

most interested in the problems to be solved, and who, as they are to receive the greatest direct benefits, ought in equity and justice to defray the vast expenditures of money necessary and requisite to the improvement, reclamation, and settlement of such of said lands as can be reclaimed: Now, therefore, in order to turn over and remit to the peoples of the States and Territories in which such arid lands are situate all questions relating to the irrigation of the same, and to save further expenditure of the moneys of the United States thereon,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That, subject to all rights, inchoate or perfected thereto, all the lands of whatever nature or description and rights thereto, including water rights, now belonging or appertaining to the United States, lying and being situated in the States of Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Washington, Oregon, Wyoming, Idaho, Colorado, Kansas, and California, and in the Territories of New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Utah, severally, with full and complete jurisdiction thereover, be, and are hereby, granted, ceded and confirmed to said several States and Territories, the grant to each of said States and Territories to be of the lands contained within its present boundaries and territorial limits. And the President of the United States shall issue letters patent for the same to the said several States and Territories in this section designated whenever and as any of said States and Territories shall by an act of its legislature accept the disposition of the lands as herein provided, within the time hereinafter specified. This act shall in no manner affect any of the lands held by the United States for parks, naval, military or other public purposes, nor any Indian lands, nor lands held in trust for or for use by Indians, nor mineral lands, nor shall it apply in any manner to the Territory of Alaska.

"Section 2. That the governors of the Territories of Utah, Arizona, Oklahoma, and New Mexico shall, within a reasonable time after the passage of this act, call special sessions, if need be, of their several legislatures to take into consideration and pass upon the provisions of this act and the questions herein submitted to them, and may from time to time call such other sessions of their respective legislatures as may be rendered necessary; and the benefits of this act shall not accrue to any State or Territory which shall not have accepted the provisions thereof within four years from its approval.

"Sec. 3. That as soon as practicable after the issuance of letters patent to any State or Territory herein mentioned, for the lands therein situate, and from time to time thereafter as occasion may require, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior, at the expense of the United States, to cause to be delivered to the proper authorities of such State or Territory all maps, records, books, and papers, or certified copies thereof, in case it may be necessary to retain the originals in the General Land Office, which may be necessary to such State or Territory for the proper control, administration, and disposition of such lands.

"Sec. 4. That no State or Territory accepting the cession of lands as herein provided shall in any case sell, lease or dispose of said lands in greater quantity than one hundred and sixty acres to any one person, corporation, or association, nor shall any such State or Territory in any manner impair or abridge the homestead privileges now granted to soldiers and sailors under the land laws of the United States."

GOOD FEELING INCREASING.

THE feeling towards Utah is gradually becoming more rational and friendly throughout most parts of the United States. This is indicated by the utterances of the press. We have published quite a number of these in relation to the bills before Congress and to the application for amnesty. We give today a few more which are straws that show how the popular wind is blowing. The Springfield, Mass., *Republican* says:

"Probably not much good can be accomplished by continuing to punish the Mormons who have been convicted of violating the anti-polygamy laws, and they might as well be pardoned as they ask to be. There are a few still in prison, but more who are disfranchised, and they all join in asking amnesty on the ground that the law which they violated has fulfilled its purpose, and the practice of polygamy in Utah is at an end. There is little use in continuing a penalty after the reason for that penalty has ceased to exist. Of course the law would remain, to be enforced in case the offense should be repeated. These petitioners affirm most solemnly that they will obey the law and hold its authority superior to that of their Church in the matter of plural marriage. Wipe out the old score, then, and take a fresh start."

The Scranton, Penn., *Free Press* has this editorial paragraph:

"There is no valid reason for not admitting Utah to statehood. It is more populous than some of the States in the Union. It has thriving towns of commercial importance; the people are law abiding, much more so than might be expected in view of the fact that it is ruled by what have been termed the worst kind of carpet-baggers; polygamy is no longer practiced. There is no reason for keeping her out. The opposition assails democratic government when it antagonizes Utah's just claims."

This is from the Atchison, Kan., *Patriot*:

"The demand of Utah for the admission to the Union as a State is much too earnest and pressing to be ignored. It must be considered and decided by the present Congress.

"By the census of 1880 Utah had a population of 207,005. This is nearly half as much again as the population of Delaware, more than half as much again as that of Montana, one-third more than that of North Dakota, two and a half times that of Idaho, nearly four times that of Wyoming and nearly five times that of Nevada.

"Utah's population is a rapidly increasing one, too, and is founded upon enduring industry, chiefly agricultural. It is a population of strong men and women who have conquered unusual difficulties in converting a desert wilderness into a populous and productive commonwealth."

The Denver, Col., *Republican* has a long article on Home Rule, from which we make these extracts:

"Utah will have to wait for statehood for several years longer. This will not hurt it much, but it is questionable if it is right. Admitting for the argument's sake, that the Mormons have really abandoned polygamy, it is unjust to deny them the rights of local self government. A man should not be deprived of any of the rights of an American citizen because he is a Mormon. The denial of citizen rights to members of the Mormon Church is justified only on the ground that they are guilty of polygamy. Polygamy being out of the way, the rights of a Mormon should be as sacredly guarded as

the rights of a member of any other church.

"As for statehood in Utah, it will come sooner or later. The best way for its advocates to bring it about is to submit to the laws in all things, even though some of them may seem oppressive. If the Mormons really have abandoned polygamy, the obligation of obeying the anti-polygamy act will be more burdensome upon them than it is upon the Gentiles. Time will demonstrate their sincerity, if they are sincere. In the meanwhile they can do a great deal under their present government to develop the resources of the Territory and prepare the way for the future State.

The same paper has an editorial on the amnesty question, of which the annexed is a small part:

"The polygamous Mormons were disfranchised because of their polygamy. If they have abandoned plural marriage the occasion for disfranchisement is then removed. They stand now upon the level of other American citizens and ought to be given the same privileges which pertain to such citizenship. It should not be said that because of their practice of polygamy in the past they should be forever disfranchised. This might be done, but it would not be good policy.

"Apart from the question of polygamy, the Mormon Church is as much entitled to the protection of the law as any other religious body. Mormons are, as a rule law-abiding men, except, it may be, in connection with the subject of polygamy. They are industrious, and, although not as enterprising as most western Americans, they are good citizens. Nothing is to be gained by continuing their disfranchisement after they have abandoned polygamy, and, therefore, they ought to be restored to the full rights of American citizen if their reform is genuine."

REVOLUTIONARY SYMPTOMS.

THE recent successive outbreaks of popular discontent—in some instances fury—in Germany, furnish one more illustration among many of the process of multiplication of a series of similar events as the result of one. The first demonstration of popular rage and dissatisfaction occurred in Berlin. Then followed alternately demonstrations of precisely the same character in one leading town after another, until the situation threatened to become national.

So it is with dynamite outrages, revolting murders—such as "Jack the Ripper" incidents—suicides, attacks on rich men, railroad robberies, lynchings, etc. Human actions, whether performed by individuals or aggregations of men, become epidemic, so to speak. The facilities for intercommunication are so numerous and extensive that people everywhere learn of whatever is striking that is taking place elsewhere, the minds of different people are affected by the information and the imitative faculty, which is strong in man, is excited. This mental agitation is succeeded by a desire to repeat the deeds they have read of or heard described, and the act is succeeded by the conception.

This frequently demonstrated situation exhibits the dangerous period in which we live. The features referred to are increasing rapidly, and if progress in this direction continues—there seems to be no means of stopping it—a time will come when a revolutionary epoch may suddenly startle the whole