

him. He will operate the court justly, to the best of his ability, and because he won't lend to the 'ring' here, and be controlled by them, they don't want him. That's all there is to it."

Several others were seen, and expressed themselves similarly. The feeling is getting pretty warm among them, and the "Mormons" stand quietly by and watch events as the wheels roll round.

### DYER'S RESIGNATION.

Following is the full text of Marshal Dyer's letter of resignation to President Harrison:

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES MARSHAL OF UTAH,

Salt Lake City, March 9, 1889.

I enclose herewith a formal note resigning the office of United States Marshal for the Territory of Utah, to which I was appointed in April, 1886.

In closing my official career I deem it proper to say something more than to make a mere formal surrender of the position. I do so partly on my own account, for reasons which I shall state, and the more so because you, in whom is vested the responsibility of designating my successor, are entitled to any information that I may have which may aid you in the just exercise of that duty.

It might seem that in making gratuitous suggestions I am assuming somewhat for myself; but I assure you that my motive has the sanction of my own judgment, and will be apparent to you as well as justified by what I say.

It is, perhaps, proper to say that by reason of the extraordinary power which by special act of Congress has been conferred on the marshal's office in Utah, that officer exercises authority and has imposed upon him duties the most extensive ever conferred in this government upon a like official. He performs the functions of United States Marshal elsewhere; and in addition he is the ministerial officer with power to serve process in all the courts in Territorial business, criminal and civil; is authorized to make arrests without complaint or warrant; searches and seizures in the same manner; to arrest supposed witnesses without attachment, writ or process; may sit as a committing magistrate and hold to bail persons or witnesses thus arrested, and in many ways exercises by law powers of the most delicate character and of the most delicate responsibility. These powers, conferred to enable the government to enforce its laws among a people intensely hostile to such laws, are such that in their execution both discretion and discrimination find a field for their wise exercise, which call for qualifications in the incumbent no where else so essential. Energy and vigilance, prudence and self-command, firmness and justice, knowledge of the habits and peculiarities of the strange people among whom he performs his duty, all find

ample occasion for faithful but cautious exercise. Compelled to meet a fanaticism that in its intensity many times stifles all conscience in its devotees, and stops at no means which promise immunity from the grasp of the law, the marshal of Utah is clothed with powers and charged with duties that call for the exercise of the highest administrative discretion. He is police officer, a detective, a judge, a jailor of criminals before conviction, then warden and keeper after conviction; the officer who executes the sentence of the court, serves process in civil cases and selects often the juries for all the courts of general jurisdiction. I do not, therefore, exaggerate the importance of the office, and justify myself in retiring from it for the apparent impertinence of trying to impress upon you the importance of a selection whom you know to be equal to it.

I may remark that the importance of the position in this Territory is such that the incumbent should be able to have not only the support which the faithful performance of ministerial duty should always command from his superiors, and that perfect confidence not only in his ability and fidelity which is implied in all officers, but also that support which political alliance with the administration alone can give. My own success, if any I have had in this position, has been largely due to the cordial support I have had from my superiors, and I doubt not a faithful adhesion to duty would bring me, if I remained, your approval. I am conscious that I should often be embarrassed by a fear that I would not be sustained, whilst I would be beset with suspicions and my usefulness impaired by our want of political and partisan accord. I believe your administration should be represented in this important and controlling office in Utah by one who is not only in political accord with you and will faithfully administer it, but who will by well known wisdom and discretion, ability and character, be a creditable standard bearer in the great work of redeeming Utah, and purging her of the evils that now afflict her.

I may seem to exaggerate the importance, but my experience in its duties and my knowledge of its power and influence prompt what I say.

So much have I said from a sense of duty to yourself. May I not add something in regard to myself. For the last two months partisans, opposed to me politically, have filled the air of Utah with imputations upon my official conduct, and aspersions of my character and motives. A desire for finding a pretext for removing me from office, or to justify asking you for my removal, has alone, I believe, caused these attacks. As a sense of propriety and duty has decided me to voluntarily vacate the office, I think justice to myself requires me to give a brief summary of my official conduct without taxing your patience with details.

I took possession of the marshal's office in June, 1886. I had been a

citizen of Utah for more than ten years, was familiar with the peculiar character of the mass of its population, and with the difficulties with which, as an officer of the law, I would have to contend; but my appreciation of their difficulties has been greatly heightened by my official experience. I have advocated the vigorous execution of the laws, and believe that the record of my work will show that my performance has equalled my professions. Under my predecessor, who held the office for four years prior to myself, there were one hundred and forty or one hundred and forty-five convictions for polygamy, unlawful cohabitation and crimes growing out of the social institutions of Utah. Since my entrance into the office there have been about nine hundred convictions for these crimes. When it is understood that these arrests for these offenses are made almost exclusively on information furnished by the marshal's office, the charge of want of vigilance and fidelity on my part will be fully answered. In less than three years I have been instrumental in securing the conviction of more than five times the number of such offenders than all my predecessors combined, and this is my answer to those who would defame me. And while I have been vigilant, active and faithful, I have believed and still insist that mercy and kindness in the enforcement of these laws are in their proper place beneficent and fruitful of good in their effect. However wrong and mistaken the Mormon people may be, and in my opinion they are, they are a law-abiding people, except only as to such as affect their peculiar religious convictions. Many of them are honest and sincere, and whenever moderation in enforcing that law can be used to effect, I have not hesitated to recommend its exercise, and when old or infirm persons have been arrested and convicted of these Utah crimes, and I could lawfully aid to mitigate the punishment and secure respect for the laws at the same time, I have done so. Humane regard for the fanaticism of many, to my certain knowledge, has advanced the cause of reform in Utah, where harsh measures though strictly legal would have had the opposite effect.

I believe in punishing the offense, but not in hounding the offender; and I believe a firm, regular, consistent enforcement of the laws, without vindictiveness or malice, will, if faithfully continued, secure final submission from this people. And while I have striven faithfully to aid in this, my most important duty, I have equally endeavored to impress upon the Mormon people my desire that submission to the laws was the end in view, and not persecution of them as a sect or class. This policy I have advocated as the proper one to be pursued, and I wish to give my testimony now as I retire from office to my firm belief in its wisdom and justice.

Before closing I wish to refer to another matter, also personal to myself. In November, 1887, in the suit brought by the attorney-general