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GENERAL REPRESENTATION.

POLITICAL affairs in this country are operated on lines that are altogether too stiff. The injection of a little more liberality would be refreshing and wholesome. The saying that majorities rule receives an application a great deal too rigid. Majorities are an agency of the government, but they should not, except for necessary protection, draw party lines so tight as to entirely shut out minorities from official representation. This is only justifiable when minorities conduct themselves toward majorities vindictively and maliciously and manifest a genius highly detrimental to the welfare of the commonwealth.

Few men in positions of extraordinary power have shown a more commendable disposition to liberality in this respect than the present incumbent of the White House. He has not only declined to remove efficient men from office whose political views were not in unison with those held by his own party, except for cause, but in one instance, at least, re-appointed one of that class at the expiration of his term—Postmaster Pearson of New York.

The reason for this action on the part of the President were the respect in which he held the desire of the outlaws men of Gotham, who requested Mr. Pearson's re-appointment; and the fact of the gentleman being a most efficient public servant. Had Mr. Pearson ever manifested "offensive partisanship," however, those considerations would not have weighed in making up the decision. He would not have been re-appointed. It would have been out of the question to have shown such liberal consideration toward an active enemy of the party, whose official position would increase his power to injure the interests of the democracy.

Where the conditions are favorable—when party feeling is not rancorous and men of opposite political views have on all sides a due regard for the popular weal—there appears to be no obstacle in the way of a fair representation of minorities in the administration of public affairs. It is not the rule, by any means, but when the question is viewed from a non-partisan standpoint it will be admitted that it incalculates a rather plain principle of justice. It should be taken into consideration that justice is the essence of all government and unless it enters into its ramifications the element of tyranny exists in it to a greater or less degree. It cannot be too strongly emphasized, however, that those belonging to minorities who exhibit enmity to majorities have no claim in justice at the hands of the latter. Where a disposition exists with people holding opposite political views to harmonize on matters affecting the general welfare it does not appear that there ought to be any formidable obstacle in the way of the operation of an increased minority representation.

We have given some thought to the subject and have not been able to see with any clearness that representation of the character referred to could satisfactorily be regulated by statutory provision. It is a matter that could be more properly left to be regulated by the sentiment of the people. Where the disposition of the minority, which always exhibits itself, is inclined to be just to the majority there certainly should be a practical reciprocity on the part of the latter toward the former. Various conditions of late have indicated a softening of the rigidity that heretofore existed in Utah between different classes of the community. Acerbity has given place to a kinder sentiment. If this better feeling and more considerate disposition continues, the chief obstacle in the way of giving greater width to representation without special reference to political affiliations will be removed.

NO MAN'S LAND.

THAT little strip of public domain adjoining Indian Territory geographically, which through mis-survey is not attached to any of its surroundings politically, and hence goes by the name of "No Man's Land," is a bad place for good people, and perhaps that is the reason why so few of them go there. It is certain that if there are any at all of that class residing there, they have signally failed to get themselves prominently or otherwise before the world through the means of the mails or the press, all the reports received being freighted with more or less of crime and wrong-doing of various degrees. It

is a place where lawlessness vegetates naturally because, by a paradoxical arrangement of circumstances, there are no laws there. It would perhaps be too strong a reflection upon the advocates of an anarchical system to say that in No Man's Land they could find an exemplification of their doctrine, because the apostles, at least, of anarchy do not preach crime *per se* and only believe in resorting to criminal methods as a means of annihilating what they consider criminal practices. It is different in the strip referred to where, being no restraint, the consequences of an act are not considered and the means by which ends are to be accomplished are not flavored with the semblance of equality.

One family in particular named Kelly had created for itself and the land a name for bloody deeds and outlawry surpassing even that of the Banders in Western Kansas many years ago, and a party started out recently from the southern part of that State bent upon the Kellys' extermination. This had been tried before with loss to those who made the trials, but this time more caution and more determination characterized the movements of the avengers, who proceeded carefully upon their desperate errand. Arriving at the place where the family were supposed to have been they were not to be found, having doubtless got the scent of what was going on and moved along. They were overtaken, however, after a few days search but were well prepared for attack. The wagon in which they had journeyed was abandoned and a sod house had been constructed, this having port holes and other arrangements for resisting a siege. A fierce contest ensued, the sod house being finally captured by direct assault, the wagon with a lot of hay set fire to and placed against the only entrance, and while the family were slowly suffocating a volley of bullets was poured through the aperture. The old woman said to be the worst one of the lot—was killed; the son, who boasted of his deeds of cruelty to the last, was tied to a horse and dragged over the country till torn to pieces, and the old man escaped during the excitement, only to be caught and punished sometime. Thus ended the career of a murderous family by the same means they had practiced for so many years.

