

# DESERET NEWS.

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY  
THE DESERET NEWS COMPANY.

CHARLES W. PENROSE, EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, - Jan. 10, 1883.

## UTAH'S CLAIMS TO STATEHOOD.

THE Declaration of Independence, which enunciates some of the fundamental principles of popular government, specifies liberty as one of the inalienable rights of man. This undoubtedly includes, if it does not directly refer to, political liberty. Governments are instituted to secure this as well as other rights, and the just powers of governments are derived from the consent of the governed. Under the system of territorial governments—which does not appear to have been contemplated in the Constitution of the United States, an instrument framed in accordance with the spirit of the Declaration of Independence, political liberty in its true sense is not secured and cannot be enjoyed. The people are governed without their consent. They have no voice in the selection of the executive, judicial or administrative officers sent to manage their affairs, nor in the election of the national officers who appoint them. Laws are framed for their obedience, in the enactment of which they take no part, proper congressional representation being denied them, their one Delegate having no vote in the National Legislature. And their own local enactments are subject to arbitrary annulment or repeal.

According to the same instrument which defines human rights and points out the way by which they should be secured, it is the right of the people when the government under which they exist does not answer the purposes for which it was designed, to institute a new government; and not only to alter but abolish it when it becomes destructive of those ends. The change from a Territory to a State government is therefore a rightful alteration, if in the formation of the State the principles of equal freedom and popular government are established and maintained.

Utah has additional reasons for a change of government to those which have justified other Territories in throwing off the yoke which weighed them down and asserting and acquiring political liberty. Besides the ordinary disadvantages already named, she is so much in bondage as to be placed under a "one man power" of the most irksome character. The Governor appointed by authority over which the people have no control or influence, has the power of absolute veto, by which the legislative acts of their own elected representatives can be rendered void at will; and against such autocratic domination there is no remedy. This is despotism pure and simple. The citizens of Utah are thus not freemen but vassals. The colonial bondage against which the fathers rebelled was liberty compared to this imperialism. No people imbued with a republican spirit would endure it any longer than they are compelled to. It is their inalienable right to cast it off as soon as they gain the needful strength.

But the citizens of Utah have never contemplated rebellion against the authority of the United States, however arbitrarily the power of that Government may have been exercised. They revere the Constitution, they owe and acknowledge allegiance to the Federal Union, and have always been anxious to occupy that position connected therewith to which a free people are entitled. They have therefore repeatedly sought admission into the Union as a State. Having failed heretofore, they are now making another application. The propriety and rightfulness of this course must certainly be conceded by all reasonable minds.

The power to admit new States into the Federal Union rests with the Congress of the United States. The only general constitutional rule to

govern such admission is that a republican form of government shall be provided for and secured to the new State. But other things are usually required, the right to demand which is not disputed, such as a sufficient population to bear the burden of a State government; an area of territory large enough for growth and expansion; property of sufficient value to yield a reasonable revenue; the material elements necessary to the support of a growing commonwealth; intelligence adequate to self-government; due regard for republican principles, by which liberty shall be extended within the limits of wholesome law to all classes, parties and creeds without distinction. Utah possesses all the qualifications which may be reasonably demanded and which have ever been required of any other community seeking the rights and privileges of a free State.

The population of this Territory, according to the census of 1880, was 143,963, of whom 99,969 are native born. With the natural increase and the influx by immigration, the present population may be safely placed at 160,000. The census of 1870 gave Utah a population of 86,788. The increase from 1870 to 1880 was 65 per cent., or 5.315 per cent. per annum. At the same ratio Utah by June, 1883 will have a population of 167,301. This is considerably above the figure ever required heretofore as a condition to Statehood.

The land area of the Territory is 84,970 square miles, its water area 2780 miles. It stretches three hundred and twenty-five miles north and south and three hundred miles east and west, and over 10,000,000 acres of the public domain therein have been surveyed. Wherever a stream of water flows down from the mountain heights, settlements have been formed, which grow in numbers and wealth as larger areas are brought under cultivation through the increase of the water supply, the volume of which enlarges remarkably, and as various industries in addition to agriculture are established. There are at least 350,000 acres of land under fence, and the grain crop is not less than 3,000,000 bushels per annum. The foothills and benches afford ample grazing grounds for stock. Herds of cattle and bands of horses fatten upon them for home use and extensive export; and sheep raising has assumed large proportions, the present number being in the neighborhood of three quarters of a million, shearing annually about 2,700,000 pounds of wool. Factories are established for the manufacture of yarn, cloth, blankets, shawls, etc., in various parts of the Territory, and over a million and a half pounds of wool is exported. All kinds of fruits grown in the States flourish in Utah and are of superior quality, dried apricots, peaches, apples, plums and small fruit being among her most profitable exports.

