

will permit it), the anti-progressists say, it would go Republican, but that would be the means of putting off statehood for five years, so that the Church will send out orders that it go Democratic and thus it will be. How easy it is to make assertions! And to the swine how natural is the abed of mire! Not one syllable of truth, not a shade of reason, not a particle of sense! The Church as such does not concern itself in the political situation, proposes to pursue the even tenor of its way whether the source of government be national or local, and will make no resistance to either so long as it be not oppressive, and has no favored candidate for any position whatever whether in the gift of the President or the people. The Church is attending very much to its own affairs, and if other institutions and people would do likewise and occasionally strike within hailing distance of the truth, there would be more time for all to look after the common weal and a better guarantee of individual prosperity and advancement.

THE FAST AND THE SLOW.

Some people take an hour or more to a meal while others want but fifteen minutes and then have time to spare; and oftener than otherwise the former eat less than the latter. So it is with many other things in life, the slow-going, deliberate body "getting there" in much better shape if not in as good time as the one who spurts and sputters from start to finish. The fable of the hare and the tortoise is an apt illustration. But this does not always apply to readers of books and papers; in fact, the reverse is more nearly the rule, and those who devour a page or a column at a glance frequently receive more benefit therefrom than the ones that ponder over the lines for hours. It is remarked of the late Justice L. Q. C. Lamar that he was able to read a newspaper article or a page of a book at what seemed to the observer to be but a glance. Manifestly this faculty or capacity gave him a great advantage over ordinary men. He was able to devour books as if he were a literary glutton, with the difference that his powerful memory enabled him to digest at leisure what he had absorbed in haste.

It is related of Macaulay that he possessed the same faculty in a perhaps higher degree. He would take up a volume for an evening's intellectual enjoyment, and before he retired had the contents fully impressed upon his marvelous mind. Dickens was another of these remarkably rapid readers. George Elliot's "Adam Bede" came to him one day. Before his bedtime he had read it and had pronounced this remarkable dictum: "That book was written by a woman." Others required days of leisure to read it, and the question of authorship was the riddle of the time in literary circles.

The late Charles Sumner was another man who possessed this happy faculty to a wonderful extent. It is written of him that a book, no matter whether a volume of law or of diplomatic correspondence, or a work of fiction, passed under his eyes as if by a quick succession of glances. It was the same

with Daniel Webster, who himself stated to a friend that when in college he read "Don Quixote" in a single night. In the case of both these distinguished men what they read in this way reappeared in a new dress in their speeches and in their writings.

It is questionable if any one, at home or abroad, possessed the wonderful gift spoken of to a greater extent than the late Apostle Orson Pratt. His mind was richly stored with treasures of knowledge gained by his own researches and discoveries as well as by perusing and digesting the words and expositions of others. His memory was remarkable, receiving and assimilating all things which its possessor desired it to—law, philosophy, science, philology, or the lighter and less abstruse things of intellectual life. He would read a newspaper and be thoroughly conversant with its contents without that performance intruding appreciably upon his regular business at all. He was altogether a wonderful man.

RAWLINS'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of Delegate Rawlins is a proceeding on which the public will want to have further information. At present we only know what has reached here by telegraph and that is, as usual when the matter is of uncommon consequence to us, very meager. It appears that the Delegate had made two or three calls upon the President regarding the secretaryship of the Territory, receiving a little encouragement at first and none at all at last; and considering himself "snubbed," he hastily and petulantly drafted and handed in his resignation.

It is a fair presumption that Mr. Rawlins knows his own business best, and it is unquestionable that he cannot be compelled to hold a position which he does not want. But his party in Utah will probably exercise its right of wanting to know why it was not consulted nor apprised of such action before it was taken. To be at the head of a force recently victorious and, without advising it, to drop off and quit, is sometimes a very demoralizing thing to do and its influence in any case cannot but be felt. Besides, the people of the Territory have some rights in the premises. They naturally will have little consideration for an official who thus childishly plays with a weighty trust, and will regret that the fortune of politics gave them a representative who knows his own mind so little, or whose mind is subject to such sudden and embarrassing change.

The thousands of dollars which a new election will cost, the turmoil and demoralization of business which a political campaign inevitably causes—all this seems to have been overlooked or ignored by the impetuous Delegate. It is safe to say the people of Utah will not so easily overlook or ignore it, or the man who is responsible for it. And if they can get no better reason for his course than that which is given—his disappointment at the selection of a Federal officer for the Territory—they will not feel much like indulging in any parade of jubilation on the occasion of his return. Such conduct for such a cause was scarcely ever heard of in

the country's history—certainly, and happily, it is Utah's first experience of the kind. If all our Delegates had chosen to desert their constituents in this manner because of some displeasure at the selection of Federal appointees, there would have been many resignations and many special elections. Fortunately they have looked upon their duty in a somewhat broader light. It has never occurred to them that they were elected to control Federal patronage in the Territory, or that that, indeed, was a matter in which they had any rights at all save as advisers to the appointing power. The NEWS has only recently had occasion to comment on the "rights" which some members of Congress have been in the habit of asserting and demanding; we are accordingly spared the necessity now of pointing out wherein Mr. Rawlins has misunderstood the purpose for which he was elected and the services for which he is paid.

It is a curious fact that the only approval his conduct evokes comes on the one hand from his political opponents who consider that they may have something to gain by another appeal to the people, and on the other hand from those who have arrayed themselves as enemies to the Territory's advancement; and it is to be hoped he will be favored with a constant reminder of it. For itself, the NEWS considers his course insulting to people of the Territory and petty and babyish in the extreme. Still, better now than later; let us hope that next time such a choice will be made as to spare us any repetition of the humiliation.

FEDERAL APPOINTMENTS under the present administration are distributed, up to date, as follows: In Governor West, District Attorney Judd, and, we presume, Marshal Brigham, three for Salt Lake City; and in Secretary Richards and Judge Smith, two for Ogden. Is there no sign of a morsel for Provo?

THOSE SUPREMELY confident individuals who persist that "there ain't no danger of high water" this season are respectfully advised, if we shall have a week of warm weather like that of yesterday and today, to keep their weather eye open and their rubber boots near at hand or at foot.

IN JAPAN there are 608 divorces to every one hundred thousand inhabitants. In the United States there are 88.71 to a like population. Switzerland has 64.49, and much abused Ireland has the lowest divorce rate in all the world, only .28 per cent!—*Kate Field's Washington.*

Just why one who can under no present circumstances be afflicted by the prevalence of divorce cases can take so much interest in them—even speaking in a tone savoring of censure of those countries where they are most prevalent, and approvingly of the one where they are least—is not explained.

THE SECOND district is indulging in the rare but deserved luxury of a term of court. It is understood that the former method of doing things is to be dispensed with hereafter and those whose business requires them to have recourse to the tribunals of justice will be subjected to no more delay than attends such proceedings as a usual consequence. So mote it be.