

mainly to the lower parts of the valleys along the foot of the Wasatch mountains and to the lacustrine deposits from the great body of fresh water which formerly filled these valleys, and which has been named Lake Bonneville. Along the eastern shores of Great Salt Lake and of Utah Lake these wells are particularly numerous, but they decrease in number as the higher ground is reached. The depth as a rule ranges from thirty feet on the lowest ground up to 400 feet or more nearer the edge of the valley. The deeper wells on the low ground are more or less brackish or saline, hence they are of little value.

The bulletin is a brochure of twenty-four pages quarto, and is complete as far as it goes. It reviews the geographical features of Utah and notes the differences between the Salt Lake valley and the basin of the Colorado river, which vary so greatly in their water supply and in topographical outlines. Each county is treated in turn, and a synopsis given of its industrial, agricultural and topographical conditions. And altogether it seems to be a carefully compiled census document.

GIVE US THE PROOFS!

THE baffled scribes of the "Liberal" organ, unable to bring forward a scintilla of proof to justify their intimation, that the staff of the DESERET NEWS were all "set aside" to vote either the Republican or the Democratic ticket, as is their custom resort to calling names instead. They repeat the same stale slander coupled with characteristic epithets, and say:

"If the entire *News* staff has not been set aside and ordained to vote some particular ticket this year, it is the first time in twenty years that they have not been."

"There is not a man or woman, or child twelve years old, in the city who does not know that this year every member of the *News* staff will vote exactly as it may be agreed upon in high council."

If every man, woman and child in the city knows all this, it will be an easy thing for the *Tribune* blackguards to establish what they claim. But perhaps the writer of the daily *Billingsgate* that fills the editorial columns of that paper is neither man, woman nor child. If he is anything but the brute his language and his course indicate, let him bring forth anything in the shape of proof of what he asserts, and we will publish it in bold type.

If the question of how any person shall vote has been "agreed upon in high council," during the last twenty years or at any time, that is something that no member of the DESERET NEWS staff has ever heard of before, and some

of them have been members of high councils for a great many years.

We repeat, that not at any time, or by any person, has "the entire staff" or any member of it been "set aside" or "ordained" or even requested to "vote some particular ticket." And we will here reproduce our offer of Saturday to the entire *Tribune* staff:

Now if they can give the people any proof of the "setting aside" or whatever they may please to call it, of any "Mormon" in Utah to join any party or vote any ticket, or do anything against his individual political convictions, we will help them to expose the "setting aside" business and to hold it up to public condemnation.

If no proof of these continual assertions of the *Tribune* editor can be adduced, is he not entitled to the same epithets he cast at his gentlemanly antagonist on the *Times*, and stand self-branded before the public as

"A journalistic sneak and provaricator,"
"A blackguard and a boor!"

VALE CHAIRMAN QUAY.

THE dispatches now assert upon Mr. Quay's authority that ill-health, etcetera, will compell him to resign the chairmanship of the Republican National committee. This news will bring rejoicing to many loyal Republican hearts, that it (not the "ill-health," but the "etcetera") has at last succeeded in this noble service for the salvation of the Republican party.

As for the matter of ill-health, it is quite natural for a man under circumstances so delicate as Mr. Quay's at the present time, to be more or less ill at ease if not at the stomach. And if the real inwardness of Mr. Quay's mind were known we doubt not that it would reveal an earnest desire right now for the intervention betwixt him and the critical public of a short and moderate spell of sickness. A few consoling public dispatches from some of the great leaders, hoping for a return of health, that the party might avail itself of his "inestimable services," would go far toward relieving him of the inexpressible embarrassment of what is virtually a summary dismissal from trust in Republican politics.

THE WASTING OF THE FORESTS.

ONE of the agitating problems of the near future is sure to be the method by which the country's forests may be increased. If the recent census bulletin on the timber question is reliable, something needs to be done pretty soon of the most radical character in this direction. According to this authority all of one-third of the

lumber product of the entire country comes from Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and at the present rate of consumption the entire supply of these States will be wiped out in five years.

This is rather a serious condition of things. The facts have been understood for a long time by some, and extensively discussed. Forest-preserving societies have been formed, and in some of the Eastern States for a number of years a custom has prevailed of annually setting aside one day in which all the people turn out to plant trees and in various ways contribute to restoring the wasted timber lands.

One has only to reflect for a moment upon the enormous amount of lumber consumed, for purposes that admit of no possible substitute, to imagine what the condition might be with the supply suddenly cut off. But this is not the only calamity threatened by the wasteful slaughtering of the forests. It is almost an established fact that the summer floods which are every year growing more destructive and menacing, are due entirely to the cutting away of the timber of the Northern States. The vast tracts of forest country which were once nature's reservoirs for the gradual supply of the Mississippi, the Ohio and the Missouri, are now a desolated expanse from which the snows of winter melt in overwhelming floods under the first warm rays of the spring sun.

Laws have been enacted with a view to stopping these depredations, but thus far to no purpose. The only practicable way now to avert what is liable sooner or later to result in a national calamity is for the interest of the entire people to be enlisted in behalf of timber culture, and consistent laws enacted to protect the public forests from being devastated. There is no product of farm or mechanism which the government can so well afford to encourage with a bounty as the systematic culture of timber.

SILVER ECHOES.

EX-SECRETARY FAIRCHILD, in the *July Forum*, speaking on the issue of free silver coinage, says:

"All Europe has stopped the free coinage of silver, which it would not have done had it believed that it, in conjunction with us, could maintain the old ratio of the precious metals. The countries of the Latin Union have a vast amount of silver, and it is much more important to them to maintain the equality of silver with gold than it is to us even yet, and still they are not willing to do so with our help; how much less then must they believe in our power to do this unaided? Therefore, upon thinking that they saw the approach of silver mono-metalism in this country, they would also think that our gold coins were better property than