

States should decide to economize by using the above building as offices for the governor, secretary, the surveyor-general, the register and receiver, the Utah commission, etc., that fact would tend to the injury of our own citizens who want tenaots. Such might be the case, but if so, I cannot perceive that it would be just for the national treasury to be depleted that our over-sanguine capitalists may be reimbursed.

It occurs to me that economy on the part of the government is a duty due to the whole people, and especially do Democrats oppose protection of private interests at the public expense; on this account, if for no other reason, I believe it proper for the Utah commission to save to the treasury from six to ten thousand dollars per annum by ceasing to pay rent for offices for public use, when the government already owns a building suitable for such purposes.

No doubt many suggestions have been and other no doubt will be made on this subject. Some persons want the building for a high school. Our school board, which has been very liberal in borrowing and spending money for school houses, has built quite a number of large and expensive houses, from which, if a high school is a necessity, one suitable could be selected.

It has been suggested that the Home is too far from the center of trade. It is in Salt Lake City, the present seat of government of Utah, and the offices which it is proposed to remove to it are mostly United States offices in which the people of Utah are interested. It may be too far from saloons and restaurants; if so, perhaps others may follow.

I do not understand that it is proposed to interfere with any leases now in existence. The post office and the court room, are leased. I understand for a term, but not so with some other buildings now used by public offices.

Above and beyond all, let it be understood that under existing financial conditions, the true policy of all wise men is retrenchment and economy. Private individuals have the right to be extravagant or otherwise, but public officers have no discretion in questions like this, and if the Utah Commission and other government officers can save money to the government by ceasing to pay rent, it is their duty to do so, and they ought to do it, at least such is the opinion of H. D. J.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, July 7, 1893.—The silver men were dazed for a day or two after President Cleveland issued his proclamation calling an extra session of Congress to meet August 7 for the purpose of repealing the Sherman silver law, but it did not last long, and they are now hard at work organizing for the great battle that is to be fought in Congress, and General Warner, president of the Bi-metallic league, says it will be absolutely impossible to get a bill for the repeal of the Sherman law through the Senate unless it be coupled with a substitute satisfactory to the silver men. Members of the administration say a bill for repeal will be passed by the House and that they rely upon the force of the

public demand for repeal to influence enough senators to get it through the Senate, and they point to Senator Hill's recent declaration in favor of its unconditional repeal as proof of what that public demand has already done. Many conservative men who are anxious for the repeal of the Sherman law think it would be very unwise to repeal it without enacting something to take its place, because of the effect such a course would have upon our entire financial system. That there is to be a fight is now certain, and the probabilities at this time seem to favor a compromise in the end, rather than a positive victory for either side.

It is stated here that one of the numerous financial measures that will be introduced in Congress will be a bill providing for the demonetization of gold and the making of silver the standard. The statement comes from what are known as silver men, and those who are classed as "gold bugs" say that it is only a joke. We shall see.

The August extra session has already made ducks and drakes of the plans of the senatorial committees entrusted with various investigations. For instance, the committee on immigration, of which Senator Hill is chairman intended visiting the Pacific coast in August to complete the study of the immigration question begun in New York. The committee on territories has been waiting for the committee on immigration to complete its work in the East, as several senators are members of both committees, before starting upon its tour of the territories that want to become states and now they cannot go. The committee which was charged with visiting the California ports, San Pedro and Santa Monica, to decide which is best adapted for improvement into a deep water harbor, also postponed its trip too long. But these things are not misfortunes, except to those deprived of a pleasant trip at the government's expense, as information quite as reliable as would have been gained by a personal visit can be obtained by the senators right here in Washington.

The Washington correspondents pride themselves on keeping posted on everything that goes on here, whether it be on or under the surface. They were therefore somewhat surprised to learn, by way of a telegram in the local papers from Findlay, Ohio, that for months past and at this time a number of agents employed by the Mormons of Utah are engaged in spending a million dollars in Washington to purchase statehood for Utah. Brought right down to rock bottom this sort of stuff is the veriest rot. There are no agents in Washington lobbying for the Mormons, and there is nothing to lobby with, as Congress will not be here for a month yet. That Utah as well as the other territories applying for statehood will send men here to agitate and push the matter along when Congress meets is probable, but unless the delegation Utah sends differs from that which was here during the last Congress it will represent the Gentiles as well as the Mormons of the Territory. Whenever an organized lobby with even one-fourth of a million dollars at its disposal makes its appearance in

Washington its presence will not be an ounce from any outside town.

In view of the unusually large appropriations made by the last two Congresses for rivers and harbors the opinion of Representative Holman, who was chairman of the committee on appropriations in the last House and who hopes to fill the same position during the coming Congress, is timely and interesting. He says: "At the next session we will probably have to appropriate from \$20,000,000 to \$27,000,000. That is the effect of the vicious system of continuing contracts. The first session of the last Congress made contracts which compelled it, after appropriating \$22,000,000 then, to make an appropriation of \$16,000,000 at the second session. The system is all wrong. It is running into debt."

EUREKA IN ASHES.

EUREKA, Utah, July 10.—The town is a scene of devastation today, and ashes and smoking embers tell the cause of ruin. About 1 o'clock this morning the fire alarm was sounded, and it was soon discovered that a saloon on upper Main street was in flames. The place was owned by M. L. Lockwedge.

The houses in that part of town stood close together, and before the Eureka fire brigade could obtain a sufficient quantity of water to successfully cope with the fire in the saloon, the flames had spread to other buildings. It was soon realized that these buildings were doomed, and as the whole town was aroused everybody gave attention to moving goods from the stores and furniture from the houses along the street. Every man worked hard to save all that was possible.

The fire spread rapidly east and west, and soon took in the stores of Mr. Shriver, Ben D. Luse, Pat. Petersen and the large furniture establishment of Mr. Fullerline. Judge Watts' law office went next, then a large two-story dwelling owned by T. D. Sullivan. The next to go down was Mr. Henniff's dwelling house; then followed a Chinese store and warehouse. Mr. Tuttle's dwelling on the west was saved by dint of hard work, but his stable and barn were consumed.

The flames leaped across the street and caught Mrs. Argall's dwelling, also a house belonging to Pat Shea, Morgan's livery stable, Salisbury's tin shop, and Hanson's blacksmith shop. Mr. Mulkey's neat dwelling also went up in the flames, as did Mac Powers' tank house.

In all I counted twenty-two buildings destroyed. Most of these were good, substantial structures. The upper part of Eureka now lies in ashes. The loss is estimated at \$50,000. The insurance is light. ORR.

Ranchmen report the grass on the ranges drying up and predict a shortage of food on the range for this winter, says the Laramie *Boomerang*. The hay crop will not be very large on account of the late spring and cool nights. Some are thinking of disposing of their calves in order to allow the cows to gain strength.