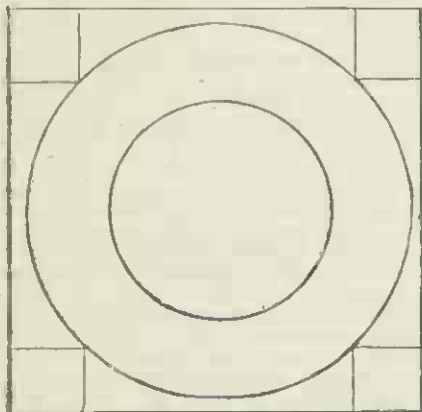


our hearts instinctively turn to happy childhood and the blue skies of a far off land—that was heaven!

THE STATE TABLE.

Two weeks ago the NEWS contained a notice of the receipt, by Contractor John R. Wilson, of this city, of a piece of the historical Charter Oak from Connecticut, to be used in the table which he is constructing, and which is to be used by the first Governor of the State of Utah on which to sign the bills passed by the first Legislature, which shall become laws. Since that time Mr. Wilson has received responses to his letters from many of the states and two of the territories, and it is probable that replies will come from all the rest within a short time. Mr. Wilson's request has received the most courteous action of the various state officers, whose kindly disposition, thus manifested toward the people of Utah, is highly appreciated here.

The table designed by Mr. Wilson is to be of the most exquisite workmanship which a thoroughly competent mechanic can place upon it, and is to be unique in its historical and representative character. An idea of the design is given in the following diagram, which, however, does not show the comparative dimensions:



State Table Top.

The circular piece in the center is to be of Utah hardwood, as are also the connecting rim between the corners. Occupying the space around this and arranged in circular form, are pieces of wood from each of the forty-four states of the Union; this wood is to be of native growth, and so far as possible to be associated with some event of importance connected with the state's history. To make the table square, there will be four corners as shown, one each of the native woods of the four remaining territories, Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Alaska. The four legs of the table are to be from four chief cities representing the cardinal points of the compass in the Union, to-wit: St. Paul, the north; Galveston, the south; New York, the east; and San Francisco, the west.

The wood has been received from a number of the states, and two of the territories have responded—Arizona and Oklahoma. It is anticipated that replies from all the rest will be forthcoming within a few days. The governor of South Dakota sent a communication, stating that that state had

but little native timber and no hardwoods. Mr. Wilson again wrote, requesting a piece of wood that could be furnished which was connected with some event of importance in the state history, even though the timber might not be classed among the hardwoods.

Some of the letters received from state authorities are very interesting, and all breathe the kindest spirit. By courtesy of Mr. Wilson the NEWS is able to reproduce a number of them:

RHODE ISLAND.

Governor Brown writes as follows from Providence, to Mr. Wilson:

Dear Sir:—In response to your letter of the 7th ult., I take pleasure in forwarding to you by this mail a piece of chestnut grown in this state, which I trust will answer your purpose.

Respectfully yours,
D. RUSSEL BROWN.

CONNECTICUT.

Here we reproduce the reply to the letter to Governor Coffin. It is made by the superintendent of the state capitol at Hartford:

Dear Sir:—Your letter addressed to the governor of this state requesting a piece of native wood, was passed to this office for attention. I am pleased to inform you that we have this day forwarded to you by express a contribution to the object proposed. We undertook to furnish what seemed the most appropriate for the collection, viz., the historical Charter Oak, but finding it impossible to obtain a piece of the exact dimensions required, we have done the next best thing, to have inlaid in an ordinary piece of oak the largest remnant of the Charter Oak that we could procure. The history of this renowned oak is as follows:

"In the trunk of this was concealed the charter of Connecticut, October 31, 1687, to May 9, 1689. This old charter was won by Governor John Winthrop to the colonists, from Charles II., the king of England, April 23, 1662. This tree stood on lot No. 29, Charter Oak avenue. It measured at its base 33 feet in circumference, and where the stump was broken off several feet above ground, was 21 feet in circumference. Twenty-seven persons have stood in the hollow where the charter was hidden. It was blown down in a severe storm August 21, 1856. The tree stood inside of a wooden picket fence, and a marble stone in a stone offset wall now marks the spot where this tree stood, with the inscription, 'Charter Oak Fell Aug. 21, 1856.'"

This inlaid piece is one quarter of an inch thick. Hoping it may reach you in safety and prove satisfactory to the object in view, and requesting acknowledgment of receipt of same,

I am, yours truly,
CHARLES H. BUTLER,
Superintendent.
NEW YORK.

The response of the Empire state comes from Albany as follows:

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request of February 21st, for a piece of native hard wood from this state, to be used in the construction of a table for the first Legislature of the State of Utah, Governor Morton directs me to forward a specimen of yellow birch from the Adirondack forests. The specimen is this day sent by mail, and the governor hopes that it will prove a worthy and suitable section in the proposed table.

Very respectfully yours,
ASHLEY W. COLE,
Private Secretary.

MAINE.

From the extreme northeast comes the following, dated at Augusta:

Dear Sir:—Your communication to Governor Cleaves has been referred to me and will say in reply that I will try and comply with your wishes at an early date.

Respectfully yours,
CHAS. E. OAK,
Land Agt and Forest Commissioner.
OREGON.

The northwest presents a most interesting piece of wood, as described in this note from the executive office at Salem:

Sir:—A piece of oak is mailed you this day by Governor Lord, as requested. It was sawed out of a muddill of the first flour mill built in Oregon, and lay under water for about fifty-five years.

Yours truly,
W. S. DUNIWAY,
Private Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.

From the South, Mississippi's action is related in three short letters from Jackson, the state capital. The first is from Gov. Stone, to Mr. Wilson. It reads:

Dear Sir:—I transmitted your request for a piece of hardwood, described, to the Enochs Lumber & Manufacturing company of this city, who are better qualified than any I know here to comply. The within note indicates that the same has been forwarded to you, and I wish it promptly and safely to hand.

Yours very truly,
J. M. STONE,
Governor.

Another is to the governor from the company to which his excellency referred the communication from here. It explains:

Gov. J. M. Stone:
Dear Sir:—Some days since you sent us a letter from Mr. Jno. R. Wilson, of Salt Lake, asking that if convenient, for us to comply with his request, and we most cheerfully do so. We regret having overlooked this acknowledgment so long. Yours to command,
ENOCHS LUMBER & MFG. CO.

The third is from the company direct to Mr. Wilson:

Dear Sir:—Yours of March 10th to his excellency the governor has been referred to us, and we take pleasure in sending to you by today's express a block of our native white oak, which we trust will prove fit for the honored place for which it is intended.

Yours very truly,
ENOCHS LUMBER & MFG. CO.

INDIANA.

Governor Matthews writes from Indianapolis:

Dear Sir:—With this I send you a specimen of hardwood from this state of dimensions requested. This is a piece of black walnut, for which timber our state has been so noted. I hope you may consider it worthy a place in the table for our sister State of Utah.

Very truly yours,
CLAUDE MATTHEWS.
TEXAS.

The Lone Star state is to have its place among the forty-four, and one of its cities is to furnish one of the four table legs. The following, from the state capital, Austin, is of special interest because of the local reference by Mr. Rose, who is state commissioner of agriculture, insurance, statistics and history:

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 27th ult. to Governor Culberson has been referred to me for attention, and I forward to you this evening, by mail, a small block of our native Bois d'Arc, to occupy the place in your table with which you propose to