

# The Deseret Weekly.

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## IT NEEDS "INSPIRATION."

THE chief, "Liberal" organ, in its issue of January 13th, directs an exhortation to the convention of its party which is to nominate candidates for the offices of Mayor, Recorder, Treasurer, and Marshal, to be voted for at the ensuing election. Its tone is half and half—pleading and dictatorial. It exclaims, in relation to the labors of the convention—"The 'Liberals' expect that their standard will not be lowered by their work, but rather that it will be 'full high advanced.'"

If the "standard" is to be estimated on the basis of the bulk of the ticket already nominated, its advancement will be an easy process, the almost unanimous verdict of both parties being that the selections as a whole could not well be weaker. We have already admitted that there are a few names of good, fair and capable men on it, but the greater part of the choice is so utterly unrepresentative and attenuated as to baffle any future efforts to repair the ticket. The "standard" can be raised readily enough but the ticket is beyond any other kind of repair than that symbolized by mending an old garment with new cloth. The rent will simply be made larger. It should be remembered also that it is not compatible with good judgment to yoke together the horse and the ass, as everybody knows they do not make a good team. The superior animal is likely to do some vigorous kicking, being choice in relation to his company. One worthless sheep will sometimes spoil a whole flock. When there are several of that quality the mischief is proportionately more swift and extensive.

The organ has decided in advance that in the selection of candidates for general offices, no conservative man shall be given a place upon the ticket. This indicates that the idea of conciliating young Utah has been abandoned by the party as

hopeless, and that it has been concluded to run directly counter to any course that would draw to the "Liberal" side, any portion of the class so much talked about as likely to increase the strength of the opposition.

The organ's idea of a conservative is a man who recognizes the fact that the "Mormons" have some rights entitled to respect, and if its wishes are complied with, the convention will nominate no one belonging to that consistent section of the people.

On the other hand, the "pronounced" class it speaks of is composed of rabidists and extremists. Men who have no regard for justice nor the weal of the commonwealth. These are the men that are wanted by the organ of the opposition.

It will be well for the People's Party if men of that stamp are selected, because such a choice would not only antagonize the whole of Young Utah, but fill with unutterable disgust the consistent non-"Mormon" element, composed of men who have real interests in the community and who would naturally seek to prevent the city business being turned over to a lot of hot-headed, unscrupulous extremists. These cool-headed men know full well that injustice cannot be done to one part of the community without the other portion suffering from mere sympathy of interests if from no other cause. It cannot be imagined that even justice would be done if this city were to be so unfortunate as to let its public affairs go into the hands of a class of men whose career indicates that they only lack the opportunity to figuratively tread on the necks of the majority, the disposition being already present. The conservative non-"Mormons" are as much interested in keeping such fire-brands out of office as are the people against whom they have always been so "pronounced." We anticipate that if the rabid idea is carried out to the end in the choice of a "Liberal" ticket, the solid conservative men of the "Liberal" party will not be seen on election day with their hair streaming in the wind and their coat tails flying in a horizontal line rushing in platoons to the polls to vote for men who would, if placed in power, jeopardize their material interests.

The organ says it is possible for the convention to "fix upon two or three names that will be an inspiration to the ticket." This appears

almost in the nature of an admission that as the ticket now stands it needs a good deal of inspiration injected into it to make it acceptable. This is correct. But it is a hard joke on the selections already made, to intimate that inspiration enough to have it voted for must be supplied by the addition of "two or three names."

So far the course of the "Liberals" in the selection of their candidates has been in the interest of the People's Party, rendering the success of the latter on the 10th of February next more and more certain.

## "A FRUITFUL VINE."

SISTER Elizabeth L. Beckstead, or Mother Beckstead as she was generally called, who died a short time ago at South Jordan, Salt Lake County, Utah, left a record in regard to family increase that is nearly if not altogether unprecedented in this generation of her sex.

Mother Beckstead was born in Upper Canada, July 6th, 1807; was married to Alexander Beckstead January 23rd, 1823, by whom she had 15 children. Her grandchildren number 141; her great-grandchildren 266; and her great-great-grandchildren 16, making a total of 438 souls.

There are now surviving her 9 children, 101 grandchildren, 202 great-grandchildren, and 12 great-great grandchildren, being a total of 324 direct descendants.

Mother Beckstead cast her lot with the Saints in 1838, and emigrated to Missouri the same year. She passed through all the difficulties her people had to endure in the early days with a fortitude and courage that stamped her as a true woman. Following the body of the Church to Illinois, she shared in their expulsion from that State and arrived in Salt Lake Valley in 1849. In 1850 she located with her husband and family on the west side of Jordan River, in Salt Lake County, where she resided up to the time of her death. She was a widow nineteen years, her husband having died in 1870.

## NEEDED LEGISLATION.

THE present session of the Territorial Legislature meets none too soon to provide legislation which is urgently needed. The Territory is now practically without legislation upon a very important subject, in which many thousands of its inhab-