DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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DESERET NEWS PUBLISHING CO.

Telephone 505.

ANOTHER PROPHECY FULFILLED.

Among those acquainted with the life and labors of the late President Brigham Young there is no need of any effort to prove that he enjoyed the prophetic gift in his calling as an Apostle of the Lord, chosen to preside over the Latter-day Saints. The fact of his being a Prophet is fully established by innumerable evidences. As time rolls on, however, it is quite interesting to note the fulfilment of his prophetic declarations, often made, as on the occasion to which we now refer, when the way seemed to be effectually barred. The event which the people of Utah have been celebrating the past few days is a direct fulfilment of a prediction made by President Young forty years ago. In the summer of 1856, Hons. J. M. Bernhisel, George A. Smith and John Taylor were in Washington, D. C., working in behalf of Utah in the effort then being made for Statehood. In a letter written in July, 1856, to Hon. George A. Smith, by President Young, the following occurs:

Brothers Bernhisel and Taylor rather expressed an opinion that Congress will act advisedly to our minus. Well, perhaps they may; but one thing is certain, if the Lord wills it so, it will be for the best. But if He wills different, they cannot hinder our obtaining admission, how much sooner they may feel unwilling to accord unto us our just rights. THERE WE SHALL OBTAIN, AND IN THE LORD'S OWN WAY, AND IN HIS OWN TIME. He works not as men work, and peradventure will so direct matters as will surprise not a little those who seek to hold dominion over us.

The condition of Statehood was necessary to the enjoyment, by the people of Utah, of their just rights. These were denied upon each successive attempt of the people to secure them. But concerning them the Prophet Brigham declared with emphasis: "These we shall obtain, and in the Lord's own way and in His own due time." Certainly these rights have been obtained in the proceedings consummated on January 6, at the inauguration of State officials elected by the people of Utah. They were not brought about as it was thought at the earlier day should be the procedure in the way of men, or on occasions in the past when all seemed fair with promise. But they surely came, in the Lord's way and time; and all previous efforts to secure them were appropriate means in effecting the great results as the Lord willed. He worked in His own fashion, and His operations have occasioned no little surprise in some quarters, and may continue to do so.

There have been some people, we are told, who have labored under the impression that President Young's views were not that Statehood would come to Utah. But the persistent efforts he put forth to secure it, and numerous public and private expressions he made like that we have quoted, furnish conclusive proof of his real attitude on the subject. By the voice of inspiration he declared that the just rights of Statehood would come to the people of Utah, and the latter have entered now upon the enjoyment thereof. May they use them wisely and well.

AN EXEMPLARY COUNCIL.

The last issue of the Bountiful, Davis county, Clipper does what a newspaper seldom finds reasonable opportunity for doing nowadays—congratulates its city councilors for the economy and wisdom they have displayed in handling the city's funds and keeping down taxes, at the same time giving the municipality satisfactory government in other respects. Some of these Bountiful officers have served four years without having received a dollar, directly or indirectly, for their services as councilmen, and they go out of office leaving the city free from debt and with a balance in the treasury. The Clipper also says:

It must be remembered, too, that they have never exceed a general city tax—that every dollar of the money on hand has come from revenue.

It is not every municipality that can follow on these precise lines, but some of the larger ones in the State could reach out in the same direction with market advantage to the taxpayers. It is all very well to pay city councilmen a reasonable salary; but with the amount of that fixed they ought to have as good a reputation for not taking a dollar beyond it as do the Bountiful men for making an equal abuse of honesty. Then we would not have the spectacle, observable not a thousand miles from here, of a candidate for councilmanic honors begging his friends to help him into the office because he "needs it." With the salary of councilmen at the present figure, there is reasonable certainty that the "needs" of such an individual are not in the legitimate pay he may draw for his services, but in the pilfering he may be able to do.

The omission to levy a general city tax also is beyond the reasonable contention in many cities, even in hard times when such an omission would be exceedingly satisfactory, especially to small home owners, who find themselves greatly burdened by the high valuation charged against residence property in the larger cities. But city councils generally could do much better than many of them have done, in making the general tax as low as is consistent with the actual needs of the municipality. The chief trouble is that most city councils figure on the highest amount they can get from the people without causing a popular uprising, instead of trying to get along with as little as they reasonably can in giving an effective administration. The retiring Bountiful officers, and those of some other of the smaller cities of Utah, are entitled to the gratitude of their constituency for doing excellent work and setting a commendable example to many larger municipalities, in wise and economical administration.

