

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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THE TABLES TURNED.

THE Washington correspondent of the New York *Herald* has telegraphed his paper concerning the contest for the Delegateship of Utah, and the telegram is being sent over the country by the Western Union line as a press dispatch. It refers to the suit now in progress to annul Mr. Cannon's certificate of citizenship; speaks of the claim that the Governor, as the returning officer of the Territory, has conferred upon him by law powers other than ministerial and therefore had discretion in the certificate matter, and states that:

"Campbell's friends claim that the course of the Clerk of the House of Representatives, in ignoring the certificate of the Governor in favor of Campbell, and placing upon the rolls Cannon to whom the certificate had been denied, both by the Executive and by the courts, was a great stretch of power; and the utmost he could probably have done would have been to have left the question to the decision of Congress, which would thus have brought the whole Mormon question in such a shape as would have necessitated some decisive action."

The question of Mr. Cannon's citizenship will be judicially decided and we have no fears upon that point; his case is too sound and clear to be in the slightest danger. The extraordinary powers claimed for the Executive exist only in assertion, and no attempt is made to quote a line of the law which is said to confer them, for the simple reason that there is no such law on the statute books of the Territory or of the United States.

The action of the Clerk of the House of Representatives seems to trouble "the friends of Mr. Campbell" more than anything else that has taken place in connection with this dispute. And those who are not familiar with the law, and with the facts in the outrageous conspiracy by which it was sought to subvert the wishes of nearly all the voters of this Territory, may think that something irregular and improper has taken place. But we advise them to wait awhile. It will be seen when the whole case comes to be ventilated that the Clerk has done just right in the matter, that he has violated no law, but has acted strictly in accordance therewith and with his duty.

The law requires the Governor to "declare the person having the greatest number of votes duly elected." This he refused to do, but presumed to declare something for which the law does not provide. The so-called certificate of Mr. Campbell is not such a document as is required by law. But on the other hand, the Governor unwittingly gave just such a certificate as proved to the Clerk of the House that Mr. Cannon was elected by an overwhelming majority of the qualified voters. The documents filed with the Clerk of the House on either side go to prove the same thing, and he would have had to shut his eyes in simple facts and figures, certified to over the official seal of this Territory, if he had placed Mr. Campbell's name on the roll. He would also have lent the force of his position to one of the most palpable and barefaced attempts at political robbery ever sought to be perpetrated since the establishment of this great Republic.

That official has made no stretch of power; he has simply acted on common sense principles and within the strict line of his duty; and the froth and fury which have been the consequence among the conspirators is highly amusing to lookers on, and very gratifying to the friends of justice and fair dealing.

The cause of the great wrath among "Campbell's friends" is the

failure to get the *per diem*, which was looked upon as a certain salary grab every month, until next December at least. If his name had been placed upon the roll, the pay could have been drawn no matter how much of a steal it would have been under the circumstances, and this was the objective point of one or two of the main workers in the conspiracy.

How easy it is now to talk about a "stretch of power," and the propriety of "leaving the question to the decision of Congress? But how about the stretch of power in a simple ministerial officer presuming to decide on a question of citizenship, and in declaring that the person whom the people had voted against was elected? The main question—the qualifications of the Delegate elect—belonged to Congress alone to decide. But by a "stretch of power" as impudent as it was unprecedented, an officer who has no more right to adjudicate on such a dispute than a common constable, presumed to issue an edict concerning it for the purpose of aiding in the abominable conspiracy.

It is easy now to say that it should have been left to the decision of Congress; that is what we said in the beginning and have maintained up to the present time; and it is they who now take up this cry that tried to forestall Congress and steal the position which could not be obtained by fair means and the action of that body.

The more these plotters move in their infamy the plainer their villainy will appear to the country and the clearer will they expose themselves to the contempt of all parties, sects and individuals who have the least regard for the rights of citizens and the sovereignty of the popular vote.

A ROUSING HOLIDAY.

WE are happy to announce that prospects are bright for a genuine old-style citizens' celebration of the Fourth of July in this city. The committee appointed at the mass meeting last night, particulars of which appear in another column, proceeded at once to business. The site selected is a splendid one. There is shade enough in the locust grove to accommodate all the wards in the city with those of our friends from the country wards who choose to attend. The long grass when tramped a little will form a pleasant green sward, there is space for the barbecue, which is expected to be a rouser, and for the speakers' stand and all the amusements that will be arranged. Sub-committees have been appointed, and all that is now needed is the prompt co-operation of the leading men and the people in the different wards.

Another meeting of the General Committee will convene on Friday evening at 7.30, in the City Hall, when it is desired that two representatives from each Ward will attend. That the affair may be thoroughly organized, every Ward in the city and its vicinity intending to take part, should at once appoint a committee of its own, and two members of each committee should meet with the General Committee on Friday evening.

It is not designed nor desired that any settlement which has contemplated celebrating the day should abandon its own arrangements. This is a city and county celebration, to which all are invited who choose to come. But as there is only so much space at command, it is desired that each settlement expecting to have room for picnic, etc., will send in word at once, so that all that can may be accommodated. All that can furnish music, banners, decorations, etc., should communicate at once with the appropriate committee; the names of the various committees appear in this issue of the NEWS.

