

Such a circular as that issued by the government, through Mr. Wanamaker, would, we believe, be unnecessary in any other civilized nation. Is it not an anomaly for any department to call upon the general public to protect it against any class of criminals. Surely it is a confession of weakness in the shape of an acknowledgment that the government either does not have the facilities for self-protection, or it does not care to apply them.

This circular seems to reverse the order of civil government, because in place of it being the duty of the people at large to protect the government, it is the exalted and imperative duty of the latter to protect the people at large.

There is more in this subject than appears on the surface. It is but one of the phases of the times that lead thoughtful people to ask whither the Republic is drifting.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN WYOMING.

THE women of Wyoming are rejoicing today and raising the flag in token of the appreciation of the blessing of political liberty. Wyoming is the first State in the Union to place her women citizens on a political plane with men. Woman suffrage was thoroughly tested in the Territory of Wyoming, and none of the predictions of its opponents were fulfilled. So the new State held to this principle of justice and equal rights, and has entered the Union with a truly republican form of government.

That is not really a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, which denies the right to one-half of the people any voice in the enactment of the laws which they are all required to obey. That is not fully a republican form of government which enforces taxation without representation. When women own property they must pay taxes; when they pay taxes they are entitled to representation.

The ladies of Utah who are actively interested in this question, to show their appreciation of the triumph of woman suffrage in one sovereign State, are holding a meeting in Liberty Park to celebrate the occasion. And today the following dispatch was wired to Mrs. M. E. Post, at Cheyenne, the President of the Woman Suffrage Association of Wyoming:

"The women of Utah send joyful greeting and congratulation to their favored sisters of Wyoming. Utah is

proud of her little sister and recognizes woman suffrage as the brightest jewel in her crown of Statehood."

The telegram was signed by Mrs. Sarah M. Kimball, as President of the Woman Suffrage Association of Utah, and will be endorsed by many thousands of the citizens of this Territory.

The political enfranchisement of woman is only a question of time and human enlightenment. Prejudice forms a hard shell over the public mind, but justice and progress will break it open and let in the light. We join with the ladies in cordial congratulations to Wyoming as a truly free and republican commonwealth. May her liberties continue and her prosperity increase!

ABUSE OF THE FEE POWER.

THE diversion of law designed for the suppression of a tabooed practice to the personal ends of the officials entrusted with its execution, is not unknown in Utah. It appears to have been extended to great lengths in Iowa. The prohibition law has offered as fine a field for greedy fee fiends as the Edmunds, and kindred laws have in this Territory.

The Iowa *State Register*, a Republican paper, which favors prohibition and therefore does not speak from party ground or the objections of principle, makes some startling statements on this matter. An examination of official records shows that during the first six months of 1890 there has been taken from the treasury for the criminal costs of the justices' courts in Des Moines alone over \$30,000, of which more than \$11,000 was paid to five justices, the remainder going to their constables, witnesses, jurors, etc. This expenditure was nearly all for the searching business, or such criminal business as incidentally grew out of it, as ordinary criminal cases go before the police court. The worst feature of the case is that this great outlay not only has not suppressed the illegal sale of liquor in that city, but was not designed to do so.

The *Register* makes heavy charges against these greedy officials and says:

"The \$30,000 expended on the justices' courts has gone into the pockets of the justices, constables, and their favored gang of assistants, without any honest attempt being made to stop permanently the sale of liquor. The constables who make these searches don't want the traffic suppressed, for they are getting rich by it. The justices who issue the warrants and get large fees don't want it suppressed, for they are making

thousands of dollars out of it every year. And so the whole machinery of these petty courts is worked to perpetuate the business, and yet punctuate it with lucrative interruptions, nearly every day, and sometimes several times a day."

This sort of thing ought to be stopped wherever it is worked. And all respectable papers of every party should use their influence to suppress it. The fee system is a bad one. Pay every officer for his services a fair salary, abolish the fee system and thus rid the country of the rapacious and ever grasping fee-fiends.

POLITICS IN SCHOOL AFFAIRS.

THE Baltimore *Herald* has the following sensible and pertinent paragraph on the school question:

"Nothing in the world is so destructive of the true educational spirit as for school officials to cease being appointed on grounds of fitness as instructors and to obtain their places by political preferment. At the very moment such appointments are made, either in the teaching or supervisory departments, at that moment dry-rot attacks the whole educational system of the State."

This policy, so destructive of the true educational spirit, is now advised by the organ of the party which has obtained control of educational affairs in this city. That is to say, it counsels the appointment of no teachers but those of its own party. Of course it deprecates party influences in education, in theory, and yet at the same time attempts to enforce it in practice and to commit the Board of Education to the policy.

The rejoinder to this will be the old and exploded falsehood, that no Gentiles were ever employed as teachers in the public schools when the "Mormons" held control. But if this were true it would not justify a policy that is "destructive of the true educational spirit," that will "threaten with dry-rot the whole educational system" of the city.

However, it is not true. Teachers have been employed at different times and places in this Territory who were not "Mormons," and when they acted like gentlemen they were treated like gentlemen and respected in their place. As a rule, men have been selected who were believed to be moral and God-fearing. But some of them were not even God-believing, and have used their position to inculcate infidel notions, to the detriment of the youth and therefore of the community.

We say that teachers should be chosen for their ability to teach and