

ABOUT PREACHING.

DR. PARKER, of London, the well known Congregationalist preacher, is evidently an extremist. This time his eccentricity takes the direction of short sermons. Last Sunday, at the City Temple, he preached one of his condensed discourses, lasting exactly sixty seconds, into which he crowded 160 words. His subject was the use of intoxicating wine at the sacramental service. He said:

"It is high time that intoxicating wine should be banished from the sacramental service. It has often driven men to long-abandoned habits of intemperance. I am also opposed to the use of vile concoctions by which in some instances intoxicating wine has been displaced, and this objection to the makeshifts of the extreme teetotalers is not surprising, as a certain pastor is credited with the employment of zoedone for the purpose."

He advocated the use of water, and throughout was in unison with the faith and practice of the Latter-day Saints, so far as relates to what should be partaken of in commemoration of the atonement of our Lord.

The one minute sermon system is too great an extreme of brevity, although the long drawn out discourses are as a rule equally objectionable. Some preachers annoy their hearers by passing too many camping places, where they might settle down profitably. When a speaker in any way announces, by word or manner, that he is about to cease, as a rule he loses his hold on his audience, because he has created an expectation and dispelled it, and the connection between the preacher and the congregation is thus broken. It takes some time to adjust the couplings, if it can be done at all.

As thoughtfulness increases among the people there is a proportionate distaste for the whirlwind style of preaching, in which physically expressed vehemence plays a prominent part, as it is not necessary that real, soulful earnestness should be always in that way exhibited. It interferes with the mental digestion of what is being enunciated.

The chief effort of the speaker should be to have forcible, useful and beneficial thoughts to present to his listeners, making language in which to clothe them merely secondary. The mind that is a receptacle of truth will generally find a method of expressing it. There is considerable in the remark once made by one of our home missionaries in this State. He said: "A good many who perform the

duty of preaching inform their hearers that they have not language with which to express their ideas. With me it is the reverse. If I had the ideas I think I could find words with which to explain them." As a rule it is easier for a man to admit a poverty of words in preference to a sparseness of ideas, yet most people have words enough with which to express most of the truths with which they have made themselves conversant.

Hardly anything is more disagreeable in a public speaker than affectation, and when it enters the domain of imitating some able model, it becomes positively objectionable to those who detect it. Those who do not perceive it feel that there is something wrong, but as it is undefinable to them they are unable to tell exactly what it is. It is the unnaturalness which creates the unpleasant impression, which is akin to what would be caused by the sight of an artificial Roman nose on a face for which nature intended one of an entirely different size and mould.

In the days when Daniel Webster was at the height of his popularity as an orator, scores of spindle shanked, whistle-voiced, stripling attorneys imitated his heavy, measured, ponderous style, the spectacle impressing one, perhaps, much as would the aspect of a monkey attempting to manipulate a sledgehammer. All this imitation being unnatural, gradually died out.

THE PEOPLE'S DELEGATE.

THE nomination of Hon. John T. Caine by the Territorial Convention for the office of Delegate to Congress, will receive the endorsement of the entire People's Party of Utah. The fact that no other name was presented for this position is proof of the strong and united sentiment of the party in his favor.

There are several gentlemen who have been talked of as suitable to send to Congress. But it has been conceded by all, in conversation, that under the circumstances the present Delegate is by long odds the best candidate that could be put in the field.

Mr. Caine has served the people faithfully and well. Succeeding so popular, experienced and able a statesman as Hon. George Q. Cannon, he entered Congress to fill a vacancy under very trying circumstances. He made no great noise, and for some time was not conspicuous in the House. But be-

ing returned again and again and becoming familiar with congressional methods and congressional men, with the departments and the government officials, and with all the ways and means by which the interests of his constituents could be served, he moved forward into prominence and national reputation and is known today, in Washington and elsewhere, as a dignified yet genial gentleman, thoroughly respectable, well informed upon legislative questions, an able speaker, a constant defender of the rights of his people, a diligent worker in committee and on the floor, and a progressive yet conservative and well-balanced legislator.

Go where you will in Washington, and our delegate is thoroughly respected; for his steady and temperate habits, his honorable course and his general courtesy are recognized in every circle in which he has moved.

The amount of labor he has performed is not publicly known, because it has not consisted so much of speech-making as private working. Applications have poured in upon him from his constituents in a steady stream, requesting his aid in various ways and requiring visits to the various departments, and involving much expense and extensive correspondence. If people of all parties and creeds in Utah who have received the benefit of his efforts in their behalf would speak out, the public would learn of his diligence, success and cosmopolitan feelings.

It has been stated by his opponents that he has done nothing for silver, nor for public buildings, nor for the interests of Utah as against the Peons of Mexico and the Indians of Colorado. He may not have made speeches on the floor of the House on these matters, but that he has worked where his efforts would do the most good is capable of proof beyond denial—except from lips that are trained to falsehood.

The chief work of legislation is not done in the debates in Congress. It is performed in committee and by laboring privately with members. That John T. Caine has exercised all the influence at his command in the interest of the Territory, is known to all who have visited the national capital and paid attention to current affairs. No one knows this better than some of his enemies, whom he has aided in their business at the seat of Government but who are not generous enough to acknowledge his services.