

fight now raging. Every citizen should commend these gentlemen for the stand they take. Their attitude brings forcibly to mind the fact that our annual city school election is to be held early in December, and for one, I say, let the citizens of Salt Lake determine to take the same stand for this election that Dr. Park and Prof. Maeser have taken for the other. Nothing is more vital to the continued success of our splendid school system than that they should be kept clear of political influences. Salt Lake is now most fortunately situated to carry out this idea. All authorities agree that the nearest perfect way to secure a non partizan administration by any board or governing body, is to have it made up of both political parties in exactly equal parts. Our city board today is made up of five Republicans and five Democrats. Why should it not be so continued? The city or precinct committees of both parties could very easily arrange the matter by mutually agreeing that where the time of a Republican or a Democrat expires this year, one of the same political faith should be elected to succeed him. This arrangement could be continued indefinitely, and the schools kept out of the mire of politics as they are today. Once let the parties begin to plot, plan and sweat for the control of the schools as they now do for the public offices, and we may bid a long farewell to their efficacy. If it is understood that either party is striving to gain the control of the Board of Education, it can only mean one thing, that the board is to be used for party advantage. A Republican or a Democratic board means next a Republican or a Democratic corps of teachers, and next the mixing of politics in the school room. For one I would rather send my children to a private or denominational school than to have them attend where I thought they would be taught Republican principles. I know Republicans who feel the same in regard to their children being taught Democratic doctrines. Hence I say it is for the benefit of the whole community to keep the board constituted as it is, which to my mind is the only guarantee that politics will be kept out of the schools.

L. F.

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 25, 1895.

A very serious, painful and unfortunate accident occurred to Joseph M. Lapsley, the plumber, Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Lapsley was engaged in placing fixtures in the house of George Forrester at 323 Fifth East street, and had occasion to carry a pot of molten lead a short distance. As is usual with plumbers, he was carrying the pot with a pair of tongs, when they slipped, dropping the lead to the floor, and throwing the metal all over Mr. Lapsley's body. Mr. Lapsley dropped in terrible agony while his helper, seeing the plight he was in, rushed to his assistance. A large piece of the metal had struck Mr. Lapsley's eye and was quickly burning its way in the socket, when the helper took out his pocket knife and tried to remove it. It was no use, however, the metal had gnawed its way into the flesh so that it was impossible to remove it.

A conveyance was quickly secured and the unfortunate man taken to the

office of Dr. Hughes, where he, with the assistance of Doctors Meacham and Worthington, removed the molten metal which had become imbedded in Mr. Lapsley's neck, arms and face. This operation revealed the fact that the sight of one eye had been literally destroyed while the other was seriously affected, thus leaving the unfortunate man in a very precarious and lamentable condition.

Mr. Lapsley was later removed to his room at 59 East First South street, out of which all the light was shut, in order to prevent, if possible, total loss of sight. The unfortunate man was for some time city plumbing inspector, and has a wide circle of friends who will sympathize with him in his sad misfortune, and will earnestly hope that he will at least be spared the sight of one eye, although the physicians feel somewhat doubtful.

Later—it was learned this afternoon that the physicians had made a careful examination into Mr. Lapsley's injuries and they report that one of his eyes is not injured at all, and there are fair chances of saving the sight of the other. The burns on his arms, however, are very severe and cause Mr. Lapsley considerable pain.

The chief topic in Judge Merritt's court Wednesday was a suit in which a Kayaville property owner was plaintiff and the county court and the road supervisor of District 17 of Davis county were defendants. After passing on the qualifications of several applicants for citizenship, and announcing that the equity calendar would be called on Friday morning and cases set for trial, Judge Merritt directed the Davis county litigants to proceed.

The plaintiff is Marl M. Whitesides, owner of a twenty acre farm and lessee of two forty-acre tracts belonging to E. P. Ellison. The defendants are Thomas J. Brandon, probate judge, Philander Hatch, Charles Rockwood and Wm. Nalder, selectmen, and George W. Green Sr., supervisor of road district 17, Davis county. The county court of Davis has ordered the opening and fixing of certain public highways, and it was in pursuance of this order that the trouble arose. For a number of years a road has run along one side of Mr. Whitesides' farm. Last fall the county wanted to fix it up, and in doing so regarded as necessary a change in the location of a ditch in the roadway. They moved this on to land covered by the plaintiff's deed, and which he says he had not dedicated for a public highway and had not been so used. Under the claim that the roadway should be three rods wide, and half of this should be off the plaintiff's land, the county constructed the ditch, and also moved a fence which Mr. Whitesides put up last spring to prevent the use of the disputed tract.

Attorney Walter Murphy appeared for the plaintiff. His position was that as Mr. Whitesides had dedicated only 8½ feet of the land for the roadway, from his property, and no more had been actually used by the public, the action of the court in coming a rod and a half was trespass, for which the defendants should pay damage, and submit to be enjoined from coming on the land more than the half rod.

Judge Andrew Howat appeared for

the Davis county officials. He insisted that the width of the highway should be such as custom and the needs of the public traffic required. It was the custom in Davis county to have roads four rods wide, and in taking only three rods he urged that the county court had not exercised its full right in the premises. He insisted that that amount had been secured to the public by proscription, and that the contention that the road to be claimed at that particular place was only one rod wide was absurd. The question, to the plaintiff, was a matter of small moment, being merely the question of the amount of land involved. To Davis county, however, the settlement of this litigation on the lines he proposed was of great moment. If the court should hold that the public highway should be only the amount actually covered by wagon tracks, then the question would be a very serious one for Davis. Instead of having a four-rod highway on every road used by the public, then in many places there would be only one rod, and the county would have to condemn and buy, for road purposes, a vast amount of land which now was public property by proscription. He wanted the court to decree that four rods was a reasonable minimum limit for roadways. This ruling he deemed necessary to good public policy, and for the fixing of a rule in this regard for the guidance of the public throughout the Territory.

The taking of testimony as to the lines and the amount of damage done was begun and proceeded up to the time of going to press. The general status of the dispute was testified to as already described.

## TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

NEW YORK Sept. 24.—A special to the Herald from Boston says: There is intense excitement among the Cuban residents here who have followed the course of the revolt in the island. The reason is the receipt of information that the most formidable expedition of these which have been fitted out in this country have succeeded in getting out to sea safely, and that if all has gone well, it will be on hand to materially aid fighting Cubans in their next big battle.

CHICAGO, Sept. 24.—A special to the Tribune from Havana, September 19, says: "Armed parties of revolutionists are already in the province of Matanzas, and actually within seventy-five miles of Havana. If, as said, they have quantities of arms and ammunition there concealed and are really advancing in force, a crisis is not far off. Yesterday eighty-five persons were arrested within a few doors and confined in Mora castle. Rumors were soon flying around that a great conspiracy had been discovered and the initial step was to have been an attack with dynamite on the steamer Santa Barbara, that had a battalion of 1,000 men on board. The sequel came at midnight when there was a frightful accident in the harbor, the sinking of the Spanish cruiser Baracestequi, in which forty-one lives were lost.

HAVANA, Sept. 24.—Official dispatches report the defeat of 600 insurgents in the mountains of Seborucal between Palla and Macantini and