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A POEM FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY.

BY W. G. MILLS.

Hail, glorious epoch to the sons of earth,
That gave to Freedom its illustrious birth!
That struggling from Britannia's cruel sway,
Beheld a nation born within a day;
Born, not a child beneath the rod to bow,
But as Minerva from Jove's sacred brow,
With strength and energy, armed cap-a-pie,
Thus to defend the rights of Liberty!

This day we celebrate our hearts inspire;
'Twas gained by blood and struggles of our sires:
Misrule, oppression, tyranny they bore,
'Till, scorning to be slaves, would bear no more;
And dedicating all to God and liberty,
Declared themselves from henceforth ever free!
They fought—the foe to crush them down would fight;
They conquered too—for God defended right.
For self alone they strove not to be free;
They gained the boon for their posterity.
And from the shores Atlantic waters lave
To the rich soil kissed by Pacific's wave,
A vast asylum opens its ample doors,
Teeming with nature's richest, choicest stores,
That please the eye and captivate the sense,
Beyond the common lot to man by Providence;
Where the oppressed, down-trodden, suffering soul,
In every clime, from Indus to the pole;
Where victims of despotic rage or pride,
Who dare not in their native lands abide;
Where persecuted votaries of all creeds,
Who flee from superstition's frenzied deeds,—
Can find a home, their industry rewarded,
Their social rights and pious creed regarded.

The great distinction that we now enjoy,
The high position that we occupy,
As freemen sharing in the equal laws
That mark the progress of our liberal cause,
And where the governed by their suffrage claim
To call and make the powers to govern them;
To live where Freedom's temple proudly stands,
A noble edifice "made without hands,"
The everlasting hills its sure foundation,
That braved the storms, unscathed from earth's crea-
tion;
And through whose portals break the streams of light,
O'er all the world, to show the home of right.
Its turrets over every tempest rise,
Their summits, crowned with glory, kiss the skies:
These honored themes their influence impart
To swell with joy each patriotic heart,
And make us grateful that we now possess
All that earth holds to make our happiness.

We celebrate no sanguinary deed
Of vicious tyrants, whose deep schemes succeed
To enslave and subjugate the human race,
To gratify their lust of power and place:
We pay no homage to that bauble thing—
The birth or coronation of a king;
But every heart, within these bodies shrined,
Swells at the emancipation of mankind—
The only hope in which the world can trust—
And freedom's resurrection from the dust—
The statesman's patriot's, warrior's reliance
To gain the height of governmental science.

We meet not on a national day like this
To swell our pride, or raise our prejudice:
To cast the words of discord from our tongue
Against the land and people whence we sprung:
We would not have the bliss of commerce cease,
United as we are, by arts of peace:
We would not quench the flame of love we own
When the electric spark has made us one;
Far nobler objects prompted our attendance—
Our country's fame, our nation's independence:
We speak of what our hero-sires achieved,
The blessing that through them we have received,
And would exalt their works to every eye,
As waves yon ensign in the azure sky.

We call on all within our favored nation
To mind the deeds that marked that great occasion.
Ye fathers! by the venerable shade
Of your ancestors, whose remains are laid
Within the precious soil of our great land,
By all the blessings now at your command,—
By all you are, and all you hope to be,
Resist all efforts to subvert your liberty.
We call upon you, mothers, by that love
Of offspring, that inspires you from above,
'T' instruct your children, as your knees they climb,
The consequence of that eventful time;
And, as they at the holy altar kneel,
Bid them be faithful to their country's weal.
We call on you, young men, our hopes to know
Whose sons ye are, whence blessings to you flow:
Stand in your country's cause, defend its claims,
Though death should enter on his scroll your names;
For honor sheds a halo round the tomb
Of him who falls for liberty and home.
'Ben will our country's glory still increase,
Each man a hero guard our liberties:
Its influence be felt throughout the earth,
And despots tremble as it issues forth;
And cent'ries hence our patriots will exclaim,
"This is my country, honor to her name."
True! halls of Congress may be scenes of strife,
With threatening oath, revolver and the knife;
Debates may rage, and factions rise and fall,
And self appear triumphant over all;
But these are storms that nature can endure—
The strife of elements but keep them pure.

Yes, narrow acts that show the little heart,
May make them play towards us the tyrant's part;
And peculation too may drain the public purse,
And what was meant to bless be made to curse.
These are but weeds neglect has scattered round
That wait our hands to pluck them from the ground.
But while the storms are driving over head,
And devastation seems around us spread,
Let us prepare a shelter for our friends,
And good will follow when the tempest ends:
Let us with patience scatter virtuous seeds,
Regardless of the noxious, poisonous weeds.

