VIEWED BY A VISITOR.

Delegate to the Mining Congress Pays His Respects to Utah's Resources.

ESPECIALLY TAKEN UP WITH THE MINES.

Dollar's Sales on the Stock Exchange—Two New Companies Incorporated—Wilson Creek Mining Deal.

Thomas Tonge, a delegate to the Mining Congress, pays his respects to Utah and her mineral resources in the Salt Lake Tribune as follows:

Mr. Tonge is a contributor to a Colorado paper, and the recent intermission of the mining Congress at Salt Lake City gave him an additional week in which to visit the various mining districts of the Mormon commonwealth, and to inspect the various specimens of mineral resources, a portion of which will doubtless be interesting to your readers.

Eighteen years ago I left Salt Lake City for the first time, and I confess that I was astonished at the great progress which I found on my return. This has been due, no doubt, to the liberal policy of Utah with the mineral laws of the United States, a commodity only known to the world by hard experience, which has caused the mining industry to be so fettered in other states as to practically stagnate, while in Utah it has been allowed to develop and grow unchecked, and has therefore outstripped all other states in the production of gold and silver, and has made the Territory a very Bonanza for investors.

I arrived in Salt Lake City on a Tuesday evening, and on the following morning I was in the office of one of the most successful men in the Mormon commonwealth, and I was at once struck with the enthusiasm with which he spoke of the mineral resources of his state, and the great development of its mining industry almost entirely within the last two years.

IN THE VANCANCY

Although neither has been carried into effect, there has been another vacancy in the United States senate, for many years it has been practically stated that the mining interests of the State would be represented. According to the last census of the United States there was produced in Utah in 1897 over $3,000,000 in gold, with over 1,000,000 ounces of silver, and 40,000 tons of lead.

The high rate for lead has given a great impetus to the mining industry, and it is from this source that the greater portion of the silver is produced, the remainder being associated with silver, gold and lead. The enhancement in price of silver has not been so marked as that of lead, being only a slight rise in the last year or two, and it is now quoted at 60 cents per ounce. The Mormon people showed a laudable pride in the fact that for 1896, the last year for the single crusade there was no less than 1,000,000 ounces of silver produced, and have been so for several months. There will there be a marked increase in the Utah silver output for 1898.

The lead producing districts of the Territory are Bingham, Stockton, Park City, Ontario, Frisco, and a number of other scattered districts. In the first four districts the production of lead and other metals by companies have been very large, and I understand that Utah is the only State in the Union which pays dividends up to the end of the year 1897 to the Salt Lake City Stock Exchange. The Bingham district is the most productive at the present time, and I have been there several times, and I know that there is a great future before it. The Bingham district is a mineral belt, and has also the most remarkable system of tunnels, one in the mine. The Bingham tunnel is the longest