

GOVERNOR MURRAY WELCOMED

The Herald under a hearty welcome to our new chief Executive, Governor Murray. His Excellency has passed but one day in Utah, and we are permitted to say, that very favorably impressed those who have been fortunate enough to make his acquaintance. * * * The Governor comes here with an excellent reputation for honesty, ability and integrity. He has held high and responsible offices in both the military and civil departments of the Government, and as a private citizen he ranks among the first people of his city and State. The excellent record that he has made for himself will be accepted as a guarantee that he is fully qualified to perform the duties of the Utah Governorship. The position is not a hard one to occupy, nor the requirements of the place difficult to satisfy unless the incumbent chooses to make them so. While the office in our sense is important, the occupant is powerless for good or evil except as his official position gives weight to his individual ideas and suggestions.—The Herald

From what we read and hear of the new Executive, we judge that he is not a man likely to be captured by a clique or whipped into line by the lash of any party, like some of his predecessors. He bears a fine reputation in his own State, and on leaving for the West, received quite an ovation from leading citizens of various shades of political opinion. We join the people of Utah in extending to the Governor and his family a cordial welcome, and hope that his new home in the valleys of the Wasatch will become as pleasant and agreeable as it could possibly be in old Kentucky, and that as Governor of Utah he will succeed in gaining alike the confidence of the great bulk of the people, and the approbation of the authorities at the seat of Government.—Deseret News

This welcome to Governor Murray on his arrival in Utah, coming from our Mormon contemporaries, is handsome, and THE TRIBUNE heartily joins in the good wishes expressed. The position of Governor of Utah is not a hard one to occupy, if the incumbent possesses qualities to fit him for success in any other public relation. He simply requires to hold himself aloof from the advances of any clique, to be influenced by neither cajolery nor intimidation, but to bear himself as an honorable, high minded gentleman would bear himself in any sphere of life, and take counsel of his own judgment. The responsibility of his acts rests upon himself; they should therefore be dictated by his own sense of right.

Governor Murray does not come among us a carpet bagger or a political adventurer. The office was bestowed upon him unsolicited and unexpected, and when he made up his mind to accept the position, he disposed of his handsome home in Louisville, brought family and friends along, and has evidently come to stay. This is an appointment for which we may feel grateful to President Hayes. A man in good social position, whose record is an honorable one, who is experienced in public affairs, and whose motives certainly cannot be mercenary, will dignify the office, and it is reasonable to expect that "he will succeed in gaining the confidence of the great bulk of the people" by the mere force of his example.

Experience has shown that this elect people, with all their peculiarities of faith and domestic practices, have regard for the private citizen and the public official who are straightforward in their course and unwavering in their devotion to the cause of justice and equal rights. If such a course brings a man prominently before the public gaze, he will incur the malignant hatred of the usurping and law defying leaders of the Mormon Church, and their truculent newspaper organs will pour abuse and vilification upon him by the bucketful, but this does not affect the regard in which he will be held by the masses, his sterling qualities will be revered in many a home where approval would be least expected. When Judge McKean died, a martyr to the cause of enfranchisement in Utah, his death was deplored with poignant grief by hundreds of down trodden Mormon wives who had silently regarded him as their protector and benefactor.

No private citizen in Utah has sacrificed more in behalf of the oppressed and defrauded children of the covenant than Mr. R. N. Backus, spending money, employing his copious resources as a lawyer, and encountering danger on occasion which only a stout heart could face. He has been abused to the extent of our vernacular, but priest and layman regard him as a true man, and his advice is constantly sought by unhappy Mormon wives who wish to know if the laws of the country afford them deliverance from the misery visited upon them by their betrayers.

Secretary Thomas showed discretion and fearlessness in vetoing all the crude and mischievous bills sent to him by the Legislature for final action. He knew neither Mormon nor Gentile, but simply exercised his legislative function for the good of all. His motive was appreciated and his judgment approved, and his faithful performance of duty has won for him the confidence and esteem of all classes of the community.

One more case in point. Rev. D. J. McMillan, an unassuming Presbyterian clergyman, being sent to Utah for missionary work, pitched his tent in San Pete, and began the vocation of teacher. Being diligent in his calling and thoroughly trained and fitted, children gathered around him, and in a very short time he was head of a school with over a hundred scholars. He encountered opposition, of course, but his devotion was combined with fearlessness. In one of the settlements he obtained leave of the bishop to preach one Sabbath evening. When he presented himself the hall was filled, but he was cautioned not to take the stand, as there were men in the audience who had sworn to take his life. He scouted this friendly admonition. "I always carry half a pound of lead with me," he quietly remarked, "and can pull a trigger as quickly as the next man." He performed divine services, keeping his eye on the dangerous characters, but his manner stilled them, and those who came to shoot remained to pray.

We have told our readers how Brigham Young took a car load of priests along to objugate and anathematize the young clergymen, and command offending Saints to drive so obnoxious and dangerous a character from their midst. These cursing apostles devoted two days to the pious labor, cursing him in the Deseret Alphabet and straining Hebrew idioms more recklessly in their fulminations, than Daniel O'Connell distorted scientific terminology in his wordy contest with the fishwoman at Billingsgate. But these blaspheming priests expended their rage in vain. When the foul rabble of impostors rolled off, the worthy Saints got together in public meeting and passed resolutions expressing their entire confidence in their much abused schoolmaster, and darkly hinting that Brigham Young and his ill-mannered subordinates were in error. No truer heart beats in Zion, no braver spirit vindicates the rights of the citizen than this Presbyterian preacher. Yet he is loved and respected far and near. He has six prosperous schools under his control, and applications pour in upon him from all parts of that section urging

him to procure more teachers and open more schools.

These instances which might be multiplied indefinitely, show that the public man and the reformer have no need "to be captured by any clique" or "whipped into line by the lash of any party," to fill the measure of their usefulness. If a worker in our midst is a true man, a lover of his race, earnest in his purpose and correct in his methods, he will have the sympathy and support of Saint and sinner, and his Gentilism, however pronounced, will no way impair his usefulness. He will incur the hostility of the ruling hierarchy, and they will pour upon him their choicest billingsgate, but these self convicted impostors are fast losing power, and their abuse, although pleasing to themselves, does no honest man harm.