

to them. Indeed much is taught which young men are often years in forgetting while taking up and carrying on the practical work of life.

Why the movement is not at once made to change enough that program to enable young men to start out right in life and fitted to meet and intelligently perform the duties of life, we cannot see.

Try a Few Shells

If the renegade savages down in San Juan county have an entrenched camp on a hill commanding a clear view of the valley on all sides, to storm their camp would probably cost a good many lives. It would be better to send down a couple of guns of the Utah battery and treat them to a few shells. They probably have not as much experience as some of the army that is swearing in Flanders, on the effect of artillery fire and it might astonish them into a swift surrender and without the cost of any lives of white men.

Where Is The State Guard?

THAT legislator who said that if one mine was incorporated and paying dividends was taxed a certain amount, and that if the next mine on the lode was not incorporated and was not paying dividends, it would be fair to assess them the same; would assess two-bit calico the same as chiffon velvet. But he will be able to go back to his rural constituents, tell them how he cinched Salt Lake and the rich mine owners, and on this prestige probably be re-elected two years hence. Still there is talk of sending the state guard down to San Juan county to punish some renegade savages who have been killing and robbing some frontier settlers, but there is no talk of calling out the guard to protect the state against such legislators as the one whose views are given above.

In The Old Halcyon Days

WHEN the first revenue tax collector came to Utah he found either nineteen or twenty-one—we are not sure which—distilleries in arrears of taxes.

That was when the Lord, through his prophet, ruled here.

And the fire water thus manufactured was of a brand such that if a man took three drinks of it he was liable to go out and steal a horse or an adobe house in fifteen minutes.

We mention this not to stir up old antagonisms, but to show how far some of the elect have wandered away from their early teachings.

For proof of the absolute truth of the foregoing we respectfully refer to Chief of Police Grant.

The Forest Service laboratory at Washington has determined that a cord of seasoned hickory, oak, beech, birch, hard maple, ash, elm, locust, longleaf pine, or cherry equals a ton of coal; a cord and a half of shortleaf pine, hemlock, red gum, Douglas fir, sycamore, or soft maple, and two cords of cedar, redwood, poplar, catalpa, Norway pine, cypress, basswood, spruce, or white pine are needed to equal in heat value a ton of coal.

That is all right but how about the different varieties of bituminous coal. In Utah they differ about as much as the different species of wood in the amount of carbon, ash and other ingredients.

An American college professor thinks the United States and Russia have so much in common that they are natural allies. He must have reference to prohibition and blind pigs.—San Francisco News Letter.

SHALL SALT LAKE SECEDE?

By J. T. G.

William Marion Reedy, in his excellent publication, the St. Louis Mirror, published an article recently relative to the possibility of a movement to annex St. Louis to the state of Illinois. The article was occasioned by the action of the rural members of the Missouri legislature in attempting to force the city of St. Louis to bear more than its burden of the state taxes, and what that editor says about the attitude of the hicks with which this city is contending sounds so homelike, and fits so many parallels in the case of Salt Lake City vs. some of the carrot eaters, now ensconced on one of our seven hills, that it reads like an inspiration, and we wonder if it is not about time for the organization of a movement here for the annexation of the City of Salt Lake to the state of Nevada?

Among other things, Mr. Reedy says:

The state of Missouri doesn't seem to care much for us but to soak us for taxes to the relief of a lot of the counties.

Everything that a state legislature can conceivably do the largest city in the commonwealth that has a tendency to blight this burg is contained in the legislative programme.

Every vestige of home rule here is being gradually eliminated. It is the purpose of the legislature to subject the city to the same kind of government that is given towns and villages.

The city is made the plaything of all the peanut politicians of the rural parts. They won't let us control our own police or elections or excise. They won't let us have a voice in the matter of taxation.

If the legislature overlooks anything that can hurt the city, the Supreme Court mostly seems to rectify the oversight, until it is almost impossible for the city to do anything a metropolis may want to do.

The community which pays more than half the taxes of the state is treated like a stepchild in every important particular.

And if you ask at Jefferson City why this is so you are told frankly it is because St. Louis goes Republican. The Democratic party in the state is bent solely upon punishing St. Louis for its politics. To that end it does everything it can to injure the city's business and even to blast its social life.

