

pay a little more cash, as if this fact was to be hailed as a blessing. When the proprie or becomes able to pay all cash, then look out for the closing of the factory again, and probably forever.

We cordially admit that there is a great deal of food for reflection in the foregoing, and we commend it to the thoughtful consideration of our readers, including both employers and employees. Some practical truths of great importance are therein suggested. If the laborer can obtain food, clothing and shelter for his labor, ought he not to be willing to work? These three things might easily be furnished by employers in Utah for more people than there are in the Territory who are in need of them, if only an intelligent effort to do so were made. To make effort in this line intelligent, it is only necessary to organize it. The argument therefore is that employment may easily be provided for all our idle workers, merely by organizing to that end; and they may thus be enabled to procure the necessities of life without the use of money.

There is another element entering into this subject, which modifies somewhat the logic of the preceding paragraph, but it ought not to be allowed to neutralize that logic, as it practically does in so many cases. The element here meant is the need of money with which to start an enterprise. The machinery, implements, or other material indispensable to a beginning, cannot always be procured at home, or in return for labor. Cash alone will obtain it. But organized effort would often overcome, and always modify, such difficulties, and the amount of money indispensable for a beginning could generally be obtained, were earnest and intelligent purpose to characterize the attempts to procure it.

The tide of home industry has set in resistlessly in this Territory; but its volume might be made much greater, and its benefits correspondingly enlarged, if the slavish idea could be gotten rid of, that nothing can be done without money. In the midst of the mighty achievements that have been wrought in Utah without money, it is a shame that a notion so false should prevail so widely. Brains, co-operation, public spirit, and the true genius of manufacturing enterprise, are the elements of success really required to furnish employment, develop resources and build up the country, while money is of but secondary importance. We commend this subject to the deliberate thought of the people, confident that if attention shall be given to it, and inquiry be made as to what can be done industrially without money, more work for the idle, and more wealth for all the people will be created.

THE INDIAN SITUATION.

The official reports sent in this week regarding the condition of the Indians in various parts of the country go to prove that the national view of the red man's progress and requirements depends very largely on the class of men the government sends out as agents or members of commissions. If the official is fair minded and possesses a kindly nature, these charac-

teristics are exhibited in his treatment of the question; if he is severely partisan and selfish, his report takes on a coloring of that hue. This is clearly set forth in the official reports sent out by telegraph on the 21st and 22nd of this month. The latter date has two reports from New Mexico reservations. One, from Captain Ballis, states that the Pueblo Indian are progressing favorably toward civilization; the other, from Captain Burnett, represents the opposite to be the condition at Mescalero. Captain Ballis's report indicates patience, fairness, and a practical belief in the idea that the aborigine can be educated to a standard of usefulness as a citizen, therefore the fruits of his work as agent are in harmony with that view. Captain Burnett's report shows a disposition to be meddling, irritable and tyrannical, and the scenes he describes accord with that policy. The reports of the 21st likewise represent antagonistic conditions. That from Montana is of a most encouraging and commendatory character; while the report to the secretary of the interior by the commission sent to the five civilized tribes in the Indian Territory must be placed in the opposite class.

The report last named is worthy of special attention because it is likely to receive particular notice from the government. The five civilized tribes visited by the commission are the Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Seminoles. The full bloods among these, the commission declares, "are less fit for citizenship than they were twenty years ago, and there is little hope they will improve." Upon the general findings, the commission recommends that the lands now held in common by the tribes be taken control of by the United States, and that "the power of self government in the tribes be revoked." In support of these recommendations it is urged that the tribes have demonstrated their incapacity to govern themselves, and that a lawless condition of affairs exists in the territory; that the treaty stipulation for equal division of land is flagrantly and widely violated, large tracts being in the control of leaders, while the real Indians are powerless to secure any part of this common property; and finally, that the Indians refused to accept an allotment of their lands, and the sale of the balance, comprising townsites, coal and mineral lands, the proceeds to be divided among the members of the tribes.

To the uninformed, it might seem, from the reports that come in the dispatches, that there is a measure of truth in these statements which justifies the recommendations of the commission. An inquiry into the actual state of affairs, however, will reveal to any man who sincerely desires to deal fairly and honestly by the Indians the fact that the recommendations made are of the most unjust and reprehensible character. This view expressed with due consideration for the high political standing of those who made up the commission, and who, it might be charitable to say, probably were misled by designing persons during their brief stay in the Indian territory.

Taking up the proposition that the

treaty stipulation for equal division is flagrantly violated: By whom? The reply is, by white men principally; and instances may be cited where the largest tracts of land, tens of thousands of acres in extent, are held by United States officials. If the possession is unlawful, the government should purge its own representatives. And as to the lawless condition of affairs described, it is due chiefly to white thieves who have gone in to rob the Indians of the money recently distributed, and whom it is the duty of the government peace officers in the territory to deal with. Upon these propositions, then, it is upon the general government rather than upon the five tribes that the burden of blame should rest.

As to the statement that the tribes have demonstrated their incapacity to govern themselves in local matters and therefore should be deprived of the small powers they now exercise in that direction, direct issue, based upon an understanding of the conditions, among those tribes, must be taken with the commission. The capacity of the five civilized tribes, so far as they have opportunity to show it, to govern themselves is equally as good as in many of the communities east of the Mississippi whom it would be regarded as a crying shame to treat as it is proposed to treat these Indians. Among the tribes referred to there has been a vast work accomplished in an educational line, so that the majority can read and write; and of the younger people the great bulk can read and write the English language, which is now taught exclusively in the schools. Upon this condition of affairs alone, the statement of the commission that the Indians "are less fit for citizenship than they were twenty years ago, and there is little hope they will improve," must fall to the ground because of its inaccuracy. The commission evidently has a much higher opinion of the status of twenty years ago than the facts warrant. It may be added also that the five tribes have a fairly good government among themselves, notwithstanding a great laxity in enforcing the laws; but that laxity does not afford the slightest basis for the unrepugnant measure proposed.

The gist of the whole scheme supported by the report may be drawn from the statement that the Indians refuse to sell the most valuable part of their lands. If the allotment plan were carried out, more than half the land now held by the civilized tribes would be opened to settlement by the white man; the valuable coal and mineral lands would pass from Indian ownership and control, and the white man would reap the benefit of the change. Then, with the civilized aborigines deprived of all voice in local government, the white settlers would have absolute and undisputed control, and the robbery and practical enslavement of the five tribes would be complete. That is the sum of the whole matter. The cry that the Indians will not consent to a distribution of their lands among themselves is a subterfuge. If the proposition for an equitable distribution were made, it is not unlikely that they could be converted