

SALT LAKE HERALD.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH.

BY THE HERALD PUBLISHING CO.

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THE HERALD PUBLISHING CO.

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Three Utah postmasters are gazing into yawning graves. A host of expectants are looking over those sepulchres into official life beyond; they cannot all get "there."

Utah is forging ahead in art as well as in inventions. The exhibition of home talent in the B. Y. Trust company's building is cheering to all citizens who take pride in the progress of the territory and delightful to those who appreciate the fine arts.

It is worthy of notice that among all the thrills against the Democrats as the cause of the panic of this year from which the country is rapidly recovering nothing is said about the panic of 1872 and the terribly hard times of the five years following. That is different of course as it was under a Republican administration.

The probable death of President W. R. Smith of Davis county in a short time is very painful news. He is a worthy and capable man and has done much to build up this territory. We sincerely regret his severe illness and feel that his departure will be a great loss to the community. His recovery is deemed very unlikely.

The Oregon Standard has reached the full height of its powers of argument on the bounty question. It says, in refutation of the plain reasoning of "Democrat" in The Salt Lake Herald, that the writer "twists and snorts like a stuck pig," and that he is "nothing but a dirty scribbler." That settles it, sugar, sheep, bounties and all the rest must give way before such wondrous wit and wisdom. Democrat might as well retire; he can never reach the elegant elevation of a Standard like that.

In reply to an attack on "The Democratic party" as a "trade destroyer" the Lansing, Michigan, Journal, responds: "But successful as it may be in this respect, it cannot possibly equal the achievements of the McKinley bill in reducing wages and destroying home industries. That stands pre-eminent as a paralyser of industry, as witness the universal stagnation in business which has prevailed in this country during the past season. It is a significant fact that the price of wool and iron, two of our leading staples, has gone down steadily during the last two years. Decidedly McKinleyism takes the cake as the boss trade destroyer."

CONFIDENCE AND CONCILIATION.

We take pleasure in endorsing something in the Salt Lake Tribune. It is the leading editorial on Friday on the statehood question. The spirit it breathes is conciliatory and patriotic. The recommendations it contains are excellent. The probable early admission of Utah is conceded, notwithstanding the desire of some Senators to unite Utah with Nevada and the fear of others as to the attitude of Utah towards silver.

The admission is frankly made that this territory is able to maintain all the institutions which naturally pertain to a state, and it is confessed that there is sufficient evidence of a disposition among all parties to work in harmony, to warrant the experiment. This is practically an endorsement of the statehood movement.

Of course when Utah is once admitted into the Union it will have passed beyond the domain of experiment. Statehood will be a fixed reality. Whatever of division may grow up within her borders will be under state control only, and that will not affect her sovereignty. But our contemporary means by using the term experiment, the test of whether the two elements which formerly clashed with such vigor and intensity of opposition, will be so amalgamated as to work pleasantly for the general welfare. The action of the parties engaged in promoting Utah's interests at the World's Fair is cited as evidence that this is possible, and the belief is expressed that the movement for statehood was started on the same principle.

Advice is tendered that when the constitutional convention is called, the best and ablest men shall be chosen to draft the constitution, and that every thought should be put aside except to frame the very best constitution that can be made, and that justice and economy shall be kept prominently in view.

The sentiment and advice should be accepted as entirely sincere. And The Herald believes that our friends who have heretofore opposed statehood, on the ground of doubt as to the course of the majority of the population here toward the minority, will find that their fears were entirely without substantial foundation, and that their new born confidence will be entirely justified by the results.

We know the great body of the people of Utah, and can say for them that they have no disposition but to be fair and just to all people of every shade of religion and politics. That they are ready to march forward with the people of this great nation, as citizens and upholders of the principles of freedom embodied in the constitution and laws of the land. That they will defend the liberties of those who dissent from them in matters of faith with equal zeal as their own. That in political office the question of doctrinal belief will cut no figure with them, and that the perfect toleration to be secured by the state constitution will be a living reality with them in heart and in practice.

That misgivings on these points have influenced many persons to oppose the admission of Utah, we suppose is a fact. There may have been reasons for this which were potent with those who entertained them. We have every reason to believe that they will find them intangible in the future whatever they may have been in the past. The only opposition that will disturb the new state, we believe, will be that of parties as in other parts of the Union. Democrats and Republicans will probably contend for their respective claims to the best principles of government and to the votes of the citizens. But that old antagonism will not be revived, nor the wounds, the scars of which are almost gone be reopened, by the people whose probable attitude has been feared.

