

THE PRESIDENT AND HIS SPEECH.

PRESIDENT HARRISON has cause to remember with the utmost pleasure his one day's visit to the Territory of Utah. In the course of his journey he may have found communities where more ostentatious decorations and larger crowds of people have appeared to greet him. But considering the shortness of his stay here and the fact that Salt Lake is still a comparatively small city, we think he will admit that in the extent and beauty of their decorations, and in the sincerity of their friendship and patriotism the good people of Utah left nothing to be desired. It is needless now to argue whether or not there was a studious arrangement of programme to deny the Chief Magistrate the best opportunities for seeing the city and the finest works of its citizens. We do not know that such was the intention, but if it was, candor compels the admission that it succeeded completely. A cotemporary notes the difference in this respect between the treatment accorded President Grant in 1875 and that just given President Harrison. In the former case the desire of all parties was to give the guest the best possible opportunities for meeting the people, seeing their works and carrying away correct and favorable impressions of the city. And in the latter case, without saying anything as to the methods employed or the narrow purpose that may have animated some minds, there is nevertheless reason to believe that the impression made upon the distinguished visitor was in the highest degree favorable. In lightning tours one may not always be able to learn sufficient from personal observation to be able to judge accurately. At the same time, an active and discriminating mind is seldom at a loss to know what part of hearsay evidence to reject, and from a very few actual circumstances such a mind can usually form a reasonably fair and intelligent judgment.

The remarks of President Harrison, both at Liberty Park and at the Chamber of Commerce, go far to prove that he possesses a mind of this character. His concluding words upon the beauty of the "American home where one woman sits in single, uncrowned honor, the queen of that home," were the expression of a sentiment to which none of his hearers had the right to take exception. Desiring to touch upon conditions which have been in existence here, the President could scarcely have said less than he did. Some might have preferred that any reference to an antagonism that has been obliterated should be omitted altogether. The

present has so much that is interesting that the past requires to be touched but seldom. Since the latter was alluded to, however, at least by inference, President Harrison must be praised for the delicacy with which he treated it, and for the generous willingness he expressed to sink all discord with men of any creed so long as they obey the law. Surely such a spirit as this could give no offense. It had been better for Utah if all the Government appointees could have cherished and lived by it.

The part of the President's Liberty Park address which deserves greatest attention has singularly enough escaped it. We refer to his remarks about the purity of the American ballot. Surrounding him at the time were members of the Utah Commission, whose mighty labors in the managing of Utah elections have come under repeated notice in these columns. Not far distant were the members of the present City Council of Salt Lake, six of whom are occupying seats to which they were not elected and enjoying honors to which they are not entitled. If some of these worthies did not bite their lips at the President's vigorous words, they are indeed past remorse. Let us quote his words again—they are good for a free people to listen to:

"The characteristic of our American institution, the compact of our government, is that the will of the majority expressed by constitutional and legal methods at the ballot-box is the supreme law of our community. To the Territories of the United States a measure of local self-government has always been given, but the supervisory control of the supreme legislative and executive power has been continuously, as to the Territories, held and exercised by the general government at Washington. The territorial state has always been regarded as a temporary one. The government has always looked forward to a division of that vast domain, first west and northwest of the Ohio, then through the Louisiana purchase, then through these accessions upon the Pacific Coast, and the division of this vast domain into suitable sections, for the establishment of free and independent States. This great progression that has lined the work of creation has gone forward from the Ohio to the Pacific, and now we may journey from Maine to Puget Sound through constituted and established States. The purification and purity of the ballot-box; those wise provisions, that careful guardianship that shall always make the expression of the will of the people fair, pure and true, is the essential thing in American life."

Was not this enough to make some of the President's auditors blush and hang their heads? Do not their ears yet tingle with the reproof that the words convey? And these harpies who flutter around seeking the spoils that are possible under the territorial and "temporary state" of which the President speaks; do they relish the full import and significance of his words? How disappointing, too, to such persons must have been his closing

sentence at the chamber of commerce: "I hope you will expel from your mind the jealousies that sometimes do arise, and go on successful in union of endeavor!"

On the whole, we think the President's talk has been by some criticized without due reason and by others applauded where it pierced them most. Of the latter are the *Tribune* and its following, who lose the sense and substance of the whole in clutching wildly at a single phrase.

PRESIDENT HARRISON'S RECEPTION IN SALT LAKE CITY.

About 7 p. m. on Thursday, May 7th the following named gentlemen, comprising the Salt Lake delegation to meet and welcome President Harrison, took their departure for the north in the magnificent vestibuled sleeper, "Carmen," over the Union Pacific. Hon. John T. Caine, Secretary Bells, Judges Zane and Anderson, Colonel Ferry, of Park City; Mayor John E. Booth, of Provo; Lieut. Dunning, of Fort Douglas; Commissioner Godfrey, O. J. Salisbury, H. A. Whitney, H. M. Wells, C. H. Parsons, E. C. Coffin, Spencer Clawson, George C. Lambert, of the *Deseret News*; S. A. Kenner, of the Salt Lake *Herald*; J. B. Bloor, of the *Tribune*; and W. Balderson, of the *Times*.

They were accompanied as far as Ogden by United States District Attorney Varian and J. E. Dooley, and there the party was joined by another delegation consisting of Judge Miner, Mayor Turner and ladies and gentlemen citizens of Ogden to the number of forty, in a separate sleeper.

The journey to Pocatello, Idaho, was without other interest to the passengers than was created by the jokes and yarns indulged in by them while they remained awake. Morning dawned upon them in Pocatello, they having arrived there about 4 o'clock.

AT POCATELLO.

There was little promise of diversion during the tedious wait which was before the party until evening. The *News* representative found friends and acquaintances in Bishop C. J. Cannon, Counselor D. Williams, Brother John Priest and others who entertained him with a view of the sights of the town, one of the most notable features of which is a very neat and commodious "Mormon" meeting house, the best in the place. The town is composed entirely of wooden structures and extends along both sides of the railroad track, the principal streets ranging from southeast to northwest and the others crossing them at right angles. The railroad station, hotel, round houses and shops and a long series of cottages built and owned by the railway and rented to its employees have a somewhat imposing appearance, but the other buildings with a few exceptions are such as might be expected to be erected upon an Indian reservation where the people are not fully assured as to their obtaining a title to the land. It having been decided by recent act of Congress to open the town site for settlement, it is expected that on the 17th day of next July the