

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

BURY ALL ILL-FEELING.

In any event involving contest or competition there must needs be a loser as well as a winner; and it usually happens that the side which sustains defeat with courageous resignation and manly good-humor receives more approval in the minds of honorable spectators than the side which marks its triumph by excess of exultation and unmanly jeers at the late antagonist. The latter line of conduct is wholly inexcusable—it is the part neither of honor nor magnanimity; for the victor is the one of all others who ought to be reasonable and high-minded in his joy; if by any act or expression of his the "wind can be tempered to the shorn lamb" he should not feel to withhold it.

This latter has been the rule, generally speaking, with recent election contests in this Territory, which, as everybody knows, have been close and exciting enough for all necessary purposes of enthusiasm and political energy. We are happy to observe that in the present instance the same wise rule is to be adhered to. It will be in all respects more proper and profitable for the people to get rid of the divisions and turmoil of the late campaign as quickly as possible, than to stimulate, or revive, or seek to commemorate them in any way. Elections are disturbing and disastrous enough to business and the sober affairs of life under the best of circumstances. He is no friend to the common welfare who tries to renew or perpetuate any part of the ill-feeling that is inevitably engendered.

Besides, there is nothing in the result which justifies any considerable element of the community in gloating over any other. The Constitution is overwhelmingly ratified and Statehood is assured—an accomplishment for which all the people regardless of party ought to be truly grateful. The State officers from first to last are to be filled by men of reputation and integrity—the very men whom the majority of the voters wanted and against no one of whom has there been a word of reproach or as to whose character and capacity has there been a question. The judicial and educational departments of the State, so far as we can learn, are entrusted to safe and efficient hands. In all cases the decision of the ballots has been fairly given; now let it be honestly and heartily accepted.

So far from there being heart-burnings or regrets, therefore, there should be an era of good feeling. Utah will be well represented at home by Governor Wells, a favorite son of her own soil, and in Congress by Mr. Allen, a gentleman of high attainments and character. Compliments all deserved might be bestowed upon the other successful candidates if it were necessary. It is not, however; and we respectfully but strongly urge that the results as shown by the count of the votes be promptly accepted in good faith all round, and that the patriots of every name, class and creed

begin at once to pull together in the exalted endeavor to make Utah great.

SAN JUAN REOPENED.

In the instructions from Hon. Hoke Smith, secretary of the Interior, re-opening to settlement the lands of San Juan county, Utah, a tardy act of reparation is to be done for many injuries and hardships inflicted upon a deserving community. The history of the whole controversy is familiar to those who are interested in the question; nevertheless a brief recapitulation of its prominent features may not be uninteresting.

About seven years ago the southern Colorado people had so far prosecuted their efforts for the removal of the Southern Ute Indians from their reservation in that state into the county of San Juan in Utah, that they succeeded in having the public lands in the latter section withdrawn from entry. About the same time a treaty with the Indians was entered into, whereby some of the latter agreed to the transfer. Although there were quite a number of settlers upon the proposed lands, there were very few, only two or three we believe, who had obtained title from the government. These of course could not be dispossessed with out remuneration; but Hon. F. A. Hammond, who went to Washington as a special representative of the settlers, and Hon. John T. Caine, then Delegate to Congress, resisted the attempt to drive the settlers out upon any such meager basis of compensation. If our information is correct, they first strongly opposed the removal of the Indians at all, and brought every possible argument and influence to bear against it. It appearing, however, that the project was powerfully backed and was likely of success, they then seized the other horn of the dilemma, and insisted upon ample and generous payment by the government for all improvements made by bona fide settlers. No evidence has ever been produced, nor do we believe any exists, to prove that these gentlemen were indifferent or lukewarm in defending the interests of their constituents; on the contrary, the result was that while the offer of pay was not altogether satisfactory, the important point prevailed, which was that the Indians were not transferred. Subsequent endeavors on the part of the Colorado people to unload their aborigines upon this Territory, and thus to gain an important tract of reservation land in their state at the cost of a whole large county in ours, were equally unavailing so far as legal methods were concerned. Hon. Joseph L. Rawlins making an able and successful fight against the proposed indignity. But the Utah lands were still withheld from entry, and this circumstance gave invitation for the bold but outrageous attempt of last fall to force the Indians upon us. The well-remembered Ute invasion was instigated and accomplished; and only after great trouble and expense, in-

cluding severe losses to the San Juan settlers and scandalous ill-treatment of the Indians themselves, was the return movement effected.

During that episode and immediately after it, the News strongly urged that the only permanent guaranty against future lawlessness of the same character was the reopening of these Utah lands to public settlement. The people occupying them have braved many dangers and hardships, and put themselves to great expense in making their little homes. The commonest idea of justice would long ago have given them the security as to title and possession which was needed to warrant them in making improvements in their dwellings and surroundings. Instead of this, they have been regarded as squatters, as interlopers, and as having no rights which the cupidity of their eastern neighbors or the insolence of swaggering Indian agents were bound to respect. A community which had shown as much courage and enterprise as they had in entering and redeeming that forbidding land were entitled to better treatment; and had they received it, these same qualities would have made of their little settlements veritable garden spots and abiding places of beauty.

We congratulate them, however, on obtaining even tardily the privileges and rights they have so bravely earned. San Juan has resources which will soon be better known and appreciated, and in the assurance that an old obstacle and menace is now removed, the whole Territory has much to be thankful for.

THE REVISED VERSION.

Next month, what is known as the "revised version" of the English Bible will be completed, with the publication of the apocryphal books. The work was commenced in 1870. In that year two committees were appointed in England for the revision of the Old and New Testaments respectively. As soon as their labors had been commenced, steps were taken to secure the co-operation of American scholars, and this resulted in the appointment in this country of two more committees that rendered extremely valuable aid in the work. The New Testament was published in 1881 and the Old Testament is now about to be completed.

The revised version is not a new translation of the original sacred scriptures. It is, as the name implies, a "revision" of the authorized or "King James'" version. According to the rules laid down, the committees were prohibited from introducing any alterations except when absolutely necessary and they were, moreover, to limit such alterations, if practicable, to the language of the authorized version. They were nevertheless to compare the existing English translations with the Greek and Hebrew texts, and in cases where it was evident that the original had been misunderstood or not fully comprehended, correction was to be made by the adoption of the original text "for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating."

This required the revisers to consider and decide between various readings which, as regards the New Testa-