders, and throw a lasting glory upon the latter. We believe that the People's Party is destined yet to receive the support of the lovers of good government of many shades of religious belief and political affiliations, and that such a contrast as we have described, when drawn, will and must tend to increase the strength and spread the power and principles of that party.

Viewed in this light, its defeat, wrought by fraud and crime, will really prove, in course of time, the very means by which it will yet be made to dominate more widely than it has ever done, and its present reverse the cause of its future and complete vindication.