

are brought to bear and the other elements added. Yet I think it could be turned to good account and a permanent organization built up from it, not only in Salt Lake county, but in other counties. My idea is to encourage O'Brien and get him to organize a party system in Salt Lake, Weber, Utah and Juab counties, and to make nominations in those counties for the election of county officers in August. I think that I can manage the Mormons so that while they will retain their organizations under the name of the People's party in those counties that they will cast enough votes for Democratic candidates to encourage the establishment of permanent organizations for November, when a Congressional Delegate will be elected, and I think I can so manipulate affairs that we can nominate a Democrat for Delegate who will not be inimical to them and call out their full vote and elect him. That, if successful, will dissolve the People's party for all time and unite in Democratic party all Mormon and Gentile Democrats, and force the otherside into a Republican organization. In order to accomplish this I should have a letter from Senator Brice as chairman of the National Committee, addressed to F. B. O'Brien, Salt Lake City, convincing O'Brien that I was in communication with Brice and acting with his approval. That is establishing and confirming confidence in me, and I should have some general letter from the chairman which I could show to my Mormon friends assuring them of Democratic assistance, of course on the theory that polygamy is absolutely under control, and I can assure you it is.

"There are my suggestions. If any other course is better I am willing to obey orders, but I think the time is ripe to establish Democratic supremacy in Utah.

"I feel satisfied that I can influence the Mormon element if I can give them assurance that when the party is once permanently organized there will be no discrimination on account of religious belief. I shall wait impatiently an answer to this letter, believing that we should act with all possible promptness. Very respectfully,
JESSE B. BARTON."

The petition forwarded to Washington, of which the above gives a copy, with similar petitions from other business men, put a quietus on the pet measure of the *Tribune* and its allies, and killed the infamous instrument for political assassination which its editor fostered and fondled so tenderly.

The description given of the "Liberal" faction and its methods will be recognized by the public as accurate and pointed. The election of a Democratic Delegate therein alluded to, if it did not mean John T. Caine's reelection, was simply a notion of the writer's, which with his project for nominations in the counties, went no further than his suggestion in the letter. We question very much if anybody else in Utah ever heard of it.

The dissolution of the People's party was not an original idea with Mr. Barton, as it had been broached and discussed for years among its own leading members. And we speak what we know, in affirming that when the party was dissolved, neither Mr. Barton nor Mr. Phelps—whoever he may be, was heard from or considered, nor was any communication presented

from any leading Democrat or Republican. Mr. Barton had his own opinion on this matter in common with hundreds of other gentlemen who desired the organization of the national parties of Utah. But whatever influence he may have had among his associates in Ogden, it cut no figure whatever with the Territorial Committee nor with the People's party as a whole, who know that none of the persons or particulars alluded to in the letter were ever mentioned when steps were taken for dissolution.

That "the division movement" did not originate with the writer of that letter, is well known to hundreds of members of the late People's party who sprang the question of division many times before ever Mr. Barton came to the Territory. That he is a friend to Utah, that he is a sound Democrat, that he has been made doubly interested in the welfare of this community through the scandalous treatment he received from the *Tribune*, are well known facts. That he had a right to express his opinions to influential friends by letter or otherwise no one will deny. But we are not so sure that decent people will consider private letters should be treated as public property, nor that gentlemen of any party will approve of the course taken by the "Liberal" at Cimarron, or the paper that has made itself a party to his misappropriation of the property of another.

ANOTHER LEGISLATIVE ABSURDITY.

SOME time since a bill was introduced in the Legislature which aimed at the abolition of the store and lodging house abuses practiced by many mining companies. The proposed statute was loaded with wind; consequently it was shelved, as a legislative absurdity. It proposed to prohibit mine owners and mining companies from engaging in mercantile business, or from keeping lodging houses. The genius who framed the measure did not appear to know that the constitutional right to engage in any lawful trade or calling extended to mining companies as well as other people. All the merit there was in the proposed measure was its object—the cure of abuses which ought to be corrected. The specific for the disease was, however, much worse than the malady.

We observe that Mr. Moran, a "Liberal" member of the Council, has distinguished himself by introducing a bill of a similar character to the one already referred to. It is a twin sister to the first one, the features of each being distinguished for their absurdity,

as any intelligent reader can perceive by scanning them.

The first section provides that all persons, companies, corporations, etc., engaged in mining and certain other specified lines of business shall pay their employes as provided in the act. This is special legislation with a vengeance, being totally at variance with the theory of American institutions, that all citizens are entitled to equal treatment under the law.

The classes of business men covered by the initial section are required by the one that follows to settle with their employes for labor performed at least once a month, and it is specially provided that payment must be made in legal U. S. tender or in cash orders, which can be assigned by the persons in whose favor they are made to other parties.

It will be observed that the second section, if it were possible for it to be good law—it is not, however—would act as a prohibition against employers and employed entering into any arrangement that would be mutually agreeable for settlement of wages for labor performed to be made every thirty-two days or any other time in excess of one month. This is a direct infringement of the liberty of the individual.

Section three is a "corker." It provides that no order shall be made by people engaged in the lines of business referred to in the act except for cash, redeemable in thirty days, payable to "employee or bearer," bearing legal interest. "The person, firm, corporation, company or association," etc., "who shall issue for payment any other paper or order" * * shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be subjected to a fine of \$300, or any other sum in the discretion of the court, the fine to go to the benefit of the common school fund of the district wherein the crime shall have been committed."

Thus, it will be observed, that it is proposed to plant criminal prosecutions against firms, corporations, companies and associations and convict them of misdemeanor, all of which is manifestly absurd, as such proceedings can only be entered, in any case, against individuals.

Section four is intended to remedy the two-price evil of which miners who obtain their supplies from the store of their employers specially complain. But it is impotent for that purpose. It provides that when companies or persons sell goods to their workmen at a higher rate than to others buying for cash, the debts of the purchaser so treated shall not be collectable. This feature amounts to an amalgamation of