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## THE WORKING OF CO-OPERATION.

CO-OPERATION in the business of merchandizing has now been carried on in the Territory for a number of months, and so far—notwithstanding the predictions of failure which its enemies have uttered—with encouraging success. Various opinions have been published in the East and the West respecting the effect the practical working of the system would have upon the people of the Territory and the outside trade. Many have expressed their admiration of the plan, have thought it an excellent system for the people to operate under, and have wondered that it had not been adopted long ago. Others have denounced it, and have expressed the opinion that it could not be successfully carried out. But, without being influenced in one way or the other by outside opinion, our people are now in a position to judge practically of its results for themselves. They can now form an idea whether co-operation in merchandizing has been a benefit to the Territory or not.

From the years of the Buchanan-Floyd war upon Utah up to the time the co-operative movement was inaugurated, there had been a steady annual accession to the class who dealt in merchandise in this Territory. The people would pay for their goods whatever the merchants chose to ask, and if they incurred debts they were punctual in paying them, especially if the merchants did not belong to the Church. By these qualities Utah became justly celebrated as an excellent place to sell goods and make money, and merchants flocked here. Whatever they might say or do to create outside public opinion in favor of the idea of sending troops here to overawe the "Mormons," in order that they might make money out of contracts, in their hearts they knew, and to certain persons would freely acknowledge, that they never dealt with a people so liberal and punctual in their trade as those same "Mormons." How long they would have continued to receive the trade, had they manifested ordinary common sense in maintaining the friendship of the people upon whose patronage they depended for support, we do not know, but they had flourished so long undisturbed, notwithstanding their undisguised opposition to and threats against the people of the Territory, that they seemed to have got the idea that we were their slaves, and bound to pay them tribute regardless of the manner in which they maltreated or abused us.

When this chapter in the history of Utah shall be written posterity will read with unbounded surprise that a free people, like we have been in these mountains, was so blind and headstrong as to continue for years to sustain and patronize men who were alien to them in feeling and religion, and whose every action proved, that if they could, they would coin their heart blood into money.

But it is well for the Territory that merchants were thus foolish and besotted; for had their conduct not been such as to have aroused the indignation of the people we should by this time have had merchants here by hundreds, and the country would have been in a worse condition than it ever has been since its settlement. The multiplication of dealers of this class in our communities is not, as many suppose, a benefit, but an evil. Every establishment which is opened for the sale of imported merchandise is a drain upon the people, and the more extensively it is patronized the more completely are the pockets of the community where it is situated depleted of their cash. The true policy for the people of this Territory to pursue in regard to merchandise is to import only such goods as are indispensably necessary, and to foster home manufactures. Under the old system this was not done. Where money making was the sole

object of business men, the future good of the country was not consulted. But under the system of co-operation this can be considered. It is to the benefit of stock-holders under this system to promote home interests, and, as fast as possible, to supply their stores with home-manufactured goods. Where the wholesale importing house is conducted on co-operative principles, as at present in this city, and the goods for the entire Territory come through that house, goods can be selected with reference to the actual wants of the people, and nothing be imported that can be manufactured at home.

The power to accomplish this has been reached by the adoption of Co-operation, and the effect is already being felt in various quarters. Another point is that goods can be sold at lower figures under this system than under the old. While the latter prevailed, there was a constant tendency on the part of merchants to combine to keep up prices. There was nothing to be gained by their under-selling one another, and everyone was averse to disposing of his goods at a figure that would not afford him a handsome profit. We shall refer to this subject on a future occasion.

## THE COMING FAIR AND ITS EFFECTS.

ON next Monday, the Territorial Fair, under the auspices of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, will commence and be continued on Tuesday. We look forward to these days with an unusual degree of interest, and we hope that exhibitors will be numerous, and spirited in doing all in their power to make the affair a great success. It is a happy idea on the part of the Society to have a Fair this year, and we hope that hereafter we shall have a display of this character annually, and that so valuable an aid to the progress and development of the Territory will not be allowed to fall into disuse. The list of premiums, considering the amount of means at the disposal of the Society, is a valuable one, and is very judiciously arranged. The bestowal of premiums will be of incalculable benefit to the Territory, and we are convinced that money can net be expended with greater advantage to the entire community than in this form.

