

ers to prohibit and suppress dens of vice, gambling hells and all disorderly places, and to place under sufficient bonds all persons licensed to sell intoxicants, so that they may be "brought to time" if they fail to act on the conditions of their bonds. That body can appoint all the officers necessary to keep the peace, preserve the persons and property of the citizens, and "promote the prosperity, improve the morals, good order, comfort and convenience of the city and the inhabitants thereof."

But it is beyond dispute that the present city officials were placed in power largely through the support of the very classes whose conduct is complained of. Is this the reason why vices rampant, danger lurks in every street after nightfall, and the city ordinances are constantly violated with perfect impunity?

How can it be expected that rigid morality will be supported and thorough discipline will be enforced, under the circumstances which turned over the control of the city into the hands that now guide its affairs? What can be expected of a body, more than one-third of which is composed of persons who hold their seats in violation of law and the rulings of courts, and in robbery of the rights of the men elected thereto? What can be expected of those members elected, who endorsed and aided in the swindle upon the citizens by keeping these usurpers in the Council?

If there is any real honesty and settled purpose behind the outcries that have been raised by professed "Liberals," against the results of "Liberal" civic rule, let the wrongs that lie at the root of the evil be righted. If the assumption of virtue be anything more than declamation, let some definite action be taken to compel practical measures for the establishment of social order. If the accusations that have been made in print are anything more than emanations of personal spite, let them be put into definite shape and brought before those who can and ought to do something in the matter.

Exclamations against immorality, verbal condemnations of official wrongdoing, that are indefinite and general, amount to very little in working needed reformation. If there is any lightning in the most of this rolling thunder, let it strike the guilty heads and houses, and let waiting and watching citizens see that all this is something more than pious verbiage and something higher than personal spleen!

A SURPRISE IN THE SENATE.

The "surprise party," held in the Senate of the United States on Monday was in the nature of a revolution. The regular order of the day, when the Senate went into executive session, was the federal election bill, commonly known as the force bill, on which Senator George had the floor. He gave way to Senator Stewart to make a motion. The Senator from Nevada startled the Republicans present, by moving that the bill for preventing the contraction of the currency be taken up.

Hoar of Massachusetts, who is a strong advocate of the force bill, and vehemently opposed to further advance on the silver question, was both amazed and alarmed. He endeavored to protest and argue against any change from the regular order, but in vain.

The movement was evidently part of an organized plan. The Vice-President was not in the chair, but Senator Harris, of Tennessee, a Democrat. He ruled that debate on the motion was out of order, and so it was put the Senate, resulting in a vote in its favor of 34 to 29! So the force bill was laid aside, the currency bill was taken up, and Senator Stewart offered an amendment to the bill, providing for free coinage, and thus opened up a subject for debate which, unless some counter-movement is made by the Republicans when they recover from the blow, will probably keep back the force bill for a month or more.

The remarkable part of this surprise sprung on the Republicans is that it originated by men of their own party, in the face of a contemplated caucus in which arrangements were to be made to push the force bill and thus shelve the silver question, and that the new Senators from Idaho, who were counted on to aid the party in all its measures, joined with the other recalcitrants and the Democrats in this scheme to turn things upside down.

McConnell having been sworn in, through great alacrity on the part of the committee—Dubois' credentials, by the by, being hung up on file till next session—it was expected that both McConnell and Shoup would be ready to act as partizans and jump when the leaders pulled the string. But they, with Teller and Wolcott of Colorado, Washburn of Wisconsin, Stanford of California and Jones of Nevada, voted

with the Democrats in support of Stewart's motion and thus made up the majority in its favor.

We think they have done well. Not only have they acted in the interest of the State of Idaho as a silver-bearing portion of the country, but in the interest of the whole nation as against the iniquitous force bill, which, however plausible may be the arguments offered in its support, is simply a pretext to put extraordinary power into the hands of irresponsible officials for party ends.

If this movement shall result in the defeat of that dangerous measure, Senator Stewart, and the Republicans who voted with him, will deserve the plaudits of all people who desire that liberty to prevail which the Constitution of our country was framed to perpetuate. Party fealty is one thing, devotion to the welfare of the whole nation is another and far greater thing. The surprise was genuine, the good that will come of it we hope will be permanent. Let the force bill die; let silver have a chance to live!

SALT LAKE'S CHIEF AFFLICTION

At the law and order meeting of citizens recently held in this city, one of the speakers, Mr. Wanless, asserted that when he first came to Salt Lake from Denver, less than a year ago, he was hardly able to discover, judging from the orderly and quiet appearance which prevailed on a Sunday, that there was such a thing as a saloon existing. He wrote to his friends in the city from whence he came, to that effect. Since then the situation had changed and liquor saloons had sprung up in every direction, were in full blast on the Sabbath as on other days, so that ladies and children could not traverse some of the leading streets without being shocked with profane and obscene language uttered by drunken men. Toward the close of his remarks he stated that the situation was worse in proportion to population than Denver, and there was no reason why matters should not be as orderly and respectable here as there.

According to Mr. Wanless the comparative situation has been reversed, Salt Lake having, until the last nine months, been pointed to as a model after which other cities would do well to pattern. The statement by the gentleman named is all the more striking because of the strong complaints by citizens of