According to the census of 1880, Utah had 1,966 manufacturing establishments, employing 3,221 persons, with invested capital to the amount of \$2,889,463, producing goods to the value of \$4,217,434. These have materially increased during the past two years, and it is safe to put the manufactures of Utah at \$6,000,000 per annum. This is exclusive of smelting and reduction works. The principal manufactures are flour, meal, cheese, salt, molasses, leather, boots and shoes, harness, saddles, woolen goods, hosiery, lumber, sash, doors, mouldings, brick, lime, charcoal, machinery, furniture, paper, soap, glue, candles, earthenware, brooms, brushes, hats, basketware, candy, crackers, matches, etc. There are several foundries and machine shops, many saw mills, planing mills, etc.

The principal mineral products of Utah are gold, silver, lead, copper, iron, coal, sulphur, antimony, mica, rock salt, arsenic, alum, cinabar, cobalt, bismuth, gypsum, marble, granite, sandstone, limestone, slate, ochres, mineral wax, kaolin, clays of various kinds, etc. The bullion product of the year 1882, as gleaned from the annual report of Wells, Fargo & Co., is as follows: Gold, 9,039 ounces; silver, 5,435,444 ounces; copper, 605,830 pounds; refined lead, 8,213,798 pounds; unrefined lead, 52,349,850 pounds. The total value of these products, computing the gold and silver at mint valuation and the other metals at their seaboard value, is \$10,312,902.

Since the opening of her mines Utah has produced over \$60,000,000 in the "precious" metals. New mines are constantly being discovered and many of the old ones are

both permanent and profitable. The stability which statehood would give to the institutions of Utah would impart confidence to investors, and capital would flow in by which the still hidden treasures of the hills could be unlocked and brought forth to enrich the State and benefit the nation.

Among the undeveloped resources of the Territory are the iron deposits, which exist in many localities and are declared by noted experts to be unexcelled in intrinsic value by any in the world. The ores are magnetite and hematite, and yield from 50 to 65 per cent. of iron and both in quality and quantity the deposits are remarkable. In close proximity are valuable and extensive deposits of coal, also of limestone, which will render the manufacture of iron easy and cheap, when larger capital imparts vitality to labor and a solid political basis is laid to give stability to important enterprises. Coal fields of vast extent are being opened in other parts of the Territory. There is salt enough to pickle the world, sulphur enough to suffocate it, coal enough to cremate it. There are lead, iron, mica, antimony, and other minerals enough to supply the country for centuries, and the capabilities of this important section of the public domain are only just commencing to be understood.

There are 3,000 miles of common roads in Utah; 1,006 miles of railroads, 205 miles of which were constructed during the past year; 2,647 miles of telegraph wires; 600 miles of telephone wires; 560 instruments; the means of swift communication are rapidly increasing, and trade with the surrounding States and Territories is promoted by the extension of railroads through their domain or to the line of their borders.

The amount of business transacted in Utah may be estimated from the following report of freights received and forwarded over the Utah Central Railroad for eleven and a half months in 1882: At Ogden Station. Received: Ore, 1,969,707 pounds; Bullion, 50,482,633 pounds; Lead, 7,140,256 pounds; Copper Matte, 881,629 pounds; Grain, 3,825,615 pounds; Green Fruit and Vegetables, 4,660,996 pounds; Dried Fruit, 818,753 pounds; Wool and Hides, 2,275,341 pounds; Salt, 10,219,310 pounds; Merchandise, 8,530,901. Forwarded: Merchandise, 37,264,449; Grain, 4,429,276 pounds; Coal, 105,113,650 pounds; Charcoal, 2,122,000 pounds; Coke, 49,251,135 pounds; Lumber, 29,707,705 pounds; Building Material, 1,310,755 pounds; Fire Brick and Clay, 933,595 pounds; Machinery, 1,099,614 pounds; Agricultural Implements, 1,693,290 pounds; Wagons, 3,828,440 pounds; Live Stock, 344,000 pounds; Railway Material, 23,109,990; Ore, 10,172,293 pounds; Iron, Nails and Stoves, 5,613,715 pounds; Iron Ore 2,154,870 pounds; Spelter, 80,120 pounds; Sandstone, 508,150 pounds; Sundries, 7,592,078.