We shall have a glorious time and young and old will enjoy it to the full. The local preparations must begin at once, and plans be matured, that order and completeness may characterize the proceedings and that the anniversary of national independence, celebrated in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and eighty-one, may be the best holiday ever spent by the citizens of Salt Lake and their neighbors.

"MAN CLOTHED WITH A LITTLE BRIEF AUTHORITY," ETC.

WE clip from the Ogden *Herald* some correspondence, which will be

found in another part of this paper, between an Ogden Committee and the Governor of this Territory. Ogden, is preparing to celebrate the Fourth of July in the manner customary in this city until quite recently. That is, by a union of the people, for that auspicious day, regardless of sect, party or race, to commemorate the birth of the nation and the establishment of civil and religious liberty for all who dwell under the protectingegis of the Government of the United States. The Junction City folks are organizing on this broad and cosmopolitan principle, as they have done and can do without the likelihood of any illiberal exhibition of party spirit or brutal ebullition of sectarian spite. This is highly commendable and is after the fashion of our old time celebrations in Salt Lake City and other parts of the Territory.

The request of the committee was made in the spirit of conciliation, and with a desire that nothing should occur on such an occasion that could be construed into a disregard of authority, righteously or unrighteously exercised. The organization of a cavalry company was not asked for; the calling out of a battalion was not desired; the committee simply wished to know if there would be any Executive objections to the parading of a company of mounted men, on a day sacred to the cause of human liberty. The answer is just what might have been expected from such a source. It is an intentional avoidance of the real request, the introduction of things not asked for, and a statement that is incorrect, manifesting profound ignorance of the law as well as disregard for guaranteed popular rights.

We appreciate the spirit in which the application was made. At the same time we regard it as a mistake. The people of Ogden had a perfect right to do what they contemplated, without paying any attention to an official with a soul of lilliputian dimensions and a mind cast in the smallest and most illiberal mould. A company of mounted men, with or without arms, could parade on the birthday of national independence without infringing in the least degree upon any law, human or divine. The "previous Executive order" alluded to, is of no more legal force and effect than the wad in a militiaman's gun without any powder behind it. The supreme law of the land provides that "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," and announces that "A well regulated militia is necessary to the security of a free State."

Interference with this right of the people is "a stretch of authority" that argues a despotic disposition, as well as contempt for the Constitution of our country. We can celebrate the Fourth of July without military parade or any of the observances usual on the occasion. And if we choose to do so, we may have all the mounted men or companies on foot that we can muster, without asking the permission of any petty satrap or pompous popinjay who wants to abridge the rights of the people or play the ruler in a country whose officers are its servants not its sovereigns.

FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION.

CITIZENS' MASS MEETING.

At the appointed time last evening—6 p.m.—the mass meeting of the citizens of Salt Lake convened in the front premises of the County Court House; the porch was appropriately decorated with large and handsome United States flags. Promptly at the hour named, Gen. Robert T. Burton arose and nominated for chairman of the meeting, Hon. Feramor Little, Mayor of Salt Lake City. The nomination being presented was unanimously sustained by the assembly. The chairman-elect took the stand and announced that the next step in order was the appointment of a secretary. Col. John R. Winder nominated as secretary, Theodore McKean, Esq., who was also unanimously sustained. The secretary then read the call for the meeting, after which the chairman stated that a motion for the celebration of the 4th of July, 1881, was in order, whereupon Mr. John T. Caine arose and said: "For the sake of testing this matter, I move that it is the sense of this meeting that the citizens of Salt Lake City celebrate the approaching 4th of July, and that we do it in a manner that will be worthy of the occasion."

The motion having been duly seconded,

Mr. Caine continued: "Inasmuch as the motion has been seconded, I will say that I am in favor of celebrating the anniversary of the nation's birth, because upon that day, 105 years ago, the rights and liberties of mankind were acknowledged and proclaimed to the world. On that day was given to the world that instrument which among other things declared that all men were created equal, that they were endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which were life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. I believe that these are the most important political principles that have ever been advanced to the children of men, and of greater importance to them than any other proclamation that has been made save and except the plan of life and salvation. I believe we should celebrate the anniversary of that day; that we should teach our children to appreciate what the forefathers of this country did in declaring these things; that they may realize the blessings and great benefits which were destined to flow to the nations then unborn. I believe we should celebrate that day that we may show to our friends who come from the Old World the great blessings of liberty which were bestowed upon the human race in the declaration made on that day. For these reasons, and for many others which might be set forth—but which I do not wish to take up your time in speaking upon now—I am in favor of celebrating the Fourth of July in a good, rousing, old-fashioned style." (Applause.)

The chairman then put the motion to the meeting, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. George Goddard then called for three cheers for the celebration, which were heartily given.

HON. GEORGE Q. CANNON next arose and said: "In order that this occasion may be properly celebrated, and that it may be conducted in an orderly and gratifying manner to every one, I move that a committee be appointed to take charge of the exercises and to arrange a programme of proceedings, and I embody in my motion that the chairman of this meeting nominate this committee."

