

good repair. The small-fry would do well to follow his example.

IS MISS REDDEN PRESENT?

Has any local reader the honor of an acquaintance with Miss Lizzie Redden, a "beautiful young lady from Salt Lake City," who has lately been visiting Nashville, Tennessee? The Sun of that city, in its issue of the 2nd inst., calls her "interesting," and she must be, judging from her talk. She disclaimed being a Mormon, declared there was no association in social matters between Mormons and Gentiles, and observed that "since the laws of Congress prohibit publicly having more than one wife some old Mormons who may have four or five young and pretty wives is compelled to openly acknowledge ugly and old No. 1." Then she told what the Sun calls one of her funniest things—and we think perhaps it was—in description of "a ceremony at the Temple, at which any man can go before the Prophet Gifford (!) Woodruff and for a small sum, according to the means of the purchaser, 'seal' some pretty charming young girl or bewitching widow, as it may be, which means their fates and lives in the hereafter, in the 'far beyond,' will be 'sealed' together." The irresistible humor of the account will hardly be abated any by the fact of its stupid falsity, which may also be said of the succeeding personal experience of this interesting young person: "Some old man said to this fair young girl: 'I am going to the Temple and 'seal' yours.' She said: 'If you dare you'll find me an angel with claws and I'll scratch your eyes out.'"

In an issue of the same paper three days later, Mr. George D. Pyper was accorded space for a reply. He realized that some one might perchance take Miss Redden's stories seriously—hardly a probable thing he thinks, for he could scarcely help but laugh at them—and hence thought proper to suggest a few facts in answer to her. He says:

"Had Miss Redden been a newspaper reader, she would have learned that Mormons and Gentiles were continually associating themselves together in business partnerships; that the greatest concerns in Utah are owned conjointly by Mormons and Gentiles; that practically the Republican and Democratic parties are each made up of a mixture of Mormons and Gentiles; that socially Mormons and Gentiles come often together and frequently intermarry, though for the good of both intermarriage is certainly not urged. In all State boards Mormons and Gentiles are about equally represented. On the Tennessee Centennial commission, for instance, there are four Gentiles and three Mormons appointed by a Mormon Governor."

Her contemptible description of President Woodruff is thus referred to:

"Surely, she knows that President Woodruff, though past 90 years old, is a sturdy man—a man of muscle and brawn—and weighs in the neighborhood of two hundred pounds. Besides, he is so simple and guileless in his life, so respected and revered by all classes of citizens of Utah that it is surprising to find one who would unnecessarily cast a slur at him. Fifty years ago he killed the snakes, built the bridges, irrigated the dry and barren soil of Utah and made it possible for my young friend to live there. For such deeds President Woodruff was the idol of the hour at the great Jubilee held at Salt Lake City July 24, which was attended by over one hundred thousand Mormons and Gentiles, and at which time 10,000 children

crowned him, as the oldest Pioneer, with wreaths of roses grown from the reclaimed desert. The items about 'Ugly No. 1,' and 'an angel with claws,' I pass without comment."

Miss Redden is dismissed with the following charitable remarks, and the Sun is given the benefit of Mr. Pyper's testimony:

"I hardly believe the young lady intended to speak against the people of her own State, but the effect is just the same as if the intention were there. The above explanations are not made with any feeling of bitterness toward her, but with the purpose only of having your readers understand the true conditions in Utah. In conclusion let me say that I am a commissioner representing the State of Utah at the Centennial, and not representing the Mormon Church, but I am a 'Mormon,' as they are called and anxious to have my people rightly understood. And we invite the public to visit the Utah exhibit in the agricultural building—the only exhibit from the far West—where we will give them ocular proof that the people of Utah are not such a crazy lot of Hottentots as some people are led to believe."

If Miss Redden is really a flesh-and-blood person, living in or knowing anything about Utah, we trust she will appreciate the advertising we have thus given her. The "News" will not present any bill for its services, yet it truly hopes they will have done her some good.

