

of tomatoes, 350 of potatoes, 306 of large peas, 200 of small peas, 400 of green beans, 450 of cucumbers, 5,500 pounds of asparagus, 7,000 pounds of rhubarb, 2,420 dozen ears of green corn, 30,000 stalks of celery, 1,814 dozen of cantaloupes melons and 362 dozen water-melons.

In Utah, where the cultivation of the land is carried to greater perfection than in any other portion of the arid regions, the rule among the farmers is to cultivate only small farms, and there are many cases in the Territory where an acre of land has been found sufficient to support a family of five persons; five acres will do this comfortably. Ten acres furnish not only a living for the family but considerable return in cash for the extra products, and twenty to forty acres are considered a bonanza.

This showing of productiveness under careful cultivation certainly would seem to establish the advantage on the side of irrigated lands, as it really is. But it would not be safe to conclude that every ten-acre farm in Utah is brought up to such a standard; for many of them are far below it. One reason of this is because the effort that makes the land do its full duty in the cases furnishing the foregoing figures is not applied in all instances. The good results of its application could be enjoyed by thousands of land owners to whom they now are unknown; hence the figures given ought to incite to improvement those here who fall below the statistics recorded, as well as giving those elsewhere accurate information of the excellence that may be attained by well directed labor in cultivating irrigated lands.

#### WAR NOT A BLESSING.

Those who contend that the United States needs a sharp foreign war to straighten out its affairs, or to clear the atmosphere, just as the surgeon's scalpel sometimes is needed to remove an ulcer that otherwise would poison the whole system, forget to explain what particular ulcer there is in the United States' political body that needs the scalpel in the hands of the war lord of a foreign nation. They also neglect to refer to the fact that patients sometimes never recover from the slashes inflicted by the surgeons. In fact, it is nonsense to say that a war would be a blessing to the country. It can be regarded in no other light than a national calamity. What the country needs is peace, God-fearing, industrious and law-abiding citizens, and wise laws administered with an single eye to well-being of the people and the glory of Him who is the ruler of nations. According to holy writ wars among nations to the latter days are planned in the bottomless pit, not for the salvation but for the destruction of the human family.

#### HAS SPAIN ALLIES?

The statement sent from Paris to the London Times that the European powers, and notably Germany, would hasten to the aid of Spain, in case trouble should ensue between that country and the United States, and that the Washington government has received an informal, friendly warn-

ing to that effect, may be possibly nothing more than a rumor circulated for the purpose of influencing Congress against the Cameron resolution on Cuba; but it is more than probable that the recognition of the independence of the Cuban republic by the United States would be regarded as a measure adverse to the best interests of the Old World. Only a few days ago Paris newspapers expressed a regret at the failure of England and Spain to support Napoleon in 1862 in his Mexican expedition. The intention of the French emperor then was to establish to the south of us a strong government of European pattern to counterbalance the United States. That is, he wanted Europe to erect a military power from which Europe could dominate Central and South America, and if necessary invade the United States, or at least prevent our government from carrying out its peace any policy not approved of Europe. Spain's loss of Cuba would be another set back to the European policy of which Monroeism is the opposite.

The Cuban trouble has dangerous elements in it. It may become international. As long as the insurgents gain no decisive victory, Europe is perfectly willing for Spain to spend \$12,000,000 every month in the defense of her outpost against Americanism, but should it become apparent that the Spanish government cannot hold its own, it might receive aid from the other powers, which would but be too glad to find an excuse for entrenching themselves in Venezuela, or Colombia and Central America, to make up for the neglect of embracing the opportunity pointed out by Napoleon in Mexico.

The powers of the Old World know that their interests will suffer by the commercial supremacy of the United States in this hemisphere, but to this country such supremacy is of vital importance. European interference in Cuba is an attack on the enlarged Monroe doctrine as taught in the Venezuelan case and acknowledged by England—an attack which the United States perhaps cannot well afford to ignore. So far, however, there is but little probability that the emergency of defending it otherwise than by diplomacy will arise.

#### ONE OF THE FIRST.

Among the very interesting communications to the Utah Semi-centennial commission is one just received by Mr. Rognon from Brother George Wardle, whose home is at Glendale, near Vernal, Uintah county. Coming from one of the very first white men who trod this valley, it is worthy of special note. The letter reads:

Dear Sir—Reading the DESERET NEWS and seeing that you request the names of the Pioneers, I send you mine. I started with the Pioneers early in April, 1847, from Winter Quarters, President Brigham Young leader. I went through all the hardships of that journey in company with Apostle George A. Smith, we two being in the same wagon. On account of President Brigham Young being sick with the mountain fever, I was one of the company chosen to go in advance from Bear River to break a

road over the mountains and through the canyons, and arrived in Salt Lake valley on the 21st of July. Camped on Mill Creek for the night; next day moved to what is known as the Eighth ward square, where we awaited the arrival of President Brigham Young and company.

I planted the first potatoes under the direction of George A. Smith. I was set to work whipsawing. I sawed the first timber to make a raft to explore the lake; also lumber for President Young's house, and many others. I was also the first chorister, in connection with James Smithins, chosen by President Brigham Young; got up the singing for the laying of the corner stones of the Salt Lake Temple; also played in the brass band at the ceremony of laying the corner stones.

There are many other instances I might relate, but my memory is very bad, and also my health, not being able to do a day's work. I will be 77 on the 3rd of Feb. 1897.

I remain, very respectfully, your friend,  
GEORGE WARDLE.

P. S.—I am the only Pioneer in the county.

#### ISLAM IN NEW YORK.

Since the religious congress in Chicago during the World's Fair, where an apostle of Mohammedanism was heard among the other religious representatives of the world, but little attention has been given to the efforts to spread Islam among the people of the United States. It is now announced, however, that the doctrines of the Arabian prophet are shortly to be preached in a mosque to be erected in the heart of New York. And from a minaret, the call to prayer at the regulation hours will sound in orthodox fashion every day to the faithful in that busy city.

The main purpose of the builders of the proposed mosque is said to be to prevent the proselyting of Arabian students in New York by the Christians. Many of the young men they send to this country to study, they say, lose sight of the faith of Islam and become "infidels" before they return to their native land.

The main mover in the scheme is one Hassan Ben Ali, who represented the sultan of Morocco at the World's Fair. He has lived in New York for several years.

And now the question is, will the erection of a mosque in New York be the means of converting many of her enterprising citizens to Islam? Those who think Mohammedanism has no vital force in its principles, as compared to modern Christianity, may some day think they are mistaken.

#### MONTANA AND SHEEP.

By the official reports of Montana's sheep industry it appears that that state leads all the states and territories in the Union in the number of sheep and in the amount of wool produced during the past year. The number of sheep assessed in that state for 1896 was 2,812,829, which showed an increase of more than 210,500 over the number assessed in 1895. The wool clip amounted in round numbers to 21,800,000 pounds, being an increase of nearly 2,500,000 pounds over the clip