

many others we would like to mention but fear of the "News" editor's waste basket forbids further dilution.

One word more, however, on Brother Grant. May God bless him for the hearty interest and support he has always manifested in the old folks' celebrations. Until recently his house used to be the only place where we celebrated old folks' day, and he and his good wife, who is now dead, used to put themselves to much inconvenience and trouble, so that our old veterans, once a year, at least, might be made comfortable and happy. Success to Brother Grant. Long may his charity live and bear fruits.

Following is an account of what took place at Pleasant Grove on the 20th inst., furnished by a correspondent there:

The Old Folks' reunion was held here in the meeting house. A great many of the aged were brought in sleighs and were cared for. J. D. Wadley, chairman of the Old Folks' committee, had labored hard to make the day a success. The following visitors were present: George Goddard and wife, C. R. Savage and wife, Andrew Jensen and wife, all of Salt Lake City; John Ennis, Draper, and Joseph Wadley, of the Second ward.

The house was called to order by W. L. Hayes. Then followed singing, prayer and music, when Chairman Hayes gave all a hearty welcome and said we were there to make our aged friends happy. Four of the aged ones had passed away since last we met. He was glad to see so many present.

George Goddard called on all that were 80 and over to rise; there were twelve present, the oldest man being Shadrach Driggs who was 84. The oldest lady present was Christena Jensen, aged 83. Fourteen persons were present that had seen the Prophet Joseph Smith; 36 that were over 70 years of age, and four of the Pioneers of 1847; two of the Mormon Battalion.

A varied program embracing speeches, songs, etc., was gone through with until dinner was announced. It was spread in the basement of the meeting house, and was much enjoyed. After dinner the company again assembled, when the exercises were resumed, many of the features being very entertaining. The assembly dispersed after singing a hymn, and a benediction by Elder S. L. Swensen.

East Bountiful, Jan. 26.—Tuesday, January 26th, was a gala day in this thriving settlement, the annual ovation to the aged and the widows took place in the meeting house which was beautifully decorated and adorned with the portraits of the pioneers who had passed away, and whose faces were familiar to the guests assembled. Their names and the date of their arrival were attached to each portrait. It was a happy thought to allow those now living and who enjoy the results of the labors of the pioneers who have departed, to look upon the faces of the dear ones who braved the toils and dangers incident to pioneer life.

The Old Folks' committee of Salt Lake City were invited, and on their arrival were received by the committee in charge. A brass band in a large sleigh preceded the procession to the meeting house. A grand hand shaking was next entered into and a season of hearty welcome was enjoyed.

Everything in the hall was as comfortable as loving hearts could make it, happy, smiling ladies, young and middle aged, decorated with the ribbons of honor, were on hand to care for and make happy all the visitors. Three long tables capable of seating one hundred and fifty persons were loaded down with the best the land produced, and growing pot plants ornamented

them. At the east end of the hall were portraits of Washington, Joseph Smith, President Brigham Young, President John Taylor and President Wilford Woodruff.

There were present President Hess of the Davis Stake, Bishop Preston, Bishop Burton, Elder George Goddard and other members of the Old Folks' committee, who all assisted after dinner to make the time fly quickly. The Rev. Mr. Peebles and lady were among the invited guests. They seemed to enjoy themselves heartily. Bishop Stoker may well be proud of the noble band of men and women who are ready to assist him in honoring the aires and grandsires who live in the garden spot of Utah. Especial credit is due to the permanent committee whose business it is to see that twice a year the veterans are honored by a public demonstration. **ONE WHO WAS THERE.**

### MITTENS, GLOVES GOVERNMENT

Devotees of fashion wear gloves in cold weather because it is not customary to wear mittens. But where comfort is more than custom, Scotch mittens are the best hand covering for cold weather. Gloves are well enough in hot weather if it is then necessary to wear anything—I mean on the hands.

When you wear gloves the fingers are separated from each other. But nature placed them in contact, the heat of the body circulating freely through them. The mitten surrounds the fingers, makes a community of them, exercises a protective care over all but the thumb, which insists upon sticking up for itself. In giving the world the mitten, the Scotch conferred a greater boon than that always supposed to be secured where the mitten is withheld.

