

or to strengthen his faith or to generate virtues he would not have under other conditions. Therefore with the eye of faith he can perceive God even in some of the events of life which to the eye of the unbeliever have no redeeming feature, and he can believe that even afflictions will, if endured in a true Christian spirit, end in joy and eternal happiness.

### THE STONE CROP.

In a recent report on the value of building stone produced in the United States during 1893, compiled by the special agent of the U. S. geological survey, Utah is credited with being one of the nine slate producing states of the Union. The total value of that product for the year was a little over two and a half million dollars, our Territory's share in this sum being only 850 dollars' worth. The difference between what we did produce and what, with proper encouragement, we can produce, could not be expressed in such small figures.

The recapitulation of the report referred to shows that the aggregate valuation of all kinds of building stone produced in the entire country for last year reaches the figure of twenty-two millions of dollars, a falling-off of about fifteen millions from that of the year 1892.

### THE STATEHOOD BILL.

Those who do not expect too much are not apt to be very badly disappointed. Good news comes to them with a relish unimpaired by regrets at its delay, and without complaint or disappointment because it might have been better. Their calmness is not always to be regarded as hopelessness, nor is their silence amid the clamor of promises and pretensions, in any sense an evidence of indifference. There is a large and in many respects an admirable class of people who may almost be deemed fatalists, in that they accept the idea that whatever is to happen will happen, and whatever is, is right.

The great majority of those for whom the NEWS speaks entertain views somewhat similar to these. On this tremendous question of statehood, for instance, which as a shuttlecock has been kept in the liveliest kind of play between rival politicians here at home and at a distance, they have been content to maintain a steady thinking, a resolute hope, a courageous endeavor, but an entire absence of bluster, bragadocio or blame. They have desired the inestimable boon of self-government with all the earnestness that a patriotic, intelligent community could be capable of; but they have not gone crazy over it. They have tried repeatedly to get admission into the national sisterhood, but repeated failure has not soured them, or caused them to give up in despair. Their faith all the time has been that they could stand the injustice of continued territorial vassalage as long as the country itself could afford to impose it upon them. And when at last others of influence and prominence took up the cudgels and made Utah's

claim their own, the people here calmly looked on with quiet interest, with sincere good wishes, with almost amusement at the enthusiasm and the swelling pledges with which this, that and the other agency was thrust forward to bring about instant the consummation desired.

We congratulate them on the patience and the equanimity thus displayed; on the sober loyalty of which they have given proof; on the faith in the final outcome which has sustained them through many disappointments. And we congratulate them most sincerely on the fact that statehood is brought one long step nearer—in quick defiance of the predictions of croakers—by the reporting of the bill to the Senate from its committee on territories. Of course this does not insure immediate passage and approval of the bill; but it marks the surmounting of one more barrier in the way, and seems to indicate that there can be no longer reason to expect unfavorable action from any source or unnecessary delay from any cause.

### STRETCHED THE LAW.

The opinion of Attorney General Olney, given in the Washington dispatches today, comes as a rather sharp rebuke to Judge Morrow, of the United States circuit court in the California district. The Chinese exclusion law provides that a Chinese merchant who has been to his native land and returns to this country must prove by two credible white witnesses that for one year prior to his departure for China he was engaged in the buying and selling of merchandise at some stated place and that his name was included among the names of members of the firm with which he claims connection.

A case came before Judge Morrow a short time since in which he attempted to define the provision requiring the Chinese merchant's name to be embraced in the firm name, and in doing so made the ruling which the U. S. attorney-general now decides is wrong. Most of the Chinese doing business have a title under which they operate and in which none of the names of the firm partners are designated. These titles represent "good luck," "novelty," "good business," "cheap store," or something similar, just as is the case with many white men. Under the judge's ruling not one of the merchants doing business this way could be admitted into the country, notwithstanding the fact that he might be well known to be a merchant; the mere incident of his not using his individual name to designate his business is held to be sufficient to exclude him from identification as a member of the firm.

Last week Collector J. H. Wise, of San Francisco, decided to carry out this ruling in its full spirit. Between forty and fifty Chinese were on the steamer Rio de Janeiro, and he notified them that they could not land. The Mongolians were greatly surprised, for all of them were merchants and were well known to have been identified with Chinatown business houses for years. They were notified that the order excluding them was based on the fact that the inspectors could not find

the names of the merchants embodied in the firm names under which they had been doing business. By this proceeding forty-five Chinamen were lodged in jail to await court proceedings. Their attorneys knew it was useless to apply to the circuit court, for Judge Morrow already had ruled on the question against their clients. So the court of appeals was applied to, and the matter also was placed before Attorney General Olney. The opinion expressed by the latter will have the effect of releasing the imprisoned Mongolian merchants and permitting them to land without further trouble, though the anti-Chinese men will make a fight in the court of appeals to get a decision contrary to the view taken by the attorney general.

This application of extreme and unreasonable constructions to the statute, such as appears to have been done by Judge Morrow, has an effect directly antagonistic to the intent and proper enforcement of the law, and is exceedingly unwise on the part of those who advocate excluding the Mongolians from the United States. If it was desired to have the law repealed and the bars thrown down to the Asiatics, there could be no more effective way than to give strained and harsh constructions of the statute, and thereby arouse sympathy for those who are discriminated against. The Chinese exclusion law as it stands at present, enforced in a spirit of fairness and earnestness, seems to be good enough to effect its ultimate purpose of ridding the country of Chinese, without making its operation unnecessarily harsh; and it is a good thing that the administration, through the attorney general, has put a check on a bigoted and cruel application of the statute.

### ONE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.

Any reasonable plan for the amelioration of the condition of the unemployed is of interest in this time of industrial unrest and clamor for reform. At present four gentlemen interested in the labor movement are visiting California with a view of finding some suitable location for the establishment of a colony. This will necessarily be in the nature of an experiment, but they are confident that they have found a solution of the employment problem. The gentlemen referred to are W. H. Madden, of Chicago, president of the Illinois State Federation of Labor; William O. Pomeroy, of Chicago, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor; J. J. Jaffray, secretary of the Belvedere Federal Labor Union, and John Mee, of New York, president of the National Culinary Alliance.

The plan as explained by Mr. Madden to a newspaper representative, is quite different from anything heretofore proposed, and aims at meeting two existing evils. Were it generally adopted it would not only provide employment for millions but also render the tendency of the population to crowd the cities much less than at present. According to investigation there are, he says, in this country three million farms of 160 acres each unoccupied, but on account of the destitute condition of the unemployed they cannot be utilized. The