

party, the Council simply and mechanically opens its mouth and swallows. No matter what the subject may be, it is generally treated—with the exception of a few isolated scintillations, like flashes from percussion caps on a dark night—by a sort of owlish silence. The way in which measures are thus automatically slipped through the Council without even an attempt at intelligent analytical discussion, has no parallel in the history of his city.

Is this the result of incapacity or lack of independence, or both? Occasionally a member will make a good strike in the direction of statesmanship by stating a reasonable objection to a proposition, even when there is a potential "Liberal" influence behind that against which he makes an attempt to contend, but the solitude of his position seems to overwhelm him and he subsides.

Are we to understand that the members of the Council, with the exception, we believe, of Mr. Hall, are a unit on this invasion of the rights of the public in Liberty Park asked for by Governor Thomas and his fellow petitioners, or is their acquiescence the result of timidity, inability to grasp the situation, or supine indifference to the weal of the people?

All we ask of any person who may imagine that our strictures upon the Council are not well grounded is that he note, read and weigh the proceedings of that body.

THE USURPERS MUST GO.

THE withdrawal of the appeal to the Supreme Court of Utah in the mandamus case of the city officers, is a little more of the dilatory petting resorted to by the "Liberal" lawyers.

It is pretty certain that the appeal would have resulted in the affirming of the decision of the lower court, and would no doubt have hastened the process of installing the rightful city officers in the positions from which they have been arbitrarily excluded.

The city officers elected in the third and fourth precincts were refused certificates by the Secretary of the Territory, who had already issued certificates to the "Liberal" candidates. They applied for a mandamus to compel the performance of his duty. Judge Zane granted the writ. The "Liberal" attorneys took an appeal. Now they withdraw it.

Proceedings will have to be taken in the District Court to oust the

bogus officials. They are clearly occupying places to which they were not elected. That this will be judicially established we have no doubt. But it will take some more litigation to put an end to this usurpation.

If it were not a matter of duty we would not urge the gentlemen who were elected by the People to push the matter further, but let the "Liberal" plotters who gained the election by flagrant fraud see what their work will accomplish, in disgusting their own party with "Liberal" extravagance and incompetency. But it is right that this contest should go on until justice is done, so we hope they will not be deterred from pursuing it to a victorious end.

NOT BENEFICIAL.

A SENSATION of mingled annoyance and disgust permeated the business section of Salt Lake City on June 7th. The cause of the irritation is that, under cover of night, persons employed by the Ogden Carnival committee had plastered the walls and doors of a large number of prominent business buildings with flaming posters. The walls and gates enclosing the Temple Block were similarly defaced, while announcements in red paint were daubed on the new pavement on South Temple street. This piece of lawless impertinence was also perpetrated upon the bill boards of Auderson Brothers, the paper which the latter had placed on them according to contracts they had made with different parties for bill posting being in many instances covered by the carnival sheets. They are thus subjected to injury by an act dishonest on its face, the boards being their private property. Their work and the rights of their patrons have been interfered with.

These are some of the advance fruits of a coming exhibition of bolsterous and senseless frivolity connected with which there can be no symptom of the mental strength, judgment or genuine manhood.

It would be a stretch of absurdity in which we would not care to indulge to presume that such a palpable piece of lawlessness was done in ignorance, unless it is upon the theory that all things are possible in that line from the class of people who engage in such parodies on common sense as carnivals necessarily are, being relics of old Roman semi-barbarism.

It has been stated to us that the object of thus plastering prominent buildings and defacing private property with pictorial paper was for the purpose of exciting journalistic comment and thus procure advertising for the carnival. We have not heretofore noticed the coming exhibition, but seeing it has been practically forced upon us, it has the appearance of a public duty that we give some attention to the subject.

Webster's definition of the word carnival is, "A festival celebrated with merriment and revelry." To make the nature of the affair more clear it is needful to define the word "revel," which signifies (1) "To feast in a riotous and lawless manner; to carouse; to act the Bacchanalian." (2) "To move playfully without regularity." In other words, according to the accepted understanding of such exhibits, the one which is to occur at Ogden is to be in the nature of a noisy, bolsterous, irregular mob, showing the tendency of classes of men and women to degenerate toward the frivolous in place of developing mental solidity and prudence. To such an affair as this the exclamation of the poet—

A little nonsense now and then
Is relished by the wisest men—

has no applicability. It is a whole mountain of unintelligent nonsense mixed with a good deal that takes on an aspect more vile than mere buffoonery. According to the accepted understanding of the nature of a carnival it includes carousing and drinking, and these conditions are almost inseparable from other debasing indulgences.

The only plausible plea for the coming carnival that we have heard offered is that the influx of visitors to the localities where they are held brings business activity and lots of money. To our thinking this is a low basis upon which to gauge a subject of this character. It is laudable to make money when the process is honest. When this result is sought at the expense of common sense and public morality it is placing matters of incalculable intrinsic value below the status of things that "perish with the handling."

The student of history need not be told that it has, from the beginning, illustrated one potent fact—that a tendency in men and nations toward the frivolous has invariably proved to be a symptom of mental decadence; while a disposition toward the serious has been an indication of the growth of intelligence.