The existence of such a place within the borders of the United States—a country whose laws are supposed to extend over every nook and corner, to the tops of the mountains and the depths of the caverns—is a remarkable commentary. The condition of things prevailing there is another. Nothing could be more natural than that the lawless and the outlawed would seek its seclusion. It also shows what the tendency of the human animal is in the absence of all restraints except those imposed by nature alone. Men are prone enough to evil when constantly surrounded by good examples and in the midst of the best counsel. We must be ever on the alert against the insidious work of the tempter and destroyer, and with all our watchfulness we still require the strengthening hand of a power beyond our own to tide us over temptation and peril. To be part of a community where power alone is the supreme law, so far as mortal affairs go, is to be either the party or the victim to endless treasuries, stratagems and crimes.

THE APPLE.

It is a little singular that while the apple crop in this part of the United States was almost a failure the past season, it was so greatly the other way in parts of the East. It is all the more so from the fact that generally we have an abundance and to spare in Utah, the instances of waste from over-production in many orchards being more frequent than instances of scarcity in any of our neighborhoods. In Connecticut the past season the apple crop was something enormous, the farmers having to resort to cider-making as the only means of saving anything out of their yields; and this industry has been carried on so vigorously and extensively that that comparatively harmless and very enjoyable beverage is cheaper than vinegar, the condition of things prevailing which used to be described by the old saying that "Every farmer must have from fifteen to thirty barrels in his cellar." Empty barrels were as valuable as those filled with apples, the best price that could be obtained for the fruit for export or other purposes being fifty cents per barrel.

It is more desirable to hear of there being too many than of not enough, though the waste of anything so desirable in all places and so hard to get in some is deplorable. There is no food equal to the ripe, mellow apple; it ought to have a place in every cellar, on every table and in almost every pocket. The principal sufferers by such a rule obtaining would doubtless be the doctors.

NOT GENUINE.

Of late there have been quite a number of instances of people having a membership in the Church, claiming to have been the mediums of divine communications. The latter are of various kinds and complexions. Some of them

are more or less widely disseminated among the Saints, and it is remarkable that any respectable number of people can be found in the community to attach any weight to them further than to view them as a sort of religious exorcism. So far as the Church is concerned they must necessarily be of this character, because of their pretentious nature and the fact of their coming through unauthorized channels.

A short time since we observed in some of the public journals of the country a dispatch sent from this city. It purported to contain a synopsis of predictions emanating from an "Elder of the Mormon Church," whose name was given. While it may be true that the person spoken of is an Elder, he had no right in that capacity to publish what he claims to be prophecies affecting the Church, he being without authority in the premises. In reality, his predictions have nothing to do with the Church and the Church takes no connection with or responsibility for the alleged prophecies. Such emanations are calculated to bring the community into dispute or at least to make it the subject of ridicule on account of something it has been powerless to prevent and which it holds in no respect. A member of the Church holding an office in it who acts as the person alluded to has done under cover of his office steps out of his place, assuming a function that does not belong to him and he is therefore out of harmony with the religious body with which he is connected.

We have been informed that the alleged predictions alluded to, when were printed and largely distributed, have been, in some instances, read in meetings and by some people received as if they might be orthodox. If this be true—we do not know positively whether it is or not—it is rather singular that any person of mature age claiming to be a Latter-day Saint could be so easily deceived. The principles contained in the Book of Doctrine and Covenants are so plain on the matter of revelations that there need be no deception in relation to such matters. There is but one channel through which revelations affecting the faith and general well being of the Church are given, otherwise the body-religious would be thrown into confusion by the emanations of pretenders and those who are themselves deceived by false spirits, many of which are abroad in these peculiar times.

