

It might be well for the ministers to take up a personal labor with Orlando W. Powers, on account of the potent influence he wields as a politician over the "Liberal" city officials. Should success attend an effort at his conversion it is not improbable that something may be done to induce the City Council and officers to take effective steps to stem the tide of unchristianlike and illegal conduct that has lately begun to flow. Judge Powers says he does not want to see the people of Salt Lake "too good." Whether this desire is based upon an apprehension on the part of the astute politician that in the event of popular goodness reaching a high state of development he would be left behind in uncomfortable isolation, we are not prepared to say. Whether or not this is the case is best known to himself. Be this as it may, there seems to be no immediate prospect of an excess of goodness showing itself as a result of "Liberal" rule.

After operating on Judge Powers the ministers might give some attention to a new field for Christian endeavor, which is suggested by the following from the issue of May 6th of the paper which the clergymen's association have regarded as their journalistic oracle:

"There was quite a crowd at the Driving Park yesterday, where numerous horses were trotted about for the admiration of the crowd. Mike Fitzgerald's Cigar shut out Jack Smith's black gelding in a mile race, and then served Thorberg's horse the same way, winning \$40 and \$10 purses respectively, besides some side bets. Time, 2:37½ and 2:40. A crowd will be out next Sunday."

Here is horse racing, gambling and general noisy desecration of the Sabbath in a wholesale way.

The most disreputable attempts have lately been made to paint the moral past of this city black, in order to excuse the looseness of the present and probable deep depravity of the not very distant future; yet day after day innovations upon the domain of decency are being chronicled that have heretofore had comparatively no existence within this municipality. Thus the logic of facts smashes the "refuge of lies."

Those who voice the moral sentiment of the majority of the people—Latter-day Saints—can do something toward preventing the city being overwhelmed with the more debasing phases of modern civilization by raising their voices against corrupting innovations. The majority can at least, as a body, keep aloof from the degrading moral con-

tagion now steadily gaining ground. But the Christian ministers ought to have a much more potent influence in the field of actual work, as the labor necessarily must be conducted among their own kind—in a political sense. Judge Powers consulted the clergymen on matters pertaining to the late municipal election. He also consulted on the same subject, the class referred to in the paragraph quoted above. How would it do to have another all round consultation, with a view to stopping the stream of wickedness whose volume is rapidly swelling? Seeing that the members of the Ministers' Association engaged in election campaign work they are entitled to have some influence upon the preservation of a respectable degree of moral purity in this city. Their recent course after laboring ineffectually with the City Council has not much power—confining their efforts to preaching special discourses upon the sanctity of the Sabbath and the beauty of sound morality. As reproof and exhortation have, by many of them, to be directed toward vacant seats, such treatment is largely abortive. Active work, in which officials who are neglecting their duty, and law-breakers who are demolishing moral safeguards can be reached, is the only labor that will count against existing wrongs.

#### SENATOR BECK.

SENATOR BECK arrived from New York at the Baltimore & Potomac depot in Washington, at four o'clock on Saturday, May 3rd, and a few moments after leaving the cars, and before leaving the station, he dropped dead. Our dispatches narrate the particulars of the sad occurrence, which was a shock to the entire country.

James Burnie Beck was born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, Feb. 13, 1822, and hence was in his 69th year. He received an academic education in his native country, whence he migrated to Kentucky, with his parents, while still a young man locating in the city of Lexington. He chose the bar as his profession, graduated from the law department of Transylvania University, and was admitted to practice in 1846. For twenty years he devoted his time and energies to this calling, refusing to become a candidate for office.

But in 1866 he was offered and accepted a nomination for Congress,

and was elected to the House of Representatives. He served four successive terms in the lower house, when, in 1876, he was elected to the Senate. He took his seat in that august body, the highest position to which a foreign born citizen can be elected under our government, March 4, 1877, and was twice re-elected. His third term would have expired in 1895, but it had come to be expected that he would retire before that time, on account of failing health, though his sudden taking off was entirely unexpected.

Senator Beck possessed a powerful and comprehensive mind, and was a statesman of great ability. His labors as a legislator were devoted more to economic than other questions, though he was not lacking in versatility, nor ability as a debater. He had given much attention to the tariff and currency questions, and was an advocate of free trade, and generous legislation towards silver. His reputation for probity stands unquestioned, and in his death the Democratic party loses one of its ablest leaders and exponents.

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE STRUBLE BILL.

ABOUT three weeks ago we published the text of the measure known as the Struble bill, which aims to disfranchise all Latter-day Saints in the Territory of Utah. Since then the bill has been amended so as not to make an offense of monogamous celestial marriage, avoiding a construction which might have been put upon it, and the following has been added to the second section:

"Any person who shall take said oath shall be entitled to have his name entered on the registry for said election; but if he swears falsely he shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and on conviction thereof shall be punished accordingly."

A new section to be known as section 3, is also added, as follows:

"That any person convicted of the crime of perjury under the provisions of this act, or the act hereby amended, or to which this act is supplemental, shall have the right to appeal upon any question of law or fact to the Supreme Court of the United States."

The effect of the clause added to section 2 is to curtail the unlimited authority heretofore assumed by registration officers in passing judicially upon the question of an applicant's right to take the registration oath. Under this bill the registrar is made no more nor less than he is supposed, on the principles of common sense to be, a ministerial officer. He must