

while a principle may be all right, the practical application of it in the hands of a partisan executive, be he President, governor, mayor or county commissioner, may be all wrong, and they do not want a law which will allow a political party to put in office and keep there for life men whose only qualification may be the fact that they have passed an examination which is very likely not to be a thorough test of their capacity, honesty and character. But the shoe pinches worst on the old notion that to the victors belong the spoils. It does look grotesque to see the "under dog," at present, in the political fight, in peaceful possession of all the bones, which it purposes to keep right straight along; to see most of the Republican administration, in every city, village and cross-roads hamlet of the country, administered by Democrats. But the fact remains that outside the turmoil of politics, there are some seventy million of people in the United States who don't care a rap whether the spoil-seeker and place-hunters are disappointed or not, so long as the business of the government is properly performed on business principles.

FANNIE BRIGHAM.

THE HAWAIIANS PRAYING.

I spent my Christmas at a meeting called the "Aloha Aina," a society formed among the native Hawaiians to aid in the promulgating of unity and strength against the annexation of of Hawaii to America. I was very much taken up with the proceedings of the meeting; the sincerity and humility with which the people implore their Maker to aid them in their distress, is commendable and noteworthy. They pray from their hearts, and not from the lips alone. These meetings bring to mind the sufferings and persecutions which Israel has gone through for centuries gone by, and how, through the prayers of faith and unity, they have come out victorious. This people have been wrongfully dealt with; their kingdom has been taken from them; their land, their queen, and their rights. They are in the bonds of persecution and they realize it. Instead of relying upon their own strength and greatness, they are trusting in the same power that led their fathers out of the land of Egypt. Thus, week after week, month after month, and at all times, they are uniting in prayer and supplication, to the God of their forefathers, for aid in their hour of affliction and need. Ye boasted politicians, when you can bow the knee to the dust of the earth in prayer, and implore your God to aid you in your cause, then you will have begun the conquest, but while you let your own ability, your own knowledge, your own smartness guide the affairs of the nations, look for a downfall. God is with the weak side. He is constantly on hand to hear the cries of His people, and will surely appease their distress, and, as this people are wont to quote (Psalms chapt. 46; 1, 2), "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea," so the faithful be succored in the time of distress.

The prayers of this people are true and sincere. There is no manufactured plan about their prayers, but they are simple, pure and from the heart. Their hymns are full of feeling and pathos, which touches the heart of the hearer. Their speaking is from the depths of the soul, and they mean it, it is not a flowery show of college rhetoric, nor the varnished trilling of the modern stumper of politics, but it is the true voice of a sorrowed heart, of a distressed and down-trodden remnant of God's chosen people. We will do well to pattern

after their manner of praying and trusting, yes, we will do very well.

CHAS. C. BUSH.

Hilo City, Hawaii, Dec. 28, 1897.

THE UINTAH C UNTRY.

Vernal, Utah, Jan. 11, 1898.

Since holidays are over our valley has settled down to its normal condition again, but it seems very hard for all parties to get enough of a good thing, so several surprise parties are had during each week as well as parties.

Last Friday evening a merry crowd of M. I. A. workers gathered at the home of Bishop Colton of Millward, and with songs, games and luncheon, proceeded to have an enjoyable time, the occasion being a surprise party upon the president of the Y. L. M. I. A. of that ward. The program began with a jingle in rhyme for the occasion composed by Mrs. C. A. Stringham. After the usual order of the evening and just before the bounteous repast was served, each young lady filed into the parlor and in turn recited an appropriate sentiment to their president; after which Miss May Beers, in a neat speech, presented Sister Colton with a choice picture, bought by the Young Ladies association for her. The merry company did not disperse until the approach of day, and then under remonstrances from the hostess. But all pronounced it "a very enjoyable evening."

The Uintah Stake Academy is having an excellent run this winter with a much larger attendance than heretofore.

It certainly seems that we are having our share of winter as we have had for a month about eight or nine inches of snow, and Sunday night and Monday added at least five inches more, so that we now have about fourteen inches of "the beautiful." Range cattle and sheep are suffering and many are afraid of losing nearly their entire herds. The Indians report their horses dying now for want of feed.

