

justice cannot be got away from. The secretary's statement that "there are ample public lands in the United States for homestead settlers," is true; and no less forceful is the intimation in his inquiry: "Can we not be satisfied to allow the administration, on behalf of the Indians, of the little we have left them?"

Coming to the application of this rule to the Uintah and Uncompahgre reservations in this Territory, we believe that strict justice demands its enforcement there. This position the *News* took when the bills opening those reservations were introduced, and notwithstanding the passage of an act, we see no reason for changing our view on the basis of fair dealing. We are in favor of allotting the lands in severalty just as rapidly as that can be accomplished without injury to the Indians. We are in favor of opening the reservations to settlement and cultivation. But we are not in favor of robbing the aborigines located thereon to carry out any scheme. We recognize that, so far as the original inhabitants of this part of the country are concerned, a proper proportion at least of the land is theirs by right of heritage and prior occupation. Therefore we are in favor of allotting to the Indians such amounts of land in severalty as thorough investigation shall show is necessary to their welfare under existing circumstances, and that the remainder of the reservations should be administered upon by the government as a faithful trustee, as Secretary Smith suggests, to the highest possible advantage to the Indians in every reasonable way. We believe that the fair proposition is the only one the government really can afford to adopt; though as the law stands at present, and as it will have to be carried out, it may fall short of this standard.

Turning to the topic of the Southern Ute Indians and their invasion into San Juan county, we feel that it is but just to the people of Colorado, in view of remarks that have been made, to give space to the sentiment expressed by a leading newspaper of the state, and therefore quote the following from the *Denver News*:

The protest of the citizens of San Juan county, Utah, against the presence of the Ute Indians is a just one. These Southern Utes have no more right off their reservation in Colorado than the Northern Utes have off their reservation in Utah. The people of Northwestern Colorado have always demanded that the Indians remain on their reservation; the people of Southeastern Utah have a right to the same freedom from Ute visitations. The duty of the government in the matter is plain. The Indians should be driven home with their flocks and herds.

We cannot agree, however, with our esteemed cotemporary that "the treaty which has been pending so long in Congress and whose ratification has been prevented by the Indian Rights association aided by the money of the Pittsburg Cattle company," to remove the Utes to Utah, should be approved. We object to it because it is a measure extremely unjust to the people of San Juan county, and as such should be determinedly opposed. We do not question that the Indians would be willing to remove, considering the unpleasant assaults made upon them from the Colorado

side. If the Utah people were of a similar disposition to those clamoring for the removal, and were sufficiently strong in numbers in San Juan county, the Indians would not feel any disposition to come into their midst, but would desire some other location where they could find peace. We are gratified to know, however, that the residents of San Juan are not conducting themselves toward the red man in a way to be classed among his enemies.

Upon the subject of the invasion there, and the feeling of alarm which occasioned the call for troops, it may be stated that the people in San Juan county have just cause for apprehension. There probably will be no trouble, but it will be averted only by wise and conservative action on the part of the settlers. Connected with this the latter will experience a feeling of nervousness that is far from pleasant, and must work them some financial injury. In their sparsely settled condition, any act which might enrage the Utes or Navajos and cause them to combine against the white settlers, would be liable to result almost in the extermination of the latter, unless assistance were speedily afforded. In the most conservative view of the case, the Indians should be required to remain in their own jurisdiction and should not be accorded any privilege of imposing upon the settlers. Then the government should take up the business and settle it once for all in a way that will give protection to both Indians and white men in the full enjoyment of their rights.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Tomorrow, Thursday, November 29, is the national Thanksgiving Day—an occasion when the people throughout this broad land are called upon, in a national capacity, to render praise and thanksgiving to the Most High for the blessings He has bestowed during the year now drawing to a close. Looking carefully over the situation as it is spread out to view since the last Thanksgiving Day, there appears no room for any other conclusion than that the people in our beloved Republic have abundant reasons to be thankful to the Giver of all good for the manifestations of His mercy and kindness toward them. The nation has had its griefs and its perplexities; it has witnessed scenes of disturbance and disaster; it has passed very near to the door of calamity. But in the midst of circumstances fraught with great peril, and in the face of events that boded the most direful results—the fruits, mainly, it must be conceded, of un wisdom and unrighteousness among many of the people themselves—the overruling mercy of a Divine Providence has brought them through to a season of peace and rejoicing. The voice of national tumult is hushed, and there is an abundance in the land for the comfort and happiness of the people. There could be shown no greater fatherly kindness than that for which the nation is at this time admonished to express its gratitude. A loving Father has granted all that can be desired for the general welfare; it only remains for His children to use wisely and well the bounteous gifts He has

bestowed in order for them to enjoy the perfection of earthly happiness.

While the United States has cause among the nations of the earth to be thankful for the kind providences it has been the recipient of, our own Territory has notable reason among all the commonwealths that compose the Union to render praise to the Most High. By His overruling power, she is the observed of all her associates, who delight to do her honor, and are seeking to her for counsel as to the course they may pursue to be sharers of her enviable position as a prosperous community, whose members already are recognized and hailed as a people of destiny. Those who, by reason of misinformation and prejudice, formerly laughed her to scorn, now that the light has burst upon their minds vie with each other in tendering favors and compliments. In her material interests at home, losses that have been borne in common with others in her case have been compensated for by a richness of harvest such as has never been witnessed before.

It is not with an exuberance of joy or a feeling of exultation that Utah's people unitedly can contemplate the satisfactory condition of the present and the bright prospects of the future. If such were the case they would be poorly equipped for the labor they are called to perform. Rather they must view the situation with a deep and abiding sense of gratitude to the Almighty that He has arranged conditions as they are, and with a strong realization of the vast responsibilities of the hour and of the serious and important nature of the duty that lies before them. Rejoicing in the favors bestowed upon us, let us proceed in full recognition of the principle that we can obtain their full benefit only by conforming to the spirit in which they were conferred—that of blessing and salvation. Whether in places of public worship or around the family altar, participating in amusements or the graver duties of life, let us aid the needy, comfort the afflicted, and bring peace and consolation to the distressed and unfortunate. There are poor who need food and clothing; there are aching hearts that require the balm of loving words and deeds; there are trembling souls that yearn for the strength of noble, generous friendship which reaches out to all humanity. In supplying these wants is the fulfillment of the true Thanksgiving, and an immovable pillar of peace, love and joy to a united commonwealth. It is by such means that the destiny of the people who dwell in these mountain vales shall be accomplished, and our beloved Utah be established in her rightful position as the crowning jewel in our national diadem.

NEED FOR SNOW.

Just now there must be two hundred thousand sheep in Beaver and Millard counties, whose condition is most pitiful. They are hovering on the eastern border of the desert waiting for a snow storm which will save them from perishing from thirst after entering upon the pasturage afforded by the waterless region. Water is scarce and feed more so where they are. They have devoured every vestige of vegeta-