

THE following are the Legislative preamble and resolution presented yesterday by Mr. Taylor, Chairman of special committee appointed to express the sense of the House upon the Governor's veto to the Convention Act—

REPRESENTATIVES' HALL.
Salt Lake City, Jan. 29th, 1872.

To the Hon. the Speaker and members of the House of Representatives of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah:

Gentlemen:—Your committee to whom was assigned the duty of expressing the sense of the House upon the Governor's veto to "An Act entitled An Act providing for holding a Convention, etc.," beg leave to report the following resolution:

Whereas, on the 20th day of January a bill passed this Legislative Assembly providing for holding a Convention to prepare a Constitution for admission of Utah into the Union as a State, and was sent to His Excellency, Governor Woods, for his approval.

And whereas, on the 27th inst., His Excellency returned said bill to the House without his signature, stating, among other reasons for so doing, that "the calling of a Convention without an enabling act, was not a rightful subject of Legislation."

And whereas, the Constitution especially provides that, "The right of the people to peaceably assemble, and petition the Government for a redress of grievances, shall not be denied."

And whereas, in the Governor's veto he says, "It has been the uniform practice of Congress to confer that power through enabling acts."

And whereas, "In June, 1836, acts were passed for the admission of Arkansas and Michigan into the Union, previous to which, an act had been passed by the Territorial Legislature of Arkansas without the approbation of the Governor, calling a Convention to assemble the 1st inst., of January, 1836, to form a State Constitution, preparatory to admission. This measure was taken without previous action by Congress."

"The Convention was held, and a Constitution adopted by the Convention, also a memorial to Congress, asking for admission."

"In Michigan the Legislative Council was convened by the Acting-Governor, Stevens T. Mason, in September, 1834, without any previous action of Congress."

"Conventions were held in both Territories; and in 1836, copies of their Constitutions were sent to Congress, with petitions for admission."

"California was admitted February 13th, 1850, without any enabling act."

And in regard to his accusations, we think, at least, they are in very bad taste, not to say trite and disgusting.

It is an axiom that all men are innocent until proven guilty, and as our Courts have failed in this, it does not become the Executive to falsely accuse those whom he ought to shield and protect.

Therefore: Be it resolved, that it is the sense of this House, that the reasons assigned by His Excellency, Geo. L. Woods, Governor of Utah, for not signing an Act entitled "an Act for calling a convention," etc., are unsound in reason, untrue in allegation and accusation, and are a direct insult to the good and law-abiding people of this Territory.

JOHN TAYLOR,
Chairman of Special Committee

THE *Alta California* objects to the admission of Utah as a State; for the reasons that there is a "social objection," namely, marriage, which, if Utah were a State, might possibly in close contests hold the balance of power; that the "Mormons" might hold the offices of Governor or even of United States Senator; and that Utah has not the population necessary for the election of a member of Congress.

Now it is really paradoxical to contend that because Utah is liberally addicted to the marriage union, she ought to be denied political union. That is very inconsistent. But if it be that only one of these two kinds of union can be allowed, every man that is endowed with the attributes of manhood will unhesitatingly choose marriage union before political union, and every woman who is endowed with the attributes of womanhood will unhesitatingly approve his choice.

As to the objection that "Mormons" might hold office, we reply that the Constitution expressly forbids proscription for religion's sake.

In reference to the third objection, we

can say that Utah has a far larger population than several Territories had at the time they were admitted as States, and there is no good reason nor sound justice in discriminating against her. Moreover, as we have before argued, unequal representation is not nearly so unjust as is no representation at all.

In another place will be found a joint resolution of the Legislative Assembly respecting the holding of a convention to form a constitution, etc., with a view to admission as a State in the Union. The people at large have long been in favor of a State government, and asked for it years back. But the ungracious no was the Congressional response.

Gracious yes or surly no, let us have a convention and let us have a constitution, as good as any State can boast, better, more liberal, more thoroughly imbued with American principles, if possible, than the constitution of any other State in the Union. True, gubernatorial cold water has been unwisely and discourteously thrown upon the movement. But what of that? One man to a hundred thousand! One political intriguer among a hundred thousand free, honest, sober, peaceful, orderly, law-abiding, industrious, respectable American citizens. What is one among so many? Hardly a drop in the bucket. The people want their rights, the rights of American citizens, free born or by choice or both. Those rights have been withheld long enough. By custom a State government is the pathway to the attainment of those rights. It is the right of the people to ask Congress to give them their rights, and consequently to extend to them a State government, that they may obtain their rights. It would be the right, morally, of the people to demand their rights, and it would be right politically for them to do so, if wisdom dictated that course. Would such a demand be unprecedented? But we prefer to make a courteous request, to present a respectful petition, for even our indubitable rights, morally, politically, civilly or religiously, in order that, if we do not obtain them, the responsibility for such an unreasonable and unjust state of things may by all means rest on other shoulders than our own. If Congress, when again asked, will not allow the people of this Territory to stand upon the same broad platform of equal rights with the citizens of the various States, the responsibility of such refusal must rest with Congress, for the opportunity to perform the act of justice desired will have been presented full in the face of that honorable body once more, and every body knows that the reasons for granting the request are amply sufficient and entirely satisfactory to a candid mind.