MUNICIPALIZE THE MUNICIPALITIES

The same old complaints are being heard in Salt Lake City against the proposition for non-partisanship in city affairs as are heard from every boss-ridden, machine-dominated town in the land. Generally speaking, too, the growl comes from the same old source—the politicians with whom party is deemed superior to patriotism and who, by their actions, show that they are after political plunder rather than official purity. We have already shown that the movement for municipal reform is not peculiar to Salt Lake and some other Utah cities; it is exhibited as a general and seemingly a spontaneous feeling among the better elements of citizenship in almost every leading city in the country. It is a common impulse which no one man nor set of men can be credited with inaugurating, and which no party nor set of parties, as at present constituted and controlled, can stay. A score or more of influential newspapers, published in the North, the South, the East and the West, might be quoted as showing the drift of advanced thought in this particular direction. We shall today content ourselves with only a few such quotations, commending them to the thoughtful consideration of the freemen and taxpayers of this afflicted city.

A strong Republican paper in Michigan, the Detroit Tribune, thus advises:

"If the great political parties are to retain their hold on the governments of the cities they must meet the requirements of the people. It is well enough to talk about silver and gold, protection and free trade, Cuba and Hawaii, governmental revenues and pensions in a national campaign; but these do not appeal to the voters in a municipal election. . . . If the non-partisan movements in city affairs are to be checked, the regular parties must accept the methods of the non-partisan organizations. . . . A party that confesses it has no settled policy in reference to city government can not expect that the people will put it in possession of the local offices merely because a majority of them indorse

the principles by which it purposes to manage the affairs of the nation."

Geographically and politically different from the paper above quoted is the influential Baltimore News, which says:

"No political phenomenon in recent years has been more conspicuous than the growth of the habit of voting in municipal matters independently of party lines. Our own city has furnished conspicuous examples of it. In the election of 1895, despite the almost unprecedented intensity of feeling, the majority for the Republican candidate for mayor fell short by 3,600 of the majority for the Republican candidate for governor, while the shortage in the case of the clerk of the superior court was no less than 6,200. At a time when the contest was less intense, such differences would be sure to be very greatly increased. Moreover, each year that passes testifies to the growth of the sentiment underlying such independent action. People realize more and more thoroughly and more and more generally the obvious truth that good city government is a thing entirely disconnected from the great questions of national statesmanship. . . .

In New York today, there is going on a movement for strictly independent city government, with Seth Low as the exponent of its aims, which is supported by more than a hundred thousand voters who have signed their names, and which is spreading consternation in the ranks of the politicians of both parties who represent the spoils idea of municipal politics. That the rapidly growing element of our population which believes in complete separation of municipal from national politics is going to cut a notable figure in the returns of the Baltimore city election next November, there can be no question."

Jumping away up the Atlantic coast and glancing through the columns of the opinion-moulders that thrive in the great state of Massachusetts we find such mighty papers as the Boston Herald and Springfield Republican working on the same patriotic lines. The latter paper in alluding to Seth Low's candidacy for mayor of the greater New York, and quoting an objection to non-partisanship that will sound right familiar here, says:

"Mr. Low says that he is a Republican and expects to remain one, yet he is thoroughly in accord with the idea that cities should be utterly divorced from the questions that make up national or state politics. The good old hunkers of Spoilsdom are as much opposed to this idea as they were to the alleged liberty-killing innovation of civil-service reform. Ex-Governor Flower declares that 'machines' are even needed in city politics in order to resist anarchy, and if we believe that, of course it follows that Tammany has ever been a pillar of public order and sobriety. Speaker O'Grady, the Republican who presides over the lower branch of the New York legislature, presents another and more common view when he writes: 'Disintegration of party lines in New York city will inevitably soon lead to a similar state of affairs further up the state, and when that comes there will be an end to all party organization and responsible government.' Anarchy and the disappearance of all 'responsible government' would indeed be a heavy price to pay for Mr. Low's election and the triumph of the idea he represents! How terrible to contemplate!"

"But, on the contrary, there is reason to believe that the triumph of Mr. Low would herald the rapid approach of an era when, with municipal government in the United States wrested