

what as a rule, but that cause of trouble is likely to be brought to a sudden termination, to be followed no doubt by a summer as ardent as the winter has been severe. Of course a great many enterprises not at present in existence will be commenced and some of them completed, while others that have been languishing will doubtless receive an impetus sufficient to carry them along to a successful issue. As to material things the outlook is quite favorable indeed.

It should be kept in mind, though, that a few months more will bring upon us another political campaign, one in which there will doubtless be presented some new features, but that is not especially what we set out to discuss. Whatever of general material advancement has been accomplished of late has been through the people without distinction of party or creed uniting their forces and pulling together in one direction and it is desirable that this state of affairs continue. Above all should political sentiment and feeling be kept in subjection sufficiently not to jeopardize things of more consequence. Not that the parties are to disband or to change their principles or forget the chief delight of the thoroughbred politician in noise and speech-making and music and all that; not by any means. We would not un-Americanize the community so completely as that if it were in our power to do so. We can pay full attention to the shortly absorbing question of who is to fill the offices and still not lose sight of the other things upon which our prosperity rests.

There are other reasons why politics should not be permitted to assume abnormal proportions, one of which is the estrangement and ill feeling which a heated contest engenders and keeps alive, not only among those who proclaim politics to be their only religion, but to a much greater extent among those who have religious principles which they should, if they do not, hold too sacred and consequential to permit being absorbed or overcome by politics. If a person cannot be a partisan and respect the feelings of others because such others differ on political lines, that person we would say should keep out of the field as much as possible, and if he can so far control his nature, would do well to let the business alone altogether.

Life is too brief and there is too much else of consequence demanding our serious consideration to justify us in letting our angry passions rise over matters which, analyzed in the light of reason and with a calmer mood, are shown not to amount to much after all. Whether or not the straight-faced Democrat can see nothing commendable or supportable in Republican doctrine; whether or not the stalwart Republican is willing to admit that the Democratic party has some virtues and graces, either and both ought occasionally to reflect upon the proposition that we cannot get away from each other if we would, that every man depends to some extent upon every other man for support, prosperity and happiness, and that the gregarious instinct is in almost every case more potential than that to disintegrate a community even temporarily. Thus viewing it, perhaps the politi-

cian will without further trouble be able to see something desirable in his opponent personally if he cannot politically, and in every case let him have the full benefit of such discernment.

It is this that tends to the building up and welfare of a community, as well as to the improvement and advancement of its members. Let the lines be drawn as strictly as you will, both as regards candidates and platform and towards the close let the interest run as high as may be; but do not let excitement break over prudential barriers and cause you to say and do things which embitter without sufficient cause. Let us, among other things, see to it that nothing desirable shall be jeopardized through pulling apart so widely that it will be a difficult matter to bring the forces together in working array again.

Politics is a useful thing in its way. It is a department of mental philosophy which underlies all government, and those who give it no heed and are not to some extent interested in political affairs are not only behind the times and standing in their own light, but are not of as much consequence to their respective neighborhoods as every one ought to aim to be. But all who engage in political contests, and many of those who make a business of politics, do not understand what it is they are "pulling" for nor can they explain the theory or origin of the organization or movement for which they are so prone to making the welkin ring and the nights hideous. Such politics, or rather the practice of such, is what for the most part creates the hatreds, the jealousies and the bickerings, causing the good feeling which should always underlie political antagonism to be broken up. It and those who practice it may be of us, but it is not recorded that they ever built any railroads or established any factories, and it does seem at times as though the community in which they sometimes hold sway might be able to get along without them altogether.

OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM.

Salt Lake is in possession of a school board second to none in the country in point of regard for the public weal, the advancement of our rising generation and the general efficacy of our scholastic system. They have accomplished work which entitles them to something more than mere words of commendation, for the structures erected are alone a lasting credit to the whole municipality. And in the accomplishment of their public-spirited work as much economy as was consistent with the special matter in hand has been observed in every case, and not a dollar entrusted to them, out of a vast sum in the aggregate, figures in the column headed "unaccounted for." They have done well and are doing well, and the News takes pleasure in bestowing this well-earned encomium.

They must now go farther and undertake more, for far-reaching and comprehensive as their labor has been, it is still of course incomplete; perhaps they are not above criticism for having expended lavishly

in some favored spots while others that needed attention have received none; but as a matter of necessity their work will always be incomplete, the growth of the city making additions and improvements a matter of continuous moment. Yet at this time there are several points in the city where the lack of the best facilities is an irksome condition. We instance particularly the important district centering say on North Temple, somewhere between West Temple and State streets; the growing section known as North Salt Lake; the Tenth ward, and there may be others—all of which should be as well equipped in the matter of school facilities as any other part. Such sections pay over and still pay over their proportion of school moneys freely, and it is unfair to discriminate against them in the matter spoken of any longer. These people want to know why they cannot be as well equipped in this prime matter of education as are those in the near vicinity of those splendid institutions, the Lowell, the Lincoln, the Hamilton and other schools; and their query is a perfectly natural and proper one.

If we may venture to speak for the board—not in anger or reproof, but in sorrow—we shall have to say that the only reason is that the money has given out. A few days ago a report was submitted to the board, showing that with its present obligations fulfilled there would be an indebtedness of something like \$50,000 or \$60,000. This doesn't look like more school buildings; and yet shall the neglected and needed sections alluded to still continue needy and neglected? Are they not entitled to equal benefit where they bear an equal share of the burden? We think they are, and the board ought to think so, if it doesn't.

This brings us at once to the matter at issue. The money is all gone, but there is more where it came from. That which has been expended was obtained by bonding. Why cannot more be obtained in the same way? There are people who think it is just as well that this be done anyway, for those who receive all the benefits should bear a part of the expense. There is plausibility in the logic which says: Let those who succeed us pay all of it if necessary, and from two points of view it will be burdening them profitably—education, and the enhancement in point of value which new houses will bring to the property which the children must some day possess. The matter is squarely before us and it is certainly deserving of early and earnest attention.

THE LAST VERSES OF MARK.

Concerning a recently discovered manuscript containing a Syriac version of the four Gospels, the New York *Independent* publishes the subjoined particulars. The valuable document was found at Mount Sinai:

The text is Cretonian Syriac. We are not yet informed whether it contains the whole New Testament or not, but it does contain at least the four Gospels substantially complete. It is a palimpsest manuscript and the work of reading it is not easy. The Cretonian is the earliest Sy-