

But the fact should never be lost sight of that there are great numbers of educated fools and not a few illiterate philosophers. It is a matter of satisfaction, however, that the Commissioner introduced just enough that was good in his opinion to exhibit, in our view, the flimsy character of the suit of Allen against Young.

FACTS BEYOND DISPUTE.

THE apologists for the course of the City Council, the City Assessor and other city officials may use all the sophistry at their command, call those who criticize the servants of the people such names as are common in the pothouse vocabulary, and tell what improvements are intended when the immense projected revenue comes in, but they cannot cover up these patent facts:

That there is scarcely anything outside of previously inaugurated improvements to show for the vast expenditures which have left an empty exchequer. That though the percentage of taxation levied upon the people is lower than before, the taxes are immensely higher, because the valuations on property have been made without regard to the specified meaning of the revenue law, or justice to the taxpayers, or the interests of the city. That in the assessments made, property has been placed at from three to ten times more than former figures. That the city assessment is vastly in excess of the county assessment, which was complained of as far too high by taxpayers of every party. That the monster petition for a reduction of the rate is signed by the leading business men and firms of the city, by "Liberal" as well as People's and Workingmen's voters, and by both rich and poor. That it has been treated with contempt by some of the City Council, and is likely to be denied by the whole body. That the intimation that criticism comes only from "the old crowd, from 'men who intend to abuse the city officers no matter what they do,' who have 'been at a standstill for a generation,' who are of 'one sect and of a past era' and who have 'silurian nerves,' is utterly false and absurd, because it comes from live citizens of all sects, grades and classes, including the most active, progressive and practical men in the city.

These are facts that cannot be denied. And it will be found that those who encourage the wrong that

is sought to be perpetrated upon the taxpayers, are not the friends of the city officers nor of the public. They are rabid "partizans," who seek to bolster up the tools put in office to do their bidding, and for whom it will be seen the *bona fide*, solid and taxpaying residents have very little use. They are running their shaky "Liberal" vessel upon the rocks of swift destruction.

SALT LAKE STAKE CONFERENCE.

The semi-annual conference of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion convened at the Tabernacle yesterday, Sunday, September 7th, at 10 o'clock a. m., President Joseph E. Taylor presiding.

On the stand were Abraham H. Cannon and John W. Taylor, of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and members of leading authorities of the Stake.

The choir and congregation sang the hymn commencing:

Our God we raise to Thee
Thanks for Thy blessings free.

Prayer was offered by President Charles W. Penrose.

The choir sang:

Behold the mountains of the Lord
In latter days shall rise.

ELDER NEPHI PRATT

addressed the congregation. He said, in substance: We have been called from the nations of the earth as the Prophets many hundred years ago have foreseen and testified to. They have said plainly that the house of the Lord should be established upon the mountains, and we are fulfilling this prediction. Great, miraculous powers were to be exercised in bringing the remnant of the people of God together. We know that we are fulfilling this, for God has brought us together and blessed us marvelously. In traveling in the surrounding countries, we are struck with the fact that a great prophet and leader of this people chose the very best spot for the carrying out of the great latter day work. God has given us this land and will continually bless us here, if we keep his commandments.

We should certainly progress in all that is good, when we see what God has done for us. And it is also expected from us that we shall be better than other people.

Some look upon the follies of their brethren and magnify these until they are drawn out of proportion and the representation of them ceases to be true, instead of being strict against themselves. We should certainly not do this, but be kind to each other and rather cover the shortcomings of others with the mantle of charity. If we will do this God will bless us for our forbearance in not speaking evil against the Lord's anointed. And it is not only the leading authorities that are the Lord's anointed. We also belong to that class. We have been anointed in holy places. If we strive to keep the word of God, He will bless us, so that we shall become sanctified and pure and holy.

ELDER HARVEY H. CLOFF,

of Utah Stake, quoted II Tim. 3: 1

—5: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come, for men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."

This passage seems to me to be quite applicable to our times. To stand up and testify to men; or to the world, which is in this condition, that God established His kingdom is one of the greatest blessings a man can enjoy, and I feel thankful that I have a testimony to bear that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God. I rejoice to be connected with this work. It is a glorious truth that every man is free to choose for himself, whether he will serve the Lord or not. We have chosen to serve the Lord, and He has given us evidence of the divinity of the work He has established. May we hold fast to the iron rod and not sacrifice heavenly things for earthly pleasures.

It is easy to recognize the work of God, when we are led by the Spirit of Truth, but we often forget our duties and then God must call us back again.

The choir sang:

Guide us, O Thou great Jehovah,
Saints unto the promised land.

APOSTLE JOHN W. TAYLOR

was the next speaker. He said, in substance, I requested the presiding brethren to have a song between the speeches. Singing is acceptable to righteous hearts and also to our heavenly Father.

I feel it a privilege to be numbered with the Latter-day Saints. Strangers might think it strange that we wish to bear testimony to the things of God, for no one can testify to that of which he has no knowledge. One who has seen, for instance, the Eiffel Tower in Paris can testify to the particulars of that structure. So with every earthly thing. It may, therefore, be expected that, when I testify to the heavenly things, I know what I am speaking about. Is it possible for one human being to have a knowledge about another man, that he is a servant of God? And if so, how can this knowledge be obtained? Well, the holy Scriptures testify of Christ, and we can from them learn how God's ancient servants obtained a testimony. The speaker here read from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter viii, 5-20, the narrative of the preaching by Phillip in Samaria. This, he continued, is a peculiar circumstance. Some individuals received the Holy Ghost, and one, Simon, did not. The reasons for both are plainly given.

John the Baptist cried repentance as preliminary to the appearance of Christ. Repentance means putting away all evil thoughts and actions, and those who have repented of their sins, are subjects for baptism and the reception of the Holy Ghost. Those who have not repented can