

## DESERET EVENING NEWS.

EVERY DAY WEEKLY PAPER.  
AT FIVE CENTS.

## THE DESERET NEWS CO.

CHARLES W. FENSTER, EDITOR.

NEWSPAPER.—September 2, 1891.

## WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS.

This report of the investigation before the members of the City Council on the charges against police officers, as published in the Deseret News, has created a strong feeling among the public in favor of police reform. Although the inquiry was carried on in secret, so that, perhaps, some sound reasons may have existed, but on which the public are rather doubtful, it has served a good public purpose. It has brought to the surface trials that might have wrought much injury to the city, and directed attention to them in a manner that will compel definite action for their correction.

As we pointed out last evening, the power to regulate appointments and removals of officials in the hands of the Mayor. The confusion that arises in the Council after the adoption of the minority report, need not detract in any way from the courage of that minority. The public look to the Mayor to take prompt action on this important matter.

Mayor Scott is a conservative man, naturally averse to anything rash, and hating a little bit to build in something he considers dangerous. This may be preferable to overconfidence, but we think in the present instance he should be induced to act in the interest of the public, and the Mayor can make the changes which in his judgment are necessary, after the exposure that has been made, and the public feeling that has been thereby aroused. His exercise of the powers conferred upon him by both charter and ordinance, in reference to the police, will solve the problem left on the hands of the Council, purge the ranks of its discontented elements, restore public confidence, and receive the support of our best citizens.

Comparisons are often, it is well, will themselves not attempt to compare the present with the past police-service, as some parties attempt to do, although we might do so without any discredit to former officials. We are not after party ends or party ambitions. We think the welfare of the city is above all such considerations. For the public peace and the suppression of crime, at least the restriction of vice and those evils which spread corruption and disorder in the community, some stampede is absolutely necessary. It is for the Mayor to determine what they shall be and to make them without delay. The time will be brief if the best reforms are not immediately effected. The time has come to act. Let the Mayor do his duty without hesitation and without regard to party or to anything else but the public interest, and he will be sustained by all whose support is of permanent value.

## THE UTAH REPUBLICANS.

The Republican Territorial convention, held in this city on Wednesday, was a spirited and important gathering of public men from all parts of the Territory. It demonstrated the fact that the party is alive and growing, and that what we have claimed all along is true, that is, the division on national party lines has not been merely a campaign movement, but is an abiding issue in Utah.

Men would not take the pains to come here from the remote parts of the Territory, at great labor and cost in this busy season for farmers, unless they had interests in their state that are more than mere temporary affairs.

The Republican party in Utah is certainly a permanent institution, notwithstanding the fact that the Democratic party is large majority at the vote at the general election. And that its cause is by no means a barren hope, will be proven, we believe, at a national convention. There are now 100,000 Republicans who have not yet joined the old mode of called "Liberalism," and many others who have not yet determined which way they will turn to give their political allegiance, and the whole number will prove large enough because it quite interesting fit their new independent political alignment. The Republicans are organized in life and they mean to stay.

The resolutions adopted are in many respects admirable. The definition of popular rights and the relation of the powers of the Nation and the respective States will not be complained of by the most ardent advocates of popular sovereignty. Whether the Democrats will accept the definition given of their principles and aims, is a little doubtful. In that we consider the cold weakness of the resolutions. In attempting to define the position of an opponent, it is wise as well as true to make it as strong as possible himself. These resolutions are important, however, if they are adopted will be the point and if victory comes it is logical and to be recognized by all.

These examples for reflection in the resolutions, and a series of local favorites and political situations. To them we offer this advice. In one meeting, Republican friends and actions with those of any opposing party, do not associate, or indicate or discuss the latter, but give them as

they are. The same advice is gradually applied to the Democratic evangelists. Following it will produce good feeling, and so much more to encourage the thoughtful and unbiased, than any amount of cheap talk mingled with misrepresentation of motive, principle or action.

The Republicans have formed a strong territorial committee, and a chairman well versed in political affairs, theoretical and practical, and we may look for some truly political work in every county in Utah.

## JURIES BEFORE THE BAR ASSOCIATION.

THE American Bar Association has been struggling with the time-revered jury system, and apparently accomplished much. It has not as yet fully succeeded, but the continuous process leaves no room for doubt that the Association was fully unanimous in the fact that the question was important and some sort of change in the present system ought to be considered at as early date.

Upon this theory, a majority of the committee having the subject in charge came to a verdict that resolved that,

"The American Bar Association recommends to the Bar Associations of the states the support of such legislation as will provide for the trial by juries of all pending trials with the exception of capital and treason cases."

This was evidently for a further, as it speaks, and as such it brought the older spirit of the committee to the front, with a resolution which it will be worthy of the legal assembly to consider when it was presented to the Association.

"We regard the proposed change," says the minority, "as an invader of the entire system. Justice were never

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