

who has strength ought to join me, and those who have not strength ought to pray for the victory of our arms. No one must remain at home. Everybody must take the field for country and home. I will see all my warriors around me.

Commonly those nations about which we know but little are regarded as "barbarians," and our sympathies are apt to go altogether to one side, when such expeditions are undertaken ostensibly in the name of civilization. It is therefore well to be reminded that such "barbarians" have a country and a home, and that their sentiments in regard to sacred institutions deserve the name of patriotism, even if their hearts pulsate under a dark surface.

CONSCIENCE IN POLITICS.

Being in no sense a party organ, and consequently having no axe to grind, no particular man to take care of, no faction to favor and no political interest to subserve, the NEWS can perhaps escape a criticism which others might bring upon themselves in daring to comment adversely upon purely political acts and issues. With the assurance, therefore, that whatever may be thought of our wisdom, there can be no aspersion of our motives, we take occasion to assert that according to the published reports, the proceedings of a Republican county committee meeting in Utah county last Saturday were in a good many respects quite discreditable to the dignity of the party and of the good people of that section.

We make no allusion as to the contest over the county chairmanship—that is a matter which the party affected must arrange to suit its own pleasure at its own time and in its own way. The attempt, however, to force a vote of censure against the party majority in the Legislature, and against the only Republican member from the county in particular, because of the adverse action of that body on the contested elections coming up from Utah county, must be described as bad taste, bad morals and bad politics.

At the time the House of Representatives by overwhelming vote refused to unseat Mr. Lemmon in favor of Mr. Bringham, and at the time the other disputed elections from Utah county were even more decisively decided in favor of the sitting members, this paper took great pleasure in commending the courage and justice of the majority party, which by rising above partisanship and acting in accordance with the honest dictates of conscience, gave welcome evidence to the people of Utah that there was still such a thing as honor in politics. We applauded the event as a veritable red letter occurrence in the political calendar, and if we did not then say so, we thought, and intended to say, that the action of Mr. Thorne, the one Utah County Republican member, was especially deserving of approval, for nobody can dispute that his course was high-minded, brave and conscientious. Yet his associates in general and he in particular were made the objects of a severe attack at the meeting referred to, when it was sought, under an impulse which we cannot regard as other than impetuous and offensively partisan, to put

upon them the stigma of censure and lack of confidence.

The NEWS, in closing its allusion to the incident, only desires to say that it will be a sad day for the people of Utah if their legislators shall come to consider as the highest duty blindly to bow the knee to party bosses, to dance to the music of political hucksters, and to crouch under the party lash. Such subservency is a trait which we hope and pray will never characterize the elected representatives of this people. Unworthy and incapable men may find their way into office, and even the brightest minds will sometimes err. But there is ten times more safety in the ignorance or the blunders of an honest man than in the abject truckling of a political coward or hireling. Party managers will do well to heed the distinction and throw the weight of their influence on the right side. The NEWS announces here and now its determined antagonism to the other side, and will oppose it in whatsoever party it may develop. And the NEWS is not yet without some influence among the people of Utah!

A PROPER REBUKE.

C. N. Smith, of Monroe, Sevier county, Utah, calls to the attention of the NEWS a series of articles called "Reminiscences," written by a person calling himself Grandpa Cutler, and published in the Practical Farmer, a Pennsylvania weekly. "Grandpa" was evidently an adventurer bound for California in 1849, and his "reminiscences" show that whatever may have been his mental attainments in the way of describing what he actually saw, he is thoroughly capable of remembering most of the falsehoods he ever heard, as well as making up a few of his own. Chapters X, XI and XII of his serial, published February 1st, 8th and 15th, relate to a prolonged stay he made in Salt Lake City, and his observations and impressions of the place and people. He describes an impossible meeting in the "bowery," slanderously and monstrously reports what he calls a sermon by President Young, and omits not the usual falsehoods common with his type in those days as to Mormon conditions, teachings and practices.

The correspondent who calls our attention to this stale and infamous rubbish—the publication of which nowadays would seem to be without either motive or common sense in any journal of respectability—says he has been a subscriber of the Practical Farmer for many years; but upon reading the scandalous "reminiscences" referred to, he indignantly wrote the editor, expressing regret that his columns should have been opened to such unworthy matter. He also offered to furnish one hundred names of persons residing in Utah at that time who would disprove "Grandpa" Cutler's assertions; and stated in plain terms that the stories told were a gross libel upon the character of a great man and an insult to the people, for which an ample apology was due. While no reply was received to his letter, he remarks that the "reminiscences," which had promised to be continued, have since ceased to appear.

Our correspondent, who has lived

in Utah since 1850, and naturally has a fair acquaintance with its history, truly observes that our readers have enough objections and prejudice to contend against, without being confronted with falsehoods relating to times before they were born; and he has taken a course which seems to us to be mainly proper and commendable in entering his protest against being compelled to see in a paper of which he is an old-time reader, a lot of trash which he knows to be false.

MYTH AND REALITY.

We cannot but feel that a great many otherwise sober-minded men are losing their head in their search for precious metals and in the attempt to get rich without working much for it. The NEWS has already given the advice that this inclination should be restrained, and that instead of rushing off pell-mell into mining camps or roaming over the hills as prospectors, men with families would do far better and come out richer at the end of one, two, five or ten years as the case may be, if they would plant themselves upon a little piece of ground—leased or rented ground if no personal ownership can be secured—and get into close touch with mother nature and the soil. Agriculture in any inhabited part of this State furnishes a sure return upon the labor invested; and no farmer need be in doubt as to making a living for himself and family if he uses ordinary thrift. This not at all assured where men waste time, labor and means in chasing a will-o'-the-wisp, especially when that deceptive thing is concealed beneath the earth's dense surface and is only tangible, when at all, in narrow veins and seams which remain forever closed except to the few.

A friend gives us an example of the wildness and folly of much of this prospecting work and the locating of claims. In a report of a recent pedestrian tour up City Creek canyon and along the benches that slope into that gorge near its opening into this valley. Stakes have been set by scores, and the wayfarer is every now and then notified that a designated spot is one of the four corners of such-and-such a claim. One of these locations is on the flat just above the capitol grounds reservoir; a place where there is about as much chance of discovering minerals as in the old adobe yard of this city. The claim is labeled "the Surprise," taking its name no doubt from the astonishment of its owners that it should contain even so much metal as the rubbish heap of old oil cans, broken bottles and smashed crockery which marks one of the corners. Our informant says he finds no fault with the date of the "location"—February, 1896—but he disputes the given date of "discovery"—January, 1896; being an old-timer himself, he says he has personally known of the discovery of this particular tract for over thirty years, while authentic history shows that it has been known ever since the midsummer of 1847.

Perhaps this is but one of a hundred or more like instances in this vicinity and in other places. Some of the "claims" may yield a remuneration for the time and labor employed—meet