

A SENATORIAL SCENE.

A few days ago mention was made in these columns of the historic incident in the House of Representatives at Washington wherein James G. Blaine and L. Q. C. Lamar engaged in an oratorical struggle. Of scarcely less attractiveness was that which some years later took place in the senate, Mr. Lamar having in the meantime been transferred to that branch of Congress. A bill to pension all Mexican veterans, those of the late Confederacy included, was up for consideration and was opposed by Senator Chandler on the ground that Jefferson Davis would thus receive its benefits and he was not prepared to go so far as that. This brought Lamar to his feet. "Mr. President," said he, with outstretched finger pointing at his foe-man, his tall form trembling with emotion, but his voice bell-like in its clearness and without a quiver in it, "when Prometheus lay bound to the rock it was not the king of beasts who availed himself of his distress. It was not any other of the nobler brutes of the field or birds of the air. It was the vulture, the scavenger of the animal kingdom gluttoning upon carrion, which preyed upon his vitals, knowing that in a defenseless man who could move neither hand nor foot he had one into whose vitals he could dig his beak."

The account says he then sat down amid a stillness so profound that the rustle of a paper sounded harshly. Chandler was deadly pale. Drops of perspiration stood upon his forehead and he clinched the arms of his chair until the strained wood creaked. It was expected that he would reply. Twice he half rose, then sank back. He did not reply. It would have been too difficult a task besides surely resulting in failure.

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE.

The San Juan excitement flashed in the pan, so to speak; that is, it was an expended force before it had time to do either very much harm or accomplish any good at all. Some information has been gained of a region concerning which little or nothing was known before by the general public. But as it relates largely to an area where no one is likely to go for anything but the precious metals, this can scarcely be recognized as belonging in the domain of good, useful, or specially desirable things gained. Nothing regarding mineral wealth that was not known before has been brought out, and until gold so fine as to be impalpable and impendable can be extracted and solidified, there is no justification for the expenditure of an hour's effort or a dollar in money in that direction. That the great bunch of mountains northwest of there by two or three days' travel, and consequently so much nearer Salt Lake, may contain an abundance of hidden treasures is more than probable because evidences which may not be overcome are abundant, all going to show that those mountains are the fountain head from which the golden sands of the

San Juan and lower Colorado came forth.

But even with the Henry mountains sending forth a steady stream of ruddy wealth, there would still be much more requiring attention at home. The farmer will in most cases stick to his farm and thus add substantially, steadily and surely to his possessions while supplying the rest of us with indispensable products; but there are a good many who are not farmers and who could not readily if at all turn their hands or attention to that occupation. These are the ones that give us as a community the greatest concern. They must be fed and clothed, and to do so they must have profitable employment. A vast system of charities, a great and continuous relief fund, even if practicable, would not be desirable, and the problem is to supply the employment in such shape and to such extent that those who give as well as those who receive will be benefited. It seems useless appealing to capital; this pioneers nothing. The ground must be broken, the foundations laid and the field generally prepared before the attention even of capital can be enlisted; in a word, the people as a community must act first and perhaps altogether.

The proposition to erect a copper refinery here is one that commends itself to the good judgment of the people, and if they make a pressure sufficiently uniform and steady in that direction something may be accomplished. Already the Ogden press is calling attention to the fact that the location of that city with its natural advantages entitle it to the first consideration in connection with such an enterprise; but, without detracting in the least from our neighbor's merits, it would be very difficult if not altogether out of the question to name one feature possessed by the junction which we do not also have. Such action, however, generally counts, and we should be making ourselves heard loud and long. Then, as suggested yesterday, the proposed home consumption club must be encouraged; the woolen factories must not only be enabled to continue in business, and profitably so, but if possible others must be established and upheld. There is ample patronage in the Territory for four times the number we now have if only we could organize or in some manner direct it; this means employment to many and the retention of the means whereby employment is afforded within our midst.

Concerted action is imperatively demanded—more so now than at any other time in our career. Whether or not we have as much inchoate wealth as we ever had; whether or not the mountains shall again turn to the assistance of the valleys; whether any more railways shall be constructed or not, one thing remains as a palpable fact—we must as a community do something for ourselves, thus holding what capital we have and inducing more to come out of its hiding place. The condition in which this city finds itself today is like a case of starvation in the midst of plenty; it is one hegeting and fostering crime, suffering and sorrow, while all the agencies needed to create the ether and healthier condition exist in abundance.

CONGRESS AND THE MORMONS.

The House committee on territories has made a report on "A bill to enable the people of Utah to form a constitution and state government, and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original states." The report was presented on January 24th, and committed to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Union. The bill referred to is the same as that introduced in the Senate on Wednesday last—January 25th.

The paper submitted by Mr. Mansur, as chairman of the House committee, is a rather elaborate document, opening with the amnesty proclamation of President Harrison, issued on January 4th. Next come the Church manifesto of September 25, 1890; the motion, relating to the manifesto, which prevailed at the succeeding October Conference; the official denial, by the First Presidency, in 1891, of the assertions of the Utah Commission regarding polygamous marriages; the petition of the Church authorities for amnesty, and endorsements of Governor Thomas and Judge Zane thereto; the memorial of the last legislative assembly, and the resolutions, relating to statehood, passed by the Territorial and national Republican and Democratic conventions.

The committee state that they "believe without doubt or hesitation that the institution of polygamy as taught by the Mormon Church, whether of faith or of practice, is now absolutely stamped out and exterminated." Testimony of prominent officials and others is incorporated in the report, showing that thrift, honesty, morality, sobriety and virtue are general characteristics of the Mormon people. The population, wealth and resources, and educational system of the Territory receive attention, and a synopsis of the proposed enabling act is given.

In the "summary and recommendation"—the latter stating that "there can be but one sentiment, but one opinion among all just-minded legislators in Congress upon the question of duty, and that is to admit Utah as a state into the Federal Union"—the report says: "The Mormon Church and its adherents have been subjected for long years to the sharpest and most unkindly criticisms; and heretofore all prayers of the Mormon people for statehood have been denied. Inasmuch as your committee have come to the conclusion that the time for statehood for Utah has at last arrived, it is eminently proper that the characteristics of the Mormon people shall be made known, not only for the information of Congress, but of the nation. These statements will be repeated from the pulpit and the stump, and around Christian firesides. Many myriads of people who heretofore looked upon the Mormons as moral outlaws; it is believed, will change their opinion, and admit that a people showing the characteristics that the Mormons possess, are at least worthy of statehood with full admission to all the rights of American citizenship." Aside from any consideration of statehood, the report of the committee is interesting as a record of the information possessed