

which he was an active participator, have naught but feelings of pity for him, and for all others who were instigators and perpetrators of those awful crimes.

THE PROSTITUTION OF THE STAGE

The stage is supposed to be a reflex of things happening in the actual or presumable life of man, and incidentally a representation of idealism and fancy. When a Roman tragedy is being presented, we are altogether prepared for the counterfeit presentation of the amphitheater and may even receive with tolerable grace the spectacle of the gladiators engaged in a death-struggle "to make a Roman holiday." This is a part of history, and when it can be made to add to the effectiveness of a play, or to make the story of an epoch more vivid, it has its uses in that way if not in others. But we would not tolerate some of the bloody deeds, even in mimicry, that long ago characterized the arena, because we do not care to imagine, much less to behold, them or a simulation of them. The spectacle of a prisoner battling for his life and perchance that of a wife and child, against a hungry Næmæan lion, and the gladiator with no other means of offense or defense than a small sword, in order that his Christianity might be expiated and his pagan captors find amusement at the same time, we in this age are well nigh unanimously opposed to and will not have. And yet what spectacle that appeals more strongly to cultivated sympathy, that makes the heart more healthfully pulsate and the soul to be more acutely active than that of a man fighting against hopeless odds in defense of the loved ones first and himself next? We object to such representations because of the sheer brutality which they place before our visual sense—because we have established a limit beyond which we do not care to go.

As between the gladiatorial struggles of ancient Rome and those of modern times—generally called prize-fighting—there is a great deal to be said in favor of the latter. One is to some extent, the other was in all respects, brutal, barbarous and bloody; one necessarily involved human life, the other only incidentally involves it; sometimes the former was for money, the latter always is for it; the former was with the sword or cestus, the latter with—of late—more or less padded fists; the former admitted of no modication, only extinction or continuance, while the latter has been considerably toned down and some phases of it are comparatively unobjectionable.

There is nothing, however, in the light of our present Christianity and advancement to be said in favor of fighting for money; indeed, it is rarely that any real justification can be found for fighting at all, but no matter as to that. Yet we are in this city just now favored with a play which is simply from first to last an attempt to make prize fighting heroic and respectable. It endeavors to show that a nation's honor may rest upon the quality of its bruisers and that it is the act of a patriot to pick up a quarrel with every effusive foreigner that comes along. "If a man is a gentle-

man at heart he will be a gentleman at anything," says the hero amid loud applause from the upper tiers. We beg to differ; there are some exceptions. A gentleman at heart is apt to slip from his moorings if he permits himself to be drawn into falsehood, deception, vicious company, destructive habits or prize-fighting, and all the cleverness of the playwright however aided by the gallery gods, cannot make it appear otherwise.

VICE VERSA.

We must take issue with the gentleman who in the City Council session last evening observed: "If the [Salt Lake City Street Railway] company objects to too much paving between its tracks I would recommend that it tear up one track and use a single one. This would satisfy the public very well."

On the contrary, this would not satisfy the public at all—at least that portion of the public that rides on the street cars and has to wait on a switch for five or ten minutes sometimes in order to pass another car. If we are right in the assumption that the cars are to be run in the interest of public convenience and not merely for the fun of the thing, no move of the City Council would be more popular than one which would induce the company to lay a double track along its entire line. Whoever tries to drive the company or the town back to the single track notion must be regarded as an enemy.

WILL IT BE IMPEACHMENT.

If the tone of the Republican press and the temper of Republican statesmen may be taken as a criterion it looks very much as though a case of impeachment were being worked up against President Cleveland because of his action in the Hawaiian affair. In the list of newspapers who oppose the President's action, however, we find the *New York Sun*, a Democratic but still an anti-Cleveland paper, which in a recent issue suggested that if the executive had taken certain prominent men in his party into his confidence he might have escaped some very annoying consequences.

There is no question as to the Constitution making no provision for special messengers for the head of the nation. This, however, does but raise the point of whether or not such power is implied. A charter cannot in the very nature of things be a code of laws inside of which everything and outside of which nothing. It is merely the foundation and limitation of the law-making power, setting forth certain rules for our guidance, and not in any case saying what, under those rules, we may or may not do. This being the case, we take it the President's defense would mainly arise from the section which provides that by and with the advice and consent of the Senate he shall make treaties, etc. It does not say that he shall have intercourse with no other authority than the Senate, because that body presumably looks to him, not be it, for official information and he must have

some means of acquiring this information without going in personal quest of it. As much responsibility rests upon him as upon the upper branch of Congress for all our foreign transactions, and if Congress can send out for persons, papers and information generally—which it can indisputably—why not he?

It will be observed that the situation was becoming critical; that all the powers were on the alert, while Great Britain and Germany were quietly overlooking their forces. It was absolutely necessary, before consummating an act whose outcome meant a serious entanglement if not actual hostilities, that it be determined beyond peradventure what the status of affairs on the islands was; whether, as it was first made to appear to us, there was a great popular movement there looking to immediate annexation or not. This, in the absence of a cable, could only be determined by personal inspection and investigation. Indeed, it is a question if even with that advanced facility for communication we could have had a perfectly satisfactory understanding, since the other end of the telegraph service would not have been controlled by those most interested.

That ought to be enough, but if more should be wanting it might be found in the perhaps unwritten but certainly existing requirement that the head of the nation be ever on the alert regarding its best interests and welfare. He wanted, doubtless, to maintain the friendly relations at present subsisting between us and all other powers at least during the present year of grace, and could perhaps see no other way of doing it than the course which he pursued. His emissary seems to have found, up to date, that so far from annexation or even a protectorate being the thing desired by the people of Hawaii, the thought that is uppermost with them is by what authority any such thing was ever accomplished at all. So long as the Stars and Stripes floated over the government building at Honolulu, just so long was this country bound to attack or defend against any other power that made advances in that direction—thus forcing us into the position of being a protector where our protection was not asked and having all nations that were not indifferent opposed to us besides.

Before utterly condemning the hauling down of the flag in Hawaii, let us first determine whether or not there was sufficient authority for raising it.

A GENEROUS OFFER.

With more or less dramatic diction and with the evident purpose of keeping their light outside the bushel, the banks of Columbus, Georgia, tendered their entire reserve to Secretary Carlisle offering to receive legal tenders in return. This outburst of generosity, amounting it would seem to prodigality, was hedged in with the statement that the bankers felt assured that "President Cleveland and his cabinet and the government would continue to pay gold for all bills presented." Waiving the little irregularity of the "President, his cabinet and the gov-