

AN ANSWER TO SEVERAL QUESTIONS IN RELATION TO THE HISTORY AND DOCTRINE OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS AND THE SETTLEMENT AND PROGRESS OF UTAH TERRITORY.

(Continued.) TERRITORIAL LEGISLATURE AND CONVENTIONS.

At the first session of the Territorial Legislature, held 1851-2, in Salt Lake City, memorials to Congress were adopted praying for the construction of a national central railroad, and also a telegraph line from the Missouri river, via Salt Lake City, to the Pacific.

The Legislature continued to memorialize Congress from time to time on these subjects until a telegraph line was established, connecting the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts, and the great national central railroad so long desired is now rapidly following in its wake.

The Territorial Legislature in December 1855, passed an act providing for holding a convention to form and adopt a Constitution for the Territory, with a view to its admission into the Union as a State.

The convention met in March and adopted a Constitution, under the name and style of "The State of Deseret," and a memorial to Congress, which were submitted to the people and unanimously approved, and were presented to Congress by the Delegate, Hon. John M. Bernhisel.

In 1852, another convention was held which re-adopted, with slight amendments, the Constitution of 1855, which was again submitted to the people and approved. A State government was organized, and the General Assembly met and elected Hons. Geo. Q. Cannon and Wm. H. Hooper, Senators to Congress, who went to Washington and endeavored, unsuccessfully, to gain admission as a State.

DELEGATES IN CONGRESS. The Territorial Delegate from 1851 to 1859, and from 1861 to 1863 was Hon. John M. Bernhisel; from 1863 to 1865, Hon. John F. Kinney; from 1865 to 1867, Hon. Wm. H. Hooper, who is the present Delegate.

AREA, AGRICULTURE, ETC., OF UTAH. Utah extends from the 37th parallel of north latitude to the 42d, and from the 109th to the 114th degree of longitude. The area is about 70,000 square miles. The proportion of land susceptible of cultivation is very small; the general character of the Territory being that of mountain and desert. The Agricultural Society in 1866 reported about 134,000 acres under cultivation. Some tracts of land, apparently fine, rich soil, of superior quality fail to produce crops, owing to the superabundance of alkali and other mineral substances, which encrusts the surface of the earth. The agriculture of the country is carried on at a heavy expense, incurred by irrigation, the land having generally to be watered several times to produce wheat and barley, and oftener for Indian corn and roots.

The necessity of irrigation entails a continual expense upon the agriculturist in cleaning out ditches and canals and repairing dams. On much of the soil the ditches have to be cleaned out twice a year. Good wheat, corn and vegetables may be produced in abundance if carefully irrigated.

The following tables of the expense of the main irrigating canals, and the amount of land irrigated by the same, and agricultural statistics for 1893, serve to show, although very incomplete, the cost, as also the success attending agricultural industry in Utah.

Number of canals, 277; total length, in rods, 333,862; cost of construction, including dams, \$1,766,939; number of acres irrigated, 153,949; estimated cost of canals in progress, \$577,730.

Table with 3 columns: Measure or weight, Acres, and Crops. Rows include Wheat, Barley, Oats, Corn, Meadow, Sundry small crops, Cotton, Sorghum, Potatoes, Beets, Carrots.

About 115 saw and 70 grist mills are in operation, and three woolen and three cotton mills.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS. Amongst the public buildings there are the Deseret State House, erected in 1849-50, in Salt Lake City, which has been occupied by the Legislature for about sixteen years, and is now used for Commercial College. The Utah Territorial House at Fillmore City, The Tabernacle, in Salt Lake City, a building 64 x 158, arched, without a column. The new Tabernacle, 150 x 250, 80 feet high, oval in form, without a column, built on stone pillars 22 feet high, the roof being lattice-work of red pine timber, and, with gallery, yet to be constructed, will contain 12,000 people. Also, the Court House, a well-finished building, 40 x 55. The City Hall, 60 x 60, built of stone, at a cost of \$75,000, with clock and bell.

The Theatre (including addition) is 80 by 172 feet, 45 feet high inside. There are many imposing edifices in the settlements, principally meeting houses and county buildings.

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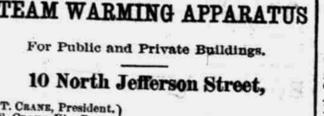
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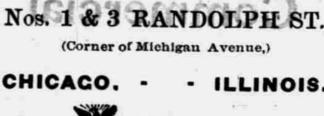
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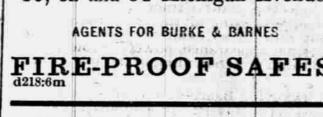
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