

EDITORIALS.

PROSPECT FOR VISITORS.

THE Missouri Pacific Railway now connects with the D. and R. G. at Pueblo, and passengers going from this city to Kansas City and St. Louis by the latter line can consequently go directly through to either of these leading points. At present the Missouri Pacific is not running first class business, but will be fully equipped with the necessary rolling stock to do so by the 1st of April, or probably sooner. This connection brings the traveling distance between Salt Lake and St. Louis 63 miles closer than heretofore, while it is diminished 21 miles between here and Kansas City.

Heretofore business people of St. Louis have been in the habit of seeking escape from the sweltering heat of summer in that city by migrating during the "dog days" to Minnesota and Wisconsin. They would find a much more congenial climate and far greater natural attractions in other respects in this valley. Their attention should be specially directed to this fact, and the result would doubtless be a considerable influx of that class of visitors. The local Board of Trade here appear to be diligently working up a visiting as well as a general business boom for this region. Would it not be legitimate, therefore, at the appropriate time, say the earlier part of the season, for the St. Louis Board of Trade to receive a friendly invitation from this quarter to come over and test and try the quality of our climate and kindred advantages? Were they to participate in them and be satisfied, a report to that effect, after their return home, would do a great deal toward turning the St. Louis tide of tourist and pleasure-seeking travel this way.

As it is, the number of visitors to this valley next season promises to be far in excess of that of any previous year. This brings us to a point recently suggested in our hearing by a well known business man. It is to the effect that there is an opening here for a hotel on a grander scale than any now existing. In a structure of that kind, location should be a leading consideration. It should be conveniently close to the central part of town, and yet be open, airy and shady, with an apparent atmosphere of retirement about its surroundings.

THE FIRST PRAYER IN CONGRESS.

WE have been asked by a correspondent to publish the first prayer ever offered in the Congress of the United States. It is embodied in a note in Thatcher's *Military Journal*, under date of December, 1777. It was made by Rev. Jacob Duché, a gentleman who was the reputed possessor of great eloquence. On examination we find it to be a model of a petition to the throne of grace, brief, comprehensive and appropriate, and therefore comply with the request of our correspondent. This "first prayer in Congress" indicates that in the matter of approaching the Creator in supplication Mr. Duché was fully abreast with those of similar profession of the year 1888, if not a few paces in advance. Here is the petition in question:

"Oh Lord, our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of kings, and Lord of lords, who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers of the earth, and reignest with power supreme and uncontrolled over all the kingdoms, empires and governments, look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on the American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of oppression, and throw themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee. To Thee they have appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support which Thou alone canst give. Take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, unto Thy nurturing care. Give them wisdom in council and valor in the field. Defeat the malicious designs of our adversaries; convince them of the unrighteousness of their course, and if they still persist in sanguinary purposes, oh let the voice of thine own unerring justice, sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop the weapons of war from their unsteady hands in the day of battle. Be thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly. Enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundations, that the scenes of blood may be speedily closed, and order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety prevail and flourish among Thy people. Preserve the health of their bodies and the vigor of their minds. Shower down upon them and the millions they here represent such temporal blessings as Thou seest expedient for them in this world, and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Savior." "Amen."

SENSATIONAL STAGE EFFECTS.

THE modern drama is nothing if not sensational. The scenery must be fruitful in mechanical effects, the posters as gorgeous as those of the circus and the play itself must abound in the sensational and the spectacular. So much is this the case that there is a constant strife between rival aspirants for popular favor to outdo all competitors, not so much by superior rendition of what is termed the legitimate drama as by some new "business" or stage effect that shall cap the climax of the ridiculous or the horrible, and bring down thunders of applause from the critical gods, who sit in solemn conclave in the upper gallery.

Perhaps the most remarkable attempt to capture popular favor in this line is that of Lewis Morrison in San Francisco. The *Chronicle* of the 29th says:

Fully 20,000 people witnessed one of the greatest sensational effects ever brought out on the stage in San Francisco at the California theatre during the week just closed, namely, the life-like regatta scene in the play "A Dark Secret." The intense realism of the scene—a river over which traverse skiffs, sculls and a steam-launch—have nightly awakened the enthusiasm of the audience to the highest pitch. The boats, six in number, in which are seated gaily dressed girls enjoying a holiday on the water, and the whistling launch. Osborne and Alexander present to the audience a picture so true to life that they are lost in wonderment at how it was all brought about. The regatta scene in front is enlivened by Mrs. Barnum with a series of dances, which brings down the house. Then comes in "Peterson," the sculler, as winner of the race, and while the audience roars in delight, the victorious rower blushing bows his acknowledgement. The steam yacht meanwhile increases general interest in the scene by loudly tooting its welcome to the successful sculler, and the curtain goes down to lively music.

