

EDITORIALS.

POLITICAL ASPERITIES.

The following somewhat ominous lines recently appeared in the Chicago Tribune:

"The source of trouble is that the blacks will not fight for themselves, and any coercive power to enforce their rights must be used from the outside. White men or Indians situated as the southern negroes are would make the rivers of the south run red before they would submit to the usurpations and wrongs which the blacks passively endure. Oppressed by generations of slavery, the negroes are non-combatants. They will not shoot and burn for their rights. They lack even the combativeness found in the women of the races long accustomed to freedom. The negroes will not fight except in association with and under the leadership of white men. Wherever there is a considerable portion of white republicans ready to fight, if necessary, for a free ballot and a fair count, the negroes can and do vote and have their votes fairly counted; but if left to themselves they are helpless, even where they are in a vast majority. In what manner can outside federal power be brought to bear to secure the rights of the negroes in states where they cannot act in association with or under the leadership of white men? That is the great question. Will Senator Ingalls cast light upon it?"

This causes the Louisville Courier-Journal to conclude that "Nothing half so base as this ever appeared in an American newspaper having the slightest claim to public consideration. The man who wrote it is as guilty of conspiracy to murder as Ling and Engle, without their courage; as much of a scoundrel and traitor as Parsons, without his ability. And yet he has only said in a blunt, coarse and stupid way what men like Ingalls have the wit to keep to themselves."

A PICTURE OF "JACK THE RIPPER."

Those who have taken an interest in the Whitechapel (London) murders, which have of late startled the civilized world, on account of the atrocity and mystery connected with them, will also be interested in reading the following, from the *Pall Mall Gazette*:

"Last evening a man named George Hutchinson, a groom who is now working as a laborer, made the following statement to a reporter, and his description of the murderer agrees in every particular with that already furnished by the police and published yesterday morning:

"On Tuesday I had been to Romford, and I returned from there about 2 o'clock on Friday morning, having walked all the way. I came down Whitechapel road into Commercial Street. As I passed Thrawl Street I passed a man standing at the corner of the street, and as I went toward Flowe and Dean streets I met the woman Kelly, whom I knew very well, having been in her company a number of times. She said: 'Mr. Hutchinson can you lend me sixpence?' I said: 'I can not, as I am spent out, going down to Romford.' She then walked on toward Thrawl Street, saying: 'I must go and look for some money.' The man who was standing at the corner of Thrawl Street then came towards her, put his hand on her shoulder, and said something to her which I did not hear; they both burst out laughing. He put his hand again on her shoulder, and they both walked slowly toward me. I walked on to the corner of Fashion Street, near the public house. As they came by me his arm was still on her shoulder. He had a soft felt hat on, and this was drawn down somewhat over his eyes. I put down my head to look him in the face, and he turned and looked at me very sternly. They walked across the road to Dorset Street. I followed them across and stood at the corner of Dorset Street. They stood at the corner of Miller's Court for about three minutes. Kelly spoke to the man in a loud voice, saying: 'I have lost my handkerchief.' He pulled a red handkerchief out of his pocket and gave it to Kelly. I went to look up the court to see if I could see them, but could not.

"I stood there for three-quarters of an hour to see if they came down again, but they did not, and so I went away. My suspicions were aroused by seeing the man so well dressed, but I had no suspicion that he was the murderer. The man was about 5 feet 6 inches in height, and about 34 or 35 years of age, with dark complexion and dark mustache, turned up at the ends. He was wearing a long, dark coat, trimmed with astrakhan, a white collar, with black necktie, in which was affixed a horse-shoe pin. He wore a pair of dark 'space' with light buttons, over button coats, and displayed from his waist a massive gold chain. His watch case had a big seal with a red stone chain. He had a heavy handkerchief, curled up, dar keys, and monstac eyebrows. He had no sideburns, and his chin was clean shaven. He looked like a foreigner. The man carried a stick 4 inches long, and it had a strap across his left hand. It tightly grasped in his left hand, covered with looked as though it was

dark American cloth. He carried in his right hand, which he laid upon the woman's shoulder, a pair of brown kid gloves. One thing I noticed, and that was that he walked very softly."

"A paragraph in the morning papers states that the police have received from Samuel Osborne, the wire-worker, 20 Garden Row, London road, a statement to the effect that he was walking along St. Paul's churchyard yesterday behind a respectably-dressed man, when a parcel wrapped in a newspaper fell from the man's coat. Osborne told him that he had dropped something, but the man denied that the parcel belonged to him. Osborne picked up the parcel and found that it contained a knife having a peculiarly shaped handle and a thick blade, six or seven inches long, with stains upon it resembling blood. The parcel also contained a brown kid glove, smeared with similar stains on both sides. Osborne found a constable, and together they searched for the mysterious individual, but without success. The parcel, says the paragraph, was handed to the police authorities, 'who, however, attach no importance to the matter.' What on earth could be more important, after the statement made by the man Hutchinson and quoted above?"

