

Arid Lands.

The adjourned meeting of Monday evening convened at the city hall last evening. I. N. Towne was called to the chair. The committee appointed at the previous meeting to draft resolutions reported the following:

Whereas, The attorney general has construed a clause of the provisions of the act of October 2, 1888, entitled, An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses, etc., under the head of "appropriations for the United States geological survey" with reference to the designation or selection of sites for reservoirs, ditches and canals for irrigation purposes, that thereby all lands capable of cultivation by irrigation are reserved from sale, and hence not open to entry under the desert land act, homestead, preemption or other acts, and;

Whereas, That construction stops all settlement, and reclamation of such lands, and strikes a fatal blow to our prosperity, and leaves the territory of Arizona in its natural unsettled desert state, barring all inducement to investment, and

Whereas, Many entries have been made in good faith since that act, and tens of thousands of dollars spent in the reclamation of lands, and the construction of canals and ditches which is lost if this construction prevails,

Resolved, That we demand the immediate repeal of that provision of the law, or that Arizona be excepted from its provision. That we ask no government aid, simply that the land laws, the desert and homestead acts particularly, be retained, and thereby all lands will be reclaimed that can be profitably, and all ditches, canals and reservoirs will be built by private enterprise that would be profitable to the government to do. We demand repeal of this law, and then to be let alone in our struggle with the desert, as we have demonstrated that we can make the desert bloom without government aid, if not injured by bad legislation.

The committee also recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That this meeting create a standing committee of fifteen, empowered to take such means as they may deem best to promote the repeal of this law.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion a committee consisting of Judge Wm. H. Barnes, Gen. Theo. F. Wilson, Dr. F. H. Gooden, was appointed to submit a number of names of citizens of the county to the chairman, Col. Towne, to enable him to appoint such persons as may be best qualified to carry out the objects of the meeting.