The spirit of political fraternity exhibited in present movements and utterances ought to be encouraged and promoted. If the bill so quickly and enthusiastically carried through the House shall receive immediate attention in the Senate, the work of forming the new state will be directly upon us, and all political parties ought to unite in placing it upon a solid and acceptable foundation. To do this we must foster confidence and conciliation.

There should be nothing partisan, or narrow, or sectional in the state constitution. It should be framed in the broadest spirit of toleration and true liberty. It should be sufficiently conservative of personal rights as not to endanger the public welfare. Economy in all branches of the government ought to be preserved. Taxation cannot be avoided, but it should be rendered as light as possible consistent with public requirements. There is a good framework for the new instrument in the last constitution prepared by a Utah convention. There is no need to be tied to it in any way but it will be found a fair guide to the labors of the people's delegates.

All this may be a trifle premature, as the statehood bill has yet to be passed by the Senate and be signed by the Executive. But it is time these things were carefully considered and it is necessary that a cordial feeling of fraternity shall be encouraged among all classes of the community, so that our energies shall not be wasted in unprofitable strife, but be centered on the work of forming a great and glorious state which shall be worthy of recognition by every commonwealth in the Federal Union.

RELIGIOUS OPPOSITION.

We were in hopes that the Mormon question would not be dragged into the matter of statehood for Utah. The ravings of Mr. Morse of Massachusetts were laughed at by his Republican colleagues, and regarded by most of his

hearers in the House and outside readers as the result of ignorance as much as prejudice.

The day is past for Congressional rancor against Utah. Members of Congress have become informed as to the facts. Many of them have visited Utah and learned the situation for themselves. They have enlightened others who have not traveled so far. They understand that even as to the past there were most absurd exaggerations, and that as to the present conditions have radically changed. It was very gratifying to note that after the splendid reply of Delegate Rawlins the anti-Mormon style of opposition did not make a re-appearance.

But it seems that this kind of warfare is not to be abandoned. The Ladies' Home Missionary society wants to be heard before the Senate Committee on Territories. A male person named McAfee also claims to have some blood-curdling stories to tell as to the prevalence of polygamy in Utah, and it is evident that an alleged "religious" crusade against statehood is to be opened. The plea is that polygamy still prevails in the country places of Utah and therefore, if statehood is given it is to be inferred that the Mormons will revive the system. For that reason, it is urged, statehood must not be permitted.

We are of the opinion that the mere statements, either of the unknown Mr. McAfee who claims to be largely engaged in missionary work in Utah, Colorado and New Mexico, or of the ladies who also profess to know of the carrying on of the old custom "without abatement," will not have a great deal of weight except with a very few senators. It will doubtless appear to the thinking men of the Upper House that if what those zealous persons say is true, the courts here would have had something to say and do about the matter. It ought not to take long for gentlemen who are well informed to put to flight the airy bits of gossip that those missionary people have to present as though they were realities instead of rumors.

It appears to us that now would be a good time for some of those clerical gentlemen who know of the feelings of amity that prevail here at present, and of the actual cessation of polygamous marriages in Utah, to use their influence in the cause of truth and true religion, by making a candid statement to offset the tales to be told by the parties referred to in Washington telegraphic dispatches. Most of them know that there is no disposition in country places, nor yet in the city, to molest either male or female missionaries. And they also have good reasons to know that while it may be true that care is bestowed by some former polygamists upon the families which they are in honor and duty bound to support, the plural marriage system has been absolutely stopped.

The leaders in religious thought are as much interested in the settlement of Utah affairs as anyone. And they should also be interested in the upholding of the truth as against falsehood or misunderstanding and prejudice. And it will redound to their credit and be no injury to their cause in the future, if they should waive their denominational opposition to the views of the majority here, in a desire to do the people and the territory justice.

To people who know of the actual situation here the assertions said to be made by the missionary people in Washington may appear merely something to laugh at. But just such things have done a great deal of damage before now and they may require something more than ridicule to meet and dissipate them.

However, we do not look upon the opposition as anything formidable, but a very small obstacle sometimes causes great delay. This one should be removed promptly and those who can help in the work should act without delay.

ARIZONA FOLLOWS UTAH.

Arizona now looms up on the list of probable states to be created immediately. The passage of the bill in the House is good news for our neighbors on the South, and we congratulate them on their prospects. The opposition on the part of the Republican members was stronger and at one time appeared more threatening than against Utah. But the bill has gone through, and that is sufficient cause for rejoicing.

