

foraken even for a moment so long as there remains anything that can be swallowed, and the coyote is no fatter and no leaner after the job is completed; whether it has eaten nothing for a month or had a horse every day or so, its avoldupois remains fixed and unvarying to the nicety of an assayer's scales. The animal is always ready for a meal, big or little, and doesn't go whining around about the hard times and the low price of domestic products if it don't get one for an indefinite period. Shooting at a coyote with a revolver is a favorite pastime with travelers; it pleases them and does the coyote no harm; it is in no more danger from pistol bullets than it is from dyspepsia. It stands in exactly the same position to the lupine family that the Digger Indian does to the human, and this tells it all.

Judge Higgins opens the Iron county branch of the Fifth district court for the winter term in this place tomorrow. There is some little business of importance and otherwise, which will doubtless all be disposed of this week, when the court and its retinue will proceed to Beaver and hold forth there till the judicial bobbin for that part of the State is wound up. The gentlemen spoken of is earning favorable opinions for himself for the dignity, ability and promptness which characterize his occupancy of the bench; it is expected that he will soon have all the dockets in this "shoestring" district cleared and keep business up to date hereafter.

The people here are erecting one of the finest amusement halls in the State. It is of stone, is 40 by 90 feet, outside measurement, the stage being 30 by 50 feet; it is constructed in accordance with architectural rules, and when finished, which will be in May next, will be quite an imposing structure. It will hold about a thousand people in the auditorium, and fifteen sets can dance at one time. The scenery will be obtained from Chicago, and the total cost will be about \$10,000. It is a creditable piece of work and has long been needed here.

ESSAY CAIGH.

ARMY OFFICERS' TRIP.

MARYSVILLE, Bingham Co.,
Idaho, Feb. 10, 1896.

Captain Scott and Lieutenant Lilly, of Company D, from Yellowstone National Park, left my place yesterday morning on snowshoes, headed for Mammoth Springs, National Park, which they anticipate reaching in ten days. They are undertaking a very risky piece of business, for they will have to camp out nights under the trees, and if there should come up a blizzard they are apt to perish in the snow. The object of their journey is to look after the buffalo, which are being slaughtered every day. There was a herd of about one hundred head, but we have a set of outlaws that won't be satisfied until they have got the last one killed, which I believe they have accomplished already.

The captain and lieutenant are both pleasant gentlemen. When the captain arrived at Market Lake he said he thought he would have to keep his hand close to his six-shooter on account of having to pass through a country settled with Mor-

mons, after reading about them being such a lawless people. After arriving at the county seat, St. Anthony, he got a team from a livery stable and went to Parker on Sunday, where he visited a Mormon Sabbath meeting and heard four brethren speak on the first principles of the Gospel. Before leaving he also went to a dance and heard them open the party with prayer; all of which compelled him to think we were a different people than he expected to find.

THOMAS, GOOCH, J. P.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

Following is the special message of Governor Wells sent to the State Legislature Friday afternoon, February 14:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, State of Utah,
Salt Lake City, February 14, 1896.

To the Hon. President and Gentlemen
of the Senate:

In accordance with my previously expressed intention, I respectfully submit for your consideration some suggestions in relation to the financial problems which at present confront the State.

I conceive it to be the joint duty of the Legislature and the Executive to provide income way efficient revenue to meet, first, the deficiency existing at the present, and second, the proper and necessary expenses of government for the current year.

By reference to the very able and comprehensive report of Territorial Auditor John T. Caine, for the years 1894-95 (pages 32-3), it will be seen that the deficit left us by the Territory at the assumption of statehood, that is to say, the excess of liabilities over available resources, was \$333,380.11; and that other obligations incurred by the Territory falling due before July 1, 1896, amount to \$73,341.04; making the actual indebtedness of the State July 1 next, \$906,721.15. Of this amount there have been issued Territorial bonds (not yet due), amounting to \$700,000; leaving the net amount of indebtedness for which revenue should be provided, \$206,721.15.