At Salt Lake Station. Received: Coal, 115,356,385; Coke, 41,314,005; Charcoal, 331,800; Iron Ore, 30,587,000; Lumber, 30,419,470; Building Material, 1,898,275; Granite Rock, 10,847,465; Machinery, 1,200,873; Agricultural Implements, 1,525,573; Wagons, 3,242,515; Live Stock, 477,950; Flour and Mill Stuff, 1,472,950; Grain, 8,022,948; Hay, 542,957; Green Fruit and Vegetables, 2,351,122; Wool and Hides, 385,250; Railway Material, 22,745,905; Iron, Nails and Stoves, 5,768,892; Fire Clay and Brick, 1,775,164; Merchandise, 35,339,939; Sundries, 6,760,940. Forwarded: Flour and Mill Stuff, 170,260; Grain, 657,018; Green Fruit and Vegetables, 2,739,600; Dried Fruit, 819,986; Wool and Hides, 2,032,062; Fire Clay and Brick, 1,803,795; Merchandise, 21,051,601; Sundries, 1,302,643; Limestone, 59,908,005; Salt, 10,011,442.

The educational status of Utah is much higher than is generally supposed. Her ratio of illiteracy, according to the latest census, is much below the average of the nation, the per centage of children over ten years of age unable to read is 3.27 and to write 6.13, while the per centage of the whole country is 9.82 unable to read and 12.44 unable to write. In this educational respect Utah is ahead of thirty-four States and Territories of the Union. A system of District Schools, partly supported from the territorial treasury, has been established for many years and is improving annually. The taxes assessed by the Territory amount to three mills on the dollar for general public purposes, and three mills on the dollar for the payment of teachers in the District Schools. In addition to this a local

option law leaves it discretionary with the resident taxpayers in each organized District to assess a property tax for general school purposes not to exceed two per cent. in one year. Thus, if the people choose, schools may be supported entirely by taxation or partly by tuition fees. Three trustees elected by the registered voters in each district manage the school affairs, while there is a Superintendent in each county and a general Superintendent for the Territory to take the oversight thereof. According to the official report of the last named functionary to the Legislature of 1882, the number of District Schools was 395; the school population—between 6 and 18 years of age—was 42,353, of whom 62.3 per cent. were enrolled; and 44 per cent. of the whole number in actual attendance. The average number of days school taught in the year was 140; the total amount paid to teachers for the year, \$117,948.92, and the total value of school property, \$415,185.77. Besides the District Schools there are several high schools, a number of private academies, about sixty denominational schools supported by the different sects, and the University of Deseret, partly supported from the territorial treasury. Among the principal religious bodies are represented and have substantial church edifices.

Literature finds a wide field in Utah. The leading journals and the best magazines of the country are well patronized, and there are published in the Territory eight daily papers, nine semi-weeklies, five weeklies, three semi-monthlies, three magazines, and a number of manuscript papers, besides occasional books and pamphlets.

Utah is one of the most lightly taxed portions of this great country. The territorial and school taxes are together but six mills on the dollar; the maximum county tax allowed is only to the same amount; municipalities can at the utmost levy a tax of five mills for general purposes and five mills for road construction and repairs, and their charters restrict them from running into extensive debts. (A special act allowed Salt Lake City to contract a debt of \$250,000 for a large irrigating canal, but a sinking fund is provided for its gradual extinction.) The taxable property is assessed at near \$30,000,000, mines and bullion being exempt. A high liquor license regulates the traffic in intoxicants in those localities where prohibition is not maintained, and this assists the public revenue, which is expended economically for the public benefit, of which the substantial roads, bridges, public buildings and other improvements in the different counties and cities give indisputable evidence.

