

further, the charters of Salt Lake and Ogden are identical, being, in that respect, couched in precisely the same language. If the one municipality has power to conduct registration by wards the other has, and *vice versa*.

It is clear that the court erred by an oversight—omitting to refer to the statutes that existed previous to the one on which the decision was based and which are still in force. Under these circumstances it appears probable that the motion for a rehearing will be granted, it being presumed that the court will seek to do justice in the matter.

THE CABINET.

A PORTION at least and sometimes all of an incoming President's Cabinet are known of so near the time of their taking their places as now. It was, therefore, with no feelings of surprise that we read in a dispatch a few days ago that four of President-elect Harrison's confidential and official advisers had been chosen, and that the announcement was authoritative. They are—James G. Blaine for Secretary of State, William B. Allison for Secretary of the Treasury, Russell A. Alger for Secretary of War, and John Wanamaker for Postmaster-General. There are still three positions to fill—the Attorney-Generalship and the portfolios of the Interior and Navy. Perhaps we will not be informed as to whom these places will fall upon until they are all officially announced after the inauguration; but it seems pretty well settled that New York is to have one of them, California one and the South one. As there are at least half a dozen aspirants, with considerable of a following in each of those sections, it is impossible to single out the right men. The great conjecture, however, as to whether Mr. Blaine would or not be in the Cabinet being apparently at rest, we can all afford to restrain our curiosity until the official promulgation reaches us; it is only four weeks off.

THE "STANDARD" SUITS.

THE proceedings at Ogden in the criminal libel suit of J. R. Middlemiss vs. F. J. Cannon, editor of the Ogden *Standard*, according to the published account of them, were decidedly unique. The case is based on the publication in the *Standard* of what the complaining witness alleges to be an er-

roneous statement of the evidence adduced at a trial of Middlemiss before a Justice of the Peace in Emery County, on a charge of disturbing the peace.

The position of Mr. Cannon in declining to leave the custody of the officer on his own recognizance, and his subsequent declination to give security for his appearance, was significant. It meant plainly that in case he was imprisoned he proposed to assume an offensive attitude. Commissioner Cross probably saw the point and declined to order Mr. Cannon's detention. His failure to insist upon his being kept in custody on his refusal either to enter into a personal recognizance or give security, tends to show that the court was not pickled in the idea that the prosecution had a very strong case.

This is the second proceeding in the same line planted by Mr. Middlemiss. The first was a suit for damages against the *Standard* for the publication, in a condensed form, of the allegations embodied in the complaint filed in the Emery County case against Middlemiss. As to what he expected to gain by a suit founded on such a basis is not very clear.

It is not American to strain points to plant suits against the press. Neither does a man make anything by adopting the role of an Ishmaelite in that respect.

A NEW COMBINATION.

AN IMPORTANT movement is announced by recent dispatches. Of course it has reference to the many-sided and apparently interminable effort of laboring men to effect a consolidated organization looking to world-wide action in concert. The new method is for laborers of all shades of opinion, from the desolating Anarchist and torch-bearing Communist to the cultivated and law-respecting agitator, to meet in conference during the time of the Exposition at Paris this year, and agree upon plans whereby the design previously spoken of may be carried out.

This would be a monstrous organization if it could be effected in accordance with the design. The workingmen of the earth, comprising nine-tenths of the adult male population, all joined together with the expectation of securing the greatest good to each member through the concurrent action of all, is a sweeping sort of project view it as we may. It, however, lacks the

one great essential that all inferior organizations of the same kind lack—it is impracticable. To mass the majority (the laborers) so that the minority (the employers) may be deprived of present power and the relations between them adjusted to the scale of common consent and mutual agreement, has always been the dream of that portion of the workers who do the least work, but there is "nothing in it" at present. Labor, not more surely than water, finds its level. Everything exists in grades, and to attempt to place a lower condition higher than innate merit warrants will only result successfully while the pressure is applied, and a pressure of any kind cannot last long.

We suspect the Paris movement has its origin in Paris. There are more people in that otherwise attractive city who would rather commit an act of incendiarism for bread than work for it, than anywhere else in the world. It is the hotbed of communism disguised in a variety of ways—intransigents, internationalists, world's congressmen, agitators, etc.; and intelligent workingmen elsewhere would act wisely to steer clear.

THE PROPOSED REPORT.

THOSE who desire to see justice done to Utah would probably not be surprised at the limber-backed action of the committee on Territories. They would probably, however, be inspired with no small degree of disgust. This is generally the sentiment with which a position that is neither hot nor cold is regarded. The apology for not reporting favorably on the question of the admission of this Territory to statehood is the thinnest kind of a subterfuge. The action has the full force and effect of an adverse report. In all probability the committee preferred a method having the appearance on its face of letting the people of Utah down easily. The easy process, however, is a weak one and is not preferable to that of being let down with more directness. The latter process has, at least, the merit of straightforwardness which the other lacks.

Under the pretension of the want of sufficient time is the fact that the committee did not have the courage to stand by its convictions. It might just as well have said, "We recognize the justice of Utah's claims for admission, and consider it wrong to keep it longer in territorial vassalage. But were we to report in line