

THE EDITORIAL EXCURSION PARTY.

THIS party, on invitation of the President and Board of Directors of the D. A. & M. Society, met with a number of prominent gentlemen of this city, in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 8 p. m. on Thursday. Hon. Geo. Q. Cannon was called to the chair and he opened the proceedings with a short speech, appropriate to the occasion.

At the request of members of the party Hon. W. Woodruff, President of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, had prepared the following address for the occasion, which was read by Col. David McKenzie—

Gentlemen of the Agricultural Editorial Party:

In the name of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, we bid you welcome to our Mountain Home. It affords us much pleasure to have associations and friendly greetings with our agricultural brethren. As suggested by your honorable party we submit a few items of information concerning Utah.

IMMIGRATION AND EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In the year 1846, the Latter-day Saints left Illinois to seek a home in the Far West. Arriving at the Missouri River near Omaha, Capt. Allen, of the U. S. Army, met us with a requisition from the war department for a battalion to march to the Pacific to sustain our country's flag in the war then pending with Mexico. The enthusiastic response made by our men, to the requisition of their country so crippled the Immigrating Company as to render it impossible to proceed that year, but in the spring of 1847 President Brigham Young, at the head of 143 pioneers, started in advance of the main company, in search of a place of settlement, arriving in Salt Lake Valley on the 24th of July.

AREA, POPULATION, ETC.

Utah Territory extends from the 37th to the 42nd parallel of north latitude, and from the 109th to the 114th degree of west longitude. Its area is about 70,000 square miles. The official census taken early in March, 1872, gave us a population of 105,229. The immigration and increase of 1872, would add to these figures 5,000, and for the current year an addition of 3,000, making a total, in round number, of 113,000 souls.

The proportion of land which has been considered susceptible of cultivation is very small indeed. Perhaps at the present time there is not much in excess of 220,000 acres under cultivation, the general character of the Territory being that of mountain and desert. Some tracts of fine, rich soil fail to produce crops, owing to the presence of alkali and other mineral substances, which encrust the surface of the ground; but experiments towards reclaiming such lands have been made with very satisfactory results.

AGRICULTURE.

The agriculture of the Territory has been carried on at heavy expense, incurred by irrigation, much of the land having to be watered once or twice to produce the small grains and oftener to produce Indian corn and roots. The increase of rains of late years, however, has tended to reduce the heavy expenses attendant upon irrigation.

Wheat is the great staple product of the Territory. The principal varieties raised are the white and red Taos, white club, Chili and seven headed. The Taos and white club are indigenous to the Mexican soil, and are very fine varieties, weighing from 60 to 63 pounds to the bushel.

The varieties of barley grown are the bearded and bald, not unfrequently producing 80 bushels to the acre.

Oats grow finely, the varieties experimented upon lately are the Norway and Surprise, the latter proving much the better, and getting into general cultivation.

The following estimate was made for 1872 of the number of acres under cultivation in the various crops:

Wheat, - - - - -	75,000
Barley, - - - - -	3,000
Oats, - - - - -	15,000
Indian Corn, - - - -	12,000
Hay, - - - - -	23,000
Potatoes, - - - - -	8,000
Fruits, vegetables and small crops,	10,000
Total acreage, - - -	210,000

And the average yield per acre was also estimated as follows:

Wheat, bushels, - - -	23
Barley, " - - - - -	35
Oats, " - - - - -	31
Indian Corn, " - - - -	20
Potatoes, " - - - - -	150
Hay, one and a half tons wild, cultivated two tons.	

HORTICULTURAL.

Carrots, beets, cabbages, onions and turnips grow very prolifically and excellent in quality, and are raised in quantity in the order named, one thousand bushels of carrots or of beets being considered a fair, average crop. Peas, beans, radishes, lettuce and other products of the kitchen garden also do well.

We have very choice selections of fruit, including all the leading summer, fall, and winter varieties.

Amongst the many favorite apples here, for summer are the Early Harvest, Red Astrachan, and Red June; for fall, Maiden's Blush, Porter and Gravenstein; for winter, Esopus Spitzenberg, R. I. Greening, White Winter Pearmain, Yellow Bellflower and Northern Spy.

