

THE GREAT OCCASION.

For the first time in a long while the capital of the nation contains not the President, the Vice President nor any member of the cabinet. Thus early in their new labors they are having a vacation, a holiday, or to use the more recent and more refreshing addition to our language, an outing. And what an outing it is! "Wherever they may show, bang! bang! the loud nine-pounders go;" great crowds assemble from whose patriotic throats such shouts go forth as make the welkin ring if there is any welkin near by to do it; and at no point, however inconsequential, will the heads of the government be permitted to forget even for a moment that they are such.

Then the review of the naval parade where they were as much the observed of all observers as the ships themselves, and on to Chicago over a vast empire of territory thickly studded with cities, towns and villages, at no one of which, except perhaps in the dead of the night, will the distinguished outsiders be permitted to escape without some sort of a demonstration. At the end of the great ride comes the grand entree into the city by the lake, and where on Monday next, in the presence of hundreds of thousands of people representing every nation, every nook and corner of the earth, the President of the United States will set in motion the mechanism of the greatest show of the kind the world has ever seen.

There is a good deal of grandeur in it all, not the least of which is the thought that absent or present, at work or play, in transit or repose—however it may be with those who have been chosen to man the gladiator, the government at Washington still lives, the machinery is constantly in motion. Engage as we will in display for the time being; though we bob-nob for the nonce with potentates and princes; even if under the stimulus of the situation we lose our balance for a moment and get to doing as the people of less favored lands do—it is all right or will be in the end. The President will emerge from all the gildiness and shallowness and gilt-lace decorum and frothy speechmaking and tumult at Chicago with his head properly on his shoulders and return to Washington as much a democrat as when he left it; and what is true of him is true of his cabinet and most of the other "big people."

THE SECOND DISTRICT.

A Beaver paper announces that petitions asking the appointment of John Ward Christian Esq. as judge of the Second judicial district have been received from thirty-one citizens of Garfield and forty-six from Iron county. The signatures of all the gentlemen are pronounced, one and all, leading men in their localities and their support will have a "telling effect." It is to be hoped that something that will have an effect in the right direction will take place in that perturbed district without further delay.

Dr. Christian is one of the oldest residents of Beaver city; he is

familiar with all the more populous places in southern Utah and has a wide acquaintance list. He is spoken of as a self-made man and a popular one, while his qualifications as a lawyer are recognized and conceded. It is asserted that he would give general satisfaction, and his appointment would certainly be a striking exemplification of "home rule."

But it is not to espouse Dr. Christian's candidacy, or that of any one else that this subject is now alluded to. Whether it shall be he or some one else upon whom the appointment shall fall, or whether there shall be no appointment at all and some one at present in office be assigned there, let us hope there shall be no further cause for such complaints as the people of the Second district have been making for so long a time. The manner in which they have been dealt with in many cases has been little less than a scandal, and if the law requiring a judge to live in his district were only construed in the spirit thereof, so that his honor would not deem himself as complying with it by merely not dying there, the troubles would soon disappear. Then let some efficient and unprejudiced attorney who would also reside there, or at least be on hand continuously so long as there was any business requiring his attention, be appointed assistant district attorney, and all would be well again.

Beaver county promises to become a great mining region in the immediate future, and as good mines and litigation seem to travel together as naturally as a yoke of trained oxen, it will be seen that the other business of the district is to be considerably augmented without much delay. We hope those who have the appointing or assigning of the judge and attorney for that district will ascertain, if practicable, the people's will in the premises and not turn a deaf ear to it.

WHO ARE OBSTRUCTIONISTS?

It would be to some extent a waste of the reader's time and our own space to publish a review of the work performed by the Trans-Mississippi Congress, whose session closed in Ogden yesterday evening. This for the reason that the columns of the NEWS have daily contained voluminous reports as to what was done, coming from a special agent as well as in the ordinary channels of telegraphic information, and not at all because the proceedings do not warrant such review. Some few subjects arose, however, which may properly be spoken of; since they point a moral if they don't adorn a tale, and furnish food for a subject which they impart.

One of these points arose on the discussion of the statehood resolution. This subject as a whole we do not care to discuss. There are an abundance of men in Utah who favor and oppose admission, and many of them on either side do so, we doubt not, honestly and intelligently. Each has an indisputable right to his way of thinking, and we would not overcome him except by timely argument if we could. That the Territory has a right to enter the Union, judged by the standards which have obtained in other cases, seems to

us beyond question, and it has been so shown in these columns numbers of times. The grounds on which the opposition in the Congress was based were that it was not a proper subject for that body to handle, that it was a purely local matter, and that those people from a distance could not be informed as those living here are regarding its merits and demerits. This is the subject we had in view when this article was commenced; for if the gentlemen who advanced such arguments were altogether sincere in what they said, beyond all question it is they who need a further term in the school of advancement and not those of whom they spoke, constituting a majority of the population.

Either of the speakers referred to will readily and without opposition admit that the press is not only a power but the power in the land; that its mission as an informer and educator has been growing steadily until at last, except for special reasons, it is no more necessary to visit some other part of the country than that in which the reader resides to learn of the political and social conditions there than it is for him to plunge into water to be sure that it is wet. The press has not only informed and educated; it has brought peoples and sections together and made them as intimate and well informed regarding each other at long range as they could possibly have become at short range, in many cases more so, for we can observe some objects better at a distance than we can closely by. This has been the work of the press, and it may properly be classed as its greatest achievement among many that are more than great—that are mighty. But add to this grand work that of the telegraph which does more than bring people together by setting aside the time and space intervening, and such a thing as an isolated or purely local life within the borders of the great Republic becomes well nigh out of the question. More particularly does this apply to constant and systematic communicants of the press and especially as to matters religious, social and political. Consider all this in connection with the notable truth that for thirty years past the question as to Utah's fitness for statehood has been discussed by the press of the United States, great and small and without exception; that it has been the subject of numerous debates in Congress which have reached constituencies in every portion of the land; that it has been the theme of numberless lectures, sermons and speeches everywhere; that Utah itself since the civil war has been the peculiar cynosure of the whole civilized earth but more particularly the United States; and then in conclusion add the fact that nearly if not quite every one of those gentlemen who spoke in favor of the resolution have had the benefit of that thirty years of education aided in many cases by personal contact and inspection, and then say, if you have the temerity to do so, they are not acquainted with the case, that it is a question relating peculiarly to inhabitants of Utah, that it is purely a LOCAL MATTER!

Talk about turning back the wheels of progress and bringing the glowing