JOINT RESOLUTION.

The following are the joint resolutions of the Legislative Assembly, concerning the assembling of a Convention for the formation of a constitution for a State Government, etc.

Be it Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah: That an election may be held in each precinct in the several Counties, at the usual places of holding elections, on the 5th day of February, A.D., 1872, at which time and places all legal voters may vote for or against holding a Convention to take preparatory steps for the admission of Utah into the Union as a State, and also may vote at such election for Delegates to said Convention, according to the following apportionment:

Salt Lake Co.,	19 dels.	Tooele Co.,	6 dels.
Wasatch "	4 "	Summit "	3 "
Utah "	10 "	Davis "	7 "
Junab "	3 "	Morgan "	2 "
Sanpete "	7 "	Cache "	9 "
Sevier "	2 "	Rich "	1 "
Piute "	2 "	Box Elder "	6 "
Millard "	4 "	Beaver "	3 "
Iron "	4 "	Washington "	4 "
Kane "	2 "	Weber "	8 "

Be it further Resolved: That said Election may be conducted in accordance with "An Act Regulating Elections," approved Jan. 3rd, 1853; as far as practicable, and so soon thereafter as the general abstract of the names voted for as Delegates is made, the Clerk of the County Court may officially notify each person so elected, which official notice shall entitle such Delegate to a seat in the Convention.

And be it further Resolved: That the said delegates shall convene in the City Hall, Salt Lake City, on Monday the 19th of February, A.D. 1872, at 10 a.m., and may be qualified by any person authorized to administer oaths, and may organize by electing a President, Secretary, and such other officers as they may deem necessary. The Convention, when organized, may frame a Constitution for the new Territory of Utah, with a view to its admission into

the Union as a State, on an equal footing with the original States; name the proposed State; define the boundaries thereof; memorialize the President and Congress of the United States for its admission; and take such other lawful and prudent measures as they may deem necessary for the accomplishment of so desirable an object, and elect and authorize delegates, whose duty it shall be to present the Constitution, memorial and other appropriate documents, to the President and Congress of the United States, and to use their best efforts to procure favorable action thereon.

Be it further Resolved, That the Convention shall submit the Constitution which it may frame, the names of the delegates it may elect and its other public documents designed to be entrusted to said delegates, to the people for their approval or disapproval, at such time and places and in such manner as it may prescribe; and if approved by the people, the delegates thus elected shall forthwith repair to Washington, District of Columbia, to perform the duties herein specified, and such other duties as the Convention may with propriety devolve upon them.

THAT there is some perjury existing, and a great deal of it, and of a very serious nature, in connection with late court proceedings, has been very evident to the community for some time past. As appears by comparing testimony and affidavits, oaths have been taken of a flatly contradictory nature, involving the liberty, good name, and possibly the lives of some citizens of this community, concerning whom the confident belief of those who know them best is that they are entirely innocent of the charges preferred against them, or of any like charge.

In connection with this subject we may here insert the following from the *Elko Independent*—

"Baker, the principal witness against the parties charged with the murder of Dr. Robinson, in Salt Lake city, was arrested to-day for perjury in said case and held to bail in the sum of \$3,000."

The above is among the telegrams received Thursday. We think that the arrest of Baker will result in the ventilation of some of the most barefaced scoundrelism on the part of the "powers that be," at Salt Lake city, that has yet come to the surface in that section. If the stories Baker is reported to have told, while in Elko, are only half true, there will be a shaking among the "dry bones" of federal authority, when he comes into court again, that will be sickening to contemplate.

Under present circumstances, every law-abiding citizen will consider it judicious to remove from men who may be guilty of such villainy as to swear against the life of an innocent man, every removable inducement to the perpetration of the crime of perjury, and probably consequent murder. It is manifest that there are in this Territory men vile enough to commit any crime, no matter how base and brutal, for the sake of money, and consequently everything that may serve as a bait to such characters should be taken away, and a proper regard for the public good demands it.