The motion having been duly seconded,

General R. T. Burton suggested a speech from the Hon. George Q. Cannon, setting forth his ideas of a "good, rousing, old-fashioned celebration."

Stirring music having been played by the Sixth Ward Sunday school martial band,

MR. CANNON stepped forward and said: "Mr. Chairman and fellow-citizens; I am heartily in accord with the idea that has been suggested, that we have a celebration on this coming 4th of July. I feel as though I wanted it not for my own sake so much as for the sake of my children and the children of our community. I think there is no people on this broad continent of ours who have so much interest in the celebrating of the 4th of July, and the maintaining of everything connected with the Declaration which has made that day so memorable, as the people of this Territory. There is every reason why we should keep up this day and its memory; we have the largest interest in maintaining the recollection of the deeds of the men who participated in the framing of that Declaration, and who proclaimed it to the world and afterwards maintained it by their wise counsels and by the strength of their arms. I have never for a moment felt like allowing the recollection of this to pass away and to fade from our memories and the minds of our children.

It is true that there are causes which have operated to make us feel to some extent, during the past two or three years, an indifference in regard to the formal celebrating of this day—causes which I need not allude to upon this occasion, as you are all familiar with them. And those who have long resided here remember, doubtless, with great pleasure the character of the celebrations of this day which we have often participated in; the pleasure we have had on those occasions when all the people have joined in the general rejoicing. And as was suggested by the gentleman who made the motion to celebrate the day in a good old-fashioned style; this suits my feelings exactly. I do not care so much about parades and processions, the firing of cannon and the burning of powder, as I do about the whole of the people turning out to participate in the exer-

cises or ceremonies, whatever they may be, on such an occasion. There have been anniversaries of this great day when we have had exceedingly delightful associations. I well remember, in the year 1849, when our people who were in the valley, assembled under the shade of a large bowery that was erected somewhere on the Temple Block; and the strangers—a good many of whom were passing through at the time, that being the first year of the California emigration—all were invited to share with the citizens in partaking of the bounteous repast which they provided. It was a day long to be remembered, and I do not think will be forgotten by any one who participated therein. And I do not see why we should not have another just such celebration on this coming Fourth of July, without distinction of creed, without distinction of party, when people can come together as citizens of the nation, forgetting for the moment any differences which may exist in politics or even religion. We ought to meet on an occasion like this as citizens of a common country, feeling thankful for the blessings which have been handed down to us by the Fathers of the Republic. For myself I have but one feeling in regard to the Fourth of July and in regard to the Declaration of Independence—the instrument framed and proclaimed to the world, and for the Constitution which followed its proclamation a few years afterwards. I feel grateful to know that there were men found east and so heroic a mould, who had the hardihood and courage and strength necessary to make that proclamation to the world, and then to maintain it as they did until it became a success, until to-day it is embalmed imperishably in the hearts of millions, never to fade from the memory of man; but its remembrance is to go down to remotest posterity who, too, will share in the blessings and benefits that flow therefrom. I feel that of all the people who live in this land those who dwell in these mountains should be the last to forget the sacrifices which these heroes made. We of all others should remember their deeds and teach our children to love or the occasion as long as the Republic shall endure, or as long as government shall exist based upon the principles embodied in that sacred instrument, the Constitution of the United States.

I think, myself, that because of some little feelings that may have arisen through acts of men that might have been unpleasant for us at the time, it would be unwise in us to allow such an occasion, as dear to at least as anybody else, to be appropriated by some few individuals while some of us, perhaps, merely stand and look on. I think that we should give expression to the feeling that animate us, taking hold with zeal and showing to all men that we are animated with a proper feeling in regard to this national day, evincing not only to our fellow citizens but to high heaven, that we are thankful that the Declaration of independence was proclaimed to the world, that its principles have come down to us, and that we have the privilege to-day of avowing our adherence to them, and our determination to maintain them in the spirit in which they were given, and hand them down to our posterity well preserved as they have come down to us, that they may proceed to them unaffected by the acts of men; and in such a way that they can take hold of them and carry them out in their integrity and fullness, as we have endeavored to carry them out. I think this is an occasion in which we all participate, and there are plenty of ways in which we can celebrate. We may not be able to fire cannon or burn a great deal of powder; we can show our feelings of respect which shall be proper for the occasion. (Applause.)

The band then played "Yankee Doodle." The chairman appointed the following committee, according to the motion previously made: Gen. R. T. Burton, W. H. Hooper, Woodruff, D. H. Wells, Wm. Jennings, H. S. Eldredge, H. B. Clason, Jos. F. Smith, L. W. Hart, Theo. McKean, Elias Smith, John T. Caine, F. Armstrong, D. O. Gardner, John Sharp, H. Dinwoody, R. Winder, A. M. Cannon, R. Burton, C. W. Penrose, C. R. Savage, Jos. E. Taylor, Geo. Goddard, P. Teasdel, H. P. Kimball, James Sharp, L. J. Nuttall, E. F. Shreve, A. M. Musser.

Hon. C. W. Penrose moved the