In pears the Bartlett leads. In apples and pears the favorites east generally do well here.

In cherries the Duke's and Morello's take the lead for hardiness and productiveness. Heart's & Bigarreaux in favorable locations do very well.

In peaches the Early Crawford, Early York, Troth's Early, Hales' Early, and a seedling named Carlington's Early Red, are fine and ripen in September. There are also cultivated some splendid late varieties. Peaches ripen on the benches two weeks in advance of those on the bottom lands.

The apricots are now in season and will generally equal the specimens are before you.

The Isabella, Delaware, Iona and Concord grapes yield favorably, the mission or California grape yields abundantly, but require protection in the winter. Many citizens raise a few of the exotics with success. In Southern Utah, however, the exotics are raised in profusion.

The Lancashire varieties of gooseberries are produced in abundance, and are seldom attacked with mildew. The leading variety is the Whitesmith.

Currants are raised plentifully, the Red and White Dutch and White Grape take the lead.

Raspberries are very prolific, as well as strawberries, although this year the latter have been a partial failure, owing to late frosts.

Arboriculture and floriculture are in embryo, although for the last two or three years visible signs of life are manifest. The few bouquets presented by Mr. Reading are fair specimens of what is produced outside of the greenhouse.

The principal shade trees are the black or yellow locust and box elder or ash-leaf maple, the cottonwood being generally superseded by the Lombardy poplar or Balm of Gilead.

For further items we take pleasure in referring you to the printed matter which accompanies this, and which will be delivered to Mr. Williams for distribution among you, including the Society's premium list for 1873, the University Catalogue for 1871 (the latest published), and the Territorial School Report for the same year, also a paper on the Reclamation of Mineral Lands.

With best wishes for your enjoyment, and a pleasant visit to our Territory, we have the honor to subscribe ourselves,

Your obedient servants,
WILFORD WOODRUFF,
President.

R. L. CAMPBELL, Secretary Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society.

Mr. Hen. J. Williams responded in behalf of the party, sincerely thanking the Society and citizens there for the courtesy and hospitalities which had been so lavishly bestowed upon them, rendering their visit to Utah the "gem of their trip." He eulogized the energy and heroic perseverance of a people who had wrested from this barren region so comfortable a subsistence, and who had made the desert to blossom as a fruitful field. He alluded to his visit three years ago, with another editorial party. The company with whom he was now associated had not come in the interest of politics, but to look at the hills and valleys, the farms, gardens, orchards and vineyards, the mines and manufactures. He assured the people that the company had no prejudices, and the kindness shown them would certainly remove any lingering feeling

of doubt whether the Mormons were a liberal and generous people. He alluded to the extensive mining interests which had all grown up since his last visit, and expressed great astonishment at the horticultural display witnessed, also the floricultural efforts on Mr. Jennings' place in Salt Lake City, as truly wonderful, and which they had not seen surpassed since they left New York.

Mr. Cannon introduced Hon. Geo. A. Smith as the gentleman who planted the first potatoe in this country.

Mr. Smith remarked that the first planting was done near the spot where we were enjoying ourselves so pleasantly this evening. Three plows were broken the first half-hour, the location was so dry; a dam was erected near where the Eagle gate stands, and a ditch was cut to run water over the land, which made the latter so miry that men and cattle could not move across it. A part of the original ditch now runs through the Historian's office lot. The pioneers, on account of the Indians, located in a fort, enclosing, for that purpose, ten acres of ground, around the outside of which were erected dwelling houses, and a ditch was run out with the plow three-quarters of a mile to the fort; but the thirsty earth absorbed so much water that it took two and a half days for the stream to reach the fort, and a committee appointed to examine the creeks reported that the volume of water issuing from the mountains on the east of our valley was only sufficient to water 800 acres of land.

Prest. Smith said he was glad to have people from all parts of the world visit us and learn for themselves whether we were semi-savages, or intelligent, industrious citizens. This people had exerted all their powers to build the U. P. R. R. and it had done us much good. We had been brought into direct contact with our American brethren, and much prejudice had been broken down. We were busily engaged building railroads, and every ten miles built to the United States developed new mines, which were almost valueless without railway facilities. As railroad enterprises extended we would be advertized, and our neighbors would learn that we were honest and industrious. When industrious people were acquainted with each other they were more apt to be friends than enemies.