ATTEMPTS TO REVIVE THE BOOM.

Current developments indicate that strong efforts will be made early in the ensuing year, to revive the boom in this city. The real-estate men have been holding meetings, organizing, and discussing the subject with much vivacity, and, in some respects, with refreshing originality. The process is a sort of double-action arrangement; some of the local papers have devoted much of their space and journalistic acumen in figuratively seizing the dealers in realty by the seat of the pants and holding them up while they floundered with all-fours before the public gaze. "Prominent real estate man" has been dished up in every shape until it appeared as if he was the only marketable product of the genus *home* to be found in this quarter of the globe. He has been at once patriot, statesman, orator and philanthropist. But the public have been so strongly dosed with him that the oft-repeated reference to him as an oracle falls flat upon the ear of the people.

It may be well to consider, in this connection, that the boom *furor* which rolled over the country has spent its force and matters in relation to the growth of localities have settled down to a normal state. The mere abnormal advertising, done in regard to a given section of the country, will cause the locality to be viewed with the greater degree of suspicion. The potential reason for this is that the east is sprinkled over with investors who have been duped by western real estate agents, and are now chewing the cud of disappointment. In view of this situation it is not well to consider whether or not it would be better for the future development of the city if real estate men who have heretofore occupied the bald-headed row of the boom, were to take a secluded position behind the scenes?

It begins to dawn upon the minds of investors that men who make trading in real estate a means of climbing to fortune, can only realize their dreams of wealth by attracting buyers from abroad, so that changes in the possession of realty may be rapid and profitable. It has been discovered that to induce this influx to enliven this branch of business some have indulged in misrepresentations that might be consistently termed conspicuous inexactitudes. In numerous instances the experience of investors has overcast the rosy tints which have glowed upon those pictures fresh from the fervid imagination of dealers in realty with the sombre shadow of financial depression. We do not state that such has been the case in this section to a wholesale extent, but there has been more or less trading in hyperbole at least in a retail capacity. But be this as it may, descriptions of facilities and resources of any locality here or elsewhere, even when they do not stretch more than three quarters of a mile beyond the facts, will not now be swallowed with the avidity that has characterized the gulping operation heretofore.

But even when advertising of the kind referred to or any other for the matter of that, relating to the resources of this section, is deemed reliable there has existed largely a counter representation that has broken its force. This has consisted of a fluctuating stream of misrepresentation of the character of the majority of the people. Anti-"Mormon" bobgoblins have done more to scare capitalists than any other factor that has operated in that direction. Congress and the country have been pestered by persons with political axes to grind to produce legislation that would down the "Mormon" people, that a small minority might stand on top of the heap and rule with a high hand and an outstretched arm. To justify such demands wholesale falsehood has been indulged in, and men of means who would have been ready to invest, believing these hyperbolisms, refused to believe that investments there would be safe. When the effects of these satanic creations have been presented to their producers they have exclaimed,

like Macbeth, when confronted with Banquo's apparition, "thou canst not say 'twas I that did it." Yet they are the very parties who have assassinated the business interests of Utah. Material prosperity has been with them secondary to schemes for political preferment.

There are two factors that will operate favorably in the material growth of Utah. One of these is the turning of the attention of all classes more to the development of internal resources than to the production of a transitory flash-in-the-pan *furor* by making an outside noise regarding their existence. Work and not words will count. Let what capital there is here be turned to good account in the establishment of all kinds of industries capable of being conducted here and the future growth of Utah will be assured. This course will also do more in the direction of bringing outside capital here than all the inflated representations of the circus advance notice genus that could be devised. Then the professions of faith in the Territory would be qualified by works. "Faith without works is dead, being alone." Of course a great deal has been done, but of late the preponderance of talk over doing has been exceedingly marked, and the balance should be the other way.

The other element leading to success is the stoppage of the senseless anti-"Mormon" agitation that occasionally subsides but breaks out ever and anon with renewed fierceness. While that bugbear is thrust before the public gaze there will be no rapid advancement in the material welfare of the Territory. There should be a toning down of the sharp and unreasonable phases of difference which have characterized operations of a business nature, and the genius that pervaded at the inauguration of the Chamber of Commerce should be more closely adhered to.

THE BIRMINGHAM TRAGEDY.

The scenes which occurred at Birmingham, Alabama, on Saturday night and Sunday morning are entitled to a place in the volume of horrors as one of its most conspicuous chapters. The terrible transactions are minutely detailed in our telegraphic report today, but of course no mere verbal description can convey even a remote idea of the situation as it is at the scene of the great disasters, nor can anything we are able to say add to its startling or descriptive character.

