

CORRESPONDENCE

AFFAIRS AT CAMP FLOYD.

CAMP FLOYD, April 21, 1860.

HON. E. SMITH—DEAR SIR:

The weather here during the past few days has been quite pleasant, thus affording every facility for advancing with the preparatory arrangements for the removal of the troops, which are being vigorously pushed forward.

The order and discipline enforced are truly gratifying and speak in high terms in favor of the commanding officer, Bvt. Col. C. F. Smith, and his associates. There is, I believe, a general feeling of congratulation among the troops composing the companies ordered from Utah, at the prospect of leaving, as they call it, "this God-forsaken country." Their stay here is esteemed by them as tho' it were a term of banishment.

Fairfield, adjoining Camp Floyd, presents an unusually business-like appearance. Trade is brisk and speculating on a small scale is carried on extensively. Money is somewhat scarce, as is usual about the expiration of the month and just before pay-day arrives.

In consequence of the projected removal of the troops the theatre, which has afforded them much amusement during the past winter, and all its fixtures, being principally owned by the soldiers belonging to companies ordered to march, will be either disposed of at a great sacrifice, or left as a *bonus* to those remaining.

The performances have been very creditable, considering the disadvantages under which they have labored. The actors, though soldiers and required to perform their regular camp duties, will compare favorably with those of other parts and some of them would unquestionably rank as stars in the best theaters.

The scenes daily occurring at Fairfield are quite in contrast with the order and quietness of the camp. While at the latter place you will seldom hear of a row or of a shooting affray, in Fairfield such things are of daily and frequently of hourly occurrence. Probably in London or New York, even in their worst "points," could not be found a more revolting state of affairs than now exists at the town called Fairfield; and, if names, so far as practicable, are given to designate or imply some property or quality of a town or other thing, it must be conceded that Fairfield is altogether out of taste.

The past two weeks has been most prolific in its record of casualty, outrage and crime—the most notable instances of which I will give you in the order of their occurrence.

On the 4th inst. in a dispute at a gaming table, Frank Garvey drew a pistol and fired two shots at one "Curley" the bar tender, neither of which took effect; upon which "Curley" returned the fire, mortally wounding his assailant in the left breast.

On or about the night of the same day, a passage was cut through the adobies into the stable of M. C. Rumney and a valuable horse stolen.

A day or two afterwards, while under the influence of depression of spirits, a clerk in a company of the 7th Infantry committed suicide by blowing off the top of his head with his musket.

On Sunday, 15th, four soldiers were publicly whipped for desertion.

During the cavalry drill and while making a grand charge, a horse ran off and, coming in collision with a heavy freight wagon, was knocked down, throwing his rider some distance and so injuring him that his life was despaired of. The horse died two or three days afterwards. Another man was thrown and broke his leg.

At daylight, one day last week, a wagon arrived from Provo and stopped at a house of ill fame kept by a man named D— of Springfield notoriety. The wagon contained a woman, her two children and a girl about eighteen years of age, who had been induced, by flattering promises, to come to this place. Upon learning the character of the house designed as their future residence, they refused to leave the wagon, venting their outraged feelings in bitter cries, which excited the sympathy of many bystanders. The wretched perpetrators of the abduction escaped coats of tar and feathers, which some had threatened, by taking themselves off. The women were taken charge of by Esq. Wells, who doubtless will do them justice.

This execrable traffic in women, however, (one hundred dollars being the price offered for each female delivered at that infamous establishment) is not the most destable feature of the peculiar institution of modern civilization, as exemplified at and around Camp Floyd. I am fully assured that there are at Fairfield, many honorable men and possibly virtuous women, but this fact has been most clearly demonstrated in the history of the past few months, that virtue in either men or women in this place is exceedingly rare.

Gold is good and useful; but, when men are disposed to barter even the most sacred rights and desecrate the most endearing ties to accumulate money, or to gain what they term a "good living," it is withered to a curse and truly becomes the "root of all evil."

