

operations of the Czar in expelling them from Russia.

It would not be surprising if there should be an attempt to prevent the further wholesale and indiscriminate landing of Jewish Russian refugees in this country.

EXCELLENT UTAH SUGAR.

We have, by courtesy of Mr. S. P. Teasdel, been shown a sample from the first sack of pure white granulated sugar made in Utah. It was forwarded to Mr. T. by Miss Jean Trane, Manager T. R. Cutler's stenographer. The sugar from which the sample was taken was turned out at the Lehi factory on the night of Thursday, October 15th. If there is any difference between it and the best that has appeared in the market we are unable to discover it. It is of excellent color, the granules are small and well formed, and the product is intensely sweet.

The sugar making industry in Utah may now be unhesitatingly pronounced a success. We not only congratulate the company on the flattering prospect ahead, but also the people of the Territory, as the status of this industrial establishment will not only be a benefit of itself to our commonwealth, but will do much toward stimulating the inauguration of other branches of manufacture. There is nothing like success as a stimulus to activity and enterprise leading to new achievements.

BALLOT REFORM IN NEW YORK.

The Republicans in the State of New York are forcing "ballot reform" as an issue in the present campaign. Governor Hill and the Democrats are endeavoring to dodge State issues altogether, because the record of the party is not sound on ballot reform.

What is termed the Australian Ballot system was first adopted in Massachusetts in 1888, and in the city of Louisville, Kentucky, about the same time. It now prevails in about two-thirds of the States, and is said to be operating satisfactorily in every case.

In the sessions of 1888-89 what is known as the Saxton bill was introduced in the New York Legislature. It embodied the main features of the Australian system, and was passed by the Republican majority, but Governor Hill vetoed it on the grounds of unconstitutionality, and of its practical disfranchisement of persons not able to read and write. The governor objected specially to the "blanket ballot." By this is meant the New South Wales ballot. All candidates are placed on one ticket.

The voter, at a private place provided at the polls, simply crosses off, with a blue pencil, the names he does not wish to vote for. The ballot contains printed directions as to how many names on the ticket must be voted for. If more than the limit are voted for the ballot is informal. Governor Hill claimed that in the case of illiterate and blind persons, this system would destroy the secrecy of the ballot.

A second bill was introduced which it was thought would meet the Governor's objection, but he vetoed that also. A third bill introduced in 1890 was passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. It is a compromise of the old and new systems. It permits the use of "pasters," a feature of the old system that was never received with favor by party men. It affords so much opportunity for trading that labor organizations, and reformers generally condemn it. However, Hill claimed that it was a safeguard against packed primaries, but there are express provisions in the Australian system also offsetting the crooked work of a party caucus. The Republican State platform of New York on this point says:

"We favor the amendment of the Ballot law by the substitution for the unofficial 'paster' ballot, the 'blanket' official ballot, upon which the names of candidates shall be compactly grouped, rendering the voter's duty easy, treating candidates with equal justice, lessening opportunities for fraud, bribery and corruption, and largely reducing the expenses of elections."

The Australian ballot system has now become so popular, owing to its almost universal adoption, that Governor Hill finds it a delicate question to handle, especially as his own record on it can be easily construed as antagonism to honest elections.

AN UNJUST REPORT.

On the 12th inst. there appeared in a number of the papers of the country a special press dispatch in reference to the alleged ill-treatment of steerage passengers on the S. S. *Maasdam*, of the Netherlands-American Steam Navigation Company's line. The complaint, which was said to come from passengers, included the supplying of unwholesome food and rude and brutal behavior toward steerage people.

This report, calculated to damage the reputation and business of the company to which it referred, is but one among innumerable instances of wrong and injustice inflicted by newspaper sensation mongers. The entire scandal had for its basis the spiteful assertions of a couple of Italian immigrants, who were firebrands—such as many of them

turn out to be after they land—from the time they stepped on board. They were rough, boisterous and ill-behaved, and did all they could to create disturbance. The officers were compelled to put a check on them. This action filled them with the spirit of revenge. The purser of the vessel considered it his duty to represent to the government immigration inspectors that these two Italians were evidently not suitable persons to be allowed to land in the United States. This step was not taken on account of their unruly conduct on board, but because it had been ascertained that their record in their own country was bad. A press reporter took the unqualified statements of the two turbulent Dagos and, without even inquiring of the company's officers as to their truth, sent them over the wires.

Numbers of Utah people have traveled by the Netherlands line, and we have had any amount of reliable testimony going to show that passengers of every class on these steamers receive as kind and considerate treatment as they do on any other vessels, while the food and accommodations are not excelled by those accorded on other ships. We make this statement as a matter of simple justice, because the substance of the damaging dispatch appeared in the columns of this journal.

REDUCED CITY TAXES.

THERE are many inquiries as to the payment of city taxes, since the court appealed to has decided that the twenty per cent. general reduction on real estate valuations is all right. To answer them, we will say that until the Collector is furnished with the corrected assessment roll, as revised by the Board of Equalization, no property owner can be lawfully required to pay the tax. That corrected roll will include the changes made upon individual assessments, and also the twenty per cent. general reduction.

The taxpayers, then, as soon as the Recorder furnishes the Collector with the corrected assessment roll, may pay their city taxes less the reductions made by the Board of Equalization. And, as we understand the ordinance, a corrected notice should be furnished to them that they may know the exact amount that is due. In any event, the twenty per cent. reduction is a fixed fact, and the Collector cannot legally demand anything more than the amount as reduced by the Board of Equalization and sanctioned by the court.

Greely (Col.) potato dealers will ship 1,600,000 bushels this year.