

formerly prevailed in school systems. The schoolroom and teacher are intended as factors in the education and advancement of the youth toward the highest civilization attainable, and away from all barbarism and injustice; hence school improvement has been directed to eliminating the barbarous application of corporeal punishment so often resorted to in former days, and to restraining the power of a teacher to be cruel and unjust toward an offending pupil. In doing this, the highly commendable rule has been established that all punishments by the school-teacher should be within closely defined limits; and if this is insufficient to effect the desired purpose, then the law interposes to continue reformatory work.

There is no disputing the fact that with some children and under some circumstances physical castigation is both necessary and beneficial; but an irritated school teacher is not the one to administer it, however judiciously it might be done in some cases. The danger attending a rule permitting anything of that nature is too great to be offset by any possible benefits that may accrue; hence the more moderate and consistent procedure of a well conducted school system. Whatever necessities may arise in school for punishment, it is a fairly safe proposition that more injury is inflicted by crabbed, peevish, or violent teachers, than by those inclined in the opposite direction. The prevailing ideas of school government should be love and an ambition to advance in the line of the good and the true, not fear of the rod. There is plenty of room for the latter outside of the schoolroom. Teachers may lead or inspire pupils to learn, but rarely can they drive them to anything else but an undesirable position in life.

ICARIANS AND SAINTS.

A recent dispatch in the *News* told of the dissolution of the Icarian socialist community in Iowa, as a step for the best interests of all concerned. The members had become tired of the blessings of communism and agreed to a division of their property.

This society dates back to a period before the French revolution, when a number of socialists left Havre and came over to Texas. Here they founded a colony that soon moved to New Orleans. Mr. Cabet, the leader of the movement, learning of the struggles of his followers for existence, came over from the old country to take charge of their affairs. Later, when the Saints had been expelled from Nauvoo, Ill., the Icarians moved to that deserted place and enjoyed success for a short time. The total membership, however, amounted only to 280 souls. Internal dissensions soon occurred and in 1856 Cabet with 170 adherents left Nauvoo and went to St. Louis, where he died the same year. Another faction settled in Adams county, Iowa, under the name of Icaria. They have resided there ever since. In 1879 another rupture occurred and one faction went to California.

The community had a common fund from which the wants of every member were supplied. A general assembly consisting of all Icarians over 21

years of age constituted the legislative assembly and the executive power was vested in three trustees. Ten thousand dollars and 1,000 acres of land will be divided now among the various members.

Thus, once more has been illustrated the impracticability of building a successful model society on the foundation of mere temporal interests. The contrast between the Icarians, who came to Nauvoo tolerably well equipped but who now have dwindled away, and the Saints who were driven from that place destitute, seeking refuge in a wilderness but who nevertheless achieved a world-renowned success, is so great as to impress anyone that will give it candid consideration. No doubt the Icarians were actuated by good motives and desired to establish happiness among men, but they failed because they had not, as the Saints, grasped the fundamental principles on which true happiness can be built both in this life and hereafter. Society not standing on a religious basis must ever fail.

SUPREME COURT DECISION.

The action of the Territorial Supreme court, as announced in the *News* on Saturday, came to the honorable men in all political parties with a welcome sound. Far and above the immediate issues of the special contest which it decided, it serves as another notice to all people of the worthy character of the American system of judiciary, and proclaims the integrity of those called, even under partisan procedure, to occupy positions of the highest importance to the people as affecting their rights and liberties. This perhaps was a necessary announcement in view of prospective conditions in the new State. There are four judges on the Supreme bench. One, in the capacity of a district judge, passed upon the mandamus application in an eminently fair manner, rejecting every extreme view. His decision operating favorably to his own political party, the Republican, in the field of partisanship some hoped for or feared a reversal of the ruling. The remaining three judges, who heard the case on appeal, were Democrats, and have dealt with the issues in the same honorable, impartial manner. Upon the questions in dispute the four judges are practically unanimous, and their decision is an emphatic declaration that the law, and not partisanship, is paramount.

In the Supreme court's action there is a powerful testimony of the worthiness of that high judicial body to the confidence of the public. It is notice that the will of the people is respected in Utah, and that no chicanery or deceit will find support in subverting that will expressed at the ballot box; it is warning to tricksters and to unscrupulous persons to keep their hands off. In dealing with this subject the *News* has not had much to say. It has felt impelled on one or two occasions, realizing the pressure that would be brought to bear for partisan purposes, to make some plain expressions regarding the principles of honor and right that should be upheld, and to which it knew the masses of Utah's inhabitants would give their hearty support. There it

has left the matter, confident that whatever the true intent of the law, the Supreme court would give it the designed effect. From the standpoint of independent citizenship, apart from any concern as to which political party shall control the Constitutional Convention, we wish to warmly commend the Supreme court judges for the calm, dispassionate, straightforward attitude they have assumed.

The decision gives a definite idea as to what is expected of the Utah Commission. It quotes the law regarding their canvass of election returns, and says:

We think this means that the judges of election shall canvass the votes and make their return in the manner provided by law, direct to the Utah Commission, and that they shall thereupon proceed to canvass any such election in the same manner that the county court was formerly required to do. That they possess the same power that the county clerk and members of the county court formerly possessed, and no more. The statute clearly provides that the defendant board shall issue to the members of the Legislature, and therefore by the enabling act to delegates to the Constitutional Convention, certificates of election to the persons who appear to have been lawfully elected. As we have already seen, the returns show that the plaintiff appears to have been lawfully elected. Our conclusion, therefore, is that the court properly found there were no irregularities or discrepancies affecting the election of the plaintiff appearing upon the face of the returns. That the court properly awarded the peremptory writ against the defendants commanding them to certify to the plaintiff's election.

There the affair will rest; and the chief powers in the discussion which has gone on are in perfect harmony. There have been mutual recriminations among those who participated in the details of the contest, chiefly caused by impatience and the heat of debate. It is consistent now to let these pass as bygones, forgiven and forgotten in their acrimonious character, and that all concerned shall join in good feeling for the general prosperity. Regarding any violation of law in tampering with the ballot boxes or election returns, the responsibility for dealing with that rests with the proper department for appropriate action.

SALT LAKE'S POPULATION.

The figures given by the census enumerators as the population of Salt Lake City in February, 1895, no doubt will prove disappointing to some people who have been accustomed to claiming that the city contained 65,000 to 70,000 inhabitants. The bulk of the citizens, the conservative element, will feel, however, that the recent enumeration is approximately correct, and will be satisfied that the showing is as thoroughly faithful as could be desired in view of all the circumstances. The total population now is placed at 47,980, or a gain over 1890 of nearly 7 per cent in four and a half years.

Three years ago the number of the city's inhabitants was perhaps three to four thousand more than it is at present; but it cannot be said that this larger population was a benefit, from the fact that a considerable por-