How Arizona will fare in the Senate it is hardly safe to predict just now. It depends of course upon the determination of the dominant party. If it has been settled upon that Arizona shall be admitted, by the Democrats in Congress, there are enough fair Republicans to join with them against such opposition as might imperil success. So we think Arizona's chances are good, particularly if a party agreement concerning admission has been reached.

So far as appears, however, there does not seem to be any formal determination as to the admission of the new state. The Republican way is to meet in caucus and arrive at an understanding, then press the force of numbers if they are available. The admission of Idaho and Wyoming, by that means, is an object lesson which the Democratic party ought not to behold in vain.

Some of our Republican contemporaries object to The Herald's calling attention to the tactics of their party in Congress. We do not mean to be offensive in that. The Republicans have one characteristic that may be viewed as a virtue: that is they stand by their own, and they do not care what anybody thinks of their evident partisanship. If they are sure a territory is Republican, or will be if admitted into the Union as a state, they work for it without disguise or delay. And if it is certain or nearly so to be Democratic, they will throw every ob-

stacle in his way at their command.

Individual Republicans, also, are not slow to look after their personal interests and to keep up their fences. And when we point out the fact and show the motives which prompt them, it is no argument against the Republicanism or the Democracy of the people whom they expect to influence by their actions.

Republicanism is in the minority in both Houses of Congress, and that fact must not be lost sight of when we view the course of gentlemen of that party in reference to the admission of new states. Its probable effects upon their own constituents will not be without its bearing upon their conduct, and in that light it is perfectly easy to see the reason for the friendship of some of them towards Utah.

However, we feel grateful for all the help afforded from any quarter in the work of Utah's emancipation, and we expect Republican aid in the Senate the same as it was in the House.

THE TAX ON INCOMES.

Concerning the proposed income tax which the supporters of protection for the benefit of the capitalists naturally oppose, here are a few more opinions of the press:

England has an income tax and it is enforced without trouble. The English as a nation of people are certainly not more truthful than Americans.—*Chattanooga News.*

Thoughtful men in both parties admit that a tax on incomes is just and equitable. It is the best of all taxes, because it is paid by those who can easily afford to pay it.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

The income tax is not only just and right considered by itself. It is the key-stone of a national revenue system which shall impose crushing burdens upon no one, but will do equal and exact justice to all.—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

An income tax is not imposed upon any one class of citizens any more than other taxes. The tax on whisky is a class legislation in the sense that people who do not drink whisky do not have to pay it; the tax on tobacco is the same.—*Seattle Telegraph.*

All the Republican papers are opposed to the income tax. They oppose it for the reason that an income tax strikes the rich and thus lowers the taxes of the poor, and the Republican theory is to always support the measures of the rich.—*Mohawk Valley Democrat.*

There is no fairer way to raise revenue than by taxing incomes, notwithstanding the objection that has been urged that it will be class legislation. Such arguments are based only on sophistry, as it can be easily shown that an income tax is the most equitable and just of all methods of raising public revenue.—*Senator Vance, at Baltimore.*

Wealth should be willing to bear its just share of burden, and it is reasonable to think that those who receive \$2,500 and upward can better afford to contribute to the government than those who receive but \$400. Let the millionaires pony up in proportion to the laboring man, and the government will find it much easier to pay its bills.—*Tonawanda Herald.*

The selection of the Groesbeck building for the use of the Legislative Assembly, at first sight seemed to some folks peculiar. On second sight, however, it looks exactly right, all things considered. The location is unexceptionable. The facilities for committee rooms, quarters for the Governor and all the necessary adjuncts will be ample and superior to anything we have had before. And with the changes that are being made the halls for the two Houses will be large enough and convenient enough to suit everybody immediately interested. Secretary Richards is to be commended for his care and diligence in seeking for the most available and appropriate place, and we believe he has hit it, just right.

An eastern exchange speaks thus of the difference between the McKinley and Wilson policy on sugar: "McKinley pretended to give free sugar to the people. The claim was false. He gave free raw sugar to the sugar trusts but left half a cent a pound on the sugar we use on our tables and gave a bounty out of the National Treasury to sugar growers. The new bill wipes out the bounty and takes half the tax off refined sugar. As quick as the debts contracted by the Billion Dollar Congress can be paid the other half must go."

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