Mr. Hoopes said he remembered the beautiful view that broke upon him, when he emerged from the mountains and entered this lovely valley. He was unable to offer a horticultural suggestion, but having partaken of the luscious apricots and gooseberries, which were in season he pronounced them delicious; but thought, however, there was a scarcity of flowers. The collections of Mr. Jennings' and others were exceptions. He averred that, at a very small expense, many could add a few flowers which would throw a charm around their homes that would make them more dear and greatly enhance their beauty.

Mr. S. R. Wells made a few remarks.

Gen. Barnum spoke humorously and gave his views in relation to Salt Lake once being a great inland sea. Talking of schools, he remembered but a few years ago of going to school in Ohio when he had to sit on puncheon seats, with his toes swinging in mid-air, unable to reach the floor. Wondered if the people in the East would give Utah half the time they needed to have good schools. He dilated at some length on the rock-ribbed ridges full of mineral wealth, which were being developed in these mountains and expected shortly to see a vast population here.

The whole party then retired to Representatives' Hall where they partook of a fine collation of fruits, &c., after President Geo. A. Smith had pronounced a blessing upon it.

While thus engaged a party of children, under the direction of Prof. C. J. Thomas, sang some pieces very delightfully, to the great enjoyment of the party, and Mr. Colman made a very able speech, and was followed by Hon. Thomas Fitch, in a humorous address.

The whole affair seemed to be much enjoyed by all who participated.

The party left this morning on a

trip over the Utah Southern Railroad.

Public Debt and Who Pays It.

Since the close of the civil war the State and county debts of the Southern and Southwestern States have been increased from figures merely nominal to something over one hundred and fifty million dollars. The increase in the State debts alone is over one hundred and fifty million. South Carolina owes \$24,600,000—with municipal debts, \$30,000,000. Florida owes \$6,500,000; Virginia \$56,000,000; North Carolina \$32,500,000. These are specimens not above the average. How the debt affects the residents may be inferred from the comparative statement of the taxable property values of these States. North Carolina's debt is nearly one quarter of all her taxable property, real and personal. The debts were mainly contracted in all the States for the building and subsidizing of railways; and, strange as it may seem, the railways in North Carolina, at a fair valuation, are worth nearly as much as all the taxable property returned by the assessors. They, of course, pay taxes in North Carolina, as here, only on a nominal valuation—say one tenth the cash value. Florida owes one-fifth as much as she is assessed for taxes, and South Carolina one-sixth. In the latter State the State and county taxes in most of the counties are as high this year as 10 to 12 per cent! The highest taxes paid by any county in this State are those assessed on Calaveras—about four per cent, and we have been legislating for its relief.

Whether these Southern States are ever to pay up the principal of their debts or not is foreign to the subject we are trying to explain. They may pay, and they may repudiate. We think most of the national debts in the world will be repudiated in the end; but that end is a long way off. Meanwhile the credit of States and nations demands that the annual interest on their debts shall be promptly paid. At 6 per cent. per annum interest eats up the principal in 16-23 years; at 5 per cent. in 20 years; at 4 per cent. in 25 years; at 3 per cent. in 33-13 years. Every 16-23 years the debt of the United States would double if we did not pay the interest. Every 16-23 years we would pay in interest as large a sum as the original debt, provided we had not extinguished a part of it. Every 33-13 years the people of England pay to the holders of debt securities about \$4,200,000,000 in the shape of taxes. That is, they pay off the debt every 33-13 years; but still the debt remains and the tax goes on from year to year, from age to age, from century to century, a perpetual mortgage on all the land, houses, money, incomes, labor and all the people consume or produce. But after all, there is but one certain security for the payment of a national or a State debt, and that is the land. The personal property may be transferred elsewhere, and will be when the debt becomes so high as to make taxes unbearable. The laborers may leave for new fields, as they are now leaving old Europe for new America. The houses may be destroyed by war or by that gradual decay which has left the tenantless castles of feudal times in ruins. The land only must remain. It is therefore the only good security for a State debt. On the farmer must fall the ultimate responsibility of paying or repudiating the debt of the State. His land is held for it firmly and fast. That is why farming is now so poor a business at the South. The taxes eat up all the profits. The farmer is in fact mortgaged to and working for the foreign holders of railway bonds. The bonds were issued by men elected to legislate for the people, but who sold themselves to railway builders, to Credit Mobilier and Contract and Finance rings; and who mortgaged all the lands, houses, goods, chattels and labor of the people to moneyed men living in New York, Hamburg, Amsterdam, Paris, London, Frankfurt, Berlin and other foreign cities. The taxes wrung from the farms of South Carolina, Louisiana, Florida, Virginia, etc., go to pay the interest on these railway bonds. The railway bonds represent about one dollar's worth of property for every ten dollars of their face. The interest is reckoned upon their face value. A railway that could have been built by honest men for \$5,000,000 cash cost \$50,000,000 in bonds. All the bonds issued over