He that inspired our fervent declaration,
And made and kept our great progressive nation—
That fired the framers of our Constitution,
Will purge us yet from sickening pollution:
The body politic, with vigorous glow,
Will, like a God, in health and beauty grow,
And unborn millions will their zeal display
In celebrating this auspicious day.

God bless the land we proudly call our home,
Preserve its power for ages yet to come,
And may its happy influence increase
To bring on earth the glorious reign of peace;
When Liberty, in graceful triumph crowned,
In every land, shall hallow earth's polluted ground.

God bless the little spot as Utah known,
Where dwell the dear ones that we love and own:
May truth and virtue reign triumphant here,
And industry with its rewards appear;
May equal laws and generous measures bless
Her loyal people in this wilderness,
And may her soil forever be unroed
By traitors to their country and their God.

God bless the man* who, laboring for our good,
Led us in safety to this solitude;
May heaven from its rich, exhaustless store
Its choicest blessings amply on him pour;
Preserve him long his counsel to impart,
To realize what dwells within his heart.

God bless the friends of Utah—long shall live
The worth and deeds of our Executive†
Within our memories; his noble soul,
Despising sect or party's mean control,
Has acted as a man, a patriot, who
Right and his country's honor has in view.

God bless us all, and may we still engage,
While acting our short part on life's great stage,
Our hearts, united on the truth to fix,
And show the noble spirit of "Seventy-six."

Let every tongue attune its grateful praise
For independence gained those trying days;
Pace to their names who endured that day;
God bless their noble work—God bless America!

*President Brigham Young.
†His Excellency Governor Cumming.

FOURTH OF JULY ADDRESS.

BY ORSON PRATT, SEN.

I rise, not for the purpose of delivering a lengthy address before this assembly. I do not claim to be an orator, a statesman, or a politician, but I am an American citizen, in common with you all, and I am proud of the name.

I look back upon my ancestors as American citizens also, not only from the foundation of this Republic, but from the first settlement of this country. They were among the Pilgrims that landed upon our eastern shore seven generations ago.

We have listened to a very eloquent address on the rise of the American nation, on the achievement of our national independence, in relation to establishing the great platform of American liberty, viz:—the American Constitution.

Much might be said upon each of these topics. Much might be said in relation to the sufferings endured by the colonies, before they achieved their independence; much might be said in relation to the battles fought by our fathers to obtain that liberty which they and we their children enjoy. It is not my intention to dwell upon these subjects, but I will call your attention, upon this occasion, to some of the rights guaranteed to us by the Constitution of our country.

A few years sufficed to demonstrate the inadequacy of the "Articles of Confederation," to obviate which the Constitution was established, conferring increased power upon the General Government. That its power might be clearly understood, Article X, of the amendments, was ratified as follows:—"The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people." It will be perceived that there are no prohibitions upon citizens outside the boundaries of States.

In the Constitution we find certain rights and privileges guaranteed to ALL American citizens. We there find certain powers delegated to the General Government, and certain powers reserved to the respective State governments, or to American citizens.

We read, in the 4th section of the 4th article of the Constitution, words to this effect:—

"The United States shall guarantee to every state in this Union a republican form of government." This one item in the Constitution is a power granted to the American Congress, to the American nation. They were limited by the Constitution, in regard to the form of government that should be established upon American soil. They have not the right, by that Constitution, to organize a government upon any other than republican principles. They have not the right to establish a monarchy upon this soil; the Constitution forbids or prohibits their doing so. In a national capacity, under the Constitution, they have not the right to guarantee any but a republican form of government, which government of right emanates from the people to be governed. This is the very nature of a republican form of government, as we, American citizens, understand it. It differs from various other governments whose history we have read. It differs from the republican governments of past ages. We read that republican governments existed in some of the ancient nations. They existed for a short period, and then ceased. But their forms and the forms of the governments now in the European nations are of a kind more or less different from the one with which we, as American citizens, are blest. It is not necessary, however, for me, in the few remarks I shall make, to dwell upon the various kingdoms and empires of the old world. Doubtless the citizens of Utah are sufficiently acquainted with the history of those nations to know that our American government differs from them all in unreservedly granting to the people the power to govern themselves, the power to appoint their own officers, the power to enact their own laws, and Congress has no power granted by the Constitution to interfere with that system; but the Congress, the United States as a Union, are restricted in this particular, they are prohibited from granting any other than a republican form of government upon the American continent.

Let us briefly turn our attention to the State governments, and see if the Parent Government has fulfilled its pledge, in the Constitution, by granting republican forms of government to the several States that have been admitted into our Union. Yes, they have permitted them to elect their own officers, enact their own laws, vote at Presidential elections, and have a representation in Congress, and a voice and vote in the governmental affairs of the nation.

