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LET US STOP FOOLING.

When the conspiracy against the government of Louis XIV of France was under full headway by reason of the estrangement effected by the conspirators between the king and Richelieu, the latter chafed and fretted and raged at times because he could see through the dark designs on foot but could not cause the puerile monarch to do so. More than this, each succeeding effort on his part to remove the bandage which the conspirators had placed upon the sovereign's eyes and thus to thwart the treasonable work rebounded upon Richelieu and was the means of making the breach between the two men wider. Once, when goaded to desperation by the taunts of the chief conspirator, the old cardinal surpassed himself in denunciatory power and—according to Bulwer—made the knave turn pale and tremble under the terrible maledictions and warnings poured out upon him. Said Richelieu at one point—"Ah, dark gamester, look to it well, lose not a trick. By this same hour tomorrow thou shalt have France or I thy head!"

If anything can make the ordinary human restless and fearful, it is to make him know that within a certain brief time certain things are to be done or certain unpleasant results will follow, and in no place that we know of is such limitation at times so imperative as here in Salt Lake. We have been more remorselessly plucked, plundered and imposed upon in various high-handed and low-handed ways than any other community of similar position in the country; still have we "borne it with a patient shrug" and let one imposition after another be entered upon the records of time without much more than protest until we have come to look upon them as a matter of course. It is time to call a halt. This city deserves better than to be made a stool pigeon of by anybody that takes a notion to do it.

It ought to be agreed upon and lived up to by our business men that whenever their joint aid is sought in the furtherance of any private enterprise the proceeding must be two-sided and even-handed; that if everything is legitimate and proper there can be no reasonable objection to each of the parties being made secure. As it is now and has been all along, we are required to run all the risk, to advance time, means and effort, and upon the slightest suggestion that the proceeding be made equal we are met with a sneer of derision if not an outburst of defiance. There is no necessity for it to continue any longer, in

fact there was none for its commencement and subsequent toleration.

Henceforth, when any man or company of men propose to inaugurate a new industry in our midst, one that will be profitable to them and beneficial to us in certain ways if we will aid in the enterprise, let us, if we decide to embark in it, see to it before canvassing for and raising the needed funds that some sort of undertaking is entered into by the projectors, so that, in the event of their acting in bad faith, we shall have something to fall back upon. Let the word go forth at once and to all that, while disposed to do what is reasonable and proper to further the city's welfare and incidentally to make profit for others, we will no longer be made light of without its costing those who do it something. Don't wait until the labor and time required in getting the community worked up and the means subscribed and collected have been put out before demanding a bond or other security; as an evidence of good faith, which no man who intends to act in good faith will object to, let the bond or other security accompany the proposition. Then all sides will be protected, and if there be any losses they will fall where they ought to fall. Furthermore, let the time within which the work is to begin, that within which it shall be completed, and its capacity, cost, etc., be plainly set out; then, if any of the gentry who are so fond of playing pranks on us try it again, we will have perhaps as much annoyance as ever, but it will be at their expense. We want to protect ourselves from designing men who seek gain without the usual attendants of risk or consideration, and it is our duty to ourselves and each other to do it.

We are in a condition of things financially just now which attracts attention to us in just the same way that a horse mired in a pool and without assistance attracts the attention of the neighboring crows—they can see or believe they can some rich plucking in the immediate future. Let us begin the preparation of a series of disappointments for them by placing our spare money in such channels as will unquestionably return the investments with interest, while stimulating trade to a greater extent than would any of the projects offered us even if completed.

But above all, let us hereafter deal with so-called beneficiaries of the community on a purely business basis, unalloyed with sentiment or buncombe. Let us have a forfeit posted before doing any thing, and then if it should prove to be as case that we are the intended victims of a conspiracy or anything else but we want nothing of, we can call the designers' attention to their bond and say: "By this time or these times you have done thus and so or we declare a forfeiture upon you and will proceed to collect in accordance therewith." This sounds a little harshly to some, no doubt; but something of the kind has become an imperative necessity. We must prevent ourselves from being overcome by placing ourselves in such a position that on the first appearance of treachery we will be able to overcome those who attempt it; in other words, as Richelieu had it, there must be a stake—a two-sided one, to play for.

CHANGES IN SPELLING.

Our mother tongue, now recognized as the chief of modern classics, is distinguished from most other living languages by the simplicity of its grammar, and equally so by the inconsistency of its orthography.

At intervals for the last many years efforts more or less spasmodic have been instituted to simplify our English spelling, and to develop rules of practice by which letters standing alone and in well-defined combinations will always have the same value in pronunciation. And surely any thinking man will welcome any element of consistency into our present unmethodical pronunciation, but habit and custom have to be antagonized in any such attempt.

We do not intend here to cite numerous examples of every day words which illustrate such inconsistencies; our object is a more special one. Usually the students of science are particular to follow an accepted usage in the employment of their terms; but as science today is everybody's field, it is not to be marveled at that popular errors have made their way even within these mystic bounds.

The need of some accepted standard for the spelling and pronunciation of chemical terms became so pressing that several years ago the body known as the American Association for the Advancement of Science appointed a committee of able gentlemen to deal with the matter. This committee has reported; their recommendations have been adopted by the association; and now the national government through its department of the interior, bureau of education, has issued a chart, embodying the principles as adopted by the association, and asks that this be made the rule of conduct in the matter. Our attention has been called to it by one of our citizens who is a member of the distinguished association already named. The gentleman kindly submitted the chart for our examination, and we mention the following items, selected from a host of technical rules for the guidance of professionals, as those given here will be used in every day life:

The final *e* is dropped in all strictly chemical terms except one class of hydrocarbons; thus we should unite and pronounce *chlorin*, not *chlorine*; *bromin*, not *bromine*; *iodin*, not *iodine*; *fluorin*, not *fluorine*; *morphin*, not *morphine*; *quinin*, not *quinine* (and pronounce this troublesome word *kwinin*); *cocain* not *cocaine*. In another class of compounds this change applies; thus it is proper to say *oxid*, not *oxide*; *chlorid*, not *chloride*; *hydrid*, not *hydride*; and *sulfid*, not *sulphide*, or *sulfide*.

This last example illustrates the *ph* to *f* in *sulfur*; a most sensible procedure we are convinced. Yet it does look strange, though it be strictly correct; but hereafter we must say *sulfur*, *sulfid*, *sulfurous*, and *sulfuric*.

We are requested by our chemical leaders to follow them in this use of proper terms. We should say *sodium carbonate*, not *sodic carbonate*, or *carbonate of soda*; *zinc oxide*, not *zincic oxide*; *hydrogen sulfid*, not *sulphuretted* or *sulfuretted hydrogen*, etc.

These changes are certainly in the