the cash value of the road is so much stolen from the people, who are taxed to pay interest on the fraudulent debt. The loot is divided among the political thieves who legislated that debt into existence; the courts that decided it constitutional; the lawyers who sold themselves to the main thieves in interest; the newspapers and dirty demagogues who defended the steal; the vile cut-throats who carry elections by fraud and the bludgeon; the viler sneaks who stuff ballot-boxes; the Contract and Finance robbers, and the bondholders themselves, who purchased two or three dollars for one, are allowed a high rate of interest and who draw interest on two or three dollars for every dollar cash they paid out.

Nothing could seem clearer than that it is the interest of every man who owns a house or an acre of land to set his face firmly against all manner of public debt, but more especially against this kind which has engulfed the South so ruinously and which still threatens us here in California.—*Sacramento Union.*

FLOODING THE DESERT.—The *Sonoma (Cal.) Democrat* publishes some interesting facts furnished by old Captain J. L. Smith, of Yuma, who settled in Arizona twenty-five years ago. He is of opinion that the Colorado desert will eventually be a very fertile region. He declares that the grossest misconception exists concerning the vegetation on the desert. The soil is the richest in the world, and on those portions overflowed by New River the grass is the tallest, thickest and richest he ever saw. One man has a mowing machine and is engaged in making hay, which is of superior quality. In New River, the Captain says, there is a natural ditch, which it would only require a few thousand dollars to make available for the irrigation of hundreds of thousands of acres of land.

Abundance of water can be obtained from artesian wells. The overflow of the Colorado often spreads itself for a distance of ninety miles, presenting at stages the singular spectacle of a river running up hill. The desert is about fifteen feet below the level of the beds of the Colorado, and its waters can thus be carried over the desert. For such portions of it as can not be reached the artesian well remains. Water can be got at any depth of from twelve to twenty feet. The informant was employed by the United States government to dig wells on the desert. In digging the well at New Station, which was four feet square, after working his way through thirty-five feet of clay, he broke into what appeared to be the bed of an old river. He came across specimens of wood. Here he tapped a stream of water which rose within one hour sixteen feet in the well, and which has stood at that depth ever since. It is impossible to exhaust it. If this stream had been tapped by a four-inch main simply, instead of positive four feet square, he is of opinion that it would have sent a flowing stream to a height of sixty feet.

—About noon to-day Mrs. Davis, wife of Mr. Davis, the druggist, corner of Massachusetts Avenue and 4th Street north-west, was delivered of triplets—one boy and two girls. The children are all living, and mother and babies doing as well as could be expected. Dr. S. S. Bond, the attending physician, states that this is the third case of triplets in Washington the past three months. There is not another city in the civilized world which can show a similar record; perhaps they wouldn't want to.—*Washington Star, Aug. 4.*

—Mr. Editor.—What you cited a few weeks ago as the treatment of boils, practiced by Dr. Simon, of Lorraine, Germany, has been used in our family for many years and never fails if used the first two days after the soreness is felt. Three or four applications of camphorated alcohol each day scatters all inflammation in forty-eight hours. Spirits of turpentine are equally effective, but owing to the sensitiveness of many persons is objectionable. While many profess to value boils highly as a means of cleansing bad humors from the system, I prefer that the impurities of the blood shall be carried off through other channels which nature has provided, and never allow boils to trouble me.—*William T. Smedley, in Germantown Telegraph.*