

the removal of the Utes to Utah; second, the Utes will be obliged by it; and, third, the proposed reservation is better than the one they are leaving and more extensive. All the other statements, however honest may be the writer's intention, are false directly or indirectly.

If Durango needs help, Utah could better afford to make up a subscription for her than to take her Utes on the terms offered. He says: "Nor would their removal work a wrong to any person. * * * The bill before Congress makes ample provision to reimburse the settler in good faith whose possessions lie in their new path." It does no such thing. The valuation does not cover one-fourth the real value of the improvements made by settlers. The bill simply ruins three claims that are patented. The rest have no title but that of settlement in good faith, as the country was withdrawn from market at the commissioners' orders. The bill practically

CONFISCATES MINING PROPERTY,

cattle claims and orchards and vineyards from white people, Mormons and Gentiles, for the use and benefit of Indians. Again, he says, the new reservation "is practically cut off from the settlements of Utah."

On two sides it is, but men are going and coming with teams between it and Moab every day.

"Except some very small ones that are provided for?" Does that mean Moab and Richardson? How are they provided for? Those very small settlements will make a very large kick when the time comes.

"It is contiguous to the coveted hunting grounds." Yes, it is, and those hunting grounds are now occupied by cattle ranches and farms.

"Conflict between the Utes and white people would be only a remote possibility." I say, and I speak for the settlers, that conflict would be a certainty.

The talk about "the rich fruit lands" is misleading. San Juan County is in New Mexico and not occupied by Indians at present. Its fruit lands are insignificant in area compared with the noble domain about to be stolen from Utah. The Colorado reservation is well watered and may raise apples and hardy fruits, but I have been all over it, and where it has one acre valuable for fruit culture we have five. The Blue Mountains contain some of the finest grazing lands in the world. They comprise fine fruit lands, good wheat and potato lands, and their settlement cannot be long delayed. In five years the Utes would have to give them up.

Colorado can get choice fruit from Southern Utah with the greatest ease. There are probably a hundred tons this season in the young fruit-raising valley of Little Grand alone. The present difficulty is the want of good roads to the railroad.

OPPOSING INTERESTS.

All the best men of the section are interested in forming a new county, La Sal, which runs down to the north end of the proposed reservation. The project is regarded

as certain of success in Salt Lake, where it has the highest influence on its side. The officials will probably attend to the Utes. Cowboys enough can be mustered to wipe out the tribe. If the Durango people mean to provoke war to get rid of the Utes, two can play at that game. We may as well die fighting for our rights as wait to be murdered or driven out.

An Indian told Mr. Frank Smith this summer that he would have to move when they came down, as they meant to take all the land to the Dolores, ten miles north of us. Until this infamous scheme of plunder was planned the Utes were very shy of this neighborhood.

Buckskin Charlie's war party stole some horses, killed two men and were attacked by cowboys a few years ago, between Mill Creek and Little Castle Creek. The fight lasted two or three days, and twenty-seven dead Indians and one squaw were left on the ground. Counting those who were murdered, about ten white men perished. But the results were highly satisfactory. They behaved themselves, after that, the prowling thieves. We cannot afford to give up our homes to the control of savages. The attempt must be made to teach those Utes to live like whites or else —. One-ninth of Utah has been taken at Uintah for Colorado Indians. Now 3,000,000 more acres, with a vast range of hunting, is offered them. Gentlemen, we have had enough. This case has to go before the United States, where we have rights as well as Colorado and the Indians.

A BAD LOT.

As for the character of those Indians, they are already too well known here. The La Sal mountains were their rendezvous after the Thornburg Meeker massacre, in which they so fiendishly participated. Buckskin Charlie and his band fled here, and remained until danger was past. Of course they know and like the country. I repeat that not until they had assurances that they were to possess this country did they dare to venture in here, after the Little Castle fight. There are now, at this writing, 200 Indians camped around the La Sal, who claim that the government has given them this country and that the settlers have got to get out because it will soon be in their hands. They are killing deer by the thousands for summer skins, while white men are compelled to obey the game laws of Utah.

It would appear from the present indications that the pioneers of Southeastern Utah have no rights which government agents and Indians are bound to respect. Time will tell whether the senate can be induced to ratify so great an outrage.

There is considerable similarity between Artemus Ward's heroic resolve to sacrifice all his wife's relations and the profuse generosity with which Colorado is willing to give away Utah's property to the Indians.

THE MORMONS.

John T. Caine, M. C., will accept thanks for the report of the committee on territories, on the admission of Utah. By a perusal of the report we see no feasible reason why Utah is not justly entitled to admission as a State. The territorial government has adopted one of the very best non-sectarian systems of education that exists in any State or Territory in these United States. The percent of illiteracy is below the average of the country. They have more days average duration of school each year than has any Pacific State. The articles of their faith are given and not one word compelling polygamy can be found in them. Polygamy is only permissible. Their yearly productions from all industries are over \$42,000,000. From the report we are inclined to think that those people are abused by a less thrifty and less intelligent class of jealous bigots, who are envious of their success and are desirous of having the good homes of these Mormons confiscated, for no other reason only that of giving those lazy, idle vagabonds that are there, calling themselves non-Mormon homes they never earned, nor have they any disposition to earn them. That there are such villains in this country, clothed in a garb of respectability, moving in good society and occupying lucrative positions under our government, and in the churches is a fact that cannot be denied. In this report the commissioners give the ideas of both sides, and it appears there is a want of good faith in the Mormons expressed by the opponents to the admission of the Territory. We have been in that Territory several times and have spent several days in studying their institutions and people, and from what we saw and could gather by actual observation, it has been and is now our opinion that all this ado and persecution is altogether wrong and uncalled for. In fact it has no real basis, only that of envy and of conspiracy to rob an industrious people out of their earnings. A number of fanatical sharpers, without honor or principle, went there to make trouble for those people, believing they could outwit the Mormon leaders and lead them into cunningly and knavishly devised traps and incite the masses of our people who are not informed concerning those people, and through them influence Congress to confiscate their property that they and theirs might revel upon the spoils. We have heard deceased Brigham Young, Mr. Cannon and several others speak, and men of broader or more common sense ideas, concerning that which pertained to the welfare of their people, we never heard. Very few men have ever lived, who could hold, influence and successfully colonize so many people and be so much loved and respected by them all as was Brigham Young. This recent persecution of those people only shows that there are those still living who are as ready to persecute as in ages