It therefore affords us satisfaction to refer the attention of our readers to the card of President Brigham Young, withdrawing his offer of a reward of \$500 for the discovery of the murderers of Dr. Robinson. No honest man can desire to be instrumental, even indirectly, in inflicting undeserved punishment on any man.

SPEAKING of the designs of the crusaders and supposed possibilities and consequences of their crusading intrigues, conspiracies, and enterprises, the *Present Age* recently commented in the following vigorous style—

Is it possible, the plan for "cleaning out" the Mormons by persecution, robbery, and murder, may succeed after all! The illegal, unconstitutional proceedings of the court, with McKean as judge, for the purpose of breaking up just such families as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had, just such families as were the ancestors of Jesus, as we are told, are to be supplemented by indictments for murder, and other heinous crimes against the priests and leaders of the Mormons upon the evidence of a self-confessed scoundrel named Hickman. This, it is hoped by those who are waiting to steal, will drive the Mormons to desperation, when they will either emigrate and leave their wealth, the fruit of stern industry, to just such a crowd as has plundered them twice before, or stung to madness by the outrages they are subjected to in the name of the United States, take up arms against the mockery of law, of which they are made the victims. *** To be sure scores of fortunes would be

made by politicians, by camp followers, and administration parasites, and the virtuous Gentiles could take up Mormon lands over the grave of the Mormons. It would be a grand speculation every way, but it would add \$100,000,000 to the public debt, cost 100,000 lives, and desolate immense tracts of country. Polygamy would be stamped out in blood, and the saintly thieves and murderers could come to New York and spend the profits in the chaste brothels no one dreams of closing.

The *Present Age* may take comfort a little longer, as the prospect of the success of "the plan for cleaning out of the Mormons by persecution, robbery, and murder," does not look quite so bright and promising to its originators and advocates as it may have done a time back.

THE *Sacramento Record* thinks "If Utah is admitted into the Union," "no power on earth can prevent the practical triumph of the Mormons." This we take to be one very strong argument in favor of the early admission of Utah.

Why? Because it is tantamount to acknowledging that if she were to have a fair field and no favor, no power on earth could prevent the triumph of the "Mormons," and therefore that they ought to triumph, and to have a fair field in order that they may have the opportunity to triumph over their enemies.

It is manifest to all that the attempt to keep Utah out of the Union is simply an attempt to keep the "Mormons" down, by continuing to withhold from them the full rights and privileges of citizenship and continuing to impose upon them public officers in whom they have no confidence, with whom they have no sympathy, and who have little or no interest in common with the community.

It is as natural for Territories to desire to become and to grow into States, as it is for children to desire to become and to grow into the stature and status of men and women. Per contra, it is as unnatural for Congress or existing States to desire and attempt to keep the Territories in Territorial bondage, as it would be for parents to desire and attempt to keep children always minors, arraying them in pinafores and leading strings, instead of permitting them to assume the apparel and the manners and the duties and responsibilities of adults. It is just as logical to say once a child always a child, as to say once a Territory always a Territory. It is no mark of wisdom or of proper regard for the development and welfare of the race, to endeavor to keep a person always an infant. Neither is it any mark of statesmanship or political wisdom or due regard for the public welfare to endeavor to cramp the free and growing and enterprising and self-governing spirit of a Territory, or any portion of the public domain or the population thereof. Natural growth and development, judiciously assisted where necessary or advisable, is the proper aim of parents towards children and of the parent government towards integral portions of the nation.

It always appears to us an evidence of great cowardice, to say the least, to endeavor to keep a Territory out of the Union when it desires to enter and when it is indubitably capable of self-government and of paying its way. To cowardice, there is often added the unworthy motive of desiring to finger the finances, on the part of the little local minority of objectors to the investment of a Territory with the attributes and dignity of Statehood.

For our own part, we cannot consider it consistent with American principles to deny any Territory the opportunity of becoming a State when it desires to become one, and when it is able and willing to assume and discharge the responsibilities of the same, and the more especially when we consider that such assumption is the present only way for the people of a Territory to realize that they are American citizens, rather than subjects of some foreign power, with few rights and fewer privileges which the rulers set from a distance and imposed upon them without their choice or consent consider themselves bound to regard.

However, whether Utah be admitted into the Union speedily, or kept out indefinitely, if they will remain uncompromisingly true to their principles, "No power on earth," as the *Record* says, "can prevent the practical triumph of the Mormons" ultimately, and the consequent defeat of their unscrupulous opponents.