

ing any hand in coercing non-union men into joining it, by thrusting them, at the dictum of the organization, out of employment.

The general effect of the strike is detrimental on general principles and on all sides. The concession of the employers in being willing to concede the demand in chief—a nine hour day at \$3.50—ought to form a solid basis for a settlement, especially as there is plenty of work for every competent workman, whether he belongs to the union or not.

We greatly regret the difficulty, not only because of the obstruction of material development of this city, but also on account of the solid workmen, whose interests are not subserved but impaired by it.

AN EVOLUTION OF SCHEMES.

PLOTS and counter plots of self-seekers, political wire-pullers and religious bigots, have so long characterized the current of events in Utah, that it is a matter of course to assume that some secret political concoction is always brewing. There has been an evolution in the development of schemes relating to political matters in this Territory, a study of which is not without profit and interest.

Running through this evolution several elements are observable, the two most prominent being, first, an itching desire to reduce the "Mormons" to political serfdom, and, second, a fear that this could not be done with safety to American institutions and without such an infringement of the Constitution as would be a dangerous precedent. The antagonism between this desire and this fear was long doubtful as to its result, but as is often the case when human nature is strongly tempted to do wrong, desire began to prevail over both prudence and conscience.

First, a class embracing the most prominent an influential men in the Territory, were disfranchised. Great care was taken to make it plain that they were not so treated because of their religious belief or church membership, but because they had been "guilty of overt acts against good order." It was hoped that by throwing this class out of politics, the rest of the "Mormon" voters would divide among themselves and thus so lose their strength that they could be either overcome or manipulated, at the polls.

Failure attended this plan, and a legislative commission for Utah was

next urged. This could be appointed and given control over the Territory, in a manner that would afford ground for the claim that all its citizens were being treated alike, and that none of them had been disfranchised on account of religious belief or any other cause, but that Congress was simply exercising its rightful power to give a Territory such a form of government as it deemed best. For a long time this was a favored plan for evading the constitutional safeguards in favor of religious liberty, and against religious tests; but for reasons not necessary here to recount, it was not consummated.

Next Governor West sought to get the Territory under his thumb, by log-rolling for congressional legislation that would give him power to appoint county and precinct officers. His successor in office seized a hand-spike and tried to roll the same log; but the efforts made in this direction only succeeded far enough to make the probate judges appointive—but not by the Governor. A split in the "Liberal" ranks resulted in the application of a "Liberal" influence at Washington which in the nick of time turned the current that was carrying a mass of patronage to the office of the Governor of Utah, and the freight was landed at the White House instead.

Further efforts, however, were made to secure for the Governor power to appoint county and precinct officers, but the brazenness of that functionary in reaching after so much patronage disgusted some Congressmen, and the danger of giving it to him deterred others, to an extent which defeated this scheme. Next in order, to throw an air of modesty over the Governor, which was, however, entirely fictitious and hypocritical, as a close examination will show, a proposition was made to Congress that the Governor, Secretary and President of the Legislative Council, be given the management and control of elections in this Territory. As the NEWS showed at the time, this scheme was intended to make the Governor successor to the Utah Commission. Of the board of three the Governor and Secretary would be the majority. The Secretary would of course solidify with His Excellency, and the third man would be a figure head.

About the time this scheme was matured, another was perfected to place this city under "Liberal" rule. It was then believed by the non-"Mormon" elements that they would

soon be able to capture this county and the Territory, and so strong a sentiment arose from among them against giving the Governor power to count out and in as he might see fit, that this conspiracy has so far failed, and its success has become highly improbable.

In the meantime the evolution above referred to has progressed. As the failure of one plot has been followed by the forming of another, and as the elements of selfishness, ambition, religious bigotry and political jealousy have in turn struggled for the mastery and gained and lost advantage, the whole contest has gradually assumed the aspect of a determined war, not merely local, but by the whole nation, as represented by Congress, against religious liberty. Scruples in respect to constitutional safeguards have by degrees lost their restraining power, and Congress seems about to make a mad assault upon the foundation of our national fabric, liberty of conscience, by passing the disfranchisement act now pending. If this bill shall be passed, and if the nation can prosper with such legislation upon its statute books, the class at which it is aimed will be able to endure it.

THE CITY CEMETERY.

ON Tuesday, April 29th, a communication from City Sexton Dunne was laid before the City Council, in which a number of improvements in connection with the City Cemetery were recommended. The following suggestions were made:

"The undersigned City Sexton, in company with the Mayor, the chairman of the cemetery committee and the city engineer, visited the City Cemetery some days ago, and as the result of consultation it appeared that some action should be taken immediately to improve the burial lots.

"After careful inquiry I find a large number of owners of the lots desired that efforts be made to beautify them and keep them constantly in order. An estimate based upon the actual cost of labor and material showed that the sum of \$1.50 per month will be necessary to keep each lot in good order during the five months of each season, namely: May, June, July, August and September; a total cost for the season of \$7.50 for a full lot one rod square or \$4 per season for a half lot."

The natural inference to be drawn from the foregoing is that the City Sexton would like to have the City Council provide for an annual assessment of \$7.50 on each burial lot in the City Cemetery, to be expended under his direction in improving and keeping the same in order.