A man in jail on a charge of having murdered his wife and two daughters, is wanted by a mob—at least an unauthorized body of armed men—in order that the law's delay may be obviated and a species of justice which contains over much of vengeance be satisfied at once. The sheriff being the officer of the law having charge of the prisoner, cannot recognize the demands made for surrender, and takes proper precautions to uphold the law and maintain his own position as its servant. This necessitates force, deadly force; and when entreaties fail and he gathering not only show a disposition to overcome all impediments but actually (as the sheriff says) fire the first shot, he orders the deadly galling discharged and the death of a lot of men and the wounding of perhaps twice as many more is the result. This was a desperate thing to do, but we should also consider that in upholding the law the officer was involuntarily placed in a desperate position; he had to meet force with force, sufficient to overcome, even though among the slain were some that were entirely innocent of participation in or sympathy with the mob. The facts, when all can be coolly and deliberately summed up, will show whether he acted with undue haste or not; but that, on the face of the thing, there was nothing criminal in his conduct appears on the face of the affair.

Naturally, there was and is great excitement in Birmingham and the neighboring country. Rumors of a more or less lurid character and threats of vengeance dire and deadly against the officers were for a time so numerous and dangerous that perhaps the arrest of the officers and placing them in jail was the best thing that could be done. This may have the effect of so far satisfying the mobbers that they will desist for the present, and with every hour of time thus gained the danger of a general conflict naturally diminishes unless in the interim something new of an inflammatory nature should be developed.

THAT INVESTIGATION.

The investigation before Examiner Harkness into the charges preferred by Judge Zane against Receiver Dyer and his attorneys was a sparkling affair while it lasted. Perhaps it is as well that Judge Harkness brought the proceedings to an abrupt termination, and concluded to report to the court. Had this terminus not been reached it is possible that the contesting attorneys might have got their hands into each others' hair. Snaps and snarls and excited attempts on the part of several to speak at once, sometimes lead to bloody noses as well as injured feelings and dignity. It is fortunate that there is no such finale to report in this instance.

The central point of the dispute appeared to be, as would be observed by the report of the proceedings in yesterday's News, on the one side that the attacking party, with Judge Zane leading the van, should not only elicit information regarding Mr. Dyer's conduct as receiver, but also as Marshal, and on the other side that the investigation should be confined to his operations in the receivership. As the latter was the subject referred by the court to the examiner, Judge Zane appears to have had, on that point, a trip on the thin end of the controversial stick.

Unfortunately for Judge Zane he appeared to lose his customary prudence; otherwise he would never have touched the subject of potatoes. This gave an opportunity to Judge O. W. Powers, which he seized with avidity. As a legal sprinter he has no superior in the Salt Lake bar, and not many anywhere else. He transformed the potatoes into a vegetable boomerang, which struck the ex Chief Justice in the stomach when it rebounded. The subject of vegetables is a tender one and a string is attached to it that reaches backward a considerable period. Our advice to certain parties would be not to revive it as decayed vegetable matter is equally as deleterious to health as putrid meat. Both should be buried deep enough to render it impracticable to exhume them, lest some people might be compelled to breathe an unhealthful effluvia.

There was a time when potatoes at the "pen" resembled certain officials who acted in a way that was peculiar at that time—they were exceedingly small, and not very numerous. In contemplating those homeopathic vegetable globules one was reminded of the lines:

Battle his bones,
Over the stones;
He's only a paper,
Whom nobody owns.

And then the muse was apt to strike the contemplator about like this:

He's only a convict;
Then why should I care for him.
The smallest potatoes
Are good enough share for him.
The big ones must go to
The man who is chief,
For this is the way I can crawl up his sleeve.

It appears from the resolutions in regard to the receivership introduced in the Senate by Senator Edmunds, that there is a Washington string to the kite that has been hoisted into the political atmosphere of this section. Parties here have evidently been pouring pointers into the ear of the astute Vermont statesman. That, as the News intimated before, the leading object of the origin of the agitation was evidently intensely political, is supported by certain elements of the request of the Senator. He took special care to state that the U. S. Marshal had been appointed receiver by the Judges.

The plot seems to thicken as the drama proceeds, but the prospects are not brightening—even in the event of its terminating in a number of official decapitations—for the success of some of the nominations recently made by the anti-Mormon journal of this city. The horizon of the nominees seems to be darkened by vapor that has recently arisen from a pile of stale vegetables.

Doubtless only the prelude to the play has been enacted. Even in a local sense the performance may be resumed next month. The court to whom the subject is to be reported may ring the bell for the curtain to rise again at an early day.

A PREDICTION THAT FAILED.

