

## MUNICIPAL REFORM.

The local campaign is simply whether we shall have good government for the city of Toledo.

Mark Hanna has no more to do with with the issue than has the Sultan of Turkey. Mr. Hone's method of campaigning is simply an effort to set up a bogie-man to scare voters, in order that the old system of how-not-to-do-it may be perpetuated in Toledo.

Governor Pingree, ex-Mayor of Detroit, is a man who is really in earnest. His political prominence arises solely from his sincere endeavors to give the city of Detroit an honest government. In the main, his ideas on this point are sound, and this has given him the great support he received in that city.

Mr. Pingree has an article on municipal reform in the current number of the Arena, in which he lays down some fundamental truths that are applicable to all cities, and which fit exactly the present situation in Toledo. He says:

"Municipal governing is doing certain lines of work for a city for the least sum of expense. That is all there is in it. But that is much.

"A perfect municipal government is a body of men working together for the interests of the city."

There you have a compact statement of solid truth, which must be recognized as such by any voter who has the use of his reasoning powers.

The purpose of municipal government is not to create a political machine.

It is not to use the city patronage to control a party for use in legislative, Congressional and state politics.

It is not to provide sinecure positions for ward heelers, who are expected to spend the time for which the city pays them in doing political work for a would-be boss.

It is, to have the city's business transacted properly at the least burden of cost for the tax-payers.

That is what the candidacy of Samuel M. Jones means. That is the platform on which he stands, and the policy he will inaugurate if elected.

To attempt to set up any other issue is simply to erect a cover behind which the representatives of political jobbery may again steal into power.

Let no man allow himself to be misled by this jugglery. The sole question that the voters have to answer is, shall we have an honest, business-like administration of the city's affairs, or shall we allow the treasury to be the prey of political leeches?