Steadily the warfare upon business is continued by the legislature at every session of the legislature. There is no great business which has not been the object of an attempt to drive it out of the state. There goes on a constant baiting of the railroads. Ever there is a concentrated effort to destroy the brewing industry. And all this is done simply to enable some men to advance their own political ambitions.

For about twenty years after the war the James gang's activities were sufficient to keep outside money from coming into the state, but since then the same effect has been accomplished by the legislature. And the effect has borne most heavily upon St. Louis.

It would seem that it's about time for St. Louis to secede from Missouri. If it doesn't it will soon be a dead city, like Bruges. There won't be anything left here but "for rent" signs.

If we can't secede and get annexed to Illinois, and must trail along with a state whose model is Arkansas, perhaps we may initiate here an agitation that will result in all the big cities of the country being emancipated from state government and being given in the Union somewhat of the status of States. All the country's big cities suffer from "rube" rule, but none suffers so much as St. Louis.

To this last statement that none suffers so much as St. Louis, we take violent exception, and can prove that our contention is right by citing the history of every successive jackass legislature from the first to the worst.

With a small percentage of the members men of brains, intelligence and conscience, the remainder are the usual mountebanks, charlatans, political tricksters, sneaks, or slaves, or all combined, and in the freak legislation they propose, in the iniquitous measures they are attempting to put through, and the oppressive taxation they are determined if possible to fasten in various ways on this city and Ogden, they are doing exact-

ly what every preceding sinister outfit of the same ilk has done or has tried to do in the past.

The futility of presenting petitions by the most influential citizens must be apparent if one stops to think but a moment; the conferences with the same kind of men are equally useless; and the deceit in the pretences of many cow county slaves is depleted on such faces as characterize those who in their formative years were so influenced that nothing can change them.

The dignity of a sovereign state, the sacred traditions of its legislative chambers—though God knows there have been few enough here—mean nothing, could mean nothing to them, but biennially they troop in with a new set of pipes to bray through, and many of those who think at all come with the fixed purpose of destroying whatever shows a sign of prosperity if this city is in the least the beneficiary.

To reason with them has just as much effect as if the proverbial wind were blowing. From sire to son they always remember the steadfast purpose to tax the men at the head of great enterprises, or who own property here, almost out of their possessions, and surely it seems that it is time to consider whether it is not time for Salt Lake to secede.

If we are to be in the clutches of these incompetents whose inferiority is only exceeded by their petty greed, and the evil schemes against this city that lurk in their sodden minds, by all means let us form a defensive alliance or secede.

In the Merchant of Venice, Shylock is made to say:

"You take my house, when you do take the prop That doth sustain my house; you take my life When you do take the means whereby I live."

There seems to be a disposition on the part of a large portion of the present Utah legislature to take in not only Salt Lake, but all the props that give the people of Salt Lake the means to live.

When Governor Spry was fighting the proposition to have the polished monolith columns around the capitol, on one occasion he intimated a belief that the rough stones would be more appropriate under the barren mountains of our rugged state.

We suspect his judgment was good, and when the present legislature adjourns in the opinion of many people it would be appropriate to take down the marble in the legislative chambers and substitute adobes, in order to be entirely consistent.

At a time it was thought that Germany wanted to get a foothold in Holland, Bismarck and the Dutch ambassador stood watching a review of the Germany army. As a well set up body of men marched past, the Ambassador said: "Fine soldiers, but too short." Then came the Grenadiers, between six and seven feet tall; nevertheless the Ambassador's comment was the same as before: "Fine soldiers, but too short." "What does your excellency mean?" asked Bismarck. "I mean that we can flood Holland eight feet deep," replied the Ambassador.—Boston Transcript.

COMMITTEE OF MERCY

The Committee of Mercy—a lovely title—with Lady Paget as president, Mrs. John Astor as vice-president, the Duchess of Marlborough as chairman and Lady Randolph Churchill as head of the Hospital Committee—all American women—is connected with the American Women's War Relief Fund, with offices at No. 200 Fifth avenue, and asks for immediate contributions. Frederick H. Allen, the honorary treasurer, writes: "The suffering in Europe is beyond conception, and women and children are dying daily as the result of hunger and exposure."