The most exciting and realistic portion of "A Dark Secret" is the scene in the fourth act, where Stephen Norton (Lewis Morrison) throws May Joyce (Miss Anne Mayor) into the river. After an unsuccessful attempt to wrest from her certain proofs, which she possesses, that he is guilty of murder, Miss Mayor shrieks, struggles and sinks, but is rescued from a watery grave by Martin Brooks (Frank Carlyle) who appears just in the nick of time and dives for her in regulation style. His appearance from the depth at curtain fall, holding the rescued maiden in his arms, simultaneously with the arrival of a fully manned boat, fairly convulses the gallery gods, who do not rest content until the movers in the scene come dripping wet to the footlights in answer to an encore.

The "river" is an ingeniously contrived water tank, 80x27 feet in size and two feet six inches in height, containing 52,000 gallons of water. In the centre, opposite the old church, the water is seven feet deep for a space ten feet square. It is here where the valiant rescuer makes his dive, without danger of dislocating his neck or suffering other injuries. The front of the tank is made of glass, secured by zinc and adorned with ferns, making a complete water approach. The mass of water is heated by steam, and will be changed once a week during the run of the play.

"I consider this a highly sensational effect," said Lewis Morrison last night. "The people want it, and I believe we are giving them something new, although I do not think Miss Mayor enjoys her part, particularly when it comes to the plunge in the river. At first she suffered much, and became really ill, but she is growing stronger nightly. Yes, we must cater to public taste. By the by, I have another sensation in store for the people after this play has had its run. Drop in some other time, and I will give you full particulars."

THE POTATO MARKET.

If the eastern potato market is in the condition represented, there is an excellent opportunity for Utah to get rid, at a remunerative profit, of all her surplus of that product. In some parts of the country there is almost a tuber famine. There has not been such a scarcity since the crop failure of 1881. In New York, Michigan and Southern Wisconsin, the yield last year was exceedingly meagre, while in Illinois, Iowa and Ohio it was greatly below the average.

Since the first of the present year Chicago has been receiving importations from Europe, notably from Germany, Holland, Scotland and Denmark, one shipment from Rotterdam amounting to 8,000 bushels. St. Louis and Kansas City have been receiving supplies from Colorado, and to some extent from this Territory, but these sources of supply having been inactive of late, the cities named have been applying to Chicago, which, being compelled to ship from abroad, is unable to meet the demand from outside quarters. The queen city needs all she can get for her own consumption, as she swallows from 9,000 to 10,000 bushels of "spuds" daily.

The Utah crop of last year was not up to the average, but in this unexcelled potato-producing region an ordinary crop would be considered an immense one elsewhere. The fact that the market has been, so far as this Territory is concerned, of late, in a state of temporary inactivity, does not argue that there is no surplus for exportation. The pits, in consequence of the late severe frost, have been locked up, but can now be opened with safety. The scarcity east of us renders a ready market affording paying prices to exporters a certainty, and will cause the product to rise in price to home consumers.

Already California is awakening to the opportunity for disposing of the Golden State tuber, as is evinced by articles on the subject in the San Francisco *Chronicle*. The subject of securing, for the purpose in view, suitable freight rates from the railroads is being agitated. It would be an anomaly if California could compete with Utah in this line in the eastern markets. In addition to being so much nearer the point of disposal, Utah is a better potato-producing country than is that State. Indeed, in that respect this Territory is not excelled on the globe. An effort should be made to dispose of at the best rates obtainable in the markets where the product is in demand, Utah's surplus potatoes.

While there are strong objections on the part of producers against middle men, those who belong to that class can often do better for those who raise the products than the latter can do for themselves. Trade that is carried on in a desultory way frequently demoralizes the market, not only in the matter of reducing prices, but also in spoiling the reputation of the source of supply, by sending shipments in bad condition. The only way to dispense with middle men in conducting trade with outside markets is by the co-operation of producers, by a system which will enable them to deal with purchasers at a distance through their own agents.

Would it not be advisable for those interested in this and kindred branches of trade to see what the railroads are willing to do in the matter of favorable rates and shipping facilities?

THE GOLDEN RULE IN POLITICS.

