

sively by Mormons. The Constitutional Convention evidently desires to incorporate the so-called Test Oath act on the Constitution, but it is feared that a Constitution containing such a provision would not be well received at Washington. To disfranchise a man for the sole reason that he is a member of the Mormon Church is to disfranchise him on account of his religious belief, without reference to his acts, and this is a policy that does not commend itself to the American people. The Mormon should suffer the utmost reasonable penalty of the law if he be guilty of bigamy or polygamy, but the fact that he is a member of the Mormon Church should not be held sufficient to deprive him of the right to vote."

ENFORCEMENT OF SUNDAY LAWS.

SOME time since we directed attention to flagrant violations of the Sunday liquor law, and disgraceful incidents resulting from people becoming intoxicated at Lake Park. The article passed some strictures upon the officers of Davis County on account of their neglect to enforce the statute in relation to the disposal of liquor on the Sabbath day. The incident which called the subject up at the time the article was written referred specially to Lake Park, and the comments were confined to that resort without any intention of being invidious. We wish to state here that they had an equal application to every other place where the law in question is not properly observed. The same general application also refers to officers of any of the counties who fail to enforce the statutes enacted for the purpose of protecting the public. It is gratifying to note the fact that the counties of Davis and Tooele have taken the proper steps in the premises, as will be observed by the following received from Mr. J. D. McIntosh, who acted as secretary on the occasion to which the communication refers:

"At a meeting of the Davis and Tooele county courts, held in Salt Lake County court house at 2 p.m., July 20th, 1889, it was unanimously resolved that it is the sense of the delegations of the county courts of Tooele and Davis counties, that the sheriffs of said counties are instructed to enforce the Territorial statutes in regard to the selling of intoxicating liquors on the first day of the week commonly called Sunday, at pleasure resorts, and at all places where liquor is sold on that day in their respective counties. Also, they are

required to notify saloon proprietors that the statutes in regard thereto will be strictly enforced. It was further resolved, that the officers of Salt Lake and Weber counties are earnestly requested to co-operate with Davis and Tooele counties in the strict enforcement of the Sunday liquor law, and aid us in suppressing the sale of intoxicating liquors contrary to law and public requirements."

This is good as far as it goes. There are other statutes that are violated and some action is necessary as to them. Horse racing, bicycle racing and other public entertainments of various kinds that are advertised at these places of Sunday resort are violations of law and ought to be treated in the same way as illegal liquor selling.

THE DANGERS OF BALLOONING.

It seems as if the heights of air and the depths of water are to be viewed by the human family like the Promised Land was—at a distance, at least for some time to come. Ever since Mongolfier put into practical shape his conception of an aerial navigator and demonstrated its practicability by actual flight, the race has been agitating the question of elaborating and making useful the principle. Flying machines have been numerous, but not one of them has ever made even a short trip. Airships, the grand consummation aimed at, have been perfected so far as their construction was concerned, but with a very few exceptions have proved flat failures, the money expended in getting them built being so much thrown away. Balloons can nearly always make a single, short trip, the motion being perfectly vertical going up and coming down except when operated on by winds or air currents, and thus for navigation purposes they are next to useless, since the voyager would be and always is subject to the caprice of the element in which he sails. He might prepare for a trip east, basing his calculations upon the prevailing direction of the wind on the earth, and at a height of a few hundred feet find himself in a current which sweeps him directly to the opposite, and he cannot prevent it. It is also the fact that balloon ascensions, even when the conditions are favorable, are the most dangerous of all the methods of motion ever utilized, and this, too, when a mere ascent for pleasure is the object. A very slight defect in

the fabric composing the globe, or its workmanship, will cause it to collapse at an altitude sufficiently high, the air becoming more rarified and there being, consequently, less pressure from without to counteract the pressure from within. When a collapse occurs, death is inevitable—not an easy, ordinary death, but one accompanied by all the terrors preceding a fall from a giddy height, the gradual loss of breath and consciousness as the victim is precipitated to the ground, and a crushed, unrecognizable being is found in place of the one who temporarily set aside the great law of gravitation.

A collapse is only one of many dangers. There is the case of Tissandier and two scientific companions in Paris a few years ago. They ascended to a distance of five and a fourth miles, the limit of the balloon's power, and on returning to earth two were dead and the third died shortly after. The air at that altitude was so unsubstantial that asphyxiation occurred with the result stated. Then there is the danger of the gas, which is always so close by, reaching the ear; of violent storms, etc.

The sad story of aeronaut Hogan, who had constructed a kind of air ship and last week took a trip in it, being carried out in the ocean, then, as supposed, falling to the water through the gas giving out and himself being drowned, is but an illustration of a danger which we are not often called upon to record the practical effects of. Readers of the News have been able to follow the circumstances as well as we have, and will thus understand that a man of thorough experience, who may have made a great number of ascensions and trips without receiving the slightest injury, is almost as much exposed to the perils of the elements as a beginner would be.

AN IMPROPER PERFORMANCE.

THE town has been recently peppered with pictorial posters advertising the performance of a company which is billed to appear at the Theatre on July 25th. The sheets are probably the loudest, not to say lewdest, that have ever been presented in this city, and attract a great deal of notice, numbers of people lingering around the corners where they appear.

If they do not come directly under the ordinance in relation to public offenses, it would be hard to tell