

MINNESOTA FARMERS' ALLIANCE.

THE Minnesota Farmers' Alliance met in convention at Minneapolis on the 5th inst., with 600 delegates present. Ignatius Donnelly was re-elected president, and, it is said, still holds the Alliance in his hand. The proceedings were characterized by abuse of monopolists, capitalists and newspapers without offering any sensible or practicable remedy for the "evils."

Mr. Donnelly in his address paid his respects to railroads, meat-packing establishments, banks, bucketshops and boards of trade. Finally he got to newspapers and treated them as follows:

"The newspapers lie because capital owns them or hires them. We must have newspapers that are owned by the people. Capital creates or purchases the newspapers as an instrumentality to reach the minds of the voters and prevent them acting together for the redress of grievances. If the people did not read these newspapers they would be of no value to the plutocrats, and the whole structure of iniquity would tumble to the ground. The citizen who takes a plutocratic newspaper into his house commits an unpardonable sin against himself, his family, the republic and posterity. He might just as well call up a red hot fiend from hell, and set him on his shoulder, to talk into his ear—morning, noon and night—an endless string of lies and slanders."

Mrs. Lease, of Kansas, was present, and before a mass meeting in the evening delivered one of her bitter harangues. She dwelt on the work performed by the Alliance in Kansas, where, she stated, it reduced the Republican majority from 82,000 to 8000 and elected 97 representatives of the people. She did not forget her old friend ex-Senator Ingalls, of whom she spoke as follows:

"Senator Ingalls, in his deathbed speech in the Senate last winter, tells us when Congress demonized silver in 1873, it was hypnotized by the money power of Wall street. It is my opinion from what Congress has accomplished since then that it has always been hypnotized and is still."

Reports state that though the Alliance convention was fairly well attended, and considerable enthusiasm manifested in its proceedings, yet there was a plain lack of general interest in it.

THE TERRITORIES AND STATEHOOD

HON. J. E. WASHINGTON, of Tennessee, is chairman of the House committee on Territories. He has expressed himself in favor of the passage of enabling acts for Arizona and New Mexico. By these, those Territories would be able to hold constitutional conventions, to elect their State officers and their United States Senators and representatives and by proclamation of the President be admitted

into the Union after the Presidential election. It is not unlikely that this will be the course adopted concerning those two applicants for State honors. But they will not be able to take part in the approaching presidential campaign.

On the subject of Utah Mr. Washington is reported as follows:

"Concerning Utah, although having a sufficient population to entitle her to admission, Mr. Washington expresses the opinion that Congress will not act favorably at present. He favors the enactment of laws giving the people of the Territory the privilege of electing some of the officers now appointed by the President, but reserving to the National Government control of the courts, so that prosecutions for violations of the laws against polygamy can be conducted under its auspices. Then, if it is found that in the course of a few years the people abandon the practice of polygamy, the Territory should be admitted."

This looks very much as if the gentleman was committed in favor of the bill which has caused so much discussion in Utah during the past week or two. It is not all at unlikely to pass the House, but we question very much its success in the Senate.

GOOD SENSE.

THE Utah question "bores up severely" as a perpetual topic for the newspapers. Scarcely a day passes but it presents itself in some form or another. The statehood proposition is the one most debated, and while few of the leading journals advocate immediate action on it, they all accede that it will only take a little time to include Utah within the national fold. The Grand Junction, Colorado, *Star* is one of the papers that have the boldness to talk right out on the present situation, and it does so in these words:

"The Mormons are pretty evenly divided as between Democrat and Republican, with a slight leaning to the Democratic side. The Territory will be admitted as a State as soon as the Gentile residents are able to believe the declarations of the Mormons, that they have given up polygamy forever and in good faith. For one we believe they are honest in this matter and we are in favor of the admission this winter. It is true that the Mormons, if they felt disposed, could elect the new government. What if they did? The new State must be run in conformity with the Constitution of the United States, and it makes little difference as to what religious faith is in the ascendant—Catholic, Jew, Presbyterian or Methodist—the laws of the country must and will be enforced. Let her in now is our vote."

TOO MUCH WAR TALK.

THE agitation on the Chilean question has been revived by the California investigation of the riotous attack on the seamen of the United States warship "Baltimore." It is unfortunate that as the Chilean government begins to show a disposition toward con-

cession and to do right, the sentiment in this country is being aroused to a condition of intense hostility.

In a matter of such importance where so much is involved, the subject should be treated conservatively and with a view to justice being done. Every effort at solution ought to be tempered with a desire for a peaceable adjustment. There is an evident disposition in some quarters to have it otherwise and to encourage a popular sentiment in favor of a brush with Chile. This is evinced by the furore that is being made over the stoung of Captain Evans' gig. It does not appear that the government of Chile could possibly have anything to do with this incident. The nature of the affair shows this. The rock-throwing was done by three worthless fellows who were in a group of Chilean roughs, nobody was injured, and an apology was promptly made. Suppose that the gig of a Chilean captain were lying in the harbor of San Francisco and a trio of roughs should throw rocks at it, wouldn't it be deemed absurd for that country to hold the American government responsible for this overt act? Not only that, but it is doubtful if an official apology would have been deemed necessary under the circumstances.

Then there is a good deal of sensational talk about the investigation in Chile into the riotous affair being one-sided. Surely it will not be claimed that the inquiry conducted in California is double-sided to any appreciable extent. It is essentially *ex parte*, and ought to be viewed in that light.

Whatever of unfairness has been exhibited by Chile in this unfortunate affair ought to be carefully avoided by this country, which, being immeasurably the more powerful nation, can afford, at least, to be magnanimous. Seeing that Chile gives evidence of humility and a desire to make reparation to the United States, this disposition should be met by a responsive conciliatory spirit, with a view to an honorable avoidance of a bloody result.

AN ECONOMIC SUBJECT.

THERE is a great deal of force and logic, varied by a vein of refined humor, in the article in this issue over the *nom de plume* of "Romeo." While it is an appeal in behalf of the tailors of the community, its reasoning also applies to other classes of workmen. It is a good plea in favor of economy, and in that regard is in harmony with the policy relating to home industries that has always been stoutly maintained by this journal. The proposition to the effect that the employment—indirectly