

vention will result in great good to the party, as it will bring its representative men closer together, and the varied views, interests and sentiments of citizens in different localities will have ample opportunity for representation. There need be no great hurry, and, on the other hand, there should be no waste of valuable time.

#### A GREAT WATER SCHEME.

THERE are probably but few people who are acquainted with the purpose and scope of what is popularly known as the Bothwell canal scheme. We understand it to be the intention of those who are operating it to make of the beautiful Bear Lake a reservoir. In unison with this object the incorporators have filed upon that sheet of water, and upon the surplus water of Bear River. Indeed it would be difficult to find a body or current of water contiguous or tributary to that lake or river that has not been filed upon in the same way. The company has filed upon the supposed surplus water of every stream or creek running into Bear Lake or Bear River, and have done the same thing by the outlet of the lake.

Operations in the construction of a mammoth canal to conduct those waters through a region of country including vast tracts of cultivated and untilled lands down into the valley of Salt Lake have begun. Ogden city, we understand, some time since, agreed to pay a large sum of money providing they received an adequate supply of water from Bothwell sources.

It will not be amiss to give an idea as to how this company, backed by English capital, intend making their project pay. We will define what we understand to be a *portion* of their *modus operandi* in that respect.

The owners of land within reach of the system will, before the negotiation in chief is entered upon—that pertaining to the rental for water—have to pay six dollars per acre down. For instance suppose that the owners of 400,000 acres should decide to take water, they would be required to pay in the aggregate \$2,400,000. This would certainly be quite a beginner.

The next arrangement would be the annual rate to be charged for water to irrigate the land thus levied upon. We understand it to be intended by the Bothwell Corporation that the sum shall be one dollar and fifty cents a year per

acre. Thus if the aggregate amount of land irrigated under the system should be as before stated—it would doubtless be greatly in excess of it—the corporation would have an annual income of \$600,000.

But what if any of the owners of the land should be unable to put down the cash on the six dollars per acre plan? The soulful corporation comes to the rescue of this class and proposes to take, in place of the monetary consideration, from each one fifty acres of this land and pay him therefor the munificent sum of \$200, or four dollars per acre. For this land the company receives a good and sufficient deed. By this process they would doubtless become immense landowners.

The individual compelled by straitened circumstances to thus sell out a large part of his farm is not relieved from the obligation to pay the annual one dollar and fifty cents per acre for the irrigation of that which remains. He is simply in that respect placed on the same footing as the farmer who hands over the initiation fee of six dollars an acre. Thus the annual income of the corporation is not diminished by this regulation. What is to become of those whose farms do not amount to fifty acres does not at present appear.

Should any of those who enter into a water compact with the company fail to come to time with their annual stipend, their fate may be reckoned upon the basis of the quantity of soul possessed by corporations in general. Their reputation for magnanimity is not first-class, but professionally there are many exceptions—when they initiate a scheme. After being fortified by the lapse of time and the tide of circumstances, memory generally takes its flight with the retreat of soul.

#### A UNION DEPOT.

THE revival of the project for a union depot in this city seems to meet with favor from all classes of the community. Before this city assumes the proportions which it is expected to reach, the railroad question, so far as it relates to a general depot and the route of the lines within the borders of the municipality, ought to be well considered and definitely settled.

We do not think there is any need to try to make the general public see the importance and benefits of a union depot. Its advantages will be clearly perceived by every reflecting

mind. Its location is a different matter. We believe the sentiment will be overwhelmingly in favor of some place outside of the business portions of the city, where the lines can be focussed without cutting up the streets more than is absolutely necessary. The western part of town offers the most feasible spots for the depot, and it should occupy some point further west than the present Utah Central station.

It is desirable that one street only, running north and south, should be occupied by the railroads. Access to the depot from all parts of town is now made easy by the street car service, and will be still more facilitated as the electric car system is extended. The trouble over the Fourth West Street franchise would thus be averted. The people in that neighborhood would be relieved of their grievance. The railroad companies would perhaps have objections to removing their tracks westward, but we think all their difficulties could be removed, if approached in an amicable spirit and with a sincere desire for the general welfare and an absence of intent to injure any person or corporation.

The thing cannot be done in a hurry, or by excitement and a pressure of individual projects. Wise heads will have to figure out this matter, and conservative men be entrusted with its management. The best thing for the city, as a whole, must be the paramount consideration. And vested rights must not be ignored. Let the proposition be well weighed and worked out, devoid of any party spirit or factional interest or glorification.

#### AT IT AGAIN.

WITH its accustomed mendacity, the "Liberal" organ in this city misrepresents the utterances of the DESERET NEWS in reference to the petty malignity which has marked the course of "Liberals" when in power. We cited, among other things, the spiteful doings of F. T. Dubois in obtaining a change of names of postal towns in Idaho, so as to annoy the inhabitants because they are "Mormons." On this the organ remarks that we are "fretting because the people of Idaho are having their postoffices named to suit themselves instead of the Mormon Church in Utah."

It will be perceived that this is a deliberate falsehood. What we complained of was the changing of names against the wishes of the people, who had already