

of Manchus surrounding and about Peking of 100,000 troops. These troops are supported entirely by the government. Their officers are of high rank, and about 700 of them have high position as guards inside the forbidden city, where the emperor lives.

I have written already of Li Hung Chang's army. It is the best drilled and the best equipped of any in the empire. In addition to these there are the three great armies known as the army of Manchuria, the army of the center and the army of Turkistan. The Manchurian army contains 70,000 men, and its headquarters are in Manchuria above the Chinese wall. It has good cannon and first-class modern rifles. These, however, are confined only to a limited number of the regiments, and there are more matchlocks than Winchesters. The army of the center is also north of the wall. It is supposed to include 50,000 men. It is on the borders of Mongolia, and these Manchurian and Mongolian troops could be moved down into Corea if there was any good way of carrying their provisions and supplies. The army of Turkistan is in the western part of the empire, and too far off for use at the present time.

ARMIES OF THE GOVERNORS.

In addition to this there are the armies of the governors, which are scattered throughout the eighteen provinces of China, and which include all the large centers. In Shantung there are 20,000 men. In Shansi, 28,000, and in Foochow, 30,280. The governor of Honan, one of the most anti-foreign provinces of the empire, has 13,000 soldiers. The governor of Nanking has 28,000. The governor of Foochow, 61,435. The governor of Chekiang, 38,000, and those of Hupe and Hannan, 58,000 men. In Shensi, Kentsu and all there are 97,900 men, and in Szueneum there are 33,897. Kwantung has 68,000, Kwangsi has 29,000, Anhui, 9,000, and Yunnan and Kweichow, 42,000, making a grand total, with one or two smaller provinces added, of 701,517. Just how many of these troops can be relied upon in case of war I don't know. The reports are those of the Chinese government, and many of them may be overestimated. There is no doubt, however, but that there are hundreds of thousands of soldiers in China, and that they have many who will fight if they are properly led. Chinese Gordon, who handled them during the Tai Ping rebellion, said that they made splendid soldiers, that they were cool and calm, and that they could do a great deal on small rations. They are full of superstition, and will carry priests and soothsayers with them. They may eat black dog's flesh to make them brave, and their surgeons will give them ground tiger bones to inspire courage. In fight they will be bloodthirsty and cruel, and if the war is carried into the interior it will be accompanied with horrors which will shock the western world.

Frank G. Carpenter

TALK ON IRRIGATION.

SALT LAKE CITY,
August 24, 1894.

The thanks of the irrigation commission are due to you for your editorial in yesterday's News referring to the

address recently issued to the people of Utah concerning the Irrigation Congress to be held at Denver during the first week in September.

It is strange but true that it seems necessary now to urge upon the people generally the importance of this question, to remind them of the prestige already gained by Utah in this great work, and of the urgent necessity that now, at the critical time in the history of the new State, great advantages can be gained if we can continue to take the lead in this discussion and in formulating the plans which it is believed will soon be finally decided upon as the one great method which the mountain states are ready to support earnestly and honestly until success shall crown their efforts.

Since the convention here the question has been discussed from all standpoints and in all directions. Three years have passed and yet no settled policy has been decided upon. The East, at last forced to recognize the necessity of opening up the great bodies of idle lands, by reason of the demands of the unemployed, is looking to the West and asking, "What are your plans? Give them to us quick!"

We cannot now do so. Three years have been taken up in discussion and people differ greatly as to methods. This must be settled and it is hoped that the action of the Denver congress will go far towards determining the many questions involved.

In 1891 the Governor of Utah called the first Irrigation Congress. That convention drew strong men from the adjoining states and the proceedings were published far and wide. It was felt that the time and place of meeting were most appropriate and great credit was cheerfully accorded to Utah for grasping and improving its opportunity in starting an agitation so important then and which many now believe will soon develop into a movement which the East and West alike will consider the one great question for the country in general. California was represented in that congress by Hon. M. M. Estee, W. H. Mills, John P. Irish and other strong men, including Hon. C. C. Wright, author of the famous irrigation law which is now being considered favorably by other states. Senator Stewart and Francis G. Newlands represented Nevada, Hon. W. A. Clark was in attendance from Montana and Senator Warren from Wyoming. Ex-Governor Thomas, Editor Goodwin, Judge W. H. King and other well known Utah men took prominent parts in the proceedings of the convention. The results of that work were endorsed by the Utah Legislature of 1891-2, which memorialized Congress in favor of the cession plan.

It is not the purpose of this communication to argue for or against the action already taken by Utah's representatives and legislators. In a subsequent communication I shall be glad to state the arguments which have been generally used during the past few years concerning the cession plan.

The congress held at Los Angeles in 1893 was not well attended from the mountain states. It was essentially a California convention, although many strong men were in attendance from other sections of the country. Much valuable information was furnished at

this convention by Major Powell, Richard J. Hinton, F. H. Newell, representing government departments. The conflicting opinions of the delegates in attendance at this convention could not be reconciled in many respects. Valuable work was performed, however. It was decided to appoint executive commissions from each of the 17 states directly interested, also to provide for state commissioners charged with the duty of investigating the conditions and needs of each state and to give the same to the next Congress, from which reports it was hoped a settled policy could be decided upon and a bill prepared to be presented to the next Congress of the United States. The reports of the commissioners were also expected to be so complete that permanent recommendation could be made for local laws and regulations for the state legislatures.

State commissioners are now working under this plan and reports from the general committee indicate that the reports will be valuable and the delegations from the various states will be large and active. From this it must be seen that Utah must be up and doing in order that our interests may be properly represented.

The Los Angeles congress adopted a series of resolutions, some of which were radical and with which Utah people can not now agree. Declarations were made concerning the condemnation of vested water rights for public use and concerning the division of inter-state streams under Federal authority, which I think a good many Utah people would object to.

The Denver congress will take up these questions in a vigorous manner.

Now, regardless of pet theories, all can agree upon the great importance of the general question and upon the necessity of quick action concerning the whole matter. No matter whether we believe that if the government should cede the arid land to the states public lands would soon be converted into private snags, or whether we think the states can be trusted and that any other method will be too slow, we must all agree that some plan must be decided upon in order that the great opportunity now presented to the people of the arid West may not be lost. It will be worse than a blunder if the people of the New West should, by reason of differences among themselves, prevent quick action upon some reasonable basis. Millions of people in distress want homes, thousands of young men desire now, as never before, to take up their 160 acres. The new states want the new people. They need them in their business. Idaho and Utah in particular want the development of new farms to stand their share of taxation which otherwise will grow heavier in the near future.

Interest in the coming congress is becoming great. It is, for many reasons, everybody's business, to push the claims of the West and to assist in creating a sentiment in favor of additional appropriations by Congress for surveys of public lands, appropriations for building reservoirs, or such action as will allow somebody else to do it, as well as for appropriations for rivers and harbors in the older states.

Utah's opinions, Utah's laws and