

announcement desired, and then by means of two straps hang the boards upon a man, one before and one behind. Thousands of these figures are out in the busy thoroughfares of Regent St., Oxford St. and the Strand. They are crowded off the roadways by the vehicles, and they crowd pedestrians off the sidewalk by their pushing and jostling along. Sometimes there will be as many as fifty in solid column, single file, and then a foot passenger hasn't a ghost of a chance till the procession gets by.

They are fitted up by their employers in all manner of costume, scarlet, or blue, or white, or variegated colors. It is no unusual thing to see a company of them out in convict suits, with another company dressed as carbiniers. The garb of a German peasant, the costume of a knight of mediæval times, or the dress of a modern circus clown is sufficient, so long as their grotesque appearance attracts attention. They had been permitted to go unmolested until yesterday, when a regiment or so "degraded the army and navy costumes"—that is what the officer who arrested them said—by appearing as soldiers and marines. Their appearance was quite novel, but to the London policemen the uniform was not appropriate; so a squad of them were marched into court and fined all the way from one to six shillings each.

Thus is the law vindicated in protecting the army and navy uniforms from being "degraded," at least by those not enlisted in the regular service; and the London county council are listening to a proposition to pass restrictive legislation against the "sandwich men," while theatre managers and coffee house proprietors are cudgeling their brains to invent some new advertising dodge to catch the eye of the money-spending public.

J. H. A.

LONDON, January 16th, 1891.

PERPETUATION OF THE REPUBLIC.

Editor Deseret News:

In your issue of Saturday evening, Jan. 24th, there was an article entitled "Will Our Republic Last?" The several respondents to the interrogatory, while giving their views, have mentioned several conditions which contribute to imperil our government and nation. Although they have spoken from several standpoints, both religious and political, and from the basis of the labor element, yet to my mind they have not touched upon the most vital part of the theme.

The questions are: First—"Will our present republican form of government last 100 years longer?" My answer to that is "No."

The second is, "If not why not?" Answer—Simply because we have got quite off the base upon which the republic was founded.

Third. "What is the greatest peril?" Answer—The removal so far from the base, and continuing in the same direction.

Then comes the fourth question: "Is there any danger that aliens may so buy up the land," etc?

My answer is, there is no danger whatever to be apprehended on that score. When we, or rather our fathers,

commenced to establish our government they were all—except a few Indians—aliens, or at least late arrivals. What did they complain of? They complained of the very kind or form of government, with its abuses, we, their offspring, have returned to in our Territorial system, with all its evils. Does any person, not an idiot, pretend to say that it is to any appreciable extent republican in form any more than the old colonial system was? Our revolutionary fathers and our statesmen of a hundred years ago were willing to suffer, to fight, and to die in order to emancipate themselves from such a system. Does any one suppose that when our fathers framed the Constitution, by which the people of the then thirteen States should, together with those that should come after, would return like the sow to the wallowing in the mire? They made no provision in the fundamental law of the land for such foolishness, and yet for the last half century the Congress and executive have assumed to be the home government, and we, the people of the Territories, the colouists thereof. And this is done on the ground that the Constitution, in Article IV, Section 3, provides that "The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the Territory or other property of the United States," etc., which simply gives them power to say by enactment whether the lands shall be disposed of for \$1.25 per acre, or \$2.50, and to military reservations, etc. But it gives no power to legislate for the people differently from those in a State capacity. Such digressions from a republican or representative form of government, together with the acknowledged political corruption exhibited in party politics, and such departure from christian principles as is made manifest by the law-making department and carried out by the judiciary and consented to by the silence of the people, will work the destruction of any government. If a halt is not called it is only a question of time when it will terminate. When Congress may pass a law confiscating the property of a church, the judiciary carry out that law and the people, the Sovereigns, not protest against the outrage, it is one of the best evidences that can be had that not only religion is at a low ebb but that morality and common honesty are also departing from the nation, or at least from the rulers thereof.

The evils spoken of by Mr. Powderly are conditions that constitute at the present time the glaring and false mistakes made in the earlier part of our history. There are also other existing conditions that will contribute to the final destruction of our government, that in and of themselves would not be of sufficient force to cause such an effect had we not got so far off our base in an earlier day. But, it may be asked, cannot the government yet be saved by reform or retracing of steps? Of course it could; but nations, like individuals, who have corrupted themselves, seldom take the course toward redemption until too late. Have we kept on the track marked out by our great statesmen of a hundred years ago? The nature of our government de-

mands that there should be no idle or unpaid men to complain today. Governments, like individuals, should assume responsibilities equal to their income or resources. There is now and always has been an abundance of room on our coasts, rivers and harbors to employ all our own surplus labor to good advantage. We have a broad interior country to develop and beautify. It is not the great amount of money in a country that makes times easy and the people comfortable and happy. It is the free circulation and wise application of what there is. There is need of many millions being expended, wisely directed, as above indicated, at the present time. Affairs should be conducted on national instead of party political lines, coupled with better guarantees of civil and religious liberty. These considerations would go far towards perpetuating our ties, the best and most liberal form of earthly government, and render it in deed and in truth the asylum of the oppressed and the home of the free.

Let us hope for the best. S. H. R.
SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 28, 1891.

MAYOR SCOTT'S MESSAGE.

To the City Council, Salt Lake City:

GENTLEMEN:—In compliance with the provisions of the city ordinance, I submit my first annual message and the reports of the heads of the various departments of the city government.

These reports in detail show the operations, receipts and expenditures of the several departments during the past year. Neither the time allowed to me to prepare a message, nor its proper scope permits me to review these reports in detail, but they afford such clear and specific statements of the business of the various departments, that I recommend that the reports or a summary of them be published for the information of the people, in order that all may have the means of knowing how and for what the revenue of the city has been expended. In some of these reports, recommendations are made for changes in the methods of adjusting and collecting the city revenue, which if adopted would require changes in some of our ordinances. These matters I recommend be referred to the proper committees, so as to bring them before the Council through the proper channels for their consideration.

I call your attention to the recommendation of the city treasurer that a larger amount and for a longer time be required for liquor license in advance, as a means of limiting the number of saloons and the amount of liquor sold. It is well worthy your consideration, as well as the other recommendations made by him.

When this Council came into power there were sixty-six electric street lights at a cost of \$15 each; there are now 198 at a cost of \$12.50 each.

The reports of the auditor and treasurer, show the total income of the city in the year 1890 was \$900,605.99, which with a balance on hand of \$54,875.28 January 1st, 1890, makes a total of \$955,481.27. And the total expenditures \$917,615.52, leaving a balance in the treasury January 1st, 1891, of \$37,865.75. The report of the auditor for 1889, showed the total income for