GOVERNOR HUGHES'S REPORT.

The report of Governor L. C. Hughes, of Arizona, for the year ending June 30, 1895, a copy of which has been received by the News, is a most comprehensive and able document. The progress, development and resources of the territory are treated in a thorough and intelligent manner, and given in such form as cannot fail to be of benefit to the commonwealth over which Governor Hughes presides as chief magistrate. Present conditions in the Territory, the prospects of the immediate future, the various industries, educational matters, finances, public institutions, lands, politics, railway facilities, mining, manufacturing and agricultural resources, etc., all receive due attention, and while a vast amount of statistical information is presented, it is given such concise form that makes the report a valuable presentation of the material condition of our neighboring commonwealth. Governor Hughes makes a number of recommendations on subjects of concern to the people of this State, and these may receive further consideration in our columns. Arizona's present population is placed at 77,000, exclusive of about 32,000 Indians; in area the territory is the sixth largest political division in the United States, embracing about 113,000 square miles.

THE CHOIR TRIP WEST.

Some weeks ago the News announced the intention of a Tabernacle Choir trip to California, to give a series of concerts there, in which about two hundred selected voices from the choir would take part. Since that time frequent reference has been made to the proposed visit, both in local papers and by the leading California journals. In the Golden State the anticipated action of the choir is hailed with pleasure; and there is every promise that the great organization will be as hospitably received as it was on the occasion of its trip to the World's Fair. So far as concerns the musical part of any program the choir may give, those who are familiar with its renditions from Sabbath to Sabbath, and its occasional concerts here, have no doubt that the Californians will be afforded an artistic treat that the most devoted disciples of the divine art can listen to with delight.

The present seems a most opportune occasion for the proposed visit to the coast. The eyes of the whole nation, and especially the West, are directed to Utah, from the new position she has assumed in national affairs. In promoting the vast material interests of the industrial classes, particularly in connection with the development of agriculture in the great West, she is recognized as occupying a very important position; and this, taken in connection with her newly acquired power in the nation, imposes a desire on the part of neighbors to become better acquainted with her people and the methods that have brought them success. Hence when any considerable body of Utah people appear in public elsewhere nowadays they receive most considerate attention, and consequently are able to make a favorable impression on behalf of the State generally. We know of no organization able to make these visits that can do as much good to the State in this regard as can the choir. Its appearance anywhere in the states west or west is a revelation of surpassing loveliness regarding the people of Utah.

The choir's visits also have a salutary effect on behalf of the religious ties through which the organization was created. That body is a Church institution, representative of Mormonism. Wherever it is seen and heard, the chief thought back of all is centered upon the Mormon people and the religion which has brought them to their present standard. The pleasing impressions received from beholding the Tabernacle Choir and listening to their enchanting music are messages of peace and friendship, conveyed through the agency of the organization, in behalf of the Mormon people, individually and collectively. Its singers are members of an effective missionary corps to reveal to the world truths of Mormonism when all other avenues for that purpose may seem closed, the words and spirit of the hymns they sing are Gospel discourses to the yearning souls who listen; the godly walk and conversation of the choristers is witness of the saving nature of the religion which has brought them together. Hence their occasional visits abroad are in full accord to their effects with the genius of the organization as a Church choir.

Gratifying as it is to listen to plaudits from strangers concerning the choir, it is still more pleasing to know that at home where the people are familiar with the organization there is an unalloyed appreciation of its ability and services. Therefore in every undertaking like the suggested visit, the good will and faith of the people go out in support of the choir, to the full consummation of its commendable purpose; and on this occasion, we again wish it the success it so richly deserves.

It is a suggestive fact that Gen. P. J. Joubert, commander of the Boer forces which defeated Dr. Jameson and his British troops who proposed to regulate the affairs of the Transvaal republic, of which Joubert is vice president, is an American. He was born at Uniontown, Pa., and served in both army and navy of the Union forces during the Rebellion. He was also commander of the Boers in 1881, when they defeated the British army at Majuba Hill.

It is to be hoped that in the proposed election by the City Council to fill the vacancy deemed to exist, the choice of the majority will at least fall upon an honest man, whatever his politics.

NOW THAT Utah is a State, let Arizona come along next. Our southern neighbor is welcome to a place by our side. Speed the day when she shall occupy it!

IT LOOKS now as if the next celebration of freedom will be for Cuba, and that it will not be long deferred either.

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