

location been attempted by a community less united. This belief is strengthened by the fact that about three years after Bunkerville (this name in honor of Father Edward Bunker) was settled an unsuccessful attempt was made to found a colony on the Mesquite flat, on the opposite side of the river. The facilities at that point were very similar to those presented at Bunkerville, but which the founders of the last-named place through their united efforts, a wise organization of labor and undivided interests, made a flourishing settlement. Mesquite proved a total failure, after several years' labor, and today only a few ruins and sand-filled ditches mark the place where the village once stood.

The present Bishop of Bunkerville is Edward Brunner, Jr., and his Counselors are Myron Abbott and Joseph I. Earl.

More settlers are wanted at Bunkerville, which will accommodate about fifty families, and an invitation is extended to Latter-day Saints seeking for homes in a healthy, sunny climate to come here and help to further develop the resources of a perfect oasis in the desert, and make themselves homes where they may enjoy the often coveted privilege of sitting under their own fig trees and vines, with none to molest and make afraid. Although this is within the limits of high taxed Nevada, the people who are here find no reason for complaint on this account, as they receive back in school funds considerably more money than they pay out in taxes; and besides, both the State and county officers are very kind and considerate to our people, and exhibit no animosity whatever toward them on account of their religious belief.

ANDREW JENSON.

BUNKERVILLE, Nevada, March 21, 1892.

HOME RULE.

[Special to the *Herald*] Washington, D. C., March 30th, 1892.

Mr. Joseph E. Washington, the chairman of the House territories committee, has finished the majority report on the Home Rule bill. It is quite voluminous and is made up largely of statistics showing the social and political conditions and the population and material resources of Utah Territory. The chairman treats the subject in a spirit so broad and liberal that no citizen of Utah, however radically he may differ from him, can fail to be flattered by what he says.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDING ITS PASSAGE.

He begins by saying that his committee has had the Home Rule bill under favorable consideration and that they herewith report it back to the House with the recommendation that it be passed. Continuing, the chairman says:

"Given the resources and the people qualified for self-government, there is no argument known to our constitution which would deprive that people of the right to order its own affairs. A territorial government is an anomaly in our political establishment, a thing which the founders of the republic never contemplated as a permanency, if they contemplated

ed it at all. When it was established it was for the purpose of maintaining order until the local community should grow and develop into a society competent to maintain a State when the political establishment created by them should become an integral part of the Union.

"This is too well understood to require argument. The community which is qualified for statehood seeks only an opportunity to demonstrate its capacity for self-government by an experiment, presents an appeal to which Congress cannot close its ears without questioning the theory and the well-established principles of local institutions."

TELLING FACTS AND FIGURES ABOUT UTAH.

"Utah has been peculiarly the subject of Federal control, yet she has grown into a Territory which in all the essentials of population, wealth and character will amply justify the grant of the small measure of political power which this bill seeks to vest in her people. The Territory has a population of 207,905 as shown by the census of 1890, and an area of 841,109 square miles.

At this point two tables are introduced which are taken from the governor's report of 1891, and which explain the way this area has been taken up and in part used. The report says:

"From the same source it is learned that the assessed valuation of all property real and personal, exclusive of mines not taxed, was for the year 1891, \$121,146,048.37. The assessed valuation of the incorporated towns and cities was \$85,664,981.27 and the indebtedness of the same \$1,294,106.97, the greater part of which, or \$1,250,000, constitutes the debt of the prosperous cities of Salt Lake and Ogden, the former of which has an assessed taxable list of \$57,935,638 and the latter a taxable list of \$13,243,965. This leaves an indebtedness of \$44,106.79 resting upon seventeen towns which have taxable values amounting to \$8,151,593.20, the twenty-six towns remaining having no debts whatever, but having taxed lists amounting to \$6,203,755.07. The bonded indebtedness of the Territory is over \$450,000 bearing 5 per cent. interest.

A TYPICAL AMERICAN PEOPLE.

"As the statistics clearly show, the Territory is the home of a typical American people, endowed with the energy and possessing the enterprise which have made this beautiful mountainous country the habitation of industry, refinement and wealth. For the year ending June 30, 1891, there were erected or under contract for erection in the cities and towns of the Territory 2,059 dwellings of the value of \$2,545,469, 300 business houses of the value of \$3,334,995, a total value in buildings of \$5,880,464."

Then follows an interesting analysis showing in detail the expenditure for public and private buildings in 1890; the number of industrial concerns established in 1890, and the capital invested therein; the number of stores of all kinds in the Territory; the assessed value of the various farm products of the Territory including live stock and the various mines.

Under the head of

"THE PEOPLE AND THEIR CHARACTER"

the report says: "The 208,000 people of

Utah are permanent residents of the Territory, identified with its interests and fixed in their habitations. They are not nomads or itinerants. They have their homes in the towns, cities, productive mining camps and on the productive farms which they have opened and developed. Much attention is being given to the cause of education, and the school system of the Territory gives promise of great development and usefulness. The city of Ogden has issued bonds to the amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of building additional school houses. From exhibit No. 5 of the auditor's report, incorporated in the governor's last message, it appears that a Territory and district school tax amounting to \$618,685.21 was levied for the benefit of the common free schools in the year 1891. Besides the common schools, Utah has its due proportion of private, church and denominational schools. Only about 5 per cent. of the people of Utah are illiterate, and this fact, considered in connection with the educational facilities of the Territory and the ambitious character of its people, is ample assurance of one of the most essential characteristics of good citizenship. But the aim of education in Utah is not merely to reduce the number of those who are technically denominated illiterate, but to give to the public the same training and learning that may be had in the best schools in the east, and therefore the course of study includes not only the usual and ordinary branches but extends to the higher studies which distinguish the courses in the schools of the older communities."

After showing that the total amount invested in educational establishments in Utah is \$1,138,544, the report continues:

CAUSE OF PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY.

"The results exhibited and the prosperity which they indicate have been brought about by the intelligence and energy of the people of Utah, in spite of adverse conditions, and the rule of a necessarily harsh government which these conditions produced. The Territory was settled by the Mormon people in 1847, and the first territorial government was organized in 1850. The Mormons taught and practiced polygamy from the time of the settlement until a recent date. Within this long period Congress enacted many laws, which were intended to meet the peculiar conditions existing in the territory, most of which conditions were due to the teaching and practice of the Mormon Church, and to the methods resorted to by the Mormon people, to preserve their institutions.

THE PEOPLE DEPRIVED OF ALL AUTONOMY.

"Your committee does not deem it requisite to review in detail this long course of stringent legislation, but in the main to confine this part of its report to the more recent enactments and to the present status of the government in the Territory. From this it may readily be seen that Utah is the victim of a system which deprives her people of all autonomy and one which is wholly unjustified by their present attitude and disposition towards the Constitution and the laws. This Territory presents in its executive office the last survival in America of the rule of one man's will. The Or-