

advise its readers to vote for the best men no matter which ticket or how many tickets they might have to consult and choose from. The reasons for this reluctance are obvious—our motives would have been misconstrued and magnified to the injury of those who might otherwise have been deserving of benefit. But we have never thought, and do not now think, that any question of political difference or article of party faith need be considered at all in the selection of a body of men to run the affairs of this city. The time has certainly come for more independence, fitness and character in our officials. The community is well-nigh in despair, and a continuance of present conditions means disaster. All who feel the gravity of the situation—and this, we imagine, will include almost every taxpayer who isn't also an office-holder—will welcome a chance to express themselves, and their voice, we venture to say, will not be of a character to soothe the professional politician and place-hunter. What is wanted now is a class of men whom the people and offices need, not men who need the offices. The reform movement starts out under worthy auspices and must be considered to have most excellent prospects of general support. The more it is examined the more it will be found to deserve favor, if on no other account at least by reason of the character and source of the enmity it will arouse.

A PLAIN CASE.

Every community has its monomaniacs, some in greater proportions than others. When these are in the classification of harmless they have a range of condition extending all the way from exclusive imbecility to active and omnipresent offensiveness, this being a type of nuisance which the law cannot reach. When politics is the subject concerning which the unhinging occurs, the victim is more nearly a hopeless case than when any other cause of affliction befalls him. He then eats politics, drinks politics, dreams politics, talks politics and works of all—especially when having a "rowing" with a newspaper—writes politics. He can conceive of no happiness on earth or salvation beyond it that is not intimately related to politics. Nothing and nobody, neither age, sex nor condition, are permitted to escape. Being saturated with his one all-absorbing topic, he diffuses it around him at all times and in all places. How tiresome it becomes in very deed!

Something too much of this. There is a time and place for everything. It is not only proper but sometimes necessary that the people settle public questions in accordance with political alignments, because they can properly be settled in no other way. It does not follow, however, by any means, that a site for a new cemetery, for instance, must be made in accordance with Democratic or Republican proclivities; that the mart and markets of the community should receive only such customers as are in accord with the proprietors' beliefs; that railroads with

Democratic directors should establish Democratic differentials, or that amusement resorts under Republican control should either exclude Democrats and Populists or charge them a higher figure than they do their own kind. All of which does but tend to show that—the monomaniacs to the contrary notwithstanding—the line should be drawn somewhere; and why not at the place where only the educational or business interests of a community are involved?

It will not be contended that we should have politics at a wedding, a funeral or in church, because it is not appropriate. Why may not the list be properly extended and made to include the circumstance of a joint indebtedness which the tax payers, without regard to political affiliations, must settle in proportion to their respective possessions? It looks like, in fact it is, more a matter of business, pure and simple, and as such should be met and disposed of in a business like way. Certainly for this to take place we must have business men attend to it, and it is hoped no one, however unbigoted otherwise, will be so near to absolute insanity as to say that all the business ability of the place is to be found within the ranks of any particular organization. Why not, then, in order to have the very best men we have at work on the complicated case in hand, have the privilege of selecting them from whatever station in life they may be found without regard to social inclinations? It would seem to be the policy dictated by good judgment and sustained by the highest quality of common sense.

TRUTH IS PREVAILING.

An illustration of the old adage that "Truth is mighty and will prevail," is given in the Birmingham, England, Gazette, of July 23 last. Even a Mormon Elder, assured as all of them are of the successful future of the Gospel message they proclaim, sojourning in that city seven years ago would have felt to hesitate if it had been suggested to him that in the period named conditions would have changed so in the great city of Birmingham that one of its leading newspapers would have permitted in its columns an article commenting favorably on the Latter-day Saints. Yet not only is the permission given, but the leading editorial article of the day, referring to the Jubilee celebration in this city, displays a most commendable frankness and fairness toward the Mormons, showing that when the editor realized the facts in the case he was just and courageous enough to give them pointed expression—a fact which the intelligent readers of the Gazette will not fail to appreciate. Of course, with the Latter-day Saints, who recall President Woodruff's prediction several years since, of such revolution in sentiment as has been going on in late years, there is no wonderment as to the cause or progress of the change referred to.

The Gazette gives a brief and accurate account of the early history of the Saints, and traces them to these valleys. To be sure, the English editor does not yet accept the fact

of the divine inspiration and authority in Mormonism, as may be noted when he refers to President Brigham Young, of whom he says "opinions differ;" but he does not deny the inspiration and authority, gives the Mormon account without comment, and declares that President Young was a "genius in organization," possessing "the power and the foresight of a master." The Gazette further says:

We have said nothing here either for or against their doctrines, but even their greatest enemy could not accuse them of idleness, of social abuses, of ill-government, or of failure to turn all things to the best account. Stories were told in the early days of the hideous espionage that prevailed in their midst, and those stories are now admitted to have little or no foundation. Other stories, originating in the prevailing system of polygamy, told of infamous depravity, but those who have visited Utah City declare that it is singularly free of vice and impurity, and that domestic happiness seems to be supreme.

Thus the way continues to open up whereby the civilized world may acquire an accurate idea of the condition and aims of the Mormon people. There is very much yet to accomplish in this line, as may be seen in the Gazette's notion of Utah being a city instead of a State of broader area than England and Scotland combined, with many cities and towns inhabited by Mormons, and others as well. But the good work goes on, and the truth is displacing error and establishing itself in the earth.

NO TIDINGS OF ANDREE.

The jokes which the irrepressible and at times irreverent paragrapher is getting off regarding Explorer Andree are to the more thoughtful highly objectionable. It has by many days passed the time within which there should have been tidings of the intrepid aeronaut and his companion; it is generally understood, and was at the first, that success must be almost immediate or shut out altogether, and being shut out means a condition of things which may when disclosed prove a shock to the whole civilized world and a blow to scientific circles from the mere contemplation of which they are even now shuddering.

Andree was provisioned for about four months, and so far as that part of the problem goes there need be no apprehension. It seems to be a case in which for practical purposes one month's supply of food would be as useful as any greater amount, the condition of a protracted search as in the case of voyages by vessel not being permissible in this case. At the rate at which the balloon left its moorings—twenty-two miles an hour—it should have reached the pole in about forty hours, or four whole days at the most; reaching it, the voyage should have continued until the voyagers were again upon terra firma. More than that number of weeks have expired and there are no advices. Has the polar current to which the balloon was committed swept it and its occupants so far outward as to be beyond the reach of human aid and yet not far enough to take them to and past the goal? Have they encountered a circumpolar breeze which sweeps