

## THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

### THIS MUST BE CONSIDERED.

The people of Salt Lake City in particular and of Salt Lake county and Utah Territory in general have had of recent years a more or less extensive experience with that colossal adjunct of modern government—a heavy public debt. We are safe in saying this experience has not been enjoyable, though we venture to believe it will prove profitable. Men who talk recklessly about increasing the bonded or floating debt of either municipality, county or state no longer excite applause or draw followers to their banner. The demagogue who argues that the more a city owes the more progressive it is, has had his day. The boomer who holds that too much cannot be spent in improvements (even if wastefulness accompanies every outlay), regardless of the burdens thus imposed upon the taxpayer, has been hooted out of the forum. The people have seen a new light, or rather have recognized anew the old one; and they acknowledge that the rule of keeping close check on expenses and paying as one goes, albeit an ancient, homely and prosaic policy, is safe in the long run and procures much peace of mind. The other experiment has been tried until those who have to foot the bill have had quite enough of it. While everything was going smoothly the dancers had a merry time of it. Lo, now that the time for reflection has come, it is discovered that the piper must be paid, and alas the annual stipend amounts to no trifling sum!

The people of Utah are about to enter upon a new career—that of local sovereignty, full-fledged statehood. It is wise to recall, before crossing the threshold of that epoch, what errors they shall need to correct, what maxims they shall cultivate. The News suspects that among the former, ill-considered extravagance will loom up alarmingly before the eye, and that among the virtues, strict economy will be exalted and most loudly praised. We should not be surprised, and we certainly should not be displeased, to see this develop into one of the chief issues of the campaign; for it is of infinitely more importance in the making of the Constitution and in the welfare of the future state than all the fine spun theories of the politicians or the dogmatic thunderings of partisan platform-framers. It has direct reference to every resident; it affects every interest; it arouses the thought and reaches into the pocket of every taxpayer. And the people and taxpayers have a determined and irresistible way of making their voices heard, their desires known, and their power felt when the occasion demands it and when the humor strikes them that way.

To the men who shall be named as delegates to the Constitutional Convention, therefore, the advice is offered: Be wise, economical and conservative in all the spirit and wording of the proposed charter; leave no loophole for the leakage of the public treasure, no

breach for the entrance of the specter of heavy taxation; fix the salaries so low and shave the emoluments off so clean that none but honest, worthy men will be willing to hold office; in a word, see to it that the Constitution shall provide for the needs of the State government administered in the most economical manner consistent with respectability and true progress, with no opportunity for illegitimate speculation, perquisites or self. Such a constitution will be worthy of its framers, of the people, and of the fair young State. A document of a different character will deserve rejection at the hands of the people, and we are rejoiced to predict such a fate for it. It is not too early to give notice now that there are plenty of staunch, true men to lead the revolt against such an infamy, and the News knows at least one good paper that will sturdily fight on and by their side.

### CYRUS H. WHELOCK DEAD.

A private dispatch to Elder Franklin D. Richards, of the quorum of the Twelve, dated Mount Pleasant, Oct. 11, and signed by Bishop Geo. Farnsworth, announces the death in that city, this (Thursday) morning of Elder Cyrus H. Wheelock. The funeral will take place on Saturday, Oct. 13, at 1:30 p. m.

With the death of Elder Wheelock another veteran in the cause of the Gospel of Christ has been called from his field of labor in this sphere, to enjoy the companionship of those gone before him. He has been a faithful and successful laborer, always ready to respond to the calls made upon him, whether required to go abroad to the nations of the earth with the message of salvation or to appear in the congregations of the Saints with words of encouragement or counsel.

Elder Wheelock was prominent in some of the early events in the history of the Church. A native, we believe, of the state of New York, he came, while still a young man, to Illinois, where, as a captain of a steamboat, he learned to believe in the Gospel, and soon became intimately acquainted with the Prophet of the Lord. From that time he devoted himself to the cause of the truth. In 1856, after a successful mission to Europe, he accompanied Elder Franklin D. Richards, when the latter returned from Liverpool on the steamer Asia, homeward bound. When the hand of oppression had closed its awful grasp on the infant Church and the Prophet and Patriarch were led to the altar of sacrifice, Brother Wheelock was among the faithful that stood by their beloved leaders almost to the tragic end. His labor with Governor Ford in behalf of the imprisoned men is a matter of history. He told the governor of the intention of the Laws, the Higbees and others to have the Prophet assassinated, but without avail. After repeated efforts, however, he obtained the assurance that the accused men should be protected. On his last visit

to the prison he received a letter written by the Prophet to his wife and was commissioned to deliver the precious message into her hands. He was also charged by the Prophet to request the commander of the Nauvoo Legion to avoid all military display and everything that would be likely to produce excitement, and also to use his influence with the members of the Church to remain perfectly calm and quiet during the events Joseph evidently knew were near at hand. But for his faithful services required in other places, Elder Wheelock might have been in Carthage jail at the time of the murder and perhaps shared the fate of his beloved Prophet.

A complete biographical sketch of the deceased is not here attempted. He was one of the early settlers of this Territory and has become known and respected in wide circles. As an expounder of the doctrines of the Gospel he always enthused those whose privilege it was to listen to him. His testimony was strong and his life was exemplary. His day's work is done and he has entered the eternal rest on which his hope was centered.

### LABOR LEGISLATION ASKED FOR.

The proceedings at the eighth annual convention of the International association of factory inspectors, held at Philadelphia, is an index to the general sentiment of the conservative laboring classes as to what reforms are desired in regard to hours of labor and other regulations for employees. These do not partake of the extremely radical views of many labor agitators whose idea seems to be as little work as possible for the most pay, but contain many suggestions to employer and employee which fair-minded people in every rank endorse heartily.

Of course the association takes the ground that in order for the proposed reforms to be effective they must be enforced by legislation. In some places the rules asked to be enacted already are in force, but it is urged that in the crowded districts, where they are needed most, they are paid least attention to. The convention discussed at length employment in factories, particularly of women and children. There was a proposition that the limit of factory work for women and minors should be placed by law at fifty-five hours per week, and this was endorsed by a majority of the committee on resolutions. Its meaning was that the extreme requirement which could be made of a woman or of any person under 21 years of age was five days' work of ten hours each and a sixth day of five hours. When the report came before the convention, the recommendation of the minority, that legislation should be asked by the working classes making forty-eight hours the time of employment for women and minors, was adopted.

On the matter of permitting children to labor, the convention took a decided stand in favor of prohibiting by law the employment of all children under fourteen years of age in any manufacturing or industrial establishment whatever. Other recommenda-