

means profitable employment to many farmers, and other persons.

Just now the prosperity, if not the existence, of this great Utah industry is menaced by the power and unscrupulous methods of one of the richest and most gigantic commercial institutions of modern times, the sugar trust. But this baneful monopoly cannot succeed in crippling the Utah enterprise unless it has the aid of the railroads. If the Utah factory shall be given the benefit of a reasonable freight rate to be paid on imported sugar, it will be able to compete successfully; but if the sugar trust shall be given a merely nominal rate, it will undoubtedly be able to cripple, and perhaps destroy, the industry of sugar making in Utah. The attitude of the sugar trust is one of assault upon every man, woman and child in Utah, and the objects of the attack distinctly understand the situation. Consequently the Utah public, as one man, are anxiously waiting to see whether or not the railroads that haul sugar into this Territory, will form an unholy alliance with the sugar trust, in order to accomplish the ruin of the local factory.

The people of Utah, as citizens and through their Legislature, have dealt generously with the railroads; but the road which joins in making war upon this or any other industry of Utah, will rouse the antagonism of a people who will be strong in the unanimity with which they will adopt measures of self-defense, if not of reprisal. The assessed valuation of railroad property has always been very low in Utah. It could be doubled, and perhaps trebled, and the increase would stand the test of law. The people of Utah are in a position to return treatment in kind to railroads in different ways, and any road sharing their patronage would do well to consider with deliberation before conniving at the destruction of an enterprise in which the entire Territory, financially and sentimentally, is so vitally and enthusiastically interested as it is in the establishment at Lehi.

That the people of whom we speak are a strong, united and determined community, is amply attested by the existence of the sugar factory itself and that they have settled upon a fixed and resolute policy of sustaining home manufactures was overwhelmingly proven by the exhibits at the late Territorial Fair. A people of such strength, union and intelligence as the inhabitants of this Territory have shown themselves to possess, regardless of differences in religion and politics, will find a mode of successful self-defense, even though railroads handling their traffic should combine with trusts to destroy their manufacturing enterprises. Even where competitive lines may not now exist, a new line of road connecting Utah with either East or West is by no means an impossibility for such a people to accomplish.

Threats, covert or otherwise, are not intended to be here expressed. Nothing of the kind ought to be necessary where the course of sound business policy is so plain and straightforward. Our present purpose is merely to give reasons why the railroads ought not to co-operate with any opposing influence or corporation for the purpose of destroying industries in which the

capital and sympathies of the people of Utah are enlisted. We have cited the case of the sugar factory, because that at present seems to be the object of attack. Our remarks, however, are meant to have equal application to any other enterprise now in operation, or that the future may develop within the borders of the coming State.

PRESIDENT TAYLOR'S BIRTHDAY.

Yesterday evening (Nov. 1.) the annual reunion of the family of the late President John Taylor, in commemoration of the birthday of that noble man, was held at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. A. E. Hyde, in the Seventeenth ward. Notwithstanding the fact that three or four of the sons are now abroad on missions and several others were unavoidably absent, the spacious rooms were well filled with the sons and daughters and their families, who after enjoying the good things prepared by the committee on refreshments, highly appreciated the sketches, songs and instrumental music prepared for the occasion. Among the invited guests present were Presidents George Q. Cannon and Angus M. Cannon and Patriarch Jos. Horne, with members of their respective families. Towards the close of the entertainment, appropriate remarks of a reminiscent nature were briefly made by Elders Cannon and Horne. Most of the evening was spent in such social intercourse as serves to brighten the chain of friendship, and all retired at a seasonable hour, feeling that it is good to meet for such a purpose and resolved, if possible, to be present at the next annual reunion in honor of the head of the family.

If he had lived until the present, President Taylor would have been eighty-six years of age, being born in 1808. He died on the 25th of July, 1887, after a long life of activity in the work of God and in the promulgation and defense of truth, leaving a record wreathed in the honor and affection of the people and a name that will live forever.

THE DEPARTED CZAR.

The announcement in all parts of the civilized world yesterday, November 1, that Alexander III, czar of Russia, was dead, although long expected, caused sorrow and regret more sincere than are always felt when monarchs are summoned beyond the veil. During the long, painful illness which the sufferer endured with heroic fortitude, much good has been said and written about him; his noble traits of character have been made known to the world, better than ever before, and now that he is gone, these stand forth brilliantly prominent and bid fair to become permanent in history, securing for the departed ruler a place among the good sovereigns of this age. Besides, he has long been recognized as the real peace maker of Europe, and his death is felt as a great loss in the council of nations. There is much room for anxiety. The world at present is in a state of turmoil, actual war raging on

one continent and rumors of war reaching us from others. With a Scandinavian problem in the north of Europe and an eastern question always a standing menace; with the old rivalry between France and Germany and the revolutionary tendencies from which every country suffers more or less, but little is needed to precipitate a fearful catastrophe. The least wrong move on the political chessboard might prove fatal. Alexander, with indomitable will and well defined purpose, has wisely conquered all temptations to try to win glory on the field where the blood of fellow beings is shed in crimson streams. With steady hands he has piloted the ship of state in peaceful channels, even when the dangers were many and seemingly unavoidable. The question is whether his successor will be able to do the same.

Alexander III, who was born in 1845, was not born to wear a crown. His elder brother, Nicholas, was the czarowitz, and on him education for the task of governing a hundred million Russians was bestowed. When Nicholas, however, died of physical and nervous exhaustion, Alexander became the heir. He was a giant in stature, supposed to have no opinions of his own, and glorying only in his ability to eat and drink and wrestle better than any of his surroundings. He used to bend horseshoes with his hands and otherwise imitate the feats which history credits to Peter the Great and King August of Poland. For books and the arts he cared but little.

It seems that the marriage of this giant to the beautiful and animated Princess Dagmar of Denmark transformed him. Not only did he merit the saying that he was about the only Russian true to his wife, but inspired by the sentiments derived from life in a happy home circle, his aim became to make others happy.

At the time of his accession to the throne in 1881, Russia was exhausted by foreign wars and honeycombed by nihilist plots. The cruel assassination of his father, and the ever increasing conspiracies caused the beginning of his reign to be characterized by constant deportations of suspected persons. Whether due to these measures or not, it is certain that Russia of today is different from what it was at the beginning of his reign. His stern, reactionary policy has apparently checked the progress of Russian liberalism. Whether this policy should be condemned or not, is another question; it cannot be denied that the monarch who has seen his father cruelly murdered by the tools of a party clamoring for reforms, has little inducement to strike a friendly attitude toward such a party. On the slayers of Alexander II and those who applauded the deed, history will fasten the blame for the late czar's tyrannical measures against Russian liberals.

A dark spot on his memory is the recent persecution of the Jews. The czar was a devoted Greek Catholic, and one of his favorites was his old tutor, Pabedonostzeff. To the evil influence of this man and others his anti-Jewish fanatical measures are probably due. But history will always