

nation that Utah has been settled for almost half a century, the Pioneers having come to the site of Salt Lake City, July 24th, 1847, that our state of probat on has been long, and our schooling for statehood full and complete, the Governor quotes, as illustrative of our probat onary period, from a recent magazine article on "Statehood for Utah," by Hon. George Q. Cannon, and adds these strong, vigorous recommendations of his own:

We now have a population of about 240,000. An assessed taxable valuation of \$109,000,000. It is scarcely necessary to dilate upon or go into particulars as to Utah's population, wealth, stability and material development entitling her to statehood. \* \* \* Our improvements, both public and private, are upon a liberal and generous scale, commensurate with our wealth and ability. Educational and school advantages are good and constantly being improved. We have an enlightened, well ordered, strong, self-sustaining community, enjoying all the advantages and comforts of modern civilization and civilization. \* \* \* It would seem that with the removal of the only causes heretofore hindering and obstructing admission, and a constant increase in population, wealth and development of the Territory, that none should now be found to oppose Utah's entering the Union. It is true, however, that a small minority continue to interpose objections to the conferring of this great boon upon the Territory. Those composing it found their opposition upon a doubt as to the sincerity of the Mormon people in the action they have taken toward the settlement of the old questions of disturbance. Compelled to admit the actual occurrences which have taken place within their own knowledge, they take counsel of their prejudice and fears, and deny to the Mormon people the common justice of being judged according to their declarations and deeds, ascribing to them motives and purposes which they expressly disclaim. It affords me pleasure, however, to be able to state that this class is constantly growing less and its numbers rapidly decreasing. Many of those who have opposed in the past all movements looking to Utah's admission have abandoned their opposition and now heartily favor it, and give their earnest support to the present movement. I know of no people who, in their preparation for statehood, have been confronted with as delicate and grave questions and as radical differences, requiring the cultivation and exercise of the highest public qualities, yet the responsibility has been met with patience and forbearance, and our people, after years of earnest effort, have peacefully solved their difficulties and satisfactorily settled their differences. The salutary lessons inculcated in the school of actual experience have admirably trained and fitted them for the duties and responsibilities of a state government.

We have given so much room to the report itself that there is little space left at present to comment upon it. But this much may be said: in compilation it is accurate, in suggestion wise, and in spirit it is in the highest degree generous, friendly, and patriotic. The Governor is no less to be congratulated upon it than are the people of Utah themselves.

### THE LESSON OF THE ELECTION.

It is hard to see how tidal waves, or landslides, or cyclones, or whatever other figurative name may be given to

immense and unexpected political majorities, can ever become very popular with even the party that momentarily profits from them, much less with the party whose disaster they compass. A year ago, not only our own nation but the civilized world witnessed one of the most stupendous political victories that ever attended a party; the Republicans, who during more than thirty years had been in control of at least one branch of the government, being routed all along the line—horse, foot and dragoons. Today the victors of a twelvemonth since are rubbing the sore places in their own anatomy and feebly asking what it is that has smitten them. The Democrats lose at every point, not only in states that had come to be considered doubtful, but in New York where they were thought to be firmly intrenched, and even in rock-ribbed New Jersey; while their arch-opponent, William McKinley, sweeps into office with the greatest majority ever given a governor in Ohio since the war.

If the result last fall was an astounding surprise, the returns this fall, making all allowance for its being an "off year," are scarcely less so. Yet a calm review of the present situation shows nothing that need cause excessive exultation to the winners or especial heart-heaviness to the defeated. After all, the best or worst that can be said is that this is merely the ebb of last year's flood. Local causes affected the result in some places, and general hard times—the punishment for which is always visited by the electorate upon the party in power—contributed their quota to the upheaval everywhere.

As to the Democrats having been tried in power and found wanting—such talk is, to say the least, premature. It cannot be denied that they have been found wanting in carrying out the western idea as to silver; but the Republicans have made no record in that matter that they can boast of, either. On other national questions, notably tariff reform, the victors of last year have as yet done nothing—they have had no opportunity. To say that the uncertainty as to what they might do has caused their present defeat, may not be without truth as a statement, but it is without force as an argument. The people who put them in power last year must surely have expected uncertainty—so radical a change could not fail to have that effect. But it is hardly fair to the intelligence of the voters to say that they have so quickly repented of their verdict, and are all converted back again, before the system for which they rolled up great majorities a twelvemonth since has had a trial.

The News accordingly thinks that, disappointing as is the result this year to the one party, it is not any more so, if indeed as much, as was the result last year to the other party. It may be that the voters are doing more thinking, or it may be that, panic-stricken, they are doing less. Certainly the pendulum which swung to the extreme in one direction, has now swung nearly as far toward the extreme in the other. For a few things developed by the last election all can be truly thankful—boss rule in one state, and corrupt rule in another, have had a tremendous setback; personal

popularity is still a factor in a candidate's success, and principle is getting to be rather more esteemed than party advantage. All these are good signs. They are suggestive of better politics, and the more intelligent exercise of the suffrage. They are a guaranty that under any party the country will not go hopelessly to the bow-wow, and an assurance that though they may be stampeded sometimes, the people still have sense and strength enough to bring up sharply those who, because once triumphantly put in power, permit themselves to be flushed with ideas of their own importance and impregnability.

### IT'S STILL A MUDDLE.

In the light of the latest disclosures from Hawaii, those violently contrary journals that have been able to see neither honor, statesmanship, diplomacy nor patriotism in President Cleveland's policy looking to the restoration of the queen, will have to admit that much of the ground has been knocked from under their feet. It is perhaps too early to discuss intelligently and conclusively the whole question involved; the information received has been coming piecemeal and in rather niggardly fashion as to its significance and authenticity, though abundant enough in its repetitions, guesses and prognostications. What is now needed is something official, affidavits, orders, proclamations, etc., and these not all on one side, either. A comparison can then be made between the conflicting stories, after which the nation will be in a position to decide whether unreservedly to applaud or measurably to criticize the President's course.

The showing thus far is decidedly in his favor. Add to this the fact that he has rarely been accused of inconsiderateness or precipitation, and that in his Americanism he is about as stalwart as any of his critics,—and it will not be unfair to expect that additional information will but make his position stronger. The alleged prominence of a U. S. minister, and the assistance of U. S. forces, in deposing a monarch to whose court the former was accredited as a representative, can surely find no defenders. Our diplomats and marines have other business than careering around the globe as the special destroyers of toppling thrones and the humblers of either civilized or savage potentates. On the other hand, it is not quite clear that it is our business to bolster up any such thrones or restore any such rulers. This is a pursuit quite as inimical to our traditions as the other is to our policy. It is therefore a nice question whether the present administration can be justified in committing the latter mistake merely because the last administration committed the former one. The case is interesting from any point of view: historically, diplomatically or politically.

GOVERNOR MCKINLEY is elected by only 80,995 over his next lowest competitor, and by something over 40,000 over all his competitors combined. This is probably enough, however, to guarantee him against any delay from a demand for a recount of the vote.