An assault was made upon one Stevens, from Cedar Fort, a night or two since, by some dozen fellows, who, having dragged him from his bed, beat him with clubs in a most unmerciful manner and left him for dead. He had just returned from California and if reports are true there were things transpired

during his absence which were the immediate cause of this brutal assault.

In a quarrel between two Mexicans, one of them stabbed the other several times, inflicting mortal wounds and, when in the act of fleeing, was shot dead by a person standing near by.

Such are a few rough jottings from memory of incidents transpiring in this sink of prostitution, drunkenness, gambling and every species of pollution.

I may write you again, should anything of interest occur.

Respectfully, &c.,

OCCASIONAL.

FURTHER ACCOUNT OF INDIAN HOSTILITIES.

BRIGHAM CITY, April 19, 1860.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—

The Indians who assaulted the man on Friday last, near King's Fort, fled after committing the deed, and came to a party of their tribe camped near Brigham city. Genl. West sent orders to Col. Cummings & Capt. Nichols to arrest the desperadoes. Shortly after receiving the order Capt. Nichols was informed by a friendly Indian, (if there is any such) that the guilty Indians were then in camp, but a short distance from our city. Whereupon he repaired with a small posse to their lodges to ascertain the facts and make the arrests. After some conversation with their chiefs, in which the Captain explained to them his business, and requested the chief to give up those who had committed the deed, which they were unwilling to do. Captain Nichols then left their camp and on passing through the city one of the supposed guilty was pointed out to him, whom he caused to be arrested immediately and taken to the office of Judge Smith, and one man only placed over him as a guard. In a short time three other armed Indians came to the office, rushed in and released the Indian in custody, alleging that he was innocent, and in a few moments a number of warriors were in the city, whooping and yelling, having loaded rifles in their hands, apparently anxious for a fight right on the spot. After a short consultation they desisted, fired their guns in the air, shook hands, and left for their wigwags.

The next morning as soon as possible they left, taking up their line of march northward, acting very saucy, firing their guns over and around dwelling houses, and surrounded a vacant house belonging to Sheriff Cutler, and fired about a dozen rounds into it, stole two horses that night from Mr. Chester Loveland, and four the next night from the Willow Creek Settlement. Their conduct upon the whole, evinces very unusual hostile feelings, and while traveling through the settlements north, they were singing war songs, whooping, yelling, firing guns and challenging everybody for fight.

In regard to affairs in the north, the weather is cold, and the farmers are only about half through seeding, it takes all day for cattle to fill themselves on the range, those that work have yet to be fed.

As ever,
J. C. WRIGHT.

FROM GREEN RIVER COUNTY.

Extracts from a letter, received from a traveling correspondent, dated Millersville, Green River county, U. T.:

April 10, 1860.

ED. NEWS:—We left Great Salt Lake City on the 21 inst. at noon, in company with Gen. Eldredge and others for the States. That night we camped near Lamb's mill on the Parley's Park road. The next morning, before daylight, snow commenced falling and continued without cessation through the day, making the traveling very bad, as the snow was soft and deep. The company had to hire ox teams to take their wagons through the Park and over to the Weber.

At the mouth of Echo we met with J. L. Stoddard and others from Farmington who were waiting for us, and with whom we have traveled, in company, thus far.

Yesterday evening, four or five of the company stopped at Fort Bridger on business, but had not been there two minutes before one of the company, Isaac Bullock, was knocked down twice, and two others struck by a man who was an entire stranger to them. The cause for this unceremonious pugilistic manifestation was the hatred of the operator to the Mormons, of which community he supposed that they were members. They thought best to leave as soon as convenient, of course not very good natured, tho' no one was badly hurt.

From what they saw and heard, they readily came to the conclusion that it was not a very safe place for any person who was suspected as being a Mormon. All hell is evidently "out for noon" in this region and those passing this way will do well to govern themselves accordingly.

