

Union. And there is no doubt that Nevada will at some time take a step forward in agricultural, stock-raising and manufacturing interests, which, with her mining industries that need not be neglected, will lift her from her present position of scorn and contumely.

Frank Pixley is right in his estimate of the "Mormons" as colonizers and State-builders, and he need not be disconcerted in the least by the calumnies of the scribe who has been doing for years for money what he meanly and without cause attributes to Mr. Pixley. Wherever the "Mormons" have settled they have improved the country rapidly and effectually, and have impressed all just people with their strict and elevated morality as well as their vigor and union and progress. And they have the satisfaction of knowing that: That their maligners are chiefly persons of very indifferent morality and doubtful industry, or of that class that would espouse their cause as strongly as they fight it, if the "Mormons" would only fee them to act as an attorney would before a court."

Utah will do well enough without attachment to any other State or Territory. Her people are prepared for the honors and duties of statehood without any assistances from surrounding commonwealths, and we do not believe Nevada desires to swallow Utah or be swallowed up itself, but that the proposition will once more simply form a subject for newspaper discussion and then fall again into the slumbers of the past.

#### RELIC OF A POLITICAL ROBBERY.

THE municipal election for Salt Lake City in 1890 was one of the most memorable in its history. It resulted in the election to the City Council of nine "Liberals" and six People's Party men. The latter were the candidates of the Second and Fourth Precincts. They were not allowed to take their seats, which were fraudulently given to the "Liberal" candidates of the precincts named. This outrage was perpetrated by the "Liberal" majority of the Council, on the shallow pretext that the election was conducted under an old law which provided that the members of the Council should be elected at large, in place of the later statute according to which they were to be elected from each precinct. Of course no intelligent person believed that this outrage would stand the test of the courts. The "Liberal" plan was, however, to secure delay, by legal obstruction, and thus put off a judicial decision so long as to render it practically useless to the rightful claimants to the offices.

The "Liberal" conspiracy, to thwart the expressed will of the people, succeeded to a considerable extent. So much so that the six candidates of the People's Party were kept out of their offices for a year and a half—three-fourths of their term. At or near the expiration of that time the Supreme Court of the Territory declared them entitled to the seats to which they had been duly elected, and the usurpers were compelled to vacate.

The rightful incumbents of the seats in the Council presented a claim for the pay out of which they had been defrauded—for the three-fourths of the term during which they had been kept out of office. The subject has been for some time in the hands of the committee on claims.

At last night's session of the Council the two "Liberal" members of the committee (Horn and Simondi) reported adversely. Mr. Folland (Democrat) made a minority report to the effect that the applicants are clearly entitled to the satisfaction of their claim. According to the majority report, Judge E. D. Hoge, the new city attorney, supports the position taken by his fellow "Liberals" of the committee. Councilman Rich (Democrat) moved the adoption of the minority report, and Moran ("Liberal") made a motion for the adoption of the report of the majority. Another motion, that the matter be laid over for one week, was finally adopted.

The "Liberal" majority report is consistent with the record of the party on this subject. That party, in defiance of law, stole six offices to which People's candidates were elected. They consequently not only robbed the rightful incumbents of their seats in the Council but likewise of the emoluments pertaining thereto. They also thwarted the expressed will of the people, thus committing a crime against popular liberty and representation. This being the case, we hold it to be consistent with the record of the party that every point and part of this unmitigated steal should be defended by them to the last ditch.

However, should the position of the "Liberal" members of the committee, combined with the attitude of the city attorney, be sustained by the majority, we have but little doubt as to the final outcome. When the courts decided that the People's Party candidates were clearly and legally entitled to the offices to which they were duly elected, they virtually established the ground that they were likewise entitled to the emoluments thereto. In fact, it is a clear matter of right that they are entitled to as broad a rectification of the wrong done them as can possibly be accorded. We believe that this will be the position of the courts, should the "Liberal" majority conclude to stand by the report of their attorney and committeemen and thus seek to perpetuate the relics of an outrageous robbery.

#### ANOTHER REBUKE.

THE "Liberal" city government is being subjected to another well-merited rebuke. A great hubbub was created, as will be remembered, when the United States Marshal undertook, some time since, to enforce the Territorial statutes against gambling, Sunday liquor selling, etc. That official was impelled to act in the matter because he took no steps in the direction of enforcing the ordinances.

The situation with regard to the violation of the laws against gambling is no better now than it was then. Judge Zane pointed out this fact in his charge to the last grand jury. Gambling dens were within sight of the Federal court room, from

the windows of which the operations of the inmates could be seen as they were plying their illegal vocation. His Honor stated that if the city authorities did not perform their duty in suppressing those dangerous traps, they should be proceeded against under the Territorial statutes. The neglect of the city government has continued; hence the grand jury took the matter in hand, a number of indictments and arrests being the results.

The reason for the whisky men and gamblers being permitted to break the laws with impunity so far as the city officials are concerned is well understood. It is to these classes that the "Liberal" party owes its strongest support, and there is a mutual understanding in relation to the let-alone policy. The law-abiding and order-loving class of citizens will be gratified to observe that the late grand jury have been doing their duty. The papers are being served by the deputies of the United States Marshal.

#### WHERE THE FAULT LIES.

THE tragedy at Lincoln, Nebraska, the particulars of which appeared in the DESERET NEWS on Thursday evening, has created a great sensation in this city. The parties concerned were well known here. They moved in respectable circles. Public sympathy is with the slayer of his wife's betrayer and the verdict against the dead libertine is, "served him right."

The evidence is pretty clear that O. E. Montgomery led astray the wife of W. H. Irvine, if he did not use more than the common wiles of the seducer. He committed a crime that was deserving of death. The wronged husband executed the penalty, and the general feeling will be that he was justified. In all probability he will be acquitted by a jury, if his case comes to trial. But it is a terrible thing to take the life of a human being. There ought to be no occasion for such a deed as that committed by Mr. Irvine. The fault lies in the law. And the deficiency in the law is through the licentiousness of men. A capital crime should receive capital punishment. That should be inflicted by a legal officer. If such an offense as Montgomery's calls for the killing of the criminal, as public opinion seems to declare, why should the penalty be executed by a private person? It is a public offense and should be officially punished. One reason why laws against such crimes are not more severely punished is because virtue is so rare. This statement may cause an outburst of indignation, but it is nevertheless true, as everybody knows who is familiar with the world. If licentiousness was not so common, there would be greater penalties in the laws for sexual crimes, and private parties would not be compelled to become public executioners and take the course that Irvine pursued.

A man who will betray a friend by debauching his wife deserves to die like a dog. But the law should do its own work and no husband, brother or father should be placed in such a position as that which Mr. Irvine occupies today.