

"Give us a law by which a polygamist shall neither vote, sit on juries nor hold office." He lifted up his right hand and said: "That is the best solution of the question that I have ever heard. You come down to Washington next winter and we will put that into a law." I went down to Washington, called on Senator Harrison and he told me that already Senator Edmunds and himself had drafted a law embodying those thoughts which I had suggested. I went to Senator Edmunds and talked the matter over with him and found that he had drafted a very excellent law. He asked me questions about it and I think some few changes were made in the wording of it. This bill was enacted and afterwards known as the Edmunds law, under which the prosecutions were made against the leading polygamists of Utah and on which hundreds of them were fined and convicted. At last the majesty of the law and public sentiment against polygamy was enforced; the burden became too great to be borne and the surrender was made.

MEANS OF SECURING WATER.

As the population of the State increases and an enlarged area of land is brought under cultivation, the problem of how to secure sufficient water for irrigation purposes increases in its importance to the residents of Utah. The experience of the past has shown that the problem is not impossible of solution, for as necessities in regard to water supply have arisen they have been met. This latter result has been accomplished by various means, and through a great amount of faith on the part of the people, as manifest in their works.

Old-time settlers here readily recall the condition of early years, when the present mountain streams furnished only a small proportion of the water they do now; and instances are not infrequent where, at the time of settlement, a stream was barely sufficient to irrigate the land cultivated by a dozen or so of families, and where now the same stream, by its natural increase, supplies hundreds of inhabitants and a large area with plenty of the needful for domestic, agricultural and ordinary manufacturing purposes. That the hand of an overruling Providence has been displayed in this matter is beyond doubt in the minds of those who recognize the operation of unseen forces and have watched the progress of events in this particular.

Every increase in the water supply, however, has been the reward of an exercise of faith on the part of the people. The early settlers went out to different localities with the promise of the leading men among the people that if they would comply with certain requirements the Lord would bless them as desired; the conditions were kept, and the promised blessing came—all was operated through intelligent conformity to certain principles, thereby reaching the desired end.

In the way matters now present themselves, the natural flow of the streams seems to have been augmented almost to its full extent, at least for utilization under present systems. But this point attained, another step is easily within reach of the people, which was not possible in the condition of earlier times. This is in the making of reservoirs to store for the

season of use the waters that now go to waste; and this work of storing is as much an evidence of faith in maintaining the supply as anything else has been. It is one of the chief means the people of the State now having of meeting the increased needs of irrigation which they are required to face in the prospect held out by the near future.

Another means of obtaining water, and one which has not been called into activity to any great extent here because of the difficulties that have attended it and the inefficiency of the mechanical appliances in vogue, is that of taking the underflow and using it on the surface. The matter of pumping from wells in many localities would, if it could be successfully carried on, prove an invaluable boon to those localities where there is an abundance of water a few feet beneath the surface of the earth. Attempts to do this have been made in Kansas and Nebraska, with some success, but the methods there have not proved adequate to the requirements here. Under these circumstances it is most gratifying to learn of the success which is reported as attending Mr. George Hardy's inventive genius, as stated in a letter from Moroni, Sanpete county, published in another part of the NEWS. If Mr. Hardy has accomplished what he claims, and we have no reason to doubt his word, he has achieved a great triumph in a vital feature of the State's prosperity.

With three viable means of obtaining water supply for power, domestic and irrigation purposes, a steady progress of the State is assured for many years to come: the open streams, good reservoir systems, and pumps that will work effectively and cheaply ought to make available for profitable use all the water within reach on this part of the habitable globe. Nothing more can be asked in that direction; but before it is accomplished there is a vast work before the people, and a good field for inventive genius to be closely directed to bringing such means as near perfection as possible. The foundation for the work has been well laid—let us hope that the building thereon will go forward satisfactorily.

THE KENTUCKY CONTEST.

What should be a sober, dignified and earnest procedure on the part of the people's representatives has degenerated into a scramble for political advantage wholly unbecoming if not absolutely disgraceful, in the case of the senatorial contest in Kentucky. A day or two ago, when the greatest excitement of the session was experienced, we are advised by the Associated Press that arms were plainly in evidence, the dispatch closing with the sententious words—"If any one had wanted a row, he could have got it." No doubt; legislators who permit themselves to become so deranged for the time being are at the fighting point oftener than otherwise, and Kentucky legislators are far from being an exception.

At this writing the same state of excited negation which has prevailed for some weeks still holds sway. By reason of the retaliatory action of the Democratic senate, whereby two Republican

members were unseated on account of a Democrat having been so treated in the house of representatives, we are made to understand that the Democrats are united in this respect if in no other. The result is to leave them one short of a majority in the joint assembly, which lack either of the two Populist members could supply if he chose; they, or either of them, however, seem to choose only when by doing so no practical change will be recorded. The latest dispatches received yesterday announced that the Republicans were confident of electing St. John Boyle senator today; this could only be accomplished by the presiding officer holding sixty-nine members to be a majority of all, this in view of the recent death of a member; but up to the latest advice he has persistently refused to do so, in which respect at least he has shown himself superior to the blind and wild partisanship holding sway on both sides. If it requires a majority of all the members, out of those who are living and present, to elect—and in no other way will the majority of the voters of the State have representation in the choice—then to seek to overcome a constitutional provision by means of a providential visitation is a phase of "statesmanship" that is becoming quite common, but is still more honored in the breach than in the observance.

The whole matter gives the advocates of popular election of senators a splendid text, which we observe many of them are making the most of. We do not care to discuss this phase of the subject, but would be heartily glad if some measures could be adopted by means of which a repetition of the farcical-tragic struggle in Kentucky would be out of the question.

CANAIGRE IN TANNING.

Many questions have been asked as to the process of utilizing canaigre root in the tanning of leather, but information as to details is not very common yet in this locality, where the root can be grown so easily. The Mexican method is very crude, but as discoverers of the virtues of the plant the Mexicans have developed a process that affords suggestions on important points that may prove of value to those who use more modern utensils in their operations. The Mexicans proceed upon the theory that in order to extract the virtues of canaigre for tanning, the nearer it can be reduced to a pulp the better. The plan by which they accomplish this, if the root can be obtained fresh, before it has time to dry, is to run it through a common cider mill, after which the pulp may be spread out and dried and stored for future use. If the root is allowed to dry first, then something stronger must be used, as for instance, the old-fashioned bark mill or a patent grinder. The Mexicans use two flat rocks for the purpose, literally pounding it into pulp; where the root is plentiful, they merely leach the pulp after the old process for making lye out of wood ashes, in order to obtain the "liquor." This is a wasteful method, notwithstanding that care is taken to extract all of the strength possible by heating, which must be