

As it is, the Bench residents have no service, the highest point now reached by a line belug Third Street. Neither is there any service at any point between A and E streets. The people have petitioned and there seems to be no reason why their wants should be ignored. The people want no favoritism by the Council. They desire the company which will give the speediest relief and the most efficient service to have the franchise. They have no axes to grind and they are beginning to ask whether or not the Council or some of its members have something of that kind to sharpen.

ABOLITION OF "MORMON" MORALITY.

ONE of the leading local questions of the hour is, shall the Sabbath be practically abolished and vice and immorality be let loose in Salt Lake City?

The chiefs of the "Liberal" party and the Gentile City Council have answered this interrogation in the affirmative. Social pollutions and irreligious doings have lately been winked at, now they are being openly permitted by action of the Council. We predicted in the first place that such would be a result of the victory of the "Liberals" by processes of fraud at the recent election. We might venture to prognosticate in the same direction without fear or danger of being mistaken, that the present leanings to immorality are but symptoms of a festering disease which will yet break out in putrid sores.

The final result will be that the corruptors will be execrated in course of time. Comparisons of the past and the near future will be made, and from a moral standpoint they will be immeasurably favorable to the former regime which was characterized by commendable conservation for the moral health of the community. The Gentile, or anti-"Mormon" administration bids fair to become "a monster of such hideous mein," that the good among men familiar with the past history of Salt Lake will execrate it.

As was predicted in these columns, the flight made by the resident clergy of the sectarian churches, in favor of the preservation of the Christian Sabbath, culminated last night in their defeat. This was naturally to be expected for two leading reasons. The first was the disposition of the Council as a body. The second, the puny character of

the representative of the ministers—R. G. McNiece. In his speech before the Council April 22, the latter was made the butt for irony.

It was bad taste and worse judgment to select as a delegate on an important subject one who was lately sued for having exhumed—unknown to her husband—the body of a deceased lady from its grave in Mount Olivet cemetery, because the widower had failed to pay a three-dollar water tax on the burial lot. The scathing rebuke pronounced upon Mr. McNiece and his associates in that transaction by Mr. Varian and Judge Powers is still fresh in the public mind and seeing that it was generally if not universally conceded to be richly deserved, the influence of the second gentleman named could not well be great on any subject. No man to whom the remark of the Great Teacher—"strain at a gnat and swallow a camel"—properly applies, has much weight with his fellows on any subject involving a high moral or religious principle. It was almost pardonable, although not by any means courteous, under the circumstances, for innuendoes to be thrown out by those present at last night's session about taking up "collections." It looks as if some of them had been reading the lecture delivered by the Rev. Mr. Foster on—"Are all clergymen frauds?" His conclusion was an affirmative one, on the ground "that they do not believe their own teachings." This was too sweeping, but there is more of something else than there is of poetry in his assertion so far as relates to a great many of the class on which he treated.

Anyway, if the Rev. McNiece had not appeared upon the scene at all, it is likely that the victory of the advocates of the practical abolition of the Christian Sabbath would not have been so pronounced as it was.

One thing was evident last night, as clearly as the position taken on the movement, that the clergy are held, in prominent "Liberal" quarters, in no small degree of contempt.

Hereafter Sunday band concerts, with a charge for admission, will be common, the application of the "Liberal" band having been granted. We believe that the action of the Council is in violation of the Territorial statute quoted in these columns a short time since in treating on the subject now considered. It is questionable, however, after the treatment accorded Mr. McNiece last night, whether the Ministers' Association will have sufficient backbone and consistency to take steps to test the matter in the courts.

POUNDKEEPERS ARE ABOLISHED.

This office is in almost daily receipt of advertisements of estray animals which are forwarded by former poundkeepers, who do not seem to know that their offices have been abolished, and that they have been reduced to the level of ordinary citizens, relegated to private life, by legislative enactment.

On March 13th the new estray law went into effect, and one of its express provisions abolishes the office of poundkeeper. The justice of the peace of the precinct advertises and sells estray animals under the new law, and any sale by a former poundkeeper under the provisions of the old law would be null and void, and might render the seller liable for damages.

G. W. HANCOCK SENTENCED.

In the District Court at Provo, April 22d, George W. Hancock was called for sentence on a conviction of murder in the second degree:

Arthur Brown, his counsel, made a motion for a new trial. He said that improper testimony had been admitted in the case and the Court had erred in charging the jury. Had the defendant been other than a Mormon this case would never have come up in court, and the jury would never have brought in the verdict which they did. In 1858 the country was under martial law, and was swarming with outlaws. It is time that this stain which has hung over this Territory should be removed. It is not just that this people should suffer under these false charges. The prosecution in this case has worked assiduously to drag this question into the case. No grand jury would have indicted, no prosecutor would have prosecuted and no petit jury would have listened to such testimony had it not been for this conflict of creeds.

Mr. Evans made a brief statement, denying the allegations of Mr. Brown, and the court overruled the motion.

Mr. Brown moved for an arrest of judgment on the grounds that the law under which this case had been tried had been repealed, etc. Motion overruled.

Mr. Hancock, coming forward to receive sentence, remarked to the court that if ever a man was innocent he was.

Judge Blackburn said he had had a fair trial and the jury had returned a verdict of murder in the second degree. In consideration of his advanced age and past life, the judge said the sentence would be as low as possible under the law, and ordered that Mr. Hancock be imprisoned in the penitentiary for ten years.

Mr. Hancock—You are sentencing an innocent man.

Ball pending an appeal to the Supreme Court was fixed and given.