In the spring of 1885 a number of open letters, from a republican source, addressed to President Grover Cleveland, were published in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*. They were subsequently compiled and given to the public in the form of a volume by William Penn Nixon. The identity of the writer or writers has, we believe, never been discovered. The letters emanated from an able, though bitter and not ever scrupulous pen. They constitute one of the most scathing and unmerciful literary assaults upon an individual ever published, Mr. Cleveland being the victim. They were all the more telling on account of being penned by a master of the English language, but this anonymous attack on the President was as cruel as it was unjust. This has been amply proved by the ability and integrity of his administration.

Drifting away at one point from personal attack, the writer delineates in lofty terms the achievements of the Republican party, and draws a dark picture in contrast of his estimate of the party of the Democracy. He then ventures on a prediction which has utterly failed in fulfillment, thus showing how short-sighted in relation to the future are many men who make bulky pretensions of possessing uncommon political wisdom. The following is an extract:

"This, in brief, is the record of the Republican party, the dominating and inspiring force of the climacteric epoch of American history, and of the world's development. It is ended. Like its great leader, it has perished at the zenith of its fame. We, who stood beside its cradle, watch now beside its bier—not looking for its resurrection, but exulting in its glory. I am not one of those who believe that it will be

raised in pristine beauty tomorrow. I have studied too carefully the elements of that party which has at length achieved success to believe that it will be soon or easily deposed from the seats of National power. I have noted too accurately the constituent elements of the republican party to believe that it will ever again control the government until a crisis shall arise as terrible as that which called it into being and summoned its spirit again to save the republic from destruction."

Both elements of this prediction have been proved to be delusive. The rule of the Democratic party has been markedly brief and not prolonged, as prognosticated; the country, at the time of its deposition and when the tide turned in favor of the Republican party, was not in a condition rendering it necessary for the latter to step in and save it from overwhelming ruin. If, however, great care, foresight and statesmanship are not displayed from this time forward, a crash may come within the time limit of the ensuing Presidential term.

A WONDERFUL MEMORY.

The memory of man is a miraculous and utterly inexplicable faculty. All we can say of it in substance is that an impression is received upon it through one or other of the senses, which sometimes remains for ever, again for a period and in many cases is lost immediately. It is this divergence in the gift that causes as much speculation as anything else; why it is that some can reproduce volumes with all the pieces, parts and features making them up, at any time and at will after reading or hearing them read once, while others more powerfully mentally, physically and scholastically spend hours and days committing a small chapter, we do not pretend to say and only account for it on the ground that nature has made some people's memories better than others. This is about as satisfactory as the candidate accounting for his defeat by saying he didn't have enough votes, and truisms of a like nature; but it is the best we can get.

Occasionally those whose memories are so sensitive and retentive in a given direction as to make their possessions prodigies are not as "bright" as the average of our race. This would seem to indicate that where one faculty is abnormally developed it is at the expense of the others, and should not therefore be classed as a great gift. A conspicuous instance in point is Blind Tom, the negro pianist, who has twice paid Salt Lake a visit and whose performances were simply phenomenal. But even he has been surpassed in point of mental achievements, age considered, by a little colored urchin four years old now on exhibition in Chicago, and who, like Tom, is entirely destitute of vision. His name is Oscar Moore and he was born at Waco, Texas, early in 1883. He seems to be in possession of his faculties, but his method of answering questions and his interjectory remarks go to show that he is simply a human automaton.

Little Oscar is a puzzler for the medical and scientific fraternity, numbers of which have visited and examined him thoroughly. The tests to which they subjected him were very severe and searching, containing dates, names and figures that ran up into millions. Such questions as "What is the population of China?" and the same with reference to the large cities of the United States, were correctly answered without hesitation. To the query "How many square feet in an acre?" he replied, "Oh, I know—43,500." He can count limited numbers in Latin, Danish, Polish and Chinese, and can also sing songs correctly.

WATER FOR DOMESTIC USE.

We are in receipt of the following communication:

LAKE VIEW, Tooele Co.,
Dec. 8, 1888.

Editor *Deseret News*:

I have been located by a certain creek of water in this county during a period of twenty-five years, and own about one-fifth of the water.

This summer the water has been less than in years past and the parties owning four-fifths of the stream have turned the water in another direction, not leaving any water in the old ditch for culinary purposes. In consequence I have had to carry the water for home use a long distance, or do without, subjecting me to much labor and inconvenience to get my water supply for home.

The stream of water comes to the shareholders every ten days, two days to each share. During the time when I have the water, I always turn into the creek and give the four shareholders a sufficient quantity to supply their necessities for domestic use; but when the other shareholders have the water they allow no water to run in the old ditch, which has run for twenty-five years. Now, it appears to me that the water for domestic use cannot lawfully be taken from the old ditch; if it can, how far shall I be justified in turning the whole domestic supply from the other shareholders who hold equal shares with me?

The next question is, how does common law view this question? Are there any precedents in such cases?

The subject may be considered of public interest as there are others in