

## DESERET EVENING NEWS.

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## THE UTAH COMPANY.

The people of this Territory are to be congratulated on the organization of the great Utah company, particulars concerning which will be found in another column. The magnificence of the properties involved, the efforts of the corporation as set forth in its articles—above all, the name and influence and reputation of the chief stockholders, are a sufficient assurance that in the Utah company the Utah people are to have a strong, staunch friend, and the new Utah a potent factor in the prosperity of the material property.

To the stronger unfamiliar with the aims and methods of the leaders of the people who settled Utah, it will doubtless seem strange that the First Presidency of the Church should embark in an enterprise so immense as this and assume imperial burdens and responsibilities of such tremendous weight. Note, however, with those who have watched or have been blessed with the strong practicality of the "Mormon" religion. From the very beginning the leaders have insisted by precept and example that temporal salvation was essentially a part of the Gospel. If they preached gentleness—modesty, and in their family circle and public sermons, they won taught and labored for the liberal building up of Zion. They served the Lord not only in tabernacles and temples, but also in redeeming the deserts, beautifying their abiding places, developing and utilizing their resources, sustaining one another, and contributing to the support and comfort and happiness of the whole. Hence they were ever foremost in building castles and mills and factories; were the promoters of explorations and colonies wherever the opportunity for settlement was inviting, were ready to give of their time and influence and means and means to any and every enterprise that promised good results to the community at large. Thus they have been leaders in the people in more than spiritual sense, and the benefits of their paternal care are seen in Utah and the neighboring states today, and would be still more visible had their advice and example been more closely and continuously followed.

As to the Utah company, therefore, while its principal stockholders are identified with it as individuals and not in the capacity of the First Presidency, their purposes will be understood and appreciated as in direct line with the policy alluded to. No man will venture to impugn the motives that have actuated them. Formidable and momentous the matter now commenced has been engaging their attention. Recognizing the responsibilities that rest upon them as leaders, they could not feel justified in flogging their arms supinely and allowing things to drift without at least an effort to bring about a change for the better. Hence of duty impelled them to use their influence, their credit and their means to advance the community's interest. No speculative judgment could have brought them to adopt the course and tactics thus voluntarily assumed. But full of faith in the resources of our Territory, hopeful of the encouragement and support of the people, conscious of the necessity that lie, every day apparent for a radical change in our position of dependence—we might almost say of industrial servitude—they have unhesitatingly and courageously faced the situation. Some are but dimly; some one had to lead out, to devise ways and means for furnishing employment, to institute measures of remedial deliverance, to rescue the community from the bondage in which conditions have placed it. Who could better attempt it than these men—whose fits and woes in the public service have been few—whose whose dignities and talents and integrity are synonymous for honor and justice, and in no other way can we overestimate of them the vision and confidence and ability. No wonder the organization of the Utah company has made a rapid evolution and has been received with general satisfaction by the business community at large. It goes to view future possibilities and achievements of the highest character, and we see much more in the material advancement and

fortune of Utah than may present observer can tell.

Just what enterprises will first be put under way may not now be stated. It is impossible to a certainty of what magnitude to present in the outset an accurate forecast of the details of the work. But this will rapidly develop them, and as far as prudence will allow they will be presented for public inspection and approval. This must, however, be said, whatever shall be done will be in the interest of the people, and in every honest result that shall be accomplished, they and all of them will be entitled to share.

## PROTECTING PROPERTY.

The news brought in the dispatches regarding the destruction of sheep in south-western Colorado will be accepted as an evidence of the treachery or wantonness of county and state officials in grossly property rights to that part of the country. If the officers were doing their duty there would be cause for alarm for the wholesale butchery of sheep, and the perpetrators of this bloody work would be hunted down and punished. It is not difficult to comprehend that fallible man who would, in the spirit of revenge, kill four or five thousand sheep belonging to other people, would not hesitate greatly in wounding sheep on the owners of the animals if opportunity offered. Whoever has been guilty of this wholesale slaughter, committed without a shadow of justification in the law and in the with the secret work of the assassins, is an enemy to public peace and safety, and efforts who would ensure the safety of the sheep from the penalty of the law belong to the same category.

