

THE TERRITORIAL FAIR.

No citizen who visited the Territorial Fair grounds yesterday [or today] and there beheld the magnificent display that has been collected by the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society can have experienced other than a feeling of enthusiastic pride in the Territory whose products were on exhibition. The showing is by all odds the most pleasing and complete that Utah has ever had; and it this be not praise sufficient, we may quote the words of a discriminating stranger who declares that for general excellence it surpasses a great many and equals the very best he ever saw in the older and more wealthy and populous states of the Union.

Few persons have any idea of the labor and expense involved in collecting, classifying and displaying the various exhibits which when combined afford so much satisfaction to the spectator. The energies of the directors are put to the severest strain, and patience and executive ability in a high degree are constantly called for; while the amount of money required for expenses, prizes, etc., would astonish the frugal folk who most enjoy the spectacle. But the directors make no complaint of the labor imposed upon them, and no citizen begrudges the cash that the Territory has to supply. All is well employed, and few expenditures of a public nature are so abundantly productive of equivalent returns.

To the gentlemen who one and all have labored so earnestly to make the Fair the success it is, the public owes a debt of gratitude. And we believe we are safe in saying for those gentlemen that in no way can the debt be more acceptably discharged than by the public's visit to and thorough enjoyment of the exhibition. The occasion is one for mutual compliment, gratification and benefit.

WHY NOT BE DECENT.

A LOCAL cotemporary, whose partisan bias too frequently runs away with its sense of propriety, publishes this morning a sub-editorial in which it gloats over what it calls "a merited rap" administered to an Apostle of the Church, and a respected member of the community. It appears that this gentleman, having become engaged in a political discussion with a fellow-passenger on the train between Ogden and Farmington, excused himself when approaching the latter point as he had an appointment to preach there, whereupon his opponent cried out: "All right, good bye; get off; you know a sight more about preaching than you do about politics."

It is doubtless the superb logic and the graceful courtesy of this little speech which so highly commends it to the taste of our cotemporary referred to. Until reliably informed to the contrary, however, the NEWS must refuse to believe that any respectable citizen, be his politics or his religion what it may, will regard approvingly, or applaud as "a merited rap," a fling that is only effective because it is ungentlemanly and could have no force except as it is profane.

WE ARE PASSING ALONG.

THE onward march of mortality to the brink of eternity is a subject upon which most minds seldom dwell and a few never turn; it is when we look backward and consider that out of those who participated in some great event not so very long ago none or a very few are left, that the force of the situation is impressed upon us most strongly. A short time since the news reached us that the last of the German officers who fought at Waterloo had paid the debt of nature and joined the silent caravan beyond. There are a good many people still on this side of the line who were living when that memorable contest was fought, but of those who participated in it there are not perhaps a score left all told. Napoleon, the victim of the allied powers, has been sleeping in the tomb for the allotted life time of man and more—nearly seventy-one years; Wellington has been dead half a century, and the other notables who figured in that bloody drama have one by one taken their departure at different times, but all are gone. In the light of such reflections, what does it matter that the map of Europe is as it is—that either a few minutes, more delay on the part of Blucher or a little more haste by Grouchy and his force might have made it altogether different!

THE BUSINESS ON HAND.

As already intimated, a number of prominent railroad men are congregated in Salt Lake City at present, the occasion being a conference with the committee of the Chamber of Commerce to settle the differences, if possible, which exist between the shippers and the transportation companies. Whatever the ultimate result may be, the fact that there is to be a conference at all is a hopeful sign; and the fact is emphasized that effective organization is the method by which these or any other grievances on the part of powerful corporations must be investigated and corrected.

Every citizen will be pleased to note the friendly expressions of the railroad men. The public are willing to give them credit for the disposition to meet our business men in the spirit of fairness. Much is hoped from this meeting. Rates ought to be adjusted upon an equitable basis, and the cause for all litigation removed. If this is done the work of the Chamber of Commerce will be accomplished. The resort to law seemed to offer the only means of bringing relief for the people of the city and Territory. Yet when the railroad people asked for time for the purpose of a friendly conference it was perfectly right they should have it, for everybody is in favor of amicable settlements and compromises if they can be made.

A broad and disinterested view should be taken of the local situation by all the parties concerned. Temporary self-interest ought not to stand in the way of the public good. Such remarks as that attributed to one shipper at a meeting where the appointment of this committee was being agitated, to the effect that his house

didn't desire any big cut in freight for fear of depreciating the value of goods now carried in stock, is in direct antagonism to the object the committee was appointed to accomplish, and cannot be regarded as an expression of the general wish. It is to be hoped there are few who would take so narrow a view of the case; the desire of the community is that such a result shall be reached as will bring the greatest good to the greatest number.

The committee of shippers go into the conference with the utmost confidence of their fellow citizens. It will be their business to see that this confidence is not misplaced. In doing their full duty they may be sure of the heartiest support; in coming short of their full duty they will incur unenviable responsibility. Our railway friends, too, have a task that ought to be pleasant. In so far as they treat our demands with fairness and justice and give us adequate and permanent relief, they will merit and receive the gratitude and favor of one of the best natured communities under the sun.

HE ARISES TO EXPLAIN.

THE NEWS is in receipt of the following letter from O. W. Warner, of Moab, Grand county. It tells its own story, as the reader will observe:

I would like to lay my feelings before the public in regard to the Territorial Fair. It is a known fact that parties who wish to exhibit their produce have to pay for transportation thereof and at the same time pay for space, also to get to see the show; and what does a producer get in return? I know what I received the only time that I exhibited. I got \$10 for the largest fruit, that was all. Should I have received anything more? A small piece of paper stating the facts would have been worth more to me, as I make fruit growing a business. Now, I exhibit in Colorado; I take my fruit to the depot in Utah, they pay the express charges, send me a complimentary ticket and give me free admission to the fair grounds. Do we see an army of officers at the fruit shows like we see in Utah, to swallow up all the money that is appropriated and that is received at the door? No; we find there a horticultural society, that manages that part of the fair. We are letting Colorado get the start of us, and why should we? We have the best fruit climate and the best soil. We did at one time have the name of raising fruit, but the people as a mass have quit and let their orchards grow up to weeds and grasses. A man need not expect any better returns from an orchard that has not been cultivated than he would from corn that is growing in weeds and grass. Now, Mr. Editor, if you would leave out of your columns some of the accounts of fights and horse races and fill the space with facts in regard to our fine climate and fruit land and how to produce the fruits, you would be doing some good for the country. If you do not believe we have a fine fruit country, step over here and see the largest and finest and most to the tree that you ever saw; if not, I will pay your expenses for the trip. Now, let us have a horticultural society."

The greater part of our correspondent's mischievous deals with matters which come within the purview of the board of directors of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, and it is for them to say and act regarding the complaints made and the suggestions offered. Doubtless they will find in