

She has demanded it before, and at this present moment three delegations from the Territory are in Washington urging the cause they have so dearly at heart, not as Mormons, but as American citizens. So far as their religion goes, outside its feature of polygamy the Federal Government has nothing to do with that, unless it is of a sort to hurt the nation as a whole, in which case, having its objectionable and dangerous features removed, the dignity, rights and privileges of Statehood could not justly be refused to Utah. But not only has polygamy ceased to be a factor in her affairs, but it has also nearly died out, and will doubtless soon come naturally to an end.

"In addition it must be taken into consideration that out of the 30,000 voters in the Territory there are 12,000—nearly one-half—who are not Mormons. Of these 18,000 Mormons, 12,000 are Democrats and 6000 Republicans, while of the 12,000 Gentiles, 3000 are Democrats, 2000 are Republicans, and 7000 Liberals, the last named class having more than a tendency toward the Democracy on national issues. That is to say if the 7000 Liberals are removed the total number of Democratic voters exceeds that of the Republican by 7000, while if the 7000 Liberal go Democratic on national issues the g. o. p. will be left 14,000 in the minority.

"Putting aside the dissensions which exist among the delegates and the charges made against the federal officials in it would undoubtedly go Democratic at the ensuing Presidential election would of itself be sufficient to cause Utah's application to be fruitless, so far as regards the treatment of its present application by the Committee on Territories during the present session of Congress. But that success will soon crown her endeavors to be admitted into statehood and to secure a place on the starry banner is a foregone conclusion."

We have space today for one more extract. It is from the *Denver Republican*:

The only part of the United States in which the government has pursued a policy closely resembling persecution is the Territory of Utah. How far this has been justifiable will probably always remain a matter of dispute. Under it the people of Utah have for several years been deprived of a great many of the privileges of self-government. * * *

The question of whether Utah should be allowed to become a State may soon come up in a way that will force itself upon the attention of Congress and the country. The Territory has population and wealth sufficient to maintain a State government, and if it were not for the polygamy question there would probably be but little opposition to the passage of an enabling act. But the dread that if Utah were a State the Mormons would legalize polygamy, cannot be got rid of, and it causes many persons to oppose statehood.

"This home-rule scheme presents what is possibly a good compromise. Under it the people would be given many of the rights of self-government without the independence of State citizenship. As a State Utah would possess certain attributes of sovereignty, and it could, within the limits of the rights which belong to a State, pursue whatever course the majority of the people might prefer, ignoring public sentiment in the rest of the Union. But under the proposed system it would still be as much subject to Congress as any other Territory, although the people would, by permission of Congress, enjoy and exercise many of the privileges of self-government which the citizens of the States hold of right instead of by permission."

PECULIAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.

On the 17th ulto., at Danvers, Mass., was celebrated the 200th anniversary of the witchcraft craze of 1692. The affair took place in a church located only a few yards from the site of the old Salem meeting house, where the first witchcraft investigations were held, and just across the street from the old tavern, to which all the early witches were ordered to be brought.

At this celebration were represented the Massachusetts Historical Society, the New England Historical-Genealogical Society, the Prince Society of Boston, the Manchester Historical Society, the Dedham Historical Society, and a half-dozen other institutions of a kindred character.

A Mr. Goodell read an exhaustive paper dealing with the whole witchcraft delusion. He attributed the primary cause to physical reasons, and the secondary to sociological environments. The Bible was regarded as the inexhaustible fountain of faith. There was in the people at this time a predisposition to superstition, and a vague belief in a personal devil. But the theory or belief in witchcraft did not originate in New England. For centuries it was believed in all over Europe. It is estimated that fully 9,000,000 persons in the aggregate were executed in Europe and America for witchcraft. In the Salem trials European precedent in such cases was strictly adhered to.

Other papers were read and remarks made by several prominent theologians and metaphysicians, all dealing with the subject of witchcraft and its causes. Some stress was laid on nervous and mental conditions, as also on the character of folk lore which obtains in a community. Stories of ghosts, spectres and personal devils related artfully to children would have an effect for evil in their future lives.

This is the first attempt at celebrating an anniversary pertaining to witchcraft in any country. It shows the elasticity of the New England intellect, inasmuch as it takes this practical method of investigating a delusion of their ancestors which resulted in the sacrifice of many human lives. It will also have an educating effect in a general way, and help the popular mind to combat similar delusions.

A WOUNDED KNEE WAIF.

THE *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* tells this pathetic incident of the Wounded Knee tragedy, connected with the last Indian war:

"Out of the hundreds of Indians who went into the field but three were saved, according to the official report. There were four, however. Three days after the massacre the soldiers were burying the dead, with which the field was strewn. Away at one side of the desolate plain, which but a short time before echoed with the booming of shot and shell and the yell of a savage foe, was a broken down wagon on which a couple of Indian families had found refuge.

"The wagon had been struck by a cannon ball at long range, and all of the occupants were lying dead except the little papoose. She—it was a girl—was

clinging to her dead mother, her feet and one side of her face frozen. She was taken away by the soldiers, and given to the care of an Indian woman. After a very little time she recovered from the effects of the exposure. She was legally adopted by Mrs. Colby of Baltimore, Neb., and has been christened Zintke Lanuni, which in the Sioux tongue means the Waif of the Wounded Knee. Mrs. Colby intends training the little one rescued from the jaws of death to a useful life."

RUMORED RAILROAD COMBINES.

FOLLOWING closely on the gigantic trust consummated two weeks ago among the coal carrying railroads of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio, come rumors of similar combines among western roads. It is reported that the Vanderbilt system will in future embrace the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, the Chicago and Northwestern and the Union Pacific. Here would be a system extending from New York City and spreading its network of lines all over the northern belt of the United States from ocean to ocean.

There is also a rumor relating to another trust in which the Pennsylvania system is the principal. It is said that the Northern Pacific and the Atchafalpa roads are to be controlled in future by the Pennsylvania. This will make another vast system extending from ocean to ocean and embracing the great belt which comprises the middle northern states.

THAT BOUNTY BUSINESS.

THE sugar bill now before the Legislature proposes to continue the bounty offered in the existing law, so as to cover the years 1892 and 1893. We favor the measure because we believe it is for the public interest. We have more than once expressed our views on this subject, and we desire that they should not be misrepresented or misunderstood. They are these:

On general principles we are opposed to subsidies and bounties, particularly when they are to promote monopolies or to enrich a few at the expense of the many. But in exceptional cases, such as the aid and encouragement of a new industry, which is needful to the general welfare, which will provide labor in the production of something at home that has heretofore been obtained from abroad, and which will benefit the whole community by the retention for home circulation of money that would otherwise be sent away, we think a moderate, temporary bounty is a wise investment and in accordance with sound political economy.

It should only be granted, however, while it is really needful to the establishment and maintenance of an enterprise that is beneficial to the public, and which without it could not be successfully established and maintained.

The opponents of the proposed sugar bounty argue that that if it is right to grant it at all, the bounty should be made general to all agricultural products. And the question is asked, "Why not extend it to corn, wheat,