A grand ball is to be given on the evening of the 12th inst. at the Social Hall in Vernal, for the benefit of Brother Melvin Pickup, now in the Northern States mission. As this hall is owned by those not belonging to the Church and has never been let before for a charitable purpose, a great many, from all parts of the valley, are expected to be in attendance.

About two weeks ago the postoffice at Ashley was broken into by 3 or 4 small boys and robbed of some \$20. The postmaster marked some money and caught the youthful offenders and immediately entered a complaint, but the prosecuting officials did not seem to desire to prosecute and the result is the boys are still at large.

This morning the thermometer registered 20 degrees below zero—our coldest morning as yet, but from the continual cracking of the house this evening it must be somewhat lower tonight.

Our roads have been very slippery, and as a result several accidents have occurred. Willie Bowden's horse fell with him, breaking his shoulder blade; as his brother, Alf, was riding down the street in a wagon next day, the wagon slued around and he fell out, the wagon wheel passing over his body, causing injuries which have laid him up ever since. William Worthing's horse fell with him and as a result he sustained a compound fracture of the leg below the knee. Dr. Bjornson was called and the patient is resting at ease and getting along well.

Today the people of Millward have been holding a special fast day for Sister Mary Hall, who has been to Salt Lake City, under medical treatment since July last. We hope she will be improved so that she may join us soon.

The missionaries for the Y. M. M. I. A. are very busy these days preaching the Gospel of Jesus to the Saints and sinners of our valley. We think it is a grand step in the right direction, and wish them success.

An epidemic of itch, or rash, or something of that kind, is spreading over the valley, especially among the young children. Some of the little ones look very bad with great blotches or sores nearly all over them.

All are looking forward with anxiety to the opening of the Uncompahgre Indian reservation, as we know here beyond a doubt that many good homes will be had there.

R. L. W.

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

Like memories dear of long departed days, floating across the misty past, come echoes of childish laughter that fill me with tenderness as I think of the little angels whom I have loved, who have flashed across my life with their cheer and passed on to womanhood, forgetting me, but leaving behind them in my heart the strongest inducement to a belief in immortality I have ever known.

Well begotten, well borne, well born, well reared children, the offspring of clean, honest, intelligent parents—children who grow without fear, without temptation, and without learning the white lies that so often spoil a child—children whose eyes are calm and deep and look into mine with the trust of innocence, are the dearest work of God that I have ever heard. Oh! if the precious tots could but carry into years of maturity the purity, the innocence, the freedom from sorrow that every well-bred child enjoys, how different the world might be—in time!

Why can they not? Because as they grow they come in contact with so much to make their nature change. Soon they find the ideal of their young lives shattered by contact with those of their own age who lie and steal. Among the older people they find jealousy and backbiting and disregard for things that to their young minds were sacred. They find hate where they expected love. Suspicion grows, trust weakens, temptation comes, contact with the hard world kills the innocence of their childhood and too often they become like the world, and the sweet promise of their early years is lost.

It is a crime, not only against humanity, but against God, to poison the whitesouled mind of an innocent, trusting, truthful child; and if parents knew this, not theoretically, but actually, they would pray for childlessness rather than dare the awful risk that, through inability or indifference, they might raise a child only to see it sink into the dismal slough in which the great masses wallow.

There are too many children born. No more should come than can be reared to manhood and womanhood with the sweet innocence, trust and purity that made their childhood a present of God in the world. This is true the world around. While I have seen many lovable children among the Mormons I have seen many neglected and growing wrong morally because the poor mother had so many she didn't know what to do. It was a daring and humorous assertion to call the babies "Utah's best crop!" But it was not true. They might have been, at the time the phrase was coined, Utah's biggest crop. But no woman should have more children than she can rear well, and no woman should have any if she is incapable of raising them to honor.

I am aware that this is a delicate subject to treat thus in a Mormon paper. But I believe you will not question my sincerity. If I am in error you will correct me. But I want to show,