

for taxes. Will the people vote to sustain such a Constitution which will provide for burdens which are need less and which they will be unable to bear?

The people desire statehood and they want a Constitution which will not compel future Legislatures to rob the people; and it is my humble opinion that if there is a foundation laid in the Constitution for the oppression of the people unnecessarily, the people will not adopt it, and they should not. They should wake up to their own interests, and look well into the contents of the proposed Constitution and protect their rights while they can. And they should inaugurate a plan of retrenchment which would make it possible for us to free ourselves from bondage in every department of our government. If legal lore is at such a premium that it is entitled to ten times the remuneration of an agricultural or mechanical education, then by all means let us send our sons to the law schools by the score that we may be able to supply the demand and have our work done for a consideration consistent with that paid for other services.

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SPANISH FORK AND SUGAR.

SPANISH FORK CITY.

Feb. 18th, 1895.

In your issue of Feb. 14th we find an editorial under the heading "Do Not Blunder," and as said article reflects on the ability, good sense and judgment of the farmers of this section, and also infers that they are complaining without cause, and as you have opened your columns to all concerned, I have thought that the farmers' side of the question should be heard.

I therefore write you a true statement of facts connected with beet culture in this section, together with the motives and designs of the people in the southern part of Utah county in regard to "Home Industry."

In December last, Mayor Larsen, of Spanish Fork City, at the solicitation of many citizens, called a mass meeting of the people for the purpose of considering the propriety as well as the necessity of establishing some kind of home industry, for the benefit of the people of this section that would give employment to many who are now idle a great portion of the time, and which would also furnish a market for the farmers' products that would be more remunerative than at present. In that meeting several branches of home industry were suggested and discussed, among which were a starch factory, a tannery and a sugar factory.

The sugar factory, or the culture of the sugar beet and its manufacture into sugar, was, in the judgment of the people the most promising of success, especially in this section of country, which embraces the cities and towns of Springville, Spanish Fork, Salem, Payson, Benjamin and Lake Shore, covering an area of about ten miles square. A large part of this section contains lands capable of producing sugar beets of the highest quality, in quite a number of instances the analysis showing 14 and 15 per cent saccharine; numerous sites centrally located can be obtained with water power sufficient to run one or

more factories without the aid of steam; and with the large amount of the very best land for beet culture that we have, we think that if a sugar factory can be maintained in any part of Utah, this section of country certainly can do so. And if sugar can be manufactured at a profit when the manufacturing company pays to the railroad companies from 30 to 60 cents per ton freight, it can be made at a profit when the greater part of this expense is saved to the farmer or the company.

After the meeting above referred to had decided to attempt the erection of a sugar factory, the citizens of the adjoining cities and towns were invited to co-operate with us in this or some other enterprise which might be determined later. We did not have any intention or desire to cripple or in any way injure the Lehi factory, nor do we think that the establishing of one more factory in Utah county would in any way damage the Lehi factory, as it is generally understood that said factory manufactures not to exceed 25 per cent of the sugar consumed in Utah Territory.

In your article you infer that the "ability of the farmer is at fault" and that if the farmers had understood their business their beets would have reached the standard required and would have been accepted, and they would not have suffered the losses they did in 1894. Permit me, Mr. Editor, to dispute this proposition. Some of our best farmers had beets planted in land that cannot be excelled in the Territory—land that produces from fifty to one hundred bushels of grain per acre. A note is handed me from one of the unfortunate beet raisers of 1894, which states that in 1893 he raised 100 bushels of barley per acre on the same land he planted in beets in 1894, and the beets were rejected by the Lehi Sugar company. Therefore we say that the ability of the farmer is not at fault, especially when the farmers state that they exercised the greatest care, and as closely as possible followed the instructions of the Sugar company in the cultivation of the tubers—and still many of them were unable to dispose of their beets to the Lehi Sugar Co.

The following propositions we would like answered:

1—Beets were planted in a piece of land in 1893 and were accepted. In 1894 beets were planted on the same land, cultivated the same, and by the same person as in '93, but were rejected.

2—A five acre field of like land was planted the same day, cultivated the same in all respects, and to all appearances looked the same, yet half of them were taken and the other half rejected by the Lehi company.

3—Beets have shown by the analysis of the sugar company from 11 to 14 per cent sucrose and 79 per cent purity, yet have been rejected.

4—Beets planted upon land that contained such quantities of salt that small grains will not grow in it were among the first to be accepted by the sugar company.

5—Again, beets that were raised and cultivated contrary to the instructions of the company were among the first taken.

Now, Mr. Editor, with these circumstances and conditions before us, some

of our people are led to believe that something is wrong in the receiving of beets by the Lehi factory people. In the Salt Lake Tribune of December 19, 1894, an article appears purporting to be an interview had with Manager Cutler of the Lehi Sugar company wherein he says "that only six per cent of the contracted beets of Spanish Fork were rejected." The facts, Mr. Editor, are that about 40 per cent of the crops of Spanish Fork and Benjamin, instead of 6 per cent were rejected by the sugar company, the farmers of these sections thereby suffering a loss approximating \$20,000.

Mr. Cutler is quoted as saying further, "that he did not think that the Spanish Fork farmers had lost more than those of other localities." I wish to state that all of the beets planted here were planted under contract with the Lehi Sugar company. If it is a fact (which we dispute) that the farmers of Spanish Fork did not suffer greater loss than their neighbors, is there not something in the suggestion, that the Lehi Sugar company contracted for more beets than the factory was capable of manufacturing into sugar, and that Spanish Fork and Benjamin, being located at the greatest distance from the factory, and consequently it would entail greater expense to get them to the factory, therefore they were left out in the cold?

The foregoing being presented to the meeting held in the city hall on Monday, Feb. 18th, it was approved.

(Signed,) W. O. CREER,
Chairman,
JOHN MOORE,
Secretary,
JOSEPH FINCH,
WM. J. THOMAS,
JOSHUA BROOKBANK,
Beet Raisers.

REUNION AT MONA.

MONA, Juab County,
February 20, 1895.

Please permit me, through the News, to give a short account of the reunion which was held in our little ward on February 15th and 16th. All the grown people, including young and old of the ward, brightened also by the presence of our worthy Stake President, William Paxman, his counselor, Charles Sperry, and the Stake chorister, E. W. Chappell, assembled together at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon. After singing and prayer an address of welcome was offered by our earnest Bishop, James H. Newton, followed by readings, recitations, music, dancing, addresses, etc. When the hour of 6 p.m. arrived, about one hundred and fifty persons were comfortably seated around loaded tables, and a blessing and thanksgiving was offered to the good Giver by Elder Paxman. After feasting, of which there was no lack, and plenty left, the program continued in about the same manner—in which both old and young danced, conversed and sang. No whiskey, no contention, all was peace and joy.

Saturday was children's day, and they had feasting, dancing, etc., in much the same way as the day previous. All that transpired was of pleasure, and it proved a time of reuniting and thanksgiving to God for His kind protecting care which is constantly over us.

T. W. L.