

"Why two hundred and fifty thousand people, who obey the laws and to all apparent purposes are good citizens, should be deprived of the advantages of statehood is not made plain. In stating its opposition to the movement to bring Utah into the Union, the Salt Lake Tribune bases its argument on a seemingly absurd proposition. It says, 'there ought to be more time given for the Mormon people to become fully conversant with both the principles upon which the government rests and the policy of the different great parties and the handling of the machinery of politics.'

"Is it possible that Mormon knowledge of governmental affairs, after the interest shown by the United States government in Mormonism, is not quite equal to that of the residents of other Territories? Or is this ignorance which the Tribune claims is existent due to the failure of Mormon leaders to instruct their people on the simple forms which every school boy learns before he is fifteen years old? It is hardly to be believed that the average citizen of Utah, Mormon or Gentile, is not quite as conversant with the principles of the United States government and its forms as the average citizen of Montana, Idaho and the Territories. And certainly the Tribune furnishes no reasons for believing that the Mormons are deficient in their aptitude or knowledge of politics. If this ignorance, as alleged, exists and is an entirely sufficient reason for leaving Utah out of the Union, how would the Tribune have matters remedied? Would it place an educational qualification on the Territory for admission? Would it establish schools for the instruction of the people in governmental affairs? And if this were done how would it determine when educational requirements were sufficient?"

THE NEBRASKA CASE.

AFTER holding back a decision which had been prepared for several weeks, the Supreme Court of the United States on Monday rendered a decision in the long pending gubernatorial contest of Nebraska—Boyd, claimant, vs. Thayer, incumbent. The decision ousts the latter and gives the office to the former; or perhaps, in view of the fact that Boyd was himself ousted by the Supreme Court of the State, it would be more proper to say that he is reinstated and the holding over by Thayer virtually declared illegal.

The decision will bring joy to the Democratic heart throughout the country, and particularly in Nebraska because Mr. Boyd is the first and only Governor of that political faith the State has ever had, and also because Mr. Thayer is by many especially disliked.

The grounds upon which the decision rests were in the main commented on by the DESERET NEWS when the information exuded through the pores of the Supreme Judges' consultation room some weeks ago. They are, in brief, that Governor Boyd's father became a citizen, as it is inferred that he took out his final papers in Ohio in 1854, before the son was of age, and thus conferred

naturalization upon him, that Boyd has given proof that he considered himself a citizen, that the collective naturalization intended by congress and the people operate in the case of Nebraska, and that by virtue of the enabling act, those of foreign birth who did not specially adhere to their foreign citizenship specially abandoned it in favor of the United States. It is noteworthy in this connection, as showing the diverse opinions which may exist among those not extensively learned in the law, that three of the Justices—Harlan, Gray and Brown—rejected the last named proposition and accepted the first, and that the opinion of the court on the latter was practically unanimous, there being but one dissenter who either did not give an opinion or whose opinion is not given to the public.

The Court, to make the matter the more gratifying, has not considered the partisan phase of the case at all, nor does it seem to have been controlled in reaching a conclusion by iron-bound rules or mere fragments of statutes. It has evidently taken up the whole case and considered it in the light of equity and substantial justice, having due reference to our progress as a nation and our progressiveness as a people. It is one of the most healthful signs of the times from a political point of view, because it once more breathes forth the doctrine not so much practiced in our earlier days and measurably lost sight of for a short period following the civil war—that reason and justice should be synonymous, that common sense and common law need not travel in diverging paths.

The question as to when Governor Boyd will take his seat is still open, however. To follow immediately in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision and preserve its spirit inviolate, the installation should occur without another day's delay. There are also other reasons for this, chief among which are the entanglements sure to result to the State, and the confusion among the people by the continuance of a *de facto* executive in office, when the executive *de jure* is qualified and ready to assume his official duties.

If there must be another wait, pending the issuance and reception of the Supreme Court's mandate, nothing at variance with what has been going on in Nebraska for over a year can take place till some time next month; this, too, in the face of the fact from the chief tribunal being unappealable, and unassailable, as well as unequivocal and unmeasured. The proper thing would be for Governor Thayer, in view of his unpleasant position and his reported subjection to

the will of the Supreme Court, to abdicate at once and let Gov. Boyd proceed with the discharge of the duties of office without waiting for any further red tape performances?

HOME RULE FOR IRELAND ASSURED.

IT was thought that the triumph of the Parnellite candidate at Waterford a few weeks ago would discourage the English Liberals, and that the cause of Home Rule for Ireland would be seriously hampered. It appears that this has not been the case, because the Liberal victory at Rosendale on the 23rd inst was a marked and significant one.

The leading, and, in fact, only issue in that contest was home rule for Ireland. The candidates were Sir Thos. Brooks, Tory, and John H. Maden, Liberal. The former proclaimed himself in favor of a local measure of Home Rule, a kind of Faulkner bill with a string to it, but Mr. Maden came out unequivocally with a bill for a Dublin parliament. The issue was plain and emphatic beyond equivocation. The result of the election was, Maden 6,066 votes, Brooks 4,841, a majority of 1,225 for straight Home Rule.

What renders this defeat so crushing for the Tories, is the fact that at the last previous election, Lord Hartington received 5,349 votes and Mr. Newbigger, the Liberal, only 3,940, a majority for the Conservatives of 1,450.

The Waterford election did more to enlighten the English people on the real situation in Ireland than whole tomes of campaign buncombe. The Parnellites do not want total separation from England, but they want independence of Rome and England, and the English people now begin to realize this, and hence the fear that Home Rule would become Rome Rule begins to disappear.

For several months the telegraph has been busy telling us about the rioting and bloodshed in Ireland. Even the Tory leader referred to Home Rule as a "blackthorn measure." But what are the facts. During all the excitement, not one life was lost, nor was one dollar's worth of property destroyed.

A few weeks ago the Winter Assizes for Leinster opened in the town of Carlow. This is the largest and most populous province in the island. There are several large cities, and it is composed of 12 counties. In addition the cities of Waterford, Drogheda, and Kilkenny are included in the assize circuit. In his charge to the grand jury, the judge commented on the