

and honorable public sentiment here and everywhere else, reiterated and emphasized this view, by declaring that a man's duty to his plural family was to cherish and care for them. We need cite none of the happily rare instances where a man's failure to do this—where he seized upon a narrow construction of the law for a warrant to neglect and relieve himself of responsibility for his plural wives and children—subjected him to rebuke and scorn.

We believe we understand the temper of the American people well enough to know that they are abundantly satisfied with the progress that has been made in the settlement of this vexed problem. With this beginning that has been made, it is settling itself as fast as it possibly can, except by the actual extermination of the women and children wedded and born in it. No statesman, no judge, no citizen with any of the instincts of humanity, would want the process hastened in any such way. The administration does not want it; Congress does not want it; the American people do not want it; the non-Mormon part of Utah's population do not want it. Justice, prudence, fairness, patriotism—to say nothing of generosity for past assistance in reaching and adhering to agreement—all demand that any further manifestation of bigotry or persecution cease.

Utah is on the eve of admission into the sisterhood of States. Her past with all its troubles is behind us. The future, radiant with hope and sunshine and prosperity, smiles before us. We will not believe—at this crucial moment, this parting of the ways, this entering upon full maturity with prospects all joyful—that success can attend the efforts of one or a half dozen marplots to gratify private spite and wreak personal revenge by resurrecting the discord, the strife, the sorrows only lately buried, and thus blot and soil the opening page of our fair new record!

#### THE CONVENTION'S WORK.

The Constitutional Convention virtually has concluded the labors it was called to perform, there being but a few formalities to attend to before the completed Constitution is ready for presentation to the people. The document as framed must await the decision of the voters, and it is desirable that in arriving at this decision each will review the instrument calmly and dispassionately, and render judgment thereon in accord with his conception of the general welfare.

During the session of the Convention much has been said and done which might lead people to believe that the Constitution would contain features that are inimical to the public weal, and which would justify antagonism to it on the part of American citizens. A careful review of the proceedings and of the completed work, however, confirms the view that such is not the case. We are bold to say that the Convention has done splendid work, in the midst of the maze of propositions upon every subject intimately or remotely connected with constitution-making, the majority of the delegates have been careful in their selection, and whatever acerbity

may have been exhibited in discussion, it may be now said in all candor and truth, that on the main proposition in nearly all instances the Convention has done the right thing. There may be in the document provisions that individual preference would have wished to see eliminated, modified or strengthened; but taking the Constitution all together, and in comparison with that of other states, it is of a superior character, and affords no excuse for any reasonable or patriotic antagonism whatever when the day for voting upon it shall arrive.

In the time which shall elapse before the date of voting on the Constitution, it is to be hoped that every voter will consider the document from the standpoint of that broad American citizenship which causes freemen to love their birthright as such, and makes them willing to meet all the responsibilities connected therewith. Few citizens are anxious to carry the load that belongs to others, and no truly patriotic citizen wants others to bear the burden that should rest on him. The time has come when Utah is asked to perform her own share of labor in the national organization, and her sons should not shrink from that duty, notwithstanding the fact that they have differences of opinion as to details of local work. These are minor considerations as compared with the general proposition that Utah should meet its obligation in the Union, and they will be settled in time by the people themselves. When the subject is thoroughly canvassed, and due weight is given to every consideration that should bear upon the adoption of the Constitution, we believe there will not be found one sincere friend of Utah who, whatever his creed in politics or religion, will be prepared to do other than deposit his ballot as an affirmative vote. We congratulate the gentlemen of the Convention on the excellent Constitution they have prepared for the State of Utah.

#### ECUADOR'S REVOLUTION.

The Nicaraguan trouble is scarcely settled when news comes of another of the Spanish-American republics having serious difficulty. In this case the cause is an internal dispute, in which a large party in Ecuador is jealous of overthrowing the present administration, on the ground that it has exceeded its constitutional powers, and has been oppressive to the people. The particular incident which is supposed to have caused the revolt is the sale of the largest Ecuadorian war vessel to Japan, thereby depriving the navy of its only cruiser.

For the people of Ecuador to complain of oppression beyond the usual custom means that they are sorely pressed indeed. The country is under control of a republic, but not such a one as the people of the United States know. It is true that the chief officers of the government are elected by popular vote of a certain class—the Roman Catholics. None but Roman Catholics can vote; these must be 21 years of age—or 18, if married—must be able to read and write, and must possess an income of about \$200 a year. Even these electors may be excluded from the voting books by the party in

power; for misconduct, of which the administration is judge, is cause for disfranchisement. The use of this power, and the oppressive taxes laid on the people for the support of the state church, furnish the reason for general dissatisfaction.

Ecuador is not a large country, nor is it thickly inhabited; its area outside of the portions of territory claimed by Peru and Colombia is about double that of Utah. It lies across the equator, and but for its uplands would be classed among the torrid regions. It is essentially the country of mountains, earthquakes and volcanoes. There are in it twenty-two mountain peaks whose summits extend above the zone of perpetual snows. For the most of its inhabitants it is a temperate, almost a cold land, where snows and glaciers on the mountain summits sparkle beneath the sun at its zenith. Its people are mild and submissive; and everything is in the control of the Catholic priests. Strangers are not always welcome, hence the efforts of English companies particularly to colonize have not been successful, owing to the boycott established by the natives at the command of their religious instructors. Even when travelers come to visit the interior, the priest or magistrate appoints a certain number of Indians to carry their baggage, the stages being always arranged beforehand. This indicates the condition of the people—they have a government which, from an American point of view, is a republic only in name. Under these circumstances it is but natural to expect, in view of the spirit which seems to be working among all peoples, and in every land, for a greater measure of popular liberty and toleration, that Ecuador will experience a series of revolutions of a more or less sanguinary nature until the country is opened up to that freedom of thought and action which is characteristic of modern enlightenment, and which will bring its people into a more thorough exercise of their free agency in matters religious and political.

A DISPATCH to the *Tribune* says a number of people in the District of Columbia are considerably exercised over a decision of the court of appeals holding that the Edmunds act is applicable to the District as well as to certain western territories. It is alleged that several arrests for unlawful cohabitation have been made and that some sensations may be looked for in a few days. It will be remembered that a few years ago a case was tried in the District and that the person implicated was acquitted on the ground that the Edmunds law was not enacted for the benefit of the good people in the East.

NEWSPAPERS and periodicals find their patrons at peculiar addresses here and elsewhere, but it is not often that a more elaborate description is required of where a subscriber may be reached than in the following, which is the address to which the *Millennial Star* formerly was mailed regularly:

Geo. Slaymaker,  
at Mrs. Blade's,  
next door to Mrs. Sheppard's,  
"The Old House at Home,"  
Reading Road,  
Basingstoke,  
Hants,  
England.