

sufficient to render him famous in history. But this is but an incident among the achievements of a long and useful career, in which he exhibited traits that entitled him to a place in the front rank of the great men of the earth.

In this inter-mountain section are everywhere to be seen the evidences of his genius—marks of his master mind. As a colonizer he has not—considering the difficulties under which his work in that direction was accomplished—been equalled in modern times. The cast of his mind was such that obstacles which would have discouraged or appalled weaker men, only acted as a stimulus to him, and they melted before the force and activity of his indomitable will.

Brigham Young's foresight was phenomenal; many of his movements were, therefore, not appreciated at the time they were instituted, for the reason that they could not be understood by men whose mental vision was of more limited range. Time and developments placed the stamp of wisdom upon those of his actions whose immediate beneficent results were not apparent at the time they were made.

However fashionable it may be for the enemies of Brigham Young to cast reflections upon his memory in other respects, attempts to speak of him otherwise than as possessing extraordinary power and ability are rapidly going out of favor. This shows a disposition in one line to do justice to the memory of a great man, and it will just as surely come in time that he will be recognized as a genuine benefactor of the race.

While recognizing his eminent natural qualities as a man, the Latter-day Saints hold that they would have availed but little in the great work he accomplished without the inspiration of God, by whom he was directed and led, being a man of destiny, raised up for a specific purpose.

This afternoon the "Life of Brigham Young" is the theme of an address by Apostle Moses Thatcher. The day and occasion make the subject doubly appropriate. There is no more effective stimulus to youth than to portray before their mental gaze the achievements of the great and the good. The process implants a desire in their hearts to emulate prominent qualities of those who have been head and shoulders above the masses of the race, or rather have stood upon the pedestal of eminence, high above the multi-

tude. As a rule great men have an exalted purpose, and possess those peculiar qualities that enable them to reach after its attainment whether the sun of prosperity shines upon their path, or they are opposed and surrounded by the clouds and storms of adversity. History affords but few examples more striking in this regard than that of Brigham Young.

ROTATION IN OFFICE.

A GREAT deal of nonsense is uttered about the "principle" of rotation in office, as though the public service and our national system of government demanded the periodical discharge of all its officials, to make way for new incumbents. There is nothing in true republicanism that requires the turning out of the government employ any faithful and competent person who serves his country well.

The exigencies of party may render it necessary that places shall be found for party supporters. Changes of administration necessarily bring changes in those offices which are intimately associated with the Presidency and with the heads of departments. The party in power, placed there by the popular voice, should have persons to manage the affairs of the country who are in sympathy with its principles and policy. No one disputes this. It is evidently reasonable on its face.

But in the ordinary office, which simply require efficiency, honesty and experience so that the public business may be properly conducted, there is no good reason why men or women against whom nothing can be urged but that they have held their offices a certain length of time, should be huddled out into the cold in order that other people may have a chance to draw a salary.

Ask a banker, a merchant, a manufacturer or the manager of any private business concern, to turn out the most experienced persons employed in any department, simply because they have held their places for a number of years, and the request would be considered as evidence of the applicant's insanity. The very reason urged for their discharge would be viewed as sufficient cause for their retention.

Why should not the same rule apply in public as in private business? It is only because of the fallacy that rotation in office is a principle of our system of government that a contrary rule is contended for.

The idea that office is a reward for service to a party is wrong and demoralizing. It is calculated to destroy, or at least lessen very much, the efficiency of the public service. Incompetent and often dishonest men receive appointments; honorable, capable men are in the continual expectation of being discharged; and thus two forces operate to lessen the value of the public work and render it less thorough, satisfactory and permanent.

The creation of offices for which there is no actual public necessity is an evil of the same kind and springs from the same error as the "spoliation" theory. The public treasury is made an object of greed and a legitimate, party grab-bag. Success in party schemes means a chance at the public funds. It makes men's motives mercenary and renders patriotism a comparatively subordinate and paltry consideration. That which figures as patriotism is too often nothing but self.

These remarks apply to State and county and local public offices of every kind. No man who occupies a public position under the laws should be kept there simply and solely because he has been in it for many years. On the other hand, the fact that he is an old public servant should not be deemed a sufficient reason for dropping him out, that somebody else may take a turn at the feat which he is alleged to have sucked so long. Efficiency, experience, proven fitness for the place, ought to be recommendations to a man, when the people or their representatives are looking for persons to fill positions of trust and emolument. These ought not to be prizes to be struggled for, and to be distributed periodically to please individuals, or as reward or recompense for private or party support.

"Honest men and wise men should be sought for diligently, and good men and wise men ye should observe to uphold; otherwise, whatsoever is less than these cometh of evil." So the Latter-day Saints are instructed by divine command. It is excellent counsel. It is to be their guide in politics. Is not this a proper time for some forethought in regard to this matter?

When a ticket is made up and agreed upon in a convention of the people's delegates it is too late to dissent, and complain, and find fault, if the people want to win. Division then is weakness and oppo-