IN consequence of the peculiar circumstances that have surrounded the people who founded and built up this Territory, they have been compelled to assume an attitude which has exposed them to the charge of illiberality in politics. The unity of sentiment and action which is a characteristic of the "Mormons," has been attacked by their enemies as the principal reason for assailing them. It is the chief source of their strength. It has been the means of their preservation. And it has also been a stern necessity. "United we stand, divided we fall," is a motto that could be adopted by the "Mormon" people as peculiarly their own. Political division is political weakness, and certain persons who in times past have desired to obtain supreme control in Utah have ever sought to divide the majority and thus break in to grasp political power.

The people of Utah have seen and felt the necessity of supporting their friends in such political contests as have occurred, as against that class of their opponents, who have, as a rule, been in all respects their enemies. The opposition here has been different, in some respects, to party hostility elsewhere. It has often extended beyond common political differences. It has involved the very life of the liberties so highly prized by freemen. Candidates for office representing that class of the minority alluded to have been engaged in warring upon the dearest rights of the majority. It would have been the most supreme folly not to resist their encroachments and defeat their intentions.

Thus the minority have usually been kept back from the coveted prize they hoped to gain, and the adventurers among them have been full of anathemas against those to whom they attributed their discomfiture. And they have sometimes assumed a very inconsistent position. They have asserted claims that can only be characterized as preposterous. Numbering but a few in proportion to the whole number of voters, they have demanded as rights the privileges they could at the time only obtain by favor. And even then they have put forward for offices which could only be obtained by the good will of the majority, individuals whom the majority could not accept without violence to their self-respect.

We have heard a great deal about "minority rights." And yet by a republican form of government is understood the rule of the majority. At the polls numbers are the power. The few have no right to control as against the will of the many. If the minority cannot elect their candidates because they lack votes, they have no solid ground for a grievance. They should either win more votes in a legitimate way or gracefully submit to a defeat. No majority is under political obligation to surrender anything beyond equal rights to any minority. The few have the same rights as the many, to nominate, canvass for and support at

the polls the men they desire for office. If they cannot succeed, the fault does not lie with the majority and the minority have not been logical or wise when they have claimed that they had an absolute right to a portion of the offices.

But there is a higher ground than that of political conflict. It is that where gladden the sacred letters of the golden rule: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." That is the true "Mormon" position. It is only the pressure of circumstances and the requirements of the times which have hindered them from occupying it in politics. The leading spirits among the "Mormon" people have, from the beginning, recognized the fact that the wishes of the minority are entitled to respect, and that the majority should always be as magnanimous as is consistent with the general safety. Non-"Mormons" were elected to the City Council in Nauvoo when they were a much smaller minority than they form in Utah. On some occasions they have been elected to offices in this Territory by "Mormon" votes. But for reasons we have named these have been rare, and that the policy generally pursued in this respect was sound, no fair-minded and considerate person will dispute when all the facts and circumstances are properly understood.

But these have been gradually changing. The numbers of the minority have increased. Men of business capacity among them who have made this Territory their permanent home, have demonstrated their fitness for the suffrages of the people on at least a trial of their suitability for local office. They represent a portion of the taxpaying population. They have material interests here which are a guaranty of their probable course. They are not transients or floating adventurers watching for place and pay. The two principal elements of Utah business society have combined in commercial relations for the general good. Some of the old bitterness is dying out. Men divided on religious questions are agreeing to differ on these and to unite on temporalities that involve no questions of creed or opinion. These are indications that the time has arrived when the higher political ground, portrayed as the true "Mormon" position by their best teachers, can be safely and consistently assumed.

The action of the municipal convention held to-day is a recognition of this fact. It is a practical illustration of a genuine tenet of our political creed. It provides for the names of four non-"Mormons" as nominees for positions in the City Council. They are to be nominated by the minority and be accepted by the Convention of the People's Party. We propose to sustain the ticket because it has been duly agreed upon in regular convention, and because we believe in the golden rule in politics and endorse its practice when circumstances render it consistent. We bespeak for the combined ticket the support of the lawful voters of the municipality without regard to party lines or differences of creed.

And we here proclaim that the system we advocate embodies the principle of true regard for the rights of all people and the wishes of minorities. It would extend liberty to the fullest extent compatible with the public welfare. It would accord representation to the few as well as to the many, commensurate with their claims and numbers. It would support human freedom, happiness and peace, broad as the mighty ocean and bounded only by the land-lines of wholesome law and the common safety. But with it all, union should be preserved. The time for debate is in caucus and convention, but at the polls the people should stand by the choice of their own delegates, and never forget that "union is strength" on any ground. And if it is necessary when occupying the lower plane, it is equally essential when launching out upon the height where shines emblazoned the golden rule in politics.