NEW YEAR'S AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

It is one of the unwritten but nevertheless binding laws of the Republic that on every New Year's day the President shall be "at home" in the White House to all comers. The custom was inaugurated by the first Executive, George Washington, and has continued without interruption to the present time, though of course the manner of receiving and entertaining has undergone many changes. Washington began by throwing wide open the doors so that the people could enter without announcement or formality of whatever nature; he occupied a dignified position at the further side of the room, merely bowing to each visitor as he came in and holding his arms in such a position that no one expected or tried to shake hands with him. This, we take it, was a wise precaution and might properly have been retained without diminishing the dignity of the official or the hospitable quality of his reception; for those who have only shaken hands with a few can form no idea of the pain experienced by one who has gone through that ordeal incessantly for an hour or more. A striking instance of this was afforded in the life of the late Abraham Lincoln. On New Year's day, 1863, he had gone through the usual ceremonies and his arm and hand as a consequence were so nearly paralyzed that he could not write for some time; but he had determined upon signing the Emancipation Proclamation that day, and making 3,000,000 of people a New Year's present of freedom, and it was only by a great effort of will power that he succeeded in affixing his name in bold characters. He did not want it to represent "his real condition," because," as he said, "they will think hereafter that I was nervous and afraid, and I am not."

Perhaps none of the receptions ever held in the Executive Mansion have been characterized by more sincere hospitality and sterling democracy coupled with proper dignity than those of President Cleveland and his accomplished wife. He shakes hands all round and seems to stand it better than any of his predecessors. The sentiments of laughing and winking guests long since went out of fashion, and the best entertainer now is the one that makes them feel most at home while there; and this the present Executive does in a way peculiar to himself.

SCHOOL OF MINES.

For many years there has existed in this Territory a demand for an institution in which a knowledge of those branches of physical science which relate to mines and mineral products, could be acquired. Utah embraces a portion of the richest mineral region

in the world, but has so far been without school facilities for educating students in those branches of knowledge which are requisite for the development of mineral wealth, the practical curriculum of the mining camp and prospector's life having been thus far, in this section, the only means of instruction in the science and art of mining.

The recommendations relative to this subject, which Dr. Park, President of the University of Deseret, laid before the board of regents of that institution yesterday, are timely and important. The arguments with which they were sustained were cogent and convincing. Doubtless the matter will be laid before the Legislature.

Mining, in its present stage of progress, is, to a great extent, a game of chance. The department of science to which it belongs has not been sufficiently developed to give it anything like a basis of certainty. The development of each mine is but an experiment, or series of experiments, the results of which it is impossible to foretell with anything like positiveness. Anything that can be done in the way of communicating or perfecting scientific knowledge, which will have the effect of adding more certainty to, and lessening the element of chance in, the business of mining, would be a move in aid of developing resources of untold wealth.

There is a great amount of employment in this Territory for mining engineers and experts. When it is desired to incorporate a mine, or place it upon the market, the services of the man who can formulate a prospectus of it, and substantiate his conclusions by scientific principles, arguments and illustrations, become of great value. So when the owners of a mine desire to use capital in its development, they would willingly pay a generous fee to the man who could give them sound and scientific advice as to the best method of procedure.

A beginning only has been made in the developing, and even in the estimating, of the mineral wealth of the region of which this city is a central point. A school of this character here would probably give an impetus to local mineral interests and industries, besides opening a way for the acquirement of an honorable and useful profession by a number of our young men.

THE RIGHT WAY TO LOOK AT IT.

AN obelisk to be 115 feet in height besides the pedestal, is to be constructed on the Haymarket grounds in Chicago, in commemoration of the policemen who lost their lives on that dread November night in 1885. It was at that proposed to have one that would cost \$5,000 and subscription to that end were started; these were taken up with so much alacrity that it was thought \$100,000 could be raised as well as any smaller sum and so it was fixed at that. This will be the tallest obelisk in the world and a striking reminder of the tragedy which it marks as well as the events following and growing out of it.

The families of the officers who fell doing their duty have not, we believe, received any other attention than sympathy; and sympathy, however deep and sincere it may be, does not purchase flour nor fuel nor clothing. Perhaps it has not occurred to the committee having the obelisk matter in charge that an outlay of money on the dead, though proper enough in some cases, is a little worse than wasted when those for whom it is expended, if they could speak, would say—"Hand it over to those we left uncared for. We are profoundly grateful for your generous remembrance, and if you will only divide that \$100,000 among our families, we can enjoy it ever so much more. Sentiment is enough for us, but they must have something more substantial and we cannot provide it for them now."

