

THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH & LIBERTY.



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Admission of States.

In a republican form of government the power is admitted to emanate from the people, hence every citizen of our Republic should have the privilege of choice in the election of the officers entrusted with the management of governmental affairs.

Is this the case? No, for most inconsistently the inhabitants of Territories are held in a state of tutelage, or rather vassalage, closely allied to the condition of monarchical colonies.

By what principle of right, or by what direct or legitimately implied power derived from the Constitution, does a citizen of the United States become measurably disfranchised by merely moving from a State into a Territory? There is obviously no such principle or power, either direct or implied, but tradition and the force of circumstances have alone produced the congressional line of conduct towards Territories.

The portion due to tradition has sprung from the colonial usage of European governments, should never have been indulged in for a moment, and ought at once to be discarded as entirely irrelevant to free institutions. That portion appearing to arise so naturally from the force of circumstances is all that is at present deemed worthy of consideration.

Even a single citizen settler upon the public domain should be entitled to build, plant, and go forth thereon, in all his privileges every inch a freeman, so long as he comported himself in accordance with the constitution of the United States and the applicable laws thereof, a duty equally binding upon citizens in States. And when the one citizen is added to with a number sufficiently large to require a separate organization, it is the duty of Congress upon application to at once examine the new constitution and the evidence of republicanism therein contained, and if thus far correct it simply remains to define the boundaries and grant the right of self-government, Territorial or State at the option of the applicants, and to extend them such aid, from time to time, in lands, moneys, &c., as may be agreeable with usage, rights, and circumstances. Is there consistency in any other course? There is not, neither can there be.

It may be urged that new settlements have neither the power nor wisdom requisite for governmental operations. As to power, it is obligatory upon the parent to protect her offspring, whether they be strong or weak, young or old, States or Territories, from foreign invasion and the hostilities of her red children. As to wisdom, there is no room for questioning that, beyond the body of the proffered constitution and the previously exhibited intelligence of the petitioners.

What is the brief governmental history of Utah? In 1847 a number of citizens from the United States formed a settlement where now stands G. S. L. City, subsequently elected their own officers, passed their own laws, punished criminals, fought Indians, married, increased, opened fields, erected mills and dwellings, and, in short, successfully performed all duties obligatory upon good citizens in a new country, and flourished in peace and loyalty upon the tops of the mountains.

How happened all this? Through the mere exercise of that intelligence and energy which characterize those American citizens who go forth to make the waste places fruitful and to loyally extend the area of freedom. Entirely unaided by Congress in reclaiming the most uninviting of all the public domain, was there any lack in the department of self government? No.

Years after, when the brunt of the experiment was most successfully overcome, when Deseretians in the eyes of all the world had most amply proven their capacity for conducting their own affairs, in 1850 Congress defined the boundaries of Utah and gave her inhabitants a Territorial organization, and exercised the power, with the President, of appointing certain officers, such as are not so appointed for States, over a portion of citizens of the United States who had demonstrated their possession of every requisite qualification for self-government. And all this without considering the feelings of the main party concerned, ex-

cept in the kind of government, (as it was deemed useless at that date to petition for a State government) a portion of the boundary and the Governor.

Doubtless small favors should be thankfully received, and equally true should larger ones be smiled upon in proportion. But it is rights and not favors that are under consideration. Then why, in the name of all that is reasonable and consistent, not let those citizens who prefer remaining in a territory, as do those of Oregon up to our latest date, elect their officers to the full extent accorded to citizens in the States? Or if that is too progressive, why not at least appoint in accordance with the known wishes of the ruled? And further still, why not at once, under the conditions before mentioned, give American citizens a state government, even though their number be but 500, or less, upon their application therefor after a reasonable exhibition of their loyalty, power and capability?

In these remarks, for brevity's sake, we have waived quotations from the Constitution of the United States, presuming all to be familiar therewith or able to refer to it. We have also omitted to quote from the partizan and other observations upon the same subject by men noted for statesmanship, simply because the whole question is sufficiently plain to any person capable of tracing the legitimate conclusions flowing from the Federal compact.

It is most sincerely to be desired that the time will hasten when the halls of Congress, the pulpits of priests, the stumps of demagogues and the forms of printing presses may be relieved from the senseless jargon, strife and twaddle concerning the right of interference in matters of popular sovereignty and domestic institutions, whether by the parent government with those of a State or Territory, by a State with those of another State or Territory, or by a Territory with those of another Territory. The whole machinery is based upon the principle of governments within a government, and so long as the wheels are kept unclogged by partizan strife and corruption, each left to run upon its own axle well lubricated with the oil of truth and integrity, with its pinions free to rightly mesh with their fellows, just so long will our republican system be the best form of human enacted government within our knowledge.