There are but two methods of raising funds to meet this indebtedness at this time, viz: By taxation, or by issue of State bonds. If taxation is resorted to, it will be necessary to fix the tax rate at such a figure that the revenue to be derived therefrom will pay the debt and also meet the current expenses of government. The tax rate for the years 1894-5 for general Territorial purposes, was 2 mills on the dollar, and for district school purposes, 3 mills on the dollar. Owing to the increased burdens of State government, the tax rate for the current year, as will be hereafter shown, must necessarily be increased for all purposes to at least 6½ mills. In order to pay off the floating indebtedness by taxation, it would be necessary to increase the rate 2 mills more, or to 8½ mills for all purposes, and as this would exceed the limit authorized by the Constitution, which is 8 mills, for all purposes, it is obvious that at least a portion of the debt must be met by the other method, that is, by the issue of bonds. It is my opinion that the taxpayers of the State would prefer, rather than to bear this excessive increase of taxation in one year, that bonds be

issued to pay off the floating debt and that it is the confident expectation of the people generally that before the maturity of the bonds, increased revenues arising from increased population and wealth and proceeds of sales of lands for the benefit of State institutions now supported from the general fund, will enable the State to retire the bonds without increasing the tax rate on that account. As previously expressed to you, it is my belief that our State bonds can readily be marketed at four per cent and sold at par. I have pleasure in assuring you that very able financiers both in Salt Lake City and New York have quite recently corroborated this view.

It is my recommendation, then, with reference to this Territorial deficit of say \$200,000, that it be paid off by the issue of \$200,000 of ten-twenty year coupon bonds, and that authority for such issue and for the disposal of the monies be given by you without unnecessary delay. I also suggest that authority be given the proper officers to refund at four per cent the outstanding issue of five per cent bonds of 1886, which are redeemable in 1898. Holders of these bonds will doubtless be willing to surrender the five per cent Territorial bonds, having but two years to run, for four per cent State bonds, having ten to twenty years to run, and from propositions already in my possession, I am led to believe it among the probabilities that negotiations looking to the refunding of the five per cent issues of 1890 and 1892 (comprising all the bonds outstanding) would prove effective, if the proper authority be given by you.

From the very careful and detailed estimate of Territorial Auditor Caine (pages 40-1-2 of his report), it will be seen that the probable expenses of State government and maintenance of State institutions for the year 1896 will be as follows:

Legislative department.....	\$4,977.00
Executive department.....	19,700.00
Judicial department.....	57,300.00
Expenses of State boards.....	4,500.00
Maintenance of State institutions.....	185,075.00
Maps and plans for county assessors.....	3,826.75
Bounty on wild animals.....	1,350.00
Gratuities to discharged convicts.....	1,290.00
Fugitives from justice.....	1,777.00
State library.....	6,500.00
National Guard of Utah.....	1,500.00
Interest on bonds.....	85,800.00
Interest on World's Fair warrants.....	3,840.00

To this must be added, if \$200,000 of the bonds shall be sold as herein suggested:

Interest on bonds for 1 year at 4 per cent.....	8,000.00
Also balance Territorial deficit not covered by proposed bond issue.....	6,721.15
Also purchase of land and buildings for school for deaf and dumb and blind in Weber county, say.....	15,000.00
Total estimated expenses.....	\$394,307.59

The assessed valuation of property for 1896 was \$98,485,021. Reckoning that the taxing of mines and mining claims and coal lands, and the net annual proceeds of mines will yield revenue equivalent to an increase in last year's assessment of \$12,000,000, making the total assessment this year \$110,000,000, and making no deductions for assessments and collecting, or for remissions and abatements, such assessment will yield, at six and one-half mills on the dollar, \$715,000.00. Deducting three mill assessment for school purposes, \$330,000.00, would leave the estimate