There is a great and growing disposition on the part of civilized communities everywhere to exhibit a regard for the dead which somehow they always neglected during the deceased's life. It is too often the case that substantial tokens of esteem are deferred until those upon whom they are bestowed have no use for them whatever, while we are apt to give them plenty in life of what would be quite acceptable after it but does no great good here. This is a peculiar arrangement, one that ought to be reformed not indifferently but altogether. Nor would this, as some claim, diminish that proper feeling of respect and sorrow we naturally entertain for the departed. By striking down a maudlin sentimentality and abolishing such ghastly parades as usually characterize funerals, the thought would grow upon us that four "loved and lost" ones were not lost but merely gone before, and to no such retreat as should fill the mind with gloom and the soul with sadness in looking forward to it ourselves. Of course we understand that they would not return if they could; and can anyone harmonize a desire on their part for costly shows and elaborate displays with propriety? Hardly. Being freed from the trammels of vanity and self-seeking more or less attaching to all in life, they can estimate the things of this earth at their proper value; sacred

memories, cherished associations, the hope of reward for meritorious actions, the society of friends and the mingling with families broken off but for a short time—these are the jewels of value, not the sounding brass and tinkling cymbal, the glittering gold and the stately monument. How much more must such tributes be regarded as solemn mockeries when those in whose name they are erected have left loved ones behind them over whom they can only watch and to whom the money wasted upon themselves would be a blessing indeed!

Since the policeman died in the service of the State, why should not the State erect whatever structure of a memorial nature is deemed desirable; and since the State cannot support its citizens, why not apply the money raised for an obelisk to the support of the living? Upon a calm, sober and serious review of the situation, and after relieving their minds of any lingering prejudice or passion that may be found there and considering the subject thoughtfully, would not the committee be apt to agree with us, whether they acted upon the suggestion or not? We wish, for the sake of the living as well as the dead, that they would do so.

THE USE OF SCRIP.

It has long been a custom in this Territory for merchants and establishments employing any considerable number of hands, to issue scrip, in payment for produce, labor, etc. Where the circulation of scrip is confined to the attaches of the establishment issuing it, and it is used for the purpose of avoiding the labor of book-keeping and to simplify transactions between employer and employee, its use may not be objectionable, and is, at least, a matter with which the community at large has nothing to do.

But the manner in which scrip, issued by merchants, has been used in some of the towns in the Territory, more particularly within the last two or three years, has made it a public nuisance. Instances of abuses under the scrip system have occurred recently, in certain localities in Utah, which would justify legislative action upon the subject, and if the evils complained of are not abated, it will become the duty of the law-making power to adopt measures for the protection of the public.

To illustrate the injustice which may be accomplished under the scrip system, let it be supposed that a country merchant carries in his store a stock of goods worth \$5,000. He gets scrip to that amount and then advertises among the farmers of his vicinity that he will pay, in his scrip, which is redeemable in merchandise at retail prices, an extra high figure for wheat. He succeeds in buying a large amount of grain, perhaps equal to half, or even the whole value of his stock of goods. His position is this: He has, say \$5,000 worth of goods in his store, about an equal amount of grain on hand, which he can quickly cash, and a similar amount of floating indebtedness in the shape of the scrip issued by him, redeemable in merchandise at retail prices. The temptation which confronts him is great. How easy to raise his retail prices! No person save himself has the right to mark the goods in his store, and the opportunity to cancel a debt of ten dollars with merchandise ordinarily worth but nine, eight, or even seven dollars, is one to be improved by a shrewd business man, provided he has a conscience of the requisite toughness.

Perhaps no case of wrong could be cited, as having transpired in Utah under the scrip system we are treating of, on so large a scale as the imaginary one we have described. But instances of the abuse of the scrip system on a smaller scale, though equally as flagrant as our illustration, have often occurred. The temptation to make an extra profit on goods by virtually discounting their own paper, has been too strong for even firms of good reputation to resist, and in some of the towns of our Territory considerable public feeling has been occasioned by such a course.

Business should be done on a cash basis as far as possible. Any other standard of values, or circulating medium is difficult to maintain for any length of time with profit or satisfaction to any portion of the community.

SUBJECTS FOR SUNDAY READING.

Nor a few thoughtful people are more or less exercised over the existence and increase of a certain class of social distinctions among members of the Church. There always will be certain divisions in the ranks of society, more or less distinct. They are formed involuntarily by a variety of causes, in verification of the old truism that, "birds of a feather will flock together." When the causes that lead to the massing of classes are improper, so are the results. When the least degree of the genius of ostracism is infused, the condition must necessarily be detrimental to the welfare of the community, as it is a bar to general consolidation. All distinctions in society, speaking from a Gospel standpoint, should be of a