Our relationship to the outside producing and manufacturing world at the present time is vastly different to that of former years. By the construction of the railroad we are brought into close contact and lively competition with it. We recollect a time in this valley when our fashionable bedsteads were manufactured out of pine and quaking aspens, by the aid alone of a two inch auger and a drawing knife. Our best families slept upon them, and if they had good rawhide bedcords, they thought them luxurious after sleeping on boxes and on the ground for so long a period. Our stools and tables were of equally rude and primitive manufacture. That day soon passed, and the skill of the turner, cabinet-maker and painter was called into requisition, and furniture more or less elaborate and costly was manufactured and used. Utility was the chief desideratum in the manufacture of these articles; beauty was not particularly consulted. But the increase of wealth has caused that love of the beautiful, which poverty and adverse circumstances had repressed but not extinguished, to manifest itself. Our people are becoming more critical and fastidious about their food, their wearing apparel, the character of their houses and their surroundings. When controlled by good sense, it is right that this should be the case. We conceive that it is possible for a people to be honest, frugal and simple, devoid of haughtiness and purse-proud importance, and yet eat properly-cooked food, wear well-cut garments, use elegant furniture and live in handsome and commodious houses. In our opinion inconvenient surroundings and squalor are not essentially necessary to humility and purity of life.

Another marked change which has taken place, though not to so great an extent as desired, is in the taste for good stock. Coming here, as the people did, fugitives from oppression, having been expelled by mob violence from their homes without the opportunity of selling them, they did not bring much valuable stock with them. In the first years of the settlement, the horses especially were of a poor kind, principally Indian and California, or half breed American. But with the lapse of years has come a visible improvement in this respect. Good horses, as well as horned stock, are common. If our cat-

tle owners will only take the trouble to bring their best stock to the Fair we shall be disappointed if we do not have a remarkably fine display of cattle. This class of stock in this Territory, so far as our observation goes, has always been of a better quality than our horses.

Now, the great advantage in a fair, like this which will be held next Monday and Tuesday, is that it enables every man and woman in the community to compare his or her progress with that of his or her neighbors. Such a gathering of good things must have a tendency to elevate taste, and give people higher conceptions of their own abilities and of the capabilities of the land we inhabit. All classes can derive profitable instruction from this Exhibition. The best varieties of grain, vegetables and fruit will show every husbandman how bounteously nature will repay properly-applied labor with the right kind of seed. The display of farming implements will give many ideas in relation to the saving of labor, and the consequent lessening of the expense of grain production. The horses which will be exhibited will enlarge, we hope, many men's ideas respecting the kinds which are most profitable to keep, and convince them that the Spanish and Indian ponies which now roam on our ranges, eating off the feed which should be used by better breeds, can be disposed of to the best advantage by selling them to the tanners. We have plenty of cows that will open the eyes of many as to what a cow should be. By examining them they will see the difference between having a scrub that is always hungry and never fat, and never gives milk enough at a milking to supply a lover of the article with a good square meal, and a cow which keeps easily, and gives the evidence of her feeding in the abundance of rich, nutritious milk which she yields. Those who recollect the first furniture which was used, can at this Fair compare the present with the past. They will find, if they have not already tried the experiment, that a modern, beautiful bedstead, sofa, chair or table is quite as comfortable as the old-fashioned kinds. Wagons, carriages, sleighs, cloths of various kinds, and other manufactures will show what progress we are making, and will stimulate industry and ingenuity everywhere throughout the Territory. Each visitor will carry back the remembrance of what he saw to his home, and with that constantly in view, will aim at similar excellence. Think of the results! Another year he will have made advancement, and those whose example stimulated him will also have made progress, and thus, year by year, will the wise, the industrious, the skillful, the artistic bring their trophies to the grand gathering, until our land shall be as famous for the cultivation of its soil, for its grains, vegetables, fruits and flowers, for its machinery, its manufactures, its horses and cattle, as it now is for the love, unity, virtue, industry, sobriety and temperance of its people.

Success to the Fair, therefore, say we, and from this time forth may we never be without an annual Exhibition of the kind.

