

Dolph, when they elected him, the privilege of studying his own convenience before his duty to his state and his constituents? Were they so proud of him as a fellow-citizen that they thrust upon him the honor and emoluments of the senatorship, and were quite indifferent whether they obtained representation or not? Similar questions may be put to every constituency whose chosen representative is similarly indifferent to the responsibilities; and we doubt not that by all of them a similar response will be given. Some day it may be necessary to do with congressmen as is done with other servants: deduct pay for absence, "dock" or fine them for tardiness, and for repeated offenses of this kind discharge them altogether and give the job to some one else.

A DAY OF SADNESS.

This is the forty-ninth anniversary of a day when, above all others in their history, the Latter-day Saints were stricken with terrible grief. Forty-nine years ago yesterday occurred that memorable and sorrowful event, the martyrdom of the Prophet and Patriarch, Joseph and Hyrum Smith; but it was the following day that the news was spread among the Saints at Nauvoo and in the vicinity, and a whole people were plunged into the deepest grief. On the morning of June 28, 1844, Elder Willard Richards, leaving President John Taylor, who was wounded nigh unto death, in the care of friends, started for Nauvoo in a wagon, conveying the bodies of the murdered Prophet and Patriarch of the Church of Christ. Elder Richards and his sacred charge were met by thousands of sorrow-stricken Saints, and conveyed to the homes made desolate by hands imbrued in the blood of innocence.

Many and great have been the changing scenes of life through which the Saints have passed since that time of unutterable grief. The majority of those personally acquainted with the martyrs have followed them to the spirit world. A new generation has grown up and been numbered with the people of Zion, and thousands of honest-hearted among the nations have listened to the Gospel message, for the testimony to which the blood of Joseph and Hyrum was shed. Yet today, wherever Saints of God are found, the hearts of young and old are tinged with inexpressible sadness when their minds revert to the tragic scene that was enacted at Carthage, Illinois, on June 27, 1844. Those who in this age have obeyed the Gospel of Christ have had to hear the scorn, and reviling, and hatred of the world, as did their brethren and sisters in the same cause in the early Christian Church; and no men in ancient or modern times have been more relentlessly persecuted for the testimony of Jesus than were the Prophet Joseph and Patriarch Hyrum during the few years allotted to them on earth, and in which they sought to proclaim the Gospel of peace and salvation to mankind.

The details of the awful crime of their assassination, and the failure to punish the perpetrators, are matters of

history, oft related, which will keep fresh in the minds of the Latter-day Saints the memory of the Martyrs' Day. The Prophet Joseph and Patriarch Hyrum have passed from the sphere of mortality. But their work still lives, and will continue, for their labors were in the service of Jehovah. Their testimony stands an unimpeachable witness with that of the innocent blood of all the martyrs under the altar which John the Revelator saw, for the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and their example of humility before God, of fidelity to the cause of truth, and of sublime faith in the risen Redeemer, is a call to righteous lives that finds sympathetic response in the heart of every follower of the Lord.

THE SOLONS ON TAXATION.

The City Council last evening was wrestling with the matter of taxation and the proceedings were strictly characteristic. With but few exceptions the question of expediency seemed the prevailing feature. The matter was not disposed of but will be the bone of contention for at least one and it may be several more meetings at the rate of one hundred dollars per meeting.

One member thought it better to give men employment than to fill up the city with thieves and crooks, and if we must accept of the alternative undoubtedly he is right. But did a community ever yet pay an undesirable class of people a fixed price to be let alone, and make a commercial success of it? It is only necessary to let it be known that in Salt Lake a "tough" gets a job to prevent him from plying his regular calling, and there will be an influx of that class such as will make it necessary to provide some more offices to be filled at the people's expense. Indeed, it is partly shown that many of those who are holding places now belong to that very element, to the detriment of our financial system and the deprivation of upright, bona fide citizens who are unable to obtain employment. Will such a wrong be cured or even palliated by providing for its continuance? Apart from this, is it right or just that such a system find favor at all? The reply of another member, that it was just such characters that were being employed, while perhaps a little too general in its application, could not have been wide of the mark.

The following words of Mr. Kurrick have the right ring:

I don't believe we can stand any increase of taxation. The financial condition of the people and the country won't warrant it. I am in favor of cutting down expenses; we must do it or we will bankrupt the people. We can easily do away with one-fourth of the fellows who hold fat offices. Why it is outrageous, criminal, to get up here and spout about the necessity of improvements under the present financial strain. It [the money] does not go back to the people. It goes to the men who come in here and stay for a month or two for certain purposes and then get out again. They are not the taxpayers, they are not the people, and they are not desirable citizens.

There are precious few people who will have the temerity to criticize those remarks, and none at all but those that are personally interested in maintaining any kind of system, however vicious or corrupt, that keeps them and theirs in place.

GOING AHEAD RAPIDLY.

Some mail matter for the NEWS office which left Liverpool at 9:30 p. m. on Saturday week—the 17th—reached this city at 3 o'clock this (Wednesday) morning, having thus made the trip from the west of England metropolis across the Atlantic, through the broad belt of states, past the plains and into the mountains to its destination in the wonderful time of a fraction over ten days—more than five hundred miles a day! Think of it, ye pioneers and men of earlier times, ye who plodded along from the Father of Waters to the dome of the nation and thought you had done remarkably well if your day's score showed as many miles accomplished as that mail averaged every hour of its great trip!

Is this the ultimatum of rapid transcontinental transit, or merely an insight into the possibilities—an index to what is to follow? Undoubtedly the latter. The faculty which enables man to bring forth new aids to progress from the caves of science does not diminish by use, it increases; the more we find out, the more there is to be found out and the anlier we are to do it. The discovery of one hidden fact does not diminish the store but only adds to our ability to delve deeper; so that, twenty years from now, those of us who are alive and may have preserved this article will probably see or have our attention called to it, and we will look back to the present time and sympathize with those who had to get along with such painfully slow-going facilities. "Ten days from Liverpool to Salt Lake!" someone will then say; "why, what a vast amount of this precious life was consumed by the people then in transporting themselves from place to place, and what a slow-going pace the people then were held back to—and yet they seemed to think it fast! It is almost incredible." So it is, and people of the coming generation, in saying so, will be building wiser than they know, for their successors are likely to look back as sympathizingly upon them as they shall do upon us.

BAD COMPANY DECLINED.

It is the misfortune of some people to have bad friends, and it is the ill fortune of other people at times to be associated with bad company against their will and contrary to their expectation. A remarkable instance of being brought into bad surroundings without personal contamination occurred in the experience of the late Emory A. Storrs, the eminent criminal lawyer of Chicago. A deputation of "tough" characters called to retain him in an unsavory case in which they or their friends figured as defendants; his price was \$10,000 and he would not abate a jot of that figure.