Gloves and mittens are types of government. Glove government stands for division and cold selfishness. Under it every fellow is for himself, and politics become a pool in which selfishness fishes for "suckers" enough to elect itself to office, where it may strive to enrich itself at the expense of the very "suckers" who swallowed its bait. The glove system of government is possible only in a republic where the people, supposed to be supreme, are the victims of those who secure the offices, as a rule. The glove system of government is, generally speaking, worked in the interest of the glove. Today it is, in our Republic, a combination of men who have much wealth with others who have little, yet are ambitious to secure more, rapidly. It is therefore a combination in the interest of wealth. The most dangerous animal man has to contend with is man. The most dangerous man is the class which assumes that the object of life is to acquire wealth and power by any available means, without regard for the rights of that greater class that creates wealth by its labor. This is the worst, the most sacrilegious, the most harmful "infidelity" in existence.

The glove system of government is the only one that gives legalized pirates an opportunity to work their schemes for self-aggrandizement successfully, and, as I have said, it has greatest power where the people, through universal franchise, are supposed to own the government.

The men who overthrew the power of Great Britain in the war of the Revolution established a mitten government, a warm, shielding government for the oppressed of the world. It was to know no classes, exist for no favorites, but was intended to stand equally for the good of all. Monopolies, trusts, combines to secure special privileges would not have been tolerated. Government by injunction would have received no encouragement. But money segregators aided by purchase-

able politicians have largely destroyed the intent of those who framed the government, and the truth is they have been permitted to do this through the apathy of the people—a fact that is now being painfully realized.

The mitten type of government is humane. An absolute monarchy, wherein a humane man is king, is vastly better than a republic where selfishness is in control. A constitutional monarchy, wherein the best men control, is far superior to a republic where politicians control. But a Republic, when rightly governed, is the best of all, is the genuine Scotch mitten of comfort and security. It surrounds all the people, all the fingers. It gives equal comfort to all. It will not allow the fore-finger or the "big" finger to rob the little finger. It puts all on an equality, as God did, when He started the race. It forces whatever accumulation of heat may occur in the "big" finger to radiate among the other fingers. It will not permit any accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few at the expense of the many. It would, if wisely managed, secure for the benefit of the people a circulating medium of exchange that could not be taken out of circulation and hoarded as wealth or held for speculation. If it was found by a long experience that the only way to accomplish this should be by demonetizing both silver and gold, that would be done. But the government at present and indeed for many years has been in the hands of a small portion of the population and the masses have been taxed to support a government for the benefit of a privileged class. Statesmanship has been swallowed by the snake of greed; the cause of humanity has been hypnotized by the quacks of freedom and the Republic is jeopardized by men who can buy United States senatorships and thank God with supreme impudence that they can win by such methods. The glove system has triumphed. It has demoralized the people to such an extent by chalk talk on sound—that is, wind-money, by promises of prosperity, by bribery that the people are practically slaves under the direction of political and financial Legrees.

What can we do? Begin at home. "Turn the scoundrels out" in municipal affairs; spread the reform to counties; from counties carry it to the State; from one state carry it to another; unite the states in a desire for national salvation; put the mitten of safe government upon the hand of the nation, and stand fast, assured that the Soul of this Universe will give its casting vote with that party that stands for right, for justice and the best interests of mankind. The evils that harass and threaten the American Republic are indigenous. Its dangers arise, not from monarchies, not from despotisms, not from "the future" of Japan, but from fungus peculiar to itself. It must cure itself within a reasonable time or it will become so weak in its hold upon the hearts of the people that monarchy may cross the Atlantic and capture the nation as easily as, in 1873, it captured the Congress. A republic that kills patriotism by injustice has no right to expect volunteer armies to sustain it. A republic that is forced to resort to drafts to raise an army to protect itself is not on a winning basis. If, in the near future, the American government does not return to the people and once more exist for the people, there will come an end of the Republic.

CHARLES ELLIS.

A severe storm is raging in the vicinity of Lander, Wyo., and many travelers have been badly frozen as a consequence. Two soldiers out in it, nearly lost their lives.