## UTAH AND HER ADMISSION AS A STATE.

A MASS MEETING of the citizens of this Territory will be held at four p.m., on Thursday, Oct. 7th, to take into consideration the subject of the admission of Utah into the Union as a State. Resolutions will probably be presented to the meeting for its action, also a petition to Congress asking for a State Government, which ought to be signed by every citizen in the Territory. There should be a general attendance at this meeting of citizens from all parts of the Territory; but especially every man in this and the adjacent counties who can possibly come should make it a point to be present on that occasion. We live under a Government where the will of the people is law; let us show the Federal Legislature and Executive what the wish of the people of the Territory of Utah is. The right of petition is ours, it is guaranteed by the Constitution; let us exercise it in expressing our feelings that our fellow-citizens may know where we stand on the question.

The blacks are enfranchised; the question of woman suffrage is being extensively agitated, and is rapidly looming up and assuming an importance that cannot be ignored, and shall the citizens of Territories, the pioneers in opening the pathway of empire, an element the most adventurous and enterprising in the nation, and as such, entitled to the highest credit and to every privilege of citizenship, sit supinely by and not make an effort to regain a right

which is theirs by birth, and which even the most benighted whilom slave can exercise? For twenty-two years this Territory has been settled, and for nineteen of that period hundreds and thousands of free-born American citizens have had to endure taxation without representation, and have had no voice in the selection of some of their principal officers. Is this the reward which they are to receive for the risks they have run in extending, making habitable and enriching the public domain? The indolent and unenterprising man who never ventures out of sight of the smoke of the old homestead enjoys his full rights as a citizen; but the man who goes forth to encounter the hardships of a frontier life, far removed from old associations and friendships, the home and graves of his ancestors, and the comforts of old-settled society, is deprived of some of his most precious and cherished rights and is virtually disfranchised! What rank is justice!

This subject calls loudly for agitation. For nearly twenty years our citizens have been in a condition of Territorial tutelage. Their voices have been unheard, their votes have been unfelt in national affairs; even their principal local officers have been selected for them in the manner that such officers were chosen in the days of colonial vassalage. Let this condition of affairs continue and how long will it take for our fellow citizens in the States, and their Representatives and Senators in Congress, to come to the conclusion that these rights of citizenship have lapsed, and do not, therefore, belong to us? If we should be silent upon the subject, and manifest contentment with our condition, it may be thought, after awhile, when we ask for our rights that we are unreasonable and disposed to be rebellious. Nearly a generation has passed since we came to these mountains, a few more years and, if we should continue in a Territorial condition, who will know that the people of Utah ought to have a voice in national affairs?

We do not, of course, anticipate such a result; but it is neither wise nor in consonance with the genius of the institutions of our country for the people to sit down tamely and submit to wrong without protesting against it. Let this matter be agitated, and let the world know, and especially our own nation, that we are conscious of the existence of rights which belong to us, but of which by an absurd, anti-republican, barbarous and tyrannical custom we are unjustly deprived. Let mass meetings be called in every settlement, resolutions and petitions to Congress be framed and signed by every citizen, setting forth in respectful plainness our wants and that for nearly one-fourth of the age of the Republic we have quietly submitted to the deprivation of rights which are "inestimable to us, and formidable to tyrants only."

It is time that we should renew our application for admission as a State. The question in regard to our population, which at one time was considered important, no longer exists. Our population outnumbers that of several of the States. As to our loyalty, prosperity, virtue, industry and capacity for self-government, there is no room for question. We can proudly point to our record and to our present surroundings, and truthfully say that for Utah's age her star does not pale before the brightest that adorns the Federal galaxy; she is the peer of the noblest. The present time is most favorable for our application; but even if it were not favorable, and the prospect for the recognition of our right to a State Government were dark, it would still be necessary for us to fully agitate the question. The subject of Utah's admission as a State should be kept before the people; and then, whether we emerge from our condition of Territorial dependence or not, the nation will know that we have rights, and that we are conscious of their existence, even though they are withheld from us. This, of itself, is a point, and it should not be neglected.

## LESS GRAIN, MORE BEEF.

FOR the past three or four years, owing to the ravages of the grasshoppers, the yield of breadstuffs, and cereals generally, as well as various kinds of vegetables, has been considerably below the average in this Territory, and as a consequence prices have been much higher than the average. For several years, it is well known, after the grasshopper visitation in '55 and '56, almost every kind of produce was low, the common trade price of flour being not more than five dollars, while the fortu-