APPROVED ASSESSMENTS.

The Territorial Board of Equalization Transacts Important Business.

Reductions in Weber, Cache and Summit Counties Decreased—Signs of a Large Deficit.

At yesterday afternoon's session of the territorial board of equalization (J. E. Dooly presiding) the following matters came up:

It was resolved "that the assessments of all property in the several counties of Utah Territory, made and returned by the county assessor and corrected by the county boards of equalization (including all reductions by a fixed percent of counties, precincts or localities by the county boards of equalization) as the same appears on the assessment rolls of the several counties of the Territory be, and the same are hereby approved. Adopted, established and and fixed as the basis for the assessment and levy of taxes for territorial purposes for the year 1893 in such counties respectively, and the secretary of this board is directed to notify the county clerks and county courts of the several counties of this action."

The result of this action is to overrule the reductions made in Weber, Cache and Summit counties, so far as they relate to the territorial tax. As to the other taxes the reduction will stand.

SALT LAKE CITY'S LEVY.

The total levy for Salt Lake City is 12 mills, divided as follows: For territorial purposes, 2 mills; for territorial schools, 4 mills; for county purposes, 3 mills; for county schools, 2 mills; for city purposes, 5 mills; for city schools, 2 mills.

AN EXTENSIVE DEFICIT.

The estimated assessed value of property for territorial purposes is $115,000,000, and 3 mills on this for territorial school purposes would be $345,000, while 2 mills for territorial purposes would give about $230,000. The appropriations made by the legislature for the year for the insane asylum, Utah university, courts, reform school etc, are $200,000, while there is outstanding on auditor's warrants something like $150,000, making a total of about $350,000, to meet which there will only be about $230,000. This indicates a large deficit at the close of the year.

The only relief which the board has authority to grant is by reduction in the tax levied for territorial purposes; it has no power to fix the valuation for city and county purposes.

Some of the counties, it was stated, petitioned for a reduction of 10 per cent on real estate, but such a reduction throughout the Territory would save the taxpayers only 30 cents on $1000, of the assessed value of real estate, and the benefit would be too slight to consider.

WEATHER AND CROPS.

Heavy Rains and Cloud Bursts.—The Grain Harvest will be an Average One.

The local weather bureau officials make the following report of observation for the past week:

The past week has been one of continued showers in nearly all sections, a cloud burst in Box Elder county on the 14th doing considerable damage, covering many acres with mud and carrying off much grain in shocks.

Heavy rains reported in Millard, Juab and Wayne counties, doing considerable damage to standing grain and lucern.

Grain reported as being about the average. Second crop of lucern turning out well. Harvesting somewhat set back by continued wet weather.

Frosts in Cache and Weber counties on the 14th and 15th did some damage to tomatoes and cucumber vines.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 21, 1893.—"Senator Voorhees," remarked a Democratic silver senator, "talks silver, but he votes gold." That in a nut shell expresses the general opinion of the Voorhees bill, which has been reported to the Senate. The bill provides for the unconditional repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman law, and then in a boot note, as it were, attempts to console the silver men by stating that it is the policy of this government to use both silver and gold as money and to maintain the parity of one with the other. Although this bill has been reported to the Senate it will not be taken up except when called up by some member who wants to make a speech thereon for some days, probably not until after the House has voted on the silver question.

The Senate seems disposed to utilize the bill for the purpose of national bank circulation as a lay figure upon which to try on all sorts of financial amendments. A number have already been worked down, and the first of those to come up this week will be that offered by Mr. Butler, of South Carolina, providing for the repeal of the ten per cent tax on state bank currency. This bill has been three times passed by the Senate, at as many sessions of Congress, unamended and without a division. The Populist senators are solidly against the silver bill. It is said that the Democratic senators who favor the coinage of silver have agreed to get a test vote by offering an amendment to this bill, providing for the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 20 to 1, and that if the amendment be voted down they will not allow the bill for the unconditional repeal of the purchasing clause of the Sherman law to come to a vote, being determined to join with the silver Republicans and Populists and prevent any silver letters some concession be made to silver.

The silver senators have abandoned the idea of making a fight for free coinage at the present session and will unite upon the bill reported by the silver minority of the finance committee as a substitute for the Voorhees unconditional repeal bill. This substitute, which will necessarily have to be voted upon before the Voorhees bill, provides for the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 20 to 1, and repeals the purchasing clause of the Sherman law.

The silver debate in the House, which winds up this week, has been disappointing to the public, and, I think, also to the members of the House. There have been a few really good and carefully prepared speeches, notable among which was that of Representative Sibley, of Pa., the only eastern man who has so far spoken against unconditional repeal, and that of Representative McCreary, of Kentucky, who, although a friend of silver and representing a silver state, spoke in favor of unconditional repeal. Mr. McCreary declared himself willing at any time after the repeal of the purchasing clause to support a bill extending the use of silver as money. His strongest argument for repeal was that it would aid in bringing about an International Agreement for the free coinage of silver. It looks now as though the silver amendments will all be defeated, with the repeal bill passed, unless the Republicans, who control the situation, shall, as reports have said they would, vote with the silver men for the amendment providing for free coinage at a 20 to 1 ratio. But the probabilities point to their voting almost solidly against all of the amendments and the repeal bill.

Representative Jerry Simpson made a short and very sarcastic speech on the silver question. Jerry is somewhat disgusted, and he jumped into both of the old parties—the Republicans for past financial legislation and the Democrats for neglecting their present opportunity. He said there was no longer a Democratic party, it having become a Cleveland party. President Cleveland's friends in Congress could be very glad if Jerry's charge was literally true, but it isn't.

It is expected that the House committees will be announced early this week. Considerable hard feeling is going to follow the giving out of the big championships, no matter who gets them.

There has been lots of talk—probably more on the outside than among those directly interested—about a compromise between the free silver men and the Republicans in the Senate, for the purpose of passing a free coinage bill, at an increased ratio, and preventing any tariff legislation during the life of this Congress; but a president hunt failed to discover any real foundation for the talk, although several Senators admitted that the subject had been mentioned to them. Whatever may be done in the future, I am certain that no such bargain exists at this time.

A Visit to Waterloo.

M. Jules Claretie, the administrator of the Comedie Francaise, paid a visit shortly before his arrival in London to the battlefield of Waterloo. It was 79 years ago that the battle was fought, yet M. Claretie was still able to glean something in the locality from actual eye witnesses of that mighty historic event. In the little wineshop called the "Belle Alliance," where Wellington and Blucher, according to an hourglass, met and saluted after their victory, he found two old women engaged in darning stockings. They appeared to take very little notice of the strangers, but on being questioned the elder of the two declared that she was over 90 years of age. "I was 12 years old," she said, "at the time of the battle. I was living with my parents at Pinnepont.

"We took refuge all of us on the Friday in the woods with the cattle. It was on a Sunday they fought. It was just after my first communion and on the day of St. Bernat, a saint whose honor there is a pilgrimage in the neighborhood. When all was over, we went out and saw dead bodies everywhere. At night after the battle there was a storm. The bodies became swollen through the rain, and there were fears of a pestilence. They were buried in heaps, with dry branches between each layer, and then the branches were set fire to or quicklime was poured in the trenches."—London News.

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