It may be urged that the sheepmen have overran the range, in the injury of the cattlemen's interests. Suppose that were true, it does not afford any excuse for the cowardly work of which the cattlemen are said to have been guilty. If they have sustained an infringement of rights, they had a legal means of redress; but for their recent action they forfeit any claim to public sympathy. The fact that they have taken it upon themselves to drive out the sheepmen by such means argues that they have neither law nor justice on their side, or they would have tried these last resort of adopting the methods of the border ruffian.

It is to be hoped that for the sake of Colorado the officials there will come from their apathy and indifference to the bottom, bringing the opposite parties to justice. Whether cattlemen, sheepmen or others are at fault, they should be made to realize the supremacy of the law, and the fact that it is a guarantee of a republican form of government in America that individuals shall not be deprived of property without due legal process. In this case one way this penalty has been set at naught in the Centennial State. With this latest striking instance, the honor of that Commonwealth is at stake to call a sharp turn in affairs that Colorado lawlessness may not be matched by similar in the country.

## THE GOVERNOR IS RIGHT.

Without any malice, or severity, or anything of that kind, the Name was used to say for the great majority of the people of this Territory that in refusing to commute the sentence of death passed upon James David for the murder of his wife, Governor West yesterday saw his duty aright and faithfully performed it. Of course there is much responsibility in the idea of shedding the blood, even of a wretched murderer; but all the responsibility on his hand should not be bestowed upon the condemned, a little deserves to be realized for his victim. Besides, the community itself has a right to be rid of such characters, and the law simply says how they shall be removed. As we have examined it, there was no legal ground whatever upon which to hold the request for commutation necessary.

Countless many who signed the petitions for such action were moved by sympathy with the unhappy David. By knowledge of interest in his case, at least, than the best informed, according capital punishment under any circumstances. All such are invited to remember, however, that it is part of the Governor's duty or privilege to set aside a criminal's life, and that any request asking for the commutation of the death penalty should be addressed not to the executive but to the legislative department of government.

## MARS SIGNALS.

The planet Mars is drawing near to the earth and announces its disappearance by the heavenly orb in expectation of making discoveries of a celestial nature. It is seriously conjectured by some astronomical scientists that the inhabitants of Mars are intelligent beings, and that the planet has an atmosphere and climate that is somewhat similar to that of the earth. The question is, can man possibly settle, unless remaining from analogy with the earth, to expect to find life on Mars? Mars is the largest of all the planets and is the most brilliant of the sky. It glows with a steady light, and was an instance that could not fail to draw the attention of an observer. It was noted that three lights formerly discovered had disappeared. Professor Barnard of the Lick Observatory then observed mysterious shadows floating about the sun, pole over the east. These covered with ice and snow. These shadows assume the form of geometric figures such as squares, triangles, straight lines, etc. Connected with these mysterious marks a long pyramid was discovered, which, if being a structure raised by Martians, might easily have been erected for the purpose of signaling or for astronomical observations.

All these startling reports have aroused astronomers all over the world to inspect their work to other directions in order to study the surface of Mars. Early in October the planet will be nearer the earth than for a long time since, and if there are intelligent beings there who are endeavoring to attract our attention, the last will probably be exhibited by this time, it is possible to do so with the instruments now at the command of science.

Flagstaff, reported that on July 19 of this year he had seen a well defined

star at the edge of the disk nine days before the noted astronomer Lowell observed a projection like the arm of a serpent thrown out against the dark background of the sky. It glowed with a steady light, and was an instance that could not fail to draw the attention of an observer. It was noted that three lights formerly discovered had disappeared.

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