

tem, as in vogue in California, is pronounced impracticable for Utah because the two conditions on which district organization depends—population and a common source of water supply—do not exist in the southern part of the State.

The theory which Mr. Brough favors is that adopted by the last legislature in accepting the Carey grant—reclamation by private enterprise operating under grants from the state with proper restrictions imposed upon the grants. The specific plan proposed is this:

That the state should make contracts with reliable private corporations acting as construction companies, for the reclamation and settlement within a given period, of the lands to be reclaimed in the state, the sum charged the state by the construction company to be specified in the contract. The power of fixing the price per acre for which land water must be sold to settlers should be vested in a state board of control, which in turn should have charge of all the water of the state, with authority to inspect proposed irrigation works and to supervise them while under construction. When the sum specified by the contract has been realized by the investors in the irrigation enterprise from the sale of lands, if any, should revert to the state. In all contracts the ownership of water to be inseparable from the ownership of the land. The merits of this plan are pointed out by the author to be:

(1). Both the inventor and the settler would be surrounded by the most ample safeguards in the all important matter of water supply.

(2). Capital would be furnished a security upon the land as well as upon the water supply in case a sale covering the specified sum was not obtained by the company.

(3). The intervention of the state through a board of control would prevent any danger of the company reaping exorbitant profits leaving the corporations entering the field mere construction companies.

(4). The work for delivery and distribution constructed by corporations would be more efficient and durable than those constructed by the land owners themselves.

A most practical and timely proposal is that the supervision, protection and conservation of the waters used for irrigation in the state should be vested in a state board of control, composed of a state engineer, and representative irrigators from all sections of the state. This recommendation is made.

(1). Because under the present method of using water for irrigation in the exact order of settlement, known as the priority of right system, appropriations gave extended beyond the private uses, involving an injustice to subsequent users. (2). Because laxity in the administration of the law of priority of rights has encouraged the accumulation of large surpluses of water for purposes of sale, as well as waste in the use of water. The author believes that a state board of control, by refusing to recognize the validity of water sales, could destroy the practice of making water a speculative commodity, and, as a sequel, maintain the undivided ownership of land and water. The state board of control in Wyoming has corrected practically all abuses connected with the maladministration of water laws and has conferred inestimable benefits on the state.

Mr. Brough complains that the irrigators of Utah, especially those engaged in fruit raising, are exploited of their just earnings by the commission merchants east who charge exorbitant sums for the marketing of the fruit. As a remedy for the evil he proposes co-operation among the

growers themselves and shipping and marketing, by which the dealer would be identical with the grower and the growers with the dealer without the application of the principle of co-operation, the corner stone of the Mormon commonwealth.

The very timely suggestion by Prof. Fortier as to the need for more accurate measuring devices is also emphasized, and all appropriation for this purpose by the next Legislature is advocated.

The second part of the monograph dealing with problems of irrigation in Utah is prefaced by reasons why more land should be reclaimed.

This chapter is especially interesting as a summation of the general benefits conferred by irrigation. Among the benefits enumerated are:

(1). Irrigation promotes better methods of agriculture, (a) by introducing the small farm unit; (b) by fostering intelligent farming; (c). By encouraging the production of special crops.

2. Irrigation, through the introduction of improvements in the methods of agriculture, promotes commerce and business, (a), by largely increasing the produce of the land, so reducing the actual labor required to raise a given quantity of the product, (b), by placing an insurance policy upon the crops thus greatly reducing the risk of the capital employed, a risk so great that farmers have become proverbial as weather grumblers, (c), by making extensive culture not only possible but preferable, (d), by drawing the farmers closer together, thereby opening social possibilities now denied them as a class and enabling cultivators to act in combination for any public or social purpose.

3. Irrigation through the creation of business opportunity, furnishes a remedy for our industrial ills, (a), by furnishing a new outlet for human energy thus relieving the congestion of our cities, (b), by making men more independent and thus fostering a contentedness and patriotism.

4. Irrigation benefits the state, as distinguished from the individuals by widening the basis of taxation. An extension of the irrigable acreage means an increase in the annual national production out of which taxes are paid.

