

furthering its attainment, all good men and women, of every class and every shade of opinion, could afford to be brothers and sisters. The intent embodies a common cause—the suppression of vice and the elevation of morality.

One of the speakers, Mr. Gregg, expressing himself from the standpoint of a "Liberal" and not from that of simply a citizen, asserted that in calling this meeting his party could not possibly have placed in the hands of their political opponents a heavier club. This is, doubtless, true, but he is not a magnanimous antagonist who would use such a weapon indiscriminately. It might be properly used for purposes of defense, but only extraordinary circumstances would justify its application for purposes of attack. And in any case it would not be used against the class who were participants in and in sympathy with the proceedings of Monday night's gathering. But there should be no objection to its use in the demolition of existing corruptions in the city government and against the crimes upon society now so prevalent as to cause the most serious alarm to every good citizen.

We wish it distinctly understood that the object of that meeting is not one that can be treated from a sectional or partizan standpoint any more than its interest can be narrowed down to any class of respectable people. It is this narrow sectional hate which some unfortunate people permit themselves to be imbued with which spoils everything and is one of the causes of encouragement given to the very condition of lawlessness that is deplored. The decree of that small-souled sentiment exhibited at the gathering of Monday night was the only element that marred the beauty and consistency of the occasion. But we emphatically assert that what there was of it was opposed to the genius of the assembly as a whole. This fact was made perfectly clear on Monday night, especially toward the close of the proceedings of the meeting.

One of the leading points to be considered now is the responsibility for the numerous dens of vice, the lawlessness and non-enforcement of the laws, which now disgrace our beautiful city and expose its good people to danger. Attempts have been made to fasten it upon some particular branch of the government. We believe that this is improper and that the whole machinery

is out of gear. It requires cleaning, oiling and setting in shape. It will soon be discovered that an expression of popular sentiment will not alone suffice to produce a reformation, because the government has already set that at defiance in reference to the financial burdens it has imposed on the people. This fact is on record, and we can resurrect it if required. Judge Wampler was right when he favored definite action on the part of the people. Indeed, in order to show the contempt in which a healthy popular sentiment is held by the City Council it is only necessary to point to last night's proceedings of that body. The resolutions adopted at Monday night's meeting of citizens were presented and read. They make special mention of the application of the variety theatre concern for a liquor license, and request that, in the interest of morality, it be not granted. In the face of this popular and pointed expression, the Council were equally divided on the question of the application for this license, and it would have been granted but for the Mayor, who cast a deciding vote on the other side. Those who thus insulted the good citizens of Salt Lake were Pembroke, Cohn, Pickard, Noble, Anderson, Karrick and Lynn. These officials—three of them are only alleged officials—have probably thus, in the opinion of thousands of good people, placed themselves on record as the supporters of loose morals and as insulters of those who made a respectful request in the interest of sound government.

We hope that the protest of Monday night will effect its object, but we have grave apprehensions to the contrary. If we are correct, and the alarming situation continues, and even increases, then the protest should be renewed and made still more sweeping and emphatic. In making it, let all narrowness, bigotry and sectionalism be discarded. For the purposes of a purification of the moral atmosphere and the suppression of crime, for the time being, at least, throw politics to the dogs and let the law abiding, order-loving, virtuous citizens of Salt Lake arise unitedly in their strength and insist upon an enforcement of the laws that will effect the much desired result. That failing, let expression of sentiment be succeeded by popular action. That action must be pacific but determined. Every bigot who would confine participation in such a movement to one class of the community, or divide good citizens in storming the strongholds of vice, is a foe to the commonwealth.

THE OPENING YEAR.

NEW YEAR'S DAY 1891 was ushered in at Salt Lake City with bright sunshine and clear, crisp, exhilarating air. The delicious beauty of the day could be fitly described only by the poet and the most gifted writer of romance.

Viewing the city from the observatory of the Templeton hotel was like taking a glimpse into fairy land. The broad streets, the tall buildings, the happy blending of trees and towers, all appeared rather like a scene of ideal architecture than a picture real, material and tangible. One visitor could not help saying that, in truth, this was "beautiful Zion," the gilded diadem of the plains, the marvelous gem of the mountains, and that if on earth there is or can be a vestibule to the celestial realms, Salt Lake, the latter day Zion, must be that passageway.

It is true the serenity of the panorama was marred by the thought that vice and wickedness are rampant at present; but this should remind us that we must be active, vigilant and determined in our opposition to the evils that are threatening the peace and welfare of the community.

That this will be an eventful and important year appears to be anticipated by all reflecting people. It may not prove as startling and revolutionary in its developments as some people presage. But we have no doubt that its history at the close will form one of the most important pages in the annals of the world.

To the devout believer in Divine Providence, whatever happens is all for good. He who controls the destinies of men and nations, while leaving humanity free in its agency, will overrule all acts and occurrences to accomplish His own purposes and the final triumph of His cause and people.

In entering upon the new year it is common to announce resolutions of improvement. It is proper to make them, it is inexpedient to express them. Silent determination to make the coming year a stepping stone to a higher life and more advanced integrity of act and character is appropriate to the season, however much it may be sneered at by the cynic and ridiculed by the depraved. But boasting and impulsive announcements of intended excellence are frequently nought but sound, and add nothing to the sum of human improvement.