How is it with the Territories? Is a republican form of government extended to the Territories, according to the spirit and letter of the Constitution? In the first place, where can you find one item, from the beginning to the end, that grants to Congress the right to establish a Territorial government, unless petitioned by the people so to do? It cannot be found. And should citizens in a Territory petition Congress to grant to them a form of government, Congress are restricted to granting a form strictly and fully republican. Some urge that a part of the 3d section of Article IV, "The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States," gives Congress the right to legislate for American citizens who chance to reside in Territories. But the portion thus relied upon relates only to the disposition of Government property, and does not grant the power to dispose of the inhabitants that may dwell upon the public lands in Territories, as though the people thereof belonged to the United States as property.

My opinion is that Congress has no more power to exercise legislative jurisdiction over American citizens in Territories than it has over American citizens in States. In other words, that American citizens in Territories, equally with those in States, have the plainly guaranteed right to govern themselves. People from the various States settle upon the public domain, and shall simply crossing an air line in the same country prevent them from enjoying a republican form of government, having a voice in the selection of their rulers, and the privilege of making their own laws without being subject to have them disapproved by Congress? If this is not the case in the treatment of Territories, I consider there is an infringement. It lies in the foundation, in the organization itself. And should the people living upon the public domain petition Congress to comply with certain conditions that were in vogue in the old monarchical nations of the world, and have their petitions granted according to its letter and spirit, they have no reason to complain, still, it is assumed power in Congress to grant a Territorial government.

But suppose we petition, in good faith, that Congress would notice that part of the Constitution that directs the giving of a republican form of government, and we get something else, what shall we do then? It may suit the condition of the people, and it may not.

There are many rights that are named in

the Constitution, and many that the Constitution says nothing about. These rights I shall not attempt to define. We have rights in regard to observing the Sabbath, and worshipping God according to the dictates of our conscience. We also have social and political rights guaranteed to us, and to all the American people. All these might be taken up and reasoned upon, but you are acquainted with them.

If I were to petition Congress, I should petition that this old relic of the mother government should be done away, and that when Congress granted a government they should grant a republican instead of a monarchical one, and let all the people have the same privileges.

But, says one, there is a great disparity in numbers. What of that? Look at New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and many of the old States, where we find not only hundreds of thousands but millions of inhabitants, and then look at Rhode Island, Delaware, and Maryland, and see the difference. If this disparity exists in States, why should it be brought up against a Territory? Those smaller States have the same representation in the Senate of the United States as the larger ones, why, then, bring up this disparity of numbers? Some say we must not admit the Territories, because the disparity in Congress would be so great. It is all folly to bring up this argument.

Having said this much upon the rights guaranteed to American citizens, I will merely state that it is my opinion that it is the privilege of people settling upon the public domain to form a republican "Provisional Government," according to the feelings of the people, until Congress shall admit them into the Union.

BOWERY.

On Sunday, July 8, at 10 o'clock a.m., President Joseph Young read the latter part of the 16th chapter of Mark, after which he addressed the audience on the birth, early life, public ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

President B. Young followed with appropriate remarks on the text: "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."

In the afternoon, President Daniel Spencer treated on the manifestations of the power of God as exhibited in ancient and modern times; the trials of the Saints, their sacrifices, and the necessity of their being tried in all things.

President Brigham Young spoke on the nature of human sacrifices; argued that the term sacrifice is misapplied by the people generally; that in reality mankind have nothing to sacrifice, having only a temporary stewardship over what they possess, and not possessing the power to create those things necessary for their comfort and well-being; all things are given to them by the great Benefactor of the human race, therefore man has nothing to sacrifice, for all things, of right, belong to the allwise Creator.

HARVESTING.—The farmers of Davis county have commenced harvesting their rye and barley, of which there was a considerable quantity sown, and the yield is fair.

What little winter wheat there is growing in this vicinity will soon be ready for the harvester, and the early sown spring wheat is beginning to show signs of maturity.

It is reported that there is much smut in some fields of wheat in Davis. We hope that such is not the case generally, either there or in other parts of the Territory.

Yesterday evening from appearances, a heavy shower passed over the southern part of the valley.

The last Maine Legislature enacted a law against selling goods by sample. Some of the Portland merchants lodged complaints lately against agents of several Boston and New York houses for violation of the law. The offending agents got wind of the warrants, and managed to make their escape, but the police seized their goods, which were forfeited under the law.

Queen Victoria has conferred the order of knighthood on Francis H. Saltus, Esq., a citizen of the United States, for important improvements in artillery. Mr. Saltus is the first citizen from this country thus distinguished.