

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

ANOTHER UTAH INDUSTRY.

The remarkable resources of this region are being made available one after the other in a manner highly gratifying to those who have an exalted idea of Utah's future. The probability now is that the ornamental marble industry will be started in the near future in a way to occupy a foremost position. There has not been much Utah marble uncovered yet that is suitable for working for monuments and for building material, but, as facilities improve and the presence of marble deposits becomes more fully realized, there will be a change in this regard.

Of this valuable stone there is, as reported in the "News" mining columns yesterday, an extensive deposit on Hobbie Creek, Utah county, about eight miles from railway facilities on both the Oregon Short Line and Rio Grande Western at Springville. There is also water available for power and other purposes. The marble deposit is pronounced by experts to be one of the finest in the world. It covers over 800 acres, the exposed ledges showing a solid formation from thirty to one hundred and fifty feet in thickness. The stone is of unique color and texture, being chocolate brown, set with concretions that appear as gems of rare brilliancy, and make a most beautiful stone for ornamental purposes. It is of medium hardness, and is capable of receiving a high polish. Experienced stoneworkers say that stones of any desirable dimensions for columns, wainscoting, furniture slabs or buildings can be procured readily.

Specimens of the polished stone have been examined by leading men here, and these have given the matter consideration with a view to devoting such attention thereto as may result in its proving a benefit to the people. In line with this, the members of the First Presidency requested Hon. Brigham Young to take the subject up with the purpose of making the valuable deposit available as an important resource of the State in the industrial field. Mr. Young is acting on the suggestion made, and probably will secure the interest of sufficient local capital to organize a company and start the marble industry in good shape. May it meet with complete success!

BE NOT BEGUILLED!

Any kind of an old excuse serves the partisans in this city for opposing the movement for independent and non-partisan reform in the affairs of the municipality. It will be observed that the point on which the partisan press here lays most stress is the "method" by which the citizens' committee have performed their work up to date, including and especially referring to the nomination of the Citizens' Reform ticket. Judging by the wall uttered forth almost daily by a morning contemporary which opposes the movement, the casual reader might conclude that there was no fault whatever to be found with the work itself that had been done, the one objection being as to the manner in which it was done.

We observe, however, and call the attention of the public to the fact, that in other places where altogether different methods have prevailed, where plentiful mass-meetings and public participation to the fullest extent have been had, the criticism of the local organ is as savage

as ever. There is but one conclusion to be drawn—that is, that in the case of Salt Lake City the aim is to stir up among the thoughtless as much opposition as possible to the methods, thus blinding their eyes to the motives behind the revolt, while in other places the main point of attack is the motive, which, it is argued, would be less evident if the methods had been different. Between the two horns of the dilemma which the spoil-hunters allow a weak newspaper thus to create for them, their position is somewhat pitiable. It is a case where, from their standpoint, their opponents will be condemned if they do and condemned if they don't.

A community or a cause which permits itself to be led into doing what its announced enemies want it to do is not only fore-ordained to defeat but is also deserving of it. As to the movement inaugurated and now launched in favor of reform in municipal government along the lines of non-partisanship, those who are groaning under existing burdens and who see their one hope of deliverance shining through the mists which the partisans are trying to conjure up between them and the new movement—these, we say, have no inclination, as they have no need, to find fault with either the methods, the motives or the men from whom they have good reason to believe their relief is to come. They have no occasion to be worried about the vaporings and imaginary issues raised by the opposition, which, poor thing, has nothing else handy to do.

THE NEWS FROM EUROPE.

There may not be much that is important in the St. Petersburg dispatch about Russia's attitude toward Great Britain, but the probability is that the opposite is the case. It is but one move of a series of diplomatic steps which show that the czar of Russia is bitterly adverse to England, and is determined to restrict the latter's power wherever possible. By his intrigues with Turkey and Germany especially, the czar has been able to isolate Britain among the powers of Europe, the effect being notably manifest in the Turko-Greek war. The later intimation that Russia would be a party to England's retirement from Egypt—a move that would please France—is another indication of what the Muscovite is aiming at. Taking known proceedings into consideration, there is no surprise in the news that Russia will back Afghanistan against the British, and will have the Turk as an ally; or that the czar will stand with Abyssinia in Africa, having Germany on his side. As to getting United States influence against England, that may not be so easy. But outside of this, the portent of events is that England soon will be involved in a death struggle with the great northern empire. The clouds are lowering, though the storm may not be ready to break yet.

Another event of importance, briefly announced in the "News" on Wednesday, is the resignation of the Spanish cabinet, and the probable effect upon Cuba and this country. There is no doubt that the retirement of the Spanish ministry was in a measure affected by this government's attitude on the Cuban question, and that it will inaugurate a change in Spain's policy toward the island. Taken in connection with this, the statement from Madrid that Cubans have suggested a basis of settlement acceptable to Spain, is signif-

icant. The Spanish now realize that if the United States acts, Cuba is lost to the crown; and Cuban pacification at almost any cost, without interference from this country, is preferable. But the whole suggests the waning power of European governments on this continent.

The time is at hand for many changes both on the Western and the Eastern hemispheres. There is a growth of liberty in the west from both foreign and local oppression; while in Europe vital changes in international relations are going on, and events, startling to the world, are imminent. The student of history, prophetic and otherwise, has a most interesting and even thrilling field for observation in these times.

A FOREIGN EXAMPLE.

Berlin, the capital of the kingdom of Prussia and of the empire of Germany, is another of those misguided cities (according to the partisan idea of municipal government) that long since decided to eliminate politics from local affairs and make fitness the sole qualification of office holding. Its annual reports recently published show a surplus of something over eight million marks, or more than two million dollars. This vast sum represents the saving in almost every one of the different departments—in scarcely a single instance was the amount allotted entirely expended. The novelty of such a report will be appreciated by taxpayers in this immediate vicinity, where not only the departments but the corporation as a whole has persistently and insatiably called for more, until the poor people are put to their wits' and their resources' end to find money with which to keep the machine moving.

But in Berlin the officials have no partisan friends to reward at public expense, and no ward heelers to support at the public crib, which makes all the difference in the world. Yet there are parties here at home who affect to believe, and try to gull the taxpayers into believing, that reform and economy can assuredly be depended upon from the politicians, that the panacea for present ills is to be found in a mere change from one set of partisans to another set. They who believe the thinking portion of the community can be caught by such chaff as this only delude themselves. Among those who are the sufferers—these including high and low, rich and poor, Democrat and Republican—there is a well-defined opinion that, when it comes to a scramble for place and the plunder which the partisans attach to the same, one party is about as greedy and unworthy as the other—if not a little more so.

A CHECK ON LITIGATION.

Not every reader may know the meaning of the legal term "champerty." Webster defines it as "an agreement by a stranger, having otherwise no interest, with the plaintiff or defendant in a suit, to supply money, services, information, or evidence, by which to aid in maintaining and carrying on a suit in consideration that he shall receive a part of the matter in suit, as commission or otherwise, if the party with whom the agreement is made prevails;" also "the purchasing a suit, or right of suing;" also, "maintenance, with the addition of an agreement to divide the thing in suit."

Out of these several and rather cumbrous definitions the meaning of the word may be derived, and as thus defined it may be made