In view of all facts and considerations pertinent to the case, what sound reason is there why Utah should not be admitted into the Union as a free and independent State, upon the presentation of her constitution, memorial and accompanying documents, and that too without a word of debate? Not one.

Gov. YOUNG AND PARTY returned from their northern trip on the 16th inst., having highly enjoyed their drive through the flourishing settlements north as far as Cache Valley, and leaving them rapidly and peacefully progressing in the scale of faith and good works. A large breadth of grain is being sown for the first time in Cache county.

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[The St. Louis Luminary, The Mormon, The Millennial Star, and friendly exchange papers please copy.]

KANSAS AFFAIRS have occupied so large a share of the attention of Congress and of the Nation, and the excitement among the friends and enemies of the slave-holding system has been and still is at so high a pitch, that it has been deemed advisable to deviate from our usual course and publish entire the report of the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas, senator from Illinois and chairman of the committee on Territories. This course will obviate the necessity for printing isolated and now out-of-date details, and will enable all to become familiar with the political history of Kansas, as

viewed and presented by a majority of the Senate Committee on Territories.

There is said to be a minority report from the same committee, but it has not yet fallen under our notice.

WORTHY OF IMITATION.—A stroll through Gov. Young's grounds, adjacent to his mansion, is a rich treat to every lover of fine fruit, garden adornment and highly useful improvement. Many of the peach, plum and apple trees are fruiting remarkably full, the California grape vines give indication of a luxuriant product, and the young black walnut trees, strawberry vines and each variety of tree, shrub and plant are apparently striving to outvie each other in growth and promise.

Prests. Kimball and Grant are also bestowing much careful attention and judicious labor upon their grounds, and already have a valuable assortment of plants and trees. Others are following in so commendable a course with more or less skill and energy, and what saint, at home or abroad, should fail to use the little care and diligence requisite to fill our valleys with every production calculated to please the eye, gladden the heart, and cheer and sustain the soul of man in the mountain homes of the righteous?

FRUIT SEEDS.—Br. Angus M. Cannon has conferred a highly prized favor upon the recipients of a parcel, by mail, of choice fruit seeds of various kinds, viz: apple, quince, plum, cherry, &c., &c., for which he is at present tendered thanks, and in the future an invitation to partake of the first fruits from said seeds.

How happens it that no more of the elders throughout the States have taken a little pains to forward cuttings and seeds of valuable kinds of fruit? A small amount of care and attention would soon fill our settlements with every desirable variety. The last eastern mail brought a tightly soldered tin can full of apple cuttings, which were as fresh on arrival as those kept here in cellars for the same length of time, and the presumption is strong that most of them will grow, for several have started already. This single operation, with a little trouble to the one who sent the scions, has enriched Utah with six new kinds of choice apple grafts. Elders and friends in the States can easily save and forward by mail, in small parcels, and in the season thereof, to their friends here, a great variety of useful seeds and cuttings. Will they do so, and thus benefit themselves and others, and be able on their arrival in our midst to fairly claim a share in the rich fruits of the earth?

TO DESTROY ANTS IN GARDENS AND FIELDS.—Thrust a stick, or an iron rod, into the center of an ant hill to the depth of a foot, or more, and work it round until it can be withdrawn without the earth's crumbling in, and it is said, by those who have tried the plan, that the ants will run into the hole and perish, being unable to get out.

ARRIVED, on the 17th inst., that portion of Messrs. Hooper & Williams' goods left at Ft. Bridger last fall.

The Morals of Washington City.

Few indeed have any idea of the true state of morals in the capital of this "model republic," and all would no doubt be astonished if they knew what influences are brought to bear in making laws for the observance of the honest citizens of the country.

Laws are not made for the benefit of the many, but of the few—and that few composed of the very worst characters of the land. Care is taken to make such laws as will be tolerated by the masses, but the true objects of the laws are kept entirely in the background. Political and mercenary blacklegs of all descriptions rule the country and fatten on the substance of the people. Men who are trusted by their neighbors, and pass for moral, upright men, go to Washington to spend their long evenings in the brothel or gambling saloon, and their afternoons in the Halls of Congress. Professional blacklegs and Senators and Members of the House, are all "hail fellows well met," and all draw their subsistence from the pockets of the toiling millions.

A correspondent of the Pennsylvania Inquirer gives the following insight into Washington life. —[New York Dispatch.]

A stranger passing through Pennsylvania Avenue, at any hour between that when honest people go to bed and that when the rosy tints on the eastern horizon betoken the coming dawn, will not fail to notice that the upper stories of almost every second house are brilliantly lighted, and he will either imagine that it is the custom of the people here, or else abandon speculation on the subject in despair. He must be a stranger in Washington, indeed, if he arrive at any such conclusion. These brilliant lights, the existence of which almost does away with the necessity for street lamps, are evidences of one of the institutions of the federal city.