The capacity of Utah for self-government has been demonstrated during the period of her territorial condition by the laws which have been enacted in her Legislative Assembly, and which Congress has almost invariably approved; by the fact that the Territory is out of debt and that, with the above named exception, there is no bonded debt in any county or municipality; by the peace which prevails within her borders; by the security to life and property enjoyed, far greater than in any western State or Territory; by the temperance, industry, frugality and steady habits and progress of the masses of the people, which have become proverbial; by the honesty of her public officials, no case of embezzlement of public funds having yet disgraced her.

The regard of Utah for republican principles has been exhibited in all her history. Equal rights have been extended to citizens of every class, color, party and creed. Liberty of speech and of the press has been fully accorded. The popular voice has ruled in such affairs as the anomalous territorial system has left to the people, and a free and secret ballot expresses the popular will foreshadowed in caucus and convention. No demand made upon Utah by the General Government has ever been denied. While the right to criticize the acts of national officials is claimed by the people, they are ardent and zealous believers in the fundamental principles of American institutions and firm supporters of the Government of the United States. When the Territory was first settled by them it was part of the domain of Mexico, but they unfurled the National flag, under which five hundred of their able bodied men were then serving, formed a provisional government after the pattern of the States of the Union, and at once

sought recognition as an integral part of the United States. They have remained loyal to their country under every circumstance and have repeatedly appealed to Congress for admission to Statehood, that they might bear their share of the expenses of government and become really and truly a part of this great nation, obeying its general laws with fidelity while managing their own domestic affairs according to the genius of constitutional liberty, compatible with constitutional responsibility.

The constitution which has been adopted and under which Utah seeks admission into the Union would secure to the State the constitutional requirement of "a republican form of government." It is as liberal, just and equal in its provisions as any in the land. It embodies the improvements which in old established States have been found by experience needful to the best good of the people. There is nothing in it to which reasonable objections can be successfully advanced. It is plain proof that the people who present it appreciate and are devoted to the principles of genuine republicanism, and that they are prepared to maintain those principles as an organized commonwealth and a recognized partner in the federal compact.

With a large and growing population, a vast and productive region of country, valuable industries, an enlightened and progressive people, the convenience and facilities of civilization, a solvent and honestly handled exchequer, unexcelled thrift, sobriety, order, frugality and union, experience in the management of local affairs, an unexceptionable constitution, ambition to become a truly republican commonwealth, and prospects and capacities for immense development, material wealth and political enlargement and influence, Utah can reasonably claim candid consideration as an applicant for Statehood on an equal footing with existing States, and does earnestly ask that prejudice and misjudgment may be disregarded, in view of the unmistakable evidences afforded of her fitness for the responsibilities and privileges of a free State in the grand and glorious American Federal Union.

## CARP.

WE are in receipt of the following communication from Dr. J. D. M. Crockwell, Superintendent of Clear Lake Fish Farm, Millard County. Fish culturists should take notice:

"It is desired by the Fish Department at Washington City, annually to receive reports from all parties that have received carp of the United States. Therefore, all parties that received carp of the United States, through the late Professor Joseph L. Barfoot, will please report to me at as early a day as possible, stating:

- 1st—How many received and when?
- 2d—How large the pond into which they were placed?
- 3d—Depth of water?
- 4th—Kind of bottom?
- 5th—Probably, how many died since receiving?
- 6th—What is the average weight of fish now?

I desire that the reports may reach me before the 1st day of February, so that I may make a general report on that day."

## LOCAL AND OTHER MATTERS.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, JAN. 5.

**Still Quite Ill.**—The many friends of General H. S. Eldredge will be pained to hear that he is still quite ill, as we learned to-day, on inquiry at his residence. He is suffering from a severe attack of bronchitis.

**The Virgin City Homicide.**—A special to the News from Toquerville, Kane County, of to-day's date, says: The examination of James Jepson, charged with the killing of Frank Hunt, at Virgin City, on the 2nd inst., resulted in Jepson being held in \$1,000 bonds for voluntary manslaughter, to await the action of the grand jury.

**More Judges.**—Yesterday Secretary Thomas appointed C. C. Rhoades, William Brim and Geo. Edgington as judges of election at Coalville, Summit County, which takes place February 12th, the first named to be the presiding judge. The Secretary states that so far