

than a year ago. And to justify them, he states that the evidence established certain things. We say without the slightest hesitation that not only did the evidence not establish what he says, but the great preponderance of testimony established the very opposite. This whole decision abounds with misstatements and misrepresentations and shows both bias and bigotry unworthy of a judicial officer.

And after carefully reading his pervasions and errors of fact and conclusion, we have to say that if all he has alleged were true it would not be any justification for refusing "Mormons" the benefits of the naturalization laws, who have not received their endowments nor engaged in any of the acts which he chooses to consider inimical to the government.

We have a pretty good understanding of the paltry motives which lie behind these rulings but forbear at present from any direct allusion to them. We could give a little history which would throw light upon the whole matter, but it will do to keep awhile. Time will prove the great rectifier of the wrongs inflicted upon the "Mormons" on account of their religious convictions, and a terrible avenger also. We can afford to wait for that retribution which is as sure to come upon the unjust, official and otherwise, as the sun is to rise after the night is gone.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.

On Friday, Dec. 5, the issue of the leading "Liberal" organ of this city contained the following paragraph:

"There is a shortage in the City Recorder's office, and we understand that investigations are being had to unearth the cause of the trouble. Have the investigations public, gentlemen. That is what the Liberal party expect. We had enough of star-chamber tribunals in the past. As it is, a great many men have been killed by whispers. Whispers come invariably with secret investigations. Throw open the doors and let the public know the truth as it may be developed. That is the straight business. The straight business is what the Liberal party wants."

All that has thus far been learned regarding the alleged defalcation is that it amounts to something over \$2000; that it occurred in the license department, heretofore attached to the Recorder's office. It also appears that the reported swindle was perpetrated nearly two months ago. It is understood that the crime has been covered up and the amount of defalcation made good.

On the surface there seems not only to have been a serious crime committed, but ground for suspicion that a felony has been compounded. As the matter stands, without the clear explanation demanded by the "Liberal" organ, a number of city officials are placed in a very unpleasant position on account of their liability to be suspected.

The crookedness was discovered over six weeks ago and an investigation instituted at that time. This was admitted today by a member of the finance committee. That committee will hold a secret meeting tonight and it is probable that they will report on the subject at Tuesday night's session of the Council. It will then be seen whether it has been agreed upon to continue the covering up process. If the condoning course is pursued the sparks may fly in a fashion that will make matters lively, and there will then be an opportunity of observing whether or not the "Liberal" party wish a genuine "public investigation."

We prefer, before saying much regarding this particular act of alleged official corruption, to await developments, as we have no desire to even run the risk of doing anybody injustice.

SOUND PHILOSOPHY.

The history of the people of God, from the remotest ages down to our time, contains a record of wonderful events, which cannot be accounted for on any other ground than by divine interference. These events are what we term miracles, and they are irrefutable testimonies to the truth of that religion, the origin of which is God.

In the time of the Old Testament we see among other wonderful events the interference of Omnipotence in rescuing Israel from Egypt, in guiding and sustaining them through the wilderness, and superintending their development until the time came for a new and higher dispensation.

After the fall of the Jewish state and the establishment of the Christian era, the inspired history deals more with individuals than with nations. And accordingly the miracles recorded refer mostly, if not exclusively, to individual persons. The sick are healed, the deaf are made to hear, the lame to walk, and even the dead are raised.

In this last dispensation, which unites and completes the former

ones, miraculous events relate both to the people as such and to individuals. The establishment of the Church through Joseph, the prophet, the guidance and preservation of this Church through innumerable hostile assaults, as well as numerous healings of the sick are events which, whatever a prejudiced world now may think, will in the future be recorded as the most wonderful occurrences of the age.

The miracles of which we read in the inspired works have been recorded for a distinctly stated purpose. Of the miracles of Christ, John says: "These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ." And Paul says of the Old Testament records: "They are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." To strengthen our faith and to give us admonition and instruction, they have been written. The same may truly be said of the wonderful work accomplished by the servants of God in this dispensation. They have been written for the strengthening of our faith and for our instruction, giving us evidence of the power, and wisdom, and love of our Father, such evidence as we sometimes need, in hours of temptation and darkness. They are recorded in order that we, in contemplation of the wonderful works of God in the past, may find encouragement to look to Him with assurance for the future.

But they are also a test of our faith. In miracles we see events, or effects, for which we cannot account in the usual way. A skeptical world, therefore, sneers at the records that contain these events, and doubts or even denies and ridicules the whole. And so-called science has in too many instances declared itself against revealed religion on account of the miracles recorded. A believer, having the world with its boasted sciences against him, has, therefore, to exhibit not a little courage when required boldly to stand up and declare that he believes. And particularly is this the case with regard to the miracles performed in this last dispensation. None but the truly brave and the good dares to openly and frankly declare: "I believe in them; I believe they are performed through the power of God." They furnish a test too severe for him who dares not face a sneering world.

Yet, when we come to consider the miracles recorded in the history of the various dispensations; when we