

can remove a police officer whenever he thinks proper and need not ask the Council's consent, but he must report his action to that body with the reasons for it.

The adoption of the minority report did not, in our view, involve an attempt by the Council to remove any officer or degrade him to a lower rank. It would amount only to a recommendation, and the Mayor could have acted on that recommendation, if the mistaken proceedings that followed had not occurred. The objection of Councilor Anderson did not apply, the motion to reconsider was unnecessary. The adoption of the report could have remained, and the Mayor would, no doubt, have acted on the recommendation of the majority of the Council.

As to the merits of the case and of the two reports the public can judge only by reading the testimony, a correct summary of which we are able to furnish today. A brief synopsis was published in the *Times* last evening, which the *Tribune* charges was stolen from its composing room, and which was somewhat cut down by the former. The *Tribune* obtained its matter surreptitiously, as the general understanding was that the proceedings should be kept secret, at any rate until after the reports were made to the City Council.

Now that the matter is made public we have secured a correct account of the proceedings, which we give to our readers today. We understand, however, that though secrecy was enjoined, there was no obligation taken or demanded of either of the committeemen to preserve it. There can be no good purpose served now in covering the matter up.

It is evident that some reforms are needed in City Hall circles, but the disclosures made, when the evidence is sifted, are not of so sensational and terrible a nature as promised when the charges were first preferred. Yet the condition of affairs warrant sharp action on the part of the Mayor and Council, and the public expect the authorities to commence right at home if they desire to remove abuses and preserve the order and welfare of the city.

The minority report should be taken up at the next meeting of the Council, and action be taken upon it with a matured understanding of its purport and the powers of the Mayor.

THE LABOR PROCESSION.

THE procession of working people today was a fine sight. Not because there was any remarkable display of numbers, of insignia, or of features

novel to such parades. But the order and deportment of the men, their cleanliness, their neat and gentlemanly apparel, and their independent mien and carriage were striking to one familiar with processions of laboring men in the Old World.

The contrast was very great. It showed the difference between the spirit of labor here and there. The marks of servility, of ill remunerated toil, of beery heaviness, of carelessness as to dress, of poor home influences, to be noted in parts at least of the make-up of some European labor parades, were all conspicuously absent today, and the appearance and demeanor of the men proclaimed the fact that they breathe the air of liberty, that they are fairly paid for their skill and handiwork, and that they have a good perception of "the dignity of labor."

There was only one occurrence during the parade which jarred on the feelings of spectators. It was a small affair, but we notice it on principle. Some men were at work on a building near the corner of Main and South Temple streets. They were jeered and hooted by men in the procession. Nothing very unseemly was said, and only one portion of the parading body made the noise. But it suggested the idea that they had not yet reached the true ideal of freedom, which not only demands liberty for itself but grants it fully to others.

Most of the paraders were too gentlemanly to indulge in this display, and we hope to see the day when all working men will recognize the right of others to work when they play, or to play when others work, and will not use any influence that savors of intolerance or oppression. The parade on the whole was a pleasing success.

WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS.

THE report of the investigation before the committee of the City Council on the charges against police officers, as published in the *DESERET NEWS*, has created a strong feeling among the public in favor of police reform. Although the inquiry was carried on in secret, for which, perhaps, some sound reasons may have existed, but on which the public are rather doubtful, it has served a good public purpose. It has brought to the surface evils that might have wrought much injury to the city, and directed attention to them in a manner that will compel definite action for their correction.

As we pointed out last evening, the power to regulate appointments and removals of police is in the hands of

the Mayor. The confusion that arose in the Council after the adoption of the minority report, need not interfere in any way with the course of that functionary. The public look to the Mayor to take prompt action on this important matter.

Mayor Scott is a conservative man, naturally averse to anything rash, and if anything a little too timid in asserting himself in emergencies. This may be preferable to over-officiousness, but we think in the present instance he should not hesitate to rise to the occasion and make the changes which in his judgment are necessary, after the exposures that have been made and the public feeling that has been thereby aroused. His exercise of the powers conferred upon him by both charter and ordinance in reference to the police will solve the problem left on the hands of the Council, purge the force of its discordant elements, promote public confidence, and receive the support of our best citizens.

Comparisons are odious, it is said. We will therefore not attempt to compare the present with the past police service, as some partisans attempt to do, although we might do so without any discredit to former officials. We are not after party ends or party ammunition. We think the welfare of the city is above all such considerations. For the public peace and the suppression, or at least the restriction of vice and those evils which spread corruption and disorder in the community, some changes are absolutely necessary. It is for the Mayor to determine what they shall be and to make them without delay. The responsibility rests upon him. The blame will be his if the needed reforms are not immediately effected. The time has come to act. Let the Mayor do his duty without hesitation and without regard to party or to anything else but the public interest, and he will be sustained by all whose support is of permanent value.

THE UTAH REPUBLICANS.

THE Republican Territorial convention, held in this city on Wednesday, was a spirited and important gathering of public men from all parts of the Territory. It demonstrated the fact that the party is alive and growing, and that what we have claimed all along is true, that is, the division on national party lines has not been merely a campaign movement, but a *bona fide* organization of parties and is an abiding issue in Utah.

Men would not take the pains to come here from the remote parts of the Territory, at great labor and cost in this busy season for farmers, unless