

was one of the original movers in the effort to establish genuine politics in Utah. As long as the Mormon Church upheld the system of polygamy there was no common ground upon which the people of this Territory could meet or fraternize politically, but so soon as the Church by its constituted authorities made an open abandonment of the teaching and practice of polygamy I chose to accept their act as honestly done. The mass of the people everywhere are honest and I do not believe that the Mormons are any exceptions to this rule.

When we began the movement to divide, in every speech I made I said that when the people of the Territory were actually and honestly divided on party lines and educated in the methods of American politics, like the people of other States and Territories of the Union, we would be ready for statehood and not before. I said I hoped this would come soon, and the sooner the better, for I despise the system of Territorial government which brought political surveillance from Washington City. I said I felt this deeply because I had been forced to resign my commission as judge by reason of it in order to preserve my own feelings of manhood and self-respect. No man wants statehood worse than I do, but no man is any more unwilling to see it until conditions are suitable. The time for it, in my deliberate opinion, is not here yet. And this for two reasons:

First, I mix with all people and talk with them from all parts of the Territory every opportunity I have, and I am satisfied I know the people. My sympathies are all with the common people. I feel for them and with them as I seek to know them, as I think I do. From my knowledge of them I am satisfied that the political preferences of the Mormon people are not formed. They are not educated yet in American politics; and as this is a party governed country, people must be educated in the American system of politics before they are ready to assume the responsibilities of State government. Ours is a dual system of government. The citizens of the State owe duties and obligations not only to the State but to the general government, and to the people of all the other States. In order to meet such duties and obligations the system of politics and political education of the people of all the States must be homogeneous. The politics of Utah have not, in my opinion, reached that condition.

Second—If I thought we were ready for statehood I would not favor it at the present time, for the reason that there is a large and respectable element of our population who are honestly opposed to it and believe it would bring upon us great evils. I take it to be almost axiomatic that no community can prosper where the people are disunited and distracted by suspicions and fears with respect to the sincerity and honesty of each other. To make a State with such conditions existing among the people would bring a condition that could not only not prosper, but bring disquiet, unrest and trouble. Better wait a short while until we all know each other a little better, and then statehood will bring peace, quiet and prosperity.

But you ask me what I think of the

Faulkner Home Rule bill. My reply is, I favor it strongly.

Our population, wealth and position entitle us to some measure of local self government.

The people of Utah are intelligent, well meaning and virtuous; they are reading and thinking as they never have before and are rapidly becoming set in their political convictions. I know whereof I affirm, when I say that they are seeking both honestly and intelligently for the truth, and that when they find it they have the courage to embrace it with all its logical results. Nothing draws the attention of a people so sharply to their responsibilities to its government or to put its burdens upon them in the shape of taxation. This the Faulkner bill does. It is intended and will operate as an educator. Under it we elect our officers from governor to constable. These elections will necessarily elicit political action in maintaining convictions and political discussion in campaigns. Being compelled to tax ourselves to pay these offices will make us, watch them closely in their official acts. It brings government home to the people. In every county in the Territory a district court would be held which has heretofore been denied the people. Thousands of people in the Territory never saw a district court in session. They have been dragged at great expense and labor across mountains and deserts, hundreds of miles to court. This is wrong, radically wrong.

The Home Rule bill put into practicable operation here for a couple of years, would fully and smoothly put us in condition for statehood that no man could be found to say nay, unless he were moved by selfishness and unpatriotic motives.

RICHARD W YOUNG (DEM.)

THE NEWS and the *Herald* have constantly protested that we are not seeking statehood. It was obviously statesmanlike that we should not seek it. The President, Secretary Noble, the Utah Commission and the Governor all denounce statehood, in language more or less strong. The Democrats prepared a bill designed to meet all objections and harmonize all local differences. The "Liberals" saw in that bill the death of "Liberalism;" they determined to make a show of preferring statehood and thus defeat home rule; the Republicans, knowingly or unknowingly, fell in with their little schemes and prepared the Teller bill, in what appears to be bad faith. The latter bill, in view of official Republican utterances recently made, is not only transparently asinine, a measure without pride of ancestry or hope of posterity, conceived in the spirit of going the Democrats "one better," but is mischievous and even dangerous and is calculated to accentuate and prolong local controversies.

The situation demands that oil be poured upon the troubled waters; the admirable features of the "Home Rule" bill promote confidence and disarm criticism; it is a certain stepping-stone to a united demand from all Utah, within a year or two, for statehood. I favor it as a measure likely to succeed, but believe that the Democrats in the House and Senate will support both bills, thus evincing their confi-

dence in our people and permitting the Republicans to show theirs. If we get statehood, honors will be easy; if both bills are defeated, Republicanism in this Territory will be retired from active business.

JUDGE H. S. LANEY.

Utah needs political relief. The Organic Act was framed in 1850. It holds the same relation to Utah that the constitution of a State does to the State. We have to transact our political business under it just as the people of a State do theirs under their constitution.

Now we can no more properly transact our present political business under the Organic Act than one of our modern merchants could transact his business in one of the little frontier store rooms that was built about the same time that the Organic Act went into effect.

Of the two measures now before Congress I prefer statehood. We can bear the expense of either, which would be about the same, and I do not distrust the people, but the Home Rule bill is perhaps the best attainable legislation at present, as it gives us most of the advantages of statehood without being open to the objections urged by the President in his last message and entertained, however unjustly, I think, by some men prominent in the councils of the nation.

A WORD IN SEASON.

Fathers of the wards, do you encourage music in your "family?" If so, to what extent? Of course you have a choir; there is scarcely a ward in our entire community without a choir of some sort. They range all the way from very bad, indifferent, to moderate, and, in a few instances, very good. The choir is, or can be made, the most serviceable helper you have in your whole family, or it may become a very troublesome member. Being the most sensitive, it is like a finely strung instrument, not easily kept in perfect tune. But remember, it is easily adjusted if only the proper remedy be applied, and this is the simplest (and ought to be the most extensively cultivated) of all herbs in your garden. Kindness, with a due share of consideration mixed, a little enthusiasm, is a very necessary though but seldom used ingredient. This latter is just as necessary to the existence of good music as sunshine to the growth of healthy plants. Are these three simple things too much to give your harmony-producing children? I trust not. Think how they enliven your gatherings. Is not your task of correcting, exhorting and encouraging your ward family every Sabbath made lighter as you see the benches reserved for the choir filling up with singers, whose beaming faces testify to the delight they feel in meeting together with you before you call to order and announce the opening hymn? Is not your heart cheered to the requisite strength to fulfil the duties laid upon you with pleasure as the melody and harmony thrill your whole being before prayer is offered up to the Father of all? How different must you feel when you are compelled to look around for some one to "pitch the tune," or, even