In the march of improvement and the progress of civilization, the inhabitants of the District have, to a great extent, abolished the lottery traffic, etc.,

but the gambling rooms, from the dirtiest den to the most gorgeous saloon, are in full blast, and are, at least, winked at, if not legally authorized, by the municipal government.

The Avenue, from Willard's Hotel to the Capitol gate, is literally lined with them, and it is estimated that there are at least five hundred resident professional gamblers, who live like princes upon the losses of the unwary novice or the more reckless habitue of these infamous resorts. The rooms—that is, the more aristocrat ones—are furnished in a style of almost Eastern magnificence—attentive servants wait on your every step—your appetite is tempted by a profusion of the rarest delicacies, and your palate by the most delicious wines. Everything that appeals to the external senses is calculated to "lap one in Elysium."

There is no difficulty in obtaining access to most of the gaming houses in Washington. Into the more aristocratic ones you must be introduced by one who already has the entree. The playing rooms are chiefly up stairs, and you enter through a hall on the first floor. If you appear respectable, though an entire stranger, the porter admits you at once. A servant in waiting takes charge of your hat and cane, and you are then received courteously by the proprietor or his deputy, who chats familiarly with you on any subject except the business of his house, and you are immediately welcomed to the freedom of the establishment. You wander where you please, except into an occasional private room, where is engaged a party who have not yet lost all sense of shame. No one interferes with you, nor are you urged to participate in the games constantly going on at the numerous tables. Professional men in high standing, government officials, merchants whose word in the business world is as good as their bond, senators and representatives—are all on a common level!

As you witness the eager and breathless anxiety with which they await the turn of the dice or cards, or the stopping of a ball, and see what, to many, would be a comfortable fortune, recklessly squandered before you can breathe five times, you ask yourself, are these the men whom I and others look up to as patterns of integrity, and whom we have been taught to respect?

Strange and fearful scenes are sometimes witnessed in these very rooms, but they are hushed up, and seldom known beyond the company present. Later in the evening, a magnificent supper is laid, to which all visitors have free access, and then the players return to the tables, and keep up their games till the light of the new-born day eclipses that from the gaudy burners, when the gambling merchant, physician, lawyer, congressman, and the gambler *per se* (for they are all brothers, and must be classed together) retire to their respective abodes—some to congratulate themselves on their good fortune during the night, and others to gnash their teeth together in despair over their frightful losses. From all the information I can obtain, this vile and criminal practice prevails here to a greater extent than in any other city of its size in this country, and, perhaps, in the world.

The Japonica Potatoes.

The 'Chinese yam,' or 'Japonica potato,' (*disocorea batatas*) bids fair to supersede the common potato as a table vegetable. It has, for a great number of years, formed the chief food of the Chinese and Japanese, and must, therefore, be worthy of some consideration. It has been but lately introduced into Europe, and still more recently into this country; but wherever its propagation has been tried the result has been most successful. They resemble somewhat the sweet potato, but are much longer—growing often from twenty to thirty-six inches in length. They grow perpendicularly in the ground—are largest at the bottom, about two inches in diameter, and taper towards the top of the root to one-half inch in diameter. They weigh from a half to three and five pounds. The skin is a kind of a fawn color, rather more brown than the sweet potatoe. The vines, like the sweet potato, spread over the ground for several yards. The flesh is white, has an exceedingly pleasant flavor, and moreover is so dry and mealy that it can be converted into flour and baked into bread. In appearance almost as white as wheat bread. Roots have been produced weighing from two to two and a half pounds, from tubers planted in April, and dug in October of the same year. A writer in the New York Tribune says:—

"One great point of superiority possessed by is that it may remain in the ground two or three years, always enlarging in size, and equally nutritious and excellent in flavor. Experiments have proven that when the roots are left for eighteen months in the ground, the yield is more than treble that of roots left but for one summer; and it is also considered that the roots are improved in quality. It possesses another great advantage; the roots, when left in a cellar, remain firm and perfect, as well as free from sprouts, and they can be kept out of the ground a year without injury or deterioration of their alimentary qualities. This property renders them invaluable for use in long sea voyages, and especially as a preventive of scurvy."

All things considered, this yam promises to be a most valuable acquisition to our garden vegetables. The mode of culture is easy—any one who understands growing the sweet potato can grow the yam; its culture is about the same. After the ground is well prepared and tubers planted, keeping the weeds down is about all that is required. 'Earthing up,' as we do with the common potato, is entirely unnecessary.—[Ex.]

Enigma.

Mon premier est un metal precieux,
Mon dernier est un habitant des Cieux,
Mon tout est un fruit delieieux.

MEN OF NOTE.—In this envious and wicked little world of ours, no man of any note can hope to escape without abuse.—Blackwood