

rounded. But the proposition may be proven in a dozen lines by reference to a single example, the truth of which is beyond dispute. Utah presents a fair average of the conditions existing in the arid West. In altitude it is the mean between extremes. Less than fifty years ago it was colonized by a people who had no assets except the brain of a masterful leader of men. Under the guidance of this leader a certain industrial policy was applied. The farm unit was placed at twenty acres. Each family was taught to produce first of all what it consumed, and second, a surplus convertible into some other form of property. This was accomplished by diversified production and intensive scientific cultivation. Upon the public range adjoining the cultivated valleys flocks of sheep and herds of cattle and horses were sustained. This experiment in colonization was carried to success without original capital. The people lived; they multiplied and prospered; they wrung from unpromising soil the capital for cooperative stores, for factories, for banks. And after paying for all this, they had an ample surplus to carry on costly church enterprises, building massive temples and sending their missionaries to the uttermost parts of the earth. Are the valleys hidden among the mountains of Utah any more productive than the irrigable lands of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana on the north, Colorado and Wyoming on the east, New Mexico, Arizona, California and Nevada on the south and west? Are the unprosperous millions of the old world and old states less capable of conquest over nature than the simple folk who compose the mass of the Mormon people? Is capital distrustful of its ability to find security and create values in conjunction with enlightened labor in a field where labor unaided by capital has alone created enormous value?

AS TO STATEHOOD.

Concerning the mass of confusing and contradictory reports upon the question of Utah's admission to statehood, a bill for which is now pending in the United States Senate, the NEWS has wished to have very little to say. This reticence, however, must not be construed either as indifference on our part to that great and important boon proposed to be conferred, or as ignorance concerning the various interests and aspects of the case and the attitude of leading men in Washington concerning it. Our special correspondence has given, we believe, true statements of the matter from time to time, and other information from sources of unquestioned reliability have but confirmed and made more explicit the suggestions and explanations our correspondent has given. It would doubtless surprise local readers to be told that among those who have contributed most to the delay which has overtaken the measure, are men who here at home prate and declaim most loudly against others for fear and dilatoriness; that we have citizens among us who here blow hot for statehood and in Washington blow hot against it. The NEWS is in a position to say that such is the fact. We record it with regret, because while all honorable people can respect a man who honestly differs with their views and stubbornly defends his side of any controversy, they have nothing but contempt for a treacherous friend or for a man who while pretending to favor them seeks in a dissembling way

to multiply obstacles and pile up embarrassments for their cause.

The attitude of the NEWS on the statehood question has all the time been one of patience and resignation. As long as objection could be urged on reasonable grounds and from reputable sources, we were content to wait—the people for whom we speak have become used to that sort of thing. But we cannot feel to have patience with any cuttle-fish methods of politics—attempts to blame others for results which have been largely promoted by the evasive and unscrupulous complainants themselves. Hence we have said, and again say, it will be well for local readers to take with many grains of allowance the charges bandied back and forth hereabouts that this or that party, or this or that element or person in either party, is at the bottom of the existing delay and must be regarded as the cause of our disappointment.

This much by way of warning. Now a word from the Senate itself. We quote the exact language of a well-known senator, a neighbor of Utah's and a friend to her interests. He gave the following over his own signature for such use as the NEWS might choose to make of it. There is nothing very exhilarating about it, but it is not without its measure of comfort:

"There appears no real opposition to the admission of Utah as a state. Both sides of the Senate chamber, so far as surface indications are concerned, appear to be favorable. I think the real danger lies in delay. It is understood that the Wilson bill will be reported very soon to the Senate, when a debate will open which will probably last for months. This may be preceded or followed by long debate on the various financial questions that are from day to day being presented. When the tariff bill is disposed of it is understood that most of the appropriation bills will be ready for consideration by the Senate. I think, therefore, the real danger lies in delay. The bill which passed the House is in the hands of a sub-committee. As soon as they report I presume the committee as a whole will report upon the measure."

TERRITORIAL FINANCES.

At length the people, and their agents in the Legislature, are squarely confronted with the figures which tell us, as a commonwealth, "where we are at" financially. The report of the House ways and means committee, which appears in full in another column, contains these figures. There are two views that may be taken of most events, conditions and disappointments which are met with in this life, a cheerful and a gloomy one; and the proposition to increase the Territorial tax from two mills to three and three-fourths mills, is a matter which will test the capacity for cheerfulness of taxpayers generally, and tend to inspire them with the other view. That a deficit, created when money was abundant, and a period of unexampled prosperity was upon us, must be made good by an increase in the burden of taxation at a time like the present, is not a thing to create hilarity among property owners.

But an examination of the figures

given by the ways and means committee will show that a heavy increase in the Territorial tax must be had, if no more bonds are to be issued, and warrants are to be kept at par. Even with the increase proposed, the resources will but barely offset the liabilities, at the close of 1895, assuming that property valuations will remain as high as they were during 1892 and 1893, an assumption which all the evidence goes to show will not be realized. Values are falling all over the Territory, and the assessment rolls of most, if not all, of the counties will foot up considerably less for 1894 than they have for the last two years. Taking the resources and liabilities as the committee give them, and allowing for the decreased valuation, there will be a deficit of serious dimensions for the next Assembly to provide for.

All this means a demand for retrenchment. It means that Utah cannot afford to even contemplate the support of two separate institutions for higher education; that salaries must be cut down; that unnecessary expenses must be cut off; that Warner's revenue bill ought to pass if it will save \$50,000 to the Territory, as its author predicts, and that J. E. Booth's bill to revise and cut down the fees and perquisites of public officers ought also to pass, if it is found to be so framed as to accomplish its ostensible purpose.

It will seem to many people that \$95,000 is a large sum to give to the insane asylum, and that \$90,000 and \$40,000 for the University and Agricultural College respectively, do not have that appearance of economy which ought to characterize all appropriations of public funds, at least until times improve. Yet these are the allowances made by the committee, in connection with a recommendation that the rate of tax be increased sixty-two and a half per cent.

While the showing is one that calls for economy, it is not one to create discouragement. Utah is all right. There is widely prevailing among her level-headed and far-sighted men a profound conviction that hard times will not and cannot last long in this Territory; and business men are adjusting and conducting their affairs in accordance with this expectation. But it should not be forgotten by either legislator or taxpayer that retrenchment and economy can be made to hasten the desired prosperity.

THE BEET SUGAR INDUSTRY.

It appears probable that within the next few years there will be a considerable increase in the number of sugar factories in the United States. One cause of this is the determination of the fact that in certain soils, particularly west of the Missouri river, the quality of sugar beets that can be raised will enable the large manufacturers to produce an article that equals in quality and competes in price with the best product of the sugar cane. Another feature that encourages the investment of capital in this business is that the market is yet largely supplied from the outside, and that as sugar can be obtained from beets as cheaply in this country as it can be made from