Mr. Brough reaches the conclusion that in the introduction and development of this beneficent agricultural system, the Mormons merit the stately eulogy of Conklin upon Grant—"Great in the arduous greatness of things done."

The author has frequently consulted Col. Stevenson, Prof. Fortier, Mr. Rowe and other members of the State Irrigation association of Utah, and it is believed the work will be of keen practical interest not only to the irrigators of Utah, but to those throughout the arid regions. For Utah is the geographical center of the arid region and what has been done here is a fair test of average possibilities, and the problems of irrigation in Utah are the problems, the solution of which confront the irrigators of every state and territory in the arid region.

BOOTH'S DETECTIVE FRIEND.

Captain "Billy" Williams, the well-known detective, who died suddenly on Monday night and who is to be buried this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock under the auspices of the local lodge of Elks, was a man who had played a conspicuous part in those events which go to make up the stirring and tragic history of the country. It was given to but few to know him immediately, for he was secretive in an eminent degree, but a close friend, who frequently talked over with him war times and war horrors, said yesterday:

"Captain Williams, who captured Dr. Samuel Mudd and John M. Lloyd, two of the conspirators in the assassination of Lincoln, was so just a man that to the day of his death he never ceased to cry out against the outrage involved in the sentence of Edward Spangler, who held Booth's horse in the alley back of the theater on the night of Lincoln's murder. Spangler was sentenced to six years' imprisonment. In Holland's 'Life of Lincoln' Spangler is said to have been a scene-shifter in Ford's theater, but Captain Williams asserted that this was not true. Spangler was known as 'Peanut Johnnie,' and was a street arab who turned his hand to any odd job to earn a penny. Booth found him, according to Captain Williams's statement, on E street, near the alley in which Booth's horse was stationed on the night of the assassination, and told him to hold the animal until he returned. From the grand and imposing bearing of the actor 'Peanut Johnnie' naturally expected a satisfactory fee for his services, and this was his sole connection with the assassination. But Booth was in such a hurry to mount that when he returned to the alley he leaped at once into the saddle, and, giving 'Peanut Johnnie,' who held the bridle and demanded his fee, a kick which sent him sprawling, was off and away before the poor boy could utter a word.

"Upon the much-discussed question whether or not Mrs. Surratt was justly or unjustly executed, Captain Williams had positive and pronounced convictions. He always declared that there was not the shadow of a doubt of her guilt. To his mind she was the arch-conspirator of all, and he was in a position to know. Conferences without number, he asserted, had been held at her house in Washington, at which all the leading actors in the murder of the president had been present. She inspired the wavering, and kept in close touch with Booth, for whom she had an admiration akin to worship. Williams declared that it could be proved that Mrs. Surratt kissed Booth and bade his god-speed when he left her to fire the fatal shot.

"Of the personal bravery of the assassin Capt. Williams spoke in terms of contempt, save one, Lewis Powell Payne, who made the desperate attempt on the life of Secretary Seward. He was but a boy, but a powerful specimen of physical manhood. The calm courage with which he met death on the scaffold commanded Captain Williams' highest admiration. 'That boy,' he was wont to say, 'would have made a great man if he had only been started right in life.' Payne formed a warm attachment for Captain Williams and wrote him several letters, which the captain prized highly. For some time after his arrest Payne begged Captain Williams, who knew his real name, not to disclose it, as it would distress his mother to know that her son was hanged as an assassin. So for quite a time he was known as Lewis Powell, and it was only near the day of the execution that his identity was disclosed.

"It was the stupidity of the sentry in front of Secretary Seward's home (now the site of the Lafayette square theater) that permitted the attack on the secretary's life. He was pacing up and down when Payne sought to enter, and the thin subterfuge the assassin adopted—that he had medicine sent by the doctor—was so gauzy, in Captain Williams' judgment, that he always insisted a term of imprisonment was the only punishment fit for the crime of the man on guard.

"But it was when Captain Williams came to talk of John Wilkes Booth that he grew eloquent. They had been bosom friends. When the actor came to