

tion on one of the main points involved. For if the railways, in the interest of the government mail contract, can be required under the pressure of a strike to fulfil its conditions while they fail in keeping an ordinary business agreement like that which exists with the Pullman company, then those concerned in the latter cannot take advantage of the public contract to secure in connection therewith the enforcement of the private arrangement, and it must stand alone. But if the government cannot enforce its contract alone and apart from the other, then in the case of railways the national power to use force of arms is to be enlisted in every agreement with which railway managers choose to connect mail trains, if the conditions are not complied with under a lighter pressure.

Already there have been decisions indirectly bearing to one or the other side of the controversy, but the occasion has not been so urgent heretofore as to call for a direct and uniform ruling on the part of the courts as it is at present. Now, however, the time seems to have come to make such ruling necessary to prevent a great deal of trouble. It may be that the courts will not be sufficiently harmonious or explicit upon these points to have them definitely settled, and if so then the trouble arising from the difference of opinion as to the legal status of the parties has but just begun. The integrity, promptness, justness and patriotism of the judicial officers can go a long way now towards a settlement of affairs; or a deficiency in those virtues can make matters much worse.

WE WILL CELEBRATE.

One hundred and eighteen years ago the infant Republic took its first step among the nations. It was a time of uncertainty, of mingled hope and fear, and in the long and weary struggle there was wrought out a glorious triumph of the patriot's faith. The greatest and the freest government on earth was instituted, and moved out upon the road to national prosperity and happiness. And during the more than a century that has passed it has been the pride of every patriot heart, even in the midst of deepest trial, to join, whether in calm, quiet service or in joyous demonstration, in commemorating on the nation's natal day, and the great victory of man's political independence in the New World. It sounds strange, therefore, to hear from any part of our broad land, and particularly from that state which was given a place in the Union in the centenary year of national independence, an expression like the following, taken from the *Colorado Southwest*:

Colorado cannot consistently celebrate the Fourth of July until there is a greater respect for the law than now exists.

There is no disputing the fact that there is room for the comment of the *Southwest* when it says "When officers of the law wink at crime such outrages as the Tarsney episode may be expected, and the end is not yet unless a firmer stand is taken for law and order." But with all this it cannot be

admitted that the first remark quoted yet has justification in this country, or even in the Centennial state. While that commonwealth is a member of the Union, while there are patriot hearts that beat among her citizens, while there is a spark of reverence for the principles for which the revolutionary fathers fought and bled, there cannot be consistency in any failure or refusal to celebrate the Fourth. It may be that the day is also one of mourning, of affliction and sorrow, when hearts are bowed down with great grief; yet even connected with these there is consistency in observing the day that is commemorative of Liberty's advent in modern times. And it would be inconsistent for Americans and freemen to do otherwise.

In no place more than in Utah is the seriousness of the present situation realized; in no place are there more regrets that it exists; and among no people is there deeper interest in events that portend than is felt in this Territory. And in connection therewith there are none who will observe the Fourth with greater sincerity and fervor, though perhaps less demonstratively than in some parts, than will the people of Utah. Their sentiment is that they cannot consistently fail to celebrate the Fourth of July, and that no disrespect of law on the part of others shall be permitted to turn them from their duty as patriots and Americans.

WHO HEEDS THE WARNING?

If there is anything in regard to their industrial affairs that has been impressed upon the people of Utah from pulpit and press, it is that one necessity which should impel them toward self-sustenance is the prospect that at some time in the not far distant future they should be cut off from both East and West, as bases of supplies for various articles required to support life and make homes comfortable. Amid all the arguments that have been presented in behalf of home industries, and the reasons that have been urged for developing and utilizing the natural resources of this region, the teachers among the Latter-day Saints, from their President down, and their newspapers and publications, have warned the people again and again that a condition was approaching when they might look in vain for supplies of food and raiment from sources outside these mountain vales, and when, if they did not produce these necessities themselves, they would have to do without them. These warnings have not been in the way of suppositional or speculative theories, but as the immutable word of prophecy, which has been manifested in plenitude in the history of the Latter-day Saints and has been abundant of fulfillment. There have been no people of whom history makes mention who, in the same period, have been given the advantage of more of the prophetic word through living oracles, or who have witnessed the predictions verified with greater exactness, than have those who are gathered in these mountains in response to the teaching of the Gospel. Therefore, in the light of their own experience, as acquired in temporal as well as spiritual affairs, they

have every reason for full confidence that this prediction concerning the near future will be as certain of fulfillment as have been those whose fullness has come in.

In view of the facts stated, it may be well to ask, by way of suggesting the subject for thoughtful consideration, how earnest have been the steps taken by the people to provide for events that are coming? Those who are numbered as Latter-day Saints might be expected to give full heed to the prophetic warning as a religious duty. What proportion of them have done their share in preparation for the anticipated time? A situation has been suddenly thrust upon this community by which, for a few days, it has been cut off from outside communication except by telegraph. What would be the effect if the state of affairs should continue for a month? Three days of interrupted communication brought a sugar famine; yet every pound of sugar consumed in Utah could be made at home, and there be millions of pounds for exportation. The same period has produced a scarcity of fruit and vegetables, not alone in those which are not specially seasonable in our climate, but in those in which there is direct home competition, and which are far below the quantity required by the market or that could be raised here. The same general situation exists with regard to many articles of food which by a month's isolation we would be entirely deprived of. Then where is our leather supply in a community which should furnish this staple for a thousand miles of country? A little while, and people would be barefoot or resort to rawhide footwear. Where are the hats for male and female that are produced at home, and how long would our supply of respectable headgear last? This, too, in a section where every item of this important manufacture is produced as raw material. How long could our mills, now languishing because patronage is given to the importer, keep us all in clothing, if run to their utmost capacity? Yet the producers of raw material for fabrics of the best and finest quality are impoverished because they cannot sell to an outside market that which should be worked up by factories here. What of the silk, the linen, and the woollen goods that our land is adapted by nature for the production of? And in the face of probable conditions, how far is our present position of being well fed and well clothed from that where we would be bareheaded, barefooted, scantily-clad and hungry?

It may be suggested that the present break in communication will not last for long; and fortunate for us that it is so. The strike perhaps will continue for a few days longer, and then a few days more and communication will be resumed. But is that the end? Not that any sensible man dreams of. Suppose the employers are defeated. They will not submit quietly to being dictated in control of their great property interests, and will prepare for and engage in a harder struggle for the mastery. If the strikers are beaten now, they will declare that it is because capital uses the governmental power in its own behalf and the workingman is not respected