THE PROPOSED FUSION.

It seemed from Saturday's proceedings in the Municipal Convention of the People's Party, that the delegates as a whole were pretty thoroughly in favor of the fusion ticket plan, there being but few dissentients. The only obstacle that appeared to loom up in front of a number of them was the point as to whether it would be approved by the people who elected them at the primaries to represent them in the convention.

We are unable to perceive any room for dubiety in that regard. Surely no one would cast the reflection upon the people that they are not disposed to sustain an action on the part of their representatives that is manifestly right and fair. That the proposition under consideration is of that character is scarcely open to doubt. All that the people need is to be convinced that a measure sustains a principle of justice as well as magnanimity and their hands are at once stretched forth in its support.

This community has, in many respects, been treated unfairly, not to say oppressively, by the powers that be. It should be admitted, however, that the laminal attitude assumed toward them has large-

ly arisen from a misunderstanding of the character and genius of the community. Against such treatment the people have vigorously protested, as was their duty. They have objected to the exercise over them of arbitrary power, which is the antipodes of free government. When measures have been set on foot to appropriate or expend their means without their consent, they have asserted that their rights of property have been interfered with and a vital principle of free government invaded.

It is unreasonable to presume that a people who have defended themselves against such methods would place themselves in a position where they might be in danger of being justly accused of being at least constructively inclined to adopt a similar course to that to which they have so often been under the necessity of objecting? The minority in this municipality contribute their quota of taxes to sustain its government. The business of the city legislative council is largely occupied in directing the expenditure of the revenue derived from the entire community. This being the case, the question might be asked whether it is not fair that the minority should have an immediate voice, even inside the polls, in the transaction of business of that character? Indeed it is proportionately their business as well as it is that of the majority, who may have the power to shut them out of participation by force of numbers through the ballot.

The question may be brought forward, Is it not the right of the majority to rule? The answer to this interrogation needs qualification. They have, under our form of government, the power to rule, and, almost universally in this Republic, exercise it by ruling. That the power gives the right may be doubted when the demands of justice are considered with the nicety to which they are entitled. The power to do a thing and the right, on correct principle, to do it is another. Justice is the essence of all government, and without justice all systems are tyrannies alike, without regard to their form. Although majorities can as a matter of right as well as justice hold the reins of rule, that they are justified in maintaining a course of exclusiveness in that regard, when the duty of self-preservation does not demand it, is questionable. The genius of the principles by which this community profess to be governed is in unison with justice and magnanimity, and is opposed to the disposition that would constitute majorities, which are an agency of government, unending monopolies of public authority. What obtains elsewhere does not enter into the subject, what is right, just and magnanimous being all in all.

The worn out saying that in politics as in war, "to the victors belong the spoils," will not bear close scrutiny from the standpoint of right. It is frequently quoted and endorsed, but a just analysis will show it to be based on selfishness. It causes the power and emoluments of office to be one of the desirable and leading objects for the possession of which politicians, professed statesmen and majorities should scramble. But it would be a few years ahead of the times perhaps to assert that the chief, nay the only object in political movements, should be correct free government, which means the preservation of the natural rights of man. Not only the rights and privileges of majorities but also of minorities, whose voices may be properly and officially heard inside the line marked by the voting polls.

Some may object to the present movement on the ground that they do not believe that the minority would act similarly if the political tables were turned. The question in this regard is, would those who raise this objection think it right in that case for the majority to so act toward them if they belonged to the minority? Doubtless the answer would be in the affirmative. If this be the case, then it would be right for those objectors to do as they think it would be proper for their political opponents to do were the relative positions altered. What the minority now would do in the future in case they swelled to the proportions of a majority has no bearing on the question when one is hunting for the right of the matter.

We think it should be tolerably clear to the most obtuse that the proposal now considered leans to justice, and for that reason has a solid basis. But even those who can perceive this may be unwilling to yield the point with the readiness it deserves. It may be held by a few that while they cannot but see the fairness involved in the proposed minority representation, the majority should have the privilege of saying who the representatives on the other side should be. This objection would be a manifest absurdity. If such ground were to be admitted, the representation, so far as relates to the minority, would resolve itself into thin air. If the majority made the nominations, the candidates would be their representatives.

The suggestion that the election should be conducted under another title than that of either of the two local political parties is a good one. It goes without saying that the electors of the People's Party would not wish to vote under the title of the opposing political organization. It would be exceedingly repugnant as well as ridiculously inconsistent. This being the case, perhaps it would be