

way I believe it will support the enabling act, because that will be following in the direct line of precedents in the admission of Territories into the Union, and will not put the brand of dishonesty of purpose upon a portion of the American people. The introduction into Congress of the enabling act as a Republican measure is simply in line with the former history of that party, which has always guarded most zealously the interests of our entire country, and under whose wise and able management this nation has risen until it stands foremost among the nations of the earth. That same party which demands and enforces the doctrine of equal rights and protection to every American citizen living within the law, will not be unmindful of the people of Utah. The same party which was grand enough and magnanimous enough to grant amnesty to a people who in open rebellion to disrupt the Union had been the means of sacrificing hundreds of thousands of human lives and millions of treasure—that same party, I say, will be grand enough and magnanimous enough to grant amnesty to the people of Utah who in the unfortunate occurrences of the past were deprived of the right of franchise, a right so dear to every true American heart. I predict that when the bitterness of the past shall have been blotted out, when scenes which tried men's souls shall have been forgotten, when forgive and forget shall have full sway, then intelligence and good will, progress and protection will reign supreme and the majority of the people of this Territory will unite with the Republican party to save the future State from the danger of Democratic rule.

#### JUDGE HARKNESS (REP.)

I had been opposed to immediate statehood, not because I was afraid of the "Mormons," but because of the extra financial expenses it would entail upon the Territory. I thought, too, in view of the recent changes here in public affairs the taxpayers should have ample time to consider the subject of statehood and determine deliberately whether or not they wanted it. I have always opposed this being resolved into a political question or that taxpayers should take sides because they belong to any political party. I still think that would have been a better plan and wiser policy. The introduction of what is known as the Caine-Faulkner bill must have the effect of leaving the question more or less in politics, because it seems to be a Democratic measure and carries with it all the objections I had to statehood; that is it means the expense without giving representation. Neither do I think the reason assigned for delaying statehood and putting the matter in the form it seems to have assumed, is a good one. The delay appears to be founded upon alleged want of confidence in the Mormon people for immediate statehood, and purports to retain in the general government the power to legislate for Utah while at the same time it puts out of the hands of the government all the mechanism to enforce its laws to any greater extent than in a State. So that if the reason given be a true one, and that the people cannot be trusted, then it does in fact trust them to thwart all the laws of Congress. Of the two acts I prefer statehood, of course.

#### GALVIN REASONER (REP.)

You ask me as to the relative merits of the two bills before Congress, the Home Rule and the Statehood bills; and the advisability of passing either one; and as to which one is entitled to the claim of superiority. When the Home Rule bill came out I thoroughly endorsed it; for it is an educatory measure, and it is adapted to the state of public sentiment abroad, which is full of fear and distrust of Mormon sincerity. It is also adapted to the objections raised in the President's message, and a similar class of objections which prevail in the minds of many Congressmen, that is, that Utah is not quite ready to be entrusted with the full responsibilities of sovereignty. All these objections were satisfactorily provided for in the Faulkner bill, and in a way that provided for most of the incidents of home government. I should say that the Home Rule bill was pre-eminently meritorious on the score of availability and adaptability to the complex conditions affecting Utah. But politics counts for something in Utah, and the only thing for the Republicans to do was to "go one better." The *Tribune* told me a year ago that "If I lived longer I should learn more." It is true, I have learned from the *Tribune* that they take more stock in the Mormon chiefs than they do in the Democratic chiefs; and that they would rather gain statehood with Mormon supremacy than Home Rule with the supremacy of certain Democratic supervisors. So say all the Republican Liberals that I have heard from. Well, that changes matters considerably. For myself I am not the least afraid of either Democratic or Mormon supremacy under either bill. If Republicans in Utah of all shades would but act like men and patriots they can, under either bill, have their due share of control in the Territory, and in the State when it becomes a State; and as the statehood bill seems most desirable to both Republicans and Liberals, and as it furnishes larger educational advantages, I give it my preference.

#### ASSISTANT U.S. PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

##### STEPHENS (REP.)

Are you in favor of the Teller bill, inquired a NEWS reporter?

With a slight amendment I certainly am. It brings statehood a trifle too early perhaps, but that can be remedied. A postponement of the admission of the Territory from twelve to eighteen months would suit me. By that time I think Utah will be ready for statehood.

#### JOHN HENRY SMITH (REP.)

When the question of division on national party lines was first considered it was said by the opponents of the organization of the parties that the movement was too early as it would hasten statehood. There was an understanding between men of both parties after the organizations that nothing should be said in their respective platforms in regard to this movement, but that it should be open for the present. The introduction of the "Home Rule" measure into Congress, while it is not a violation of this understanding in fact, is certainly so in spirit. I, myself, was in favor of ample time being taken to adjust differences, remove suspicion and put

ourselves in harmony with others so far as practicable. But as a matter of fact I am strongly opposed to the "Home Rule" proposition, and a study of its composition convinces me that it would delay statehood indefinitely. Considering the views of some of the most rabid anti-organizationists, who put the matter of statehood off only two years, and that nearly one year has past since this question was first mooted, and that another eighteen months must elapse before it can be consummated, I am decidedly in favor of the statehood movement and believe that all well-wishers of the Territory should lend influence in that direction. So far as the "Mormon" people are concerned I can say that they have made up their minds to wait until such time as thoughtful men of both parties and leading men of the nation shall feel that statehood is their due. Speaking for myself, I say whatever may come I propose to be governed by the same laws that govern the citizens of the United States in general and want no advantages over them. I am for the Teller bill first, last and all the time in preference to any "Home Rule" measure that can be devised.

#### GEORGE M. CANNON (REP.)

My chief objection to the "Home Rule" bill is that it will defer statehood entirely too long and impose a financial burden upon the people without giving them representation therefor. I am in favor of statehood to be obtained within a year or two. I think the people of Utah can better afford to continue living in a Territory that length of time than to reside in a dependency for an indefinite time. Utah's people are sufficiently wealthy to bear the expense of statehood, and they have the intelligence and ability to govern themselves. The "Home Rule bill" was drafted by and for the benefit of office seekers. It pretends to ameliorate the condition of the people but it panders to the prejudice of the East. The Republicans believe that if the people are intelligent enough to be entrusted with the election machinery of the Territory, they are also intelligent enough to be admitted into the Union on an equality with the rest of the people of the United States.

#### HON. JAMES SHARP (REP.)

I am heartily in favor of the Teller bill, though I would rather have statehood deferred a little longer. If an immediate change must come, let it be statehood.

#### HEBER M. WELLS (REP.)

Everybody—Democrats, Republicans, "Liberals" and floaters—have been saying that statehood for Utah would be the proper caper in a year or two. The Teller bill will give it to us just when everybody wants it, as the vote is not to be taken till next November. By that time, if we go on progressing as we have the past year, we will be mellow ripe for it. The people of Utah don't need to be put on probation so long as the Faulkner bill proposes—and therein lies the fatal weakness of that measure. The "Home Rule" bill as compared with an enabling act is a back number and should and doubtless will be promptly shelved by Congress. It should always be remembered, too,