At the mail station on Muddy, twelve miles west of Fort Bridger, we saw thirty sacks of mail matter, which, the keeper of the station informed us, had been there about two or three weeks. Many of the sacks were badly torn and papers and pamphlets were scattered about the warehouse as if they were of no use or value. We saw papers and periodicals directed to citizens of Great Salt Lake City, and others to Camp Floyd, among those that were thus scattered about. Such mail conveying would not be tolerated long in any other country or part of the Union, but for Utah anything will do, and be all right seemingly, excepting the transportation of the mails

across the continent according to contract, and we shall probably find other deposits of mail sacks before reaching the frontier.

The season in this part of the Territory is cold and backward. The whole country is covered with snow and the roads are very bad.

The company is now moving ahead all well. R. L.

LATEST NEWS FROM THE EAST!!

By the eastern mail which arrived on Sunday dates from Washington to the 30th and from New York to March 31st were received.

Congress was still harping on the favorite topics with no prospect of settling those questions which distract the nation and threaten its dissolution, and will no doubt sever it in twain ere long unless a more amicable adjustment is made in the premises, than the fierce denunciations of some of the most ultra partisans portend.

In the House lately, Mr. Noell made a few remarks on the bill heretofore introduced by him, proposing to withdraw from the people of Utah the power to make their local laws through an elective assembly. If the House should attempt, by direct legislation, to suppress polygamy, they would fail, for they would not strike at the root of this festering sore on the body politic. He said that organized Territories gain their power to legislate from Congress, but Utah should be an exception and, instead of a Legislative Assembly, the power should be invested in some other tribunal which would protect, not only the inhabitants of Utah, but the rights of the nation.

On the 28th of March, the House resumed the consideration of the bill reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, suppressing polygamy in the Territories of the United States.

Mr. Branch proposed to strike out all declaring polygamy criminal, and retaining only so much as annuls and declares void all the laws of Utah sanctioning and permitting polygamy. He suggested to his Democratic friends that, if they could render polygamy criminal, they could render that twin relic of barbarism, slavery, as it is called in the Black Republican platform of 1856, criminal. He repeated that he could not vote for the provision to make penal laws applicable to all the Territories of the United States.

Mr. Clark, of Mo., said the Committee on Territories are contemplating the propriety of parcelling out that Territory to the other Territories, so that the people of the latter may have power to suppress polygamy and other enormities.

Mr. Branch thought these territories would not have sufficient population thus to control the subject. Whenever the people of a territory show themselves unfit for self-government he would take from them all control of their affairs. It was useless to dabble in dirty waters below the spring head. They should repeal all laws shocking to the moral sense of the country.

Mr. Nelson, who reported the bill, was desirous that a vote be taken.

Mr. Barr moved to lay the bill on the table, which was negatived—19 against 149.

Mr. Logan proposed a substitute, to repeal the law establishing the Territorial Government of Utah.

The House then passed to the consideration of other business, without further action on the bill.

ANOTHER ARREST.—Deputy Sheriff Whipple of Utah county, having arrested R. Swazey of that county who had been indicted for larceny by the Grand Jury, late in attendance on the Probate Court for Great Salt Lake county, brought him down and delivered him over to Sheriff Burton yesterday. He was admitted to bail to appear at the June term of said court for trial.

ERRATUM.—In our last number, in the article headed "Municipal Appointments," "Inspector of Weights and Measures" should have read—Inspector of Spirituous Liquors.

PREACHING AT THE CAPITOL.—On Sunday morning, March 19th, says the *Evening Star*, divine service was performed in the Hall of Representatives. It having been announced that Rev. Thos. H. Stockton would preach, long before the hour of service the floor of the House was crowded and the galleries filled. At the hour, Rev. Mr. Stockton began his discourse, taking for his text the words—"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." The discourse was characterized by the eloquence for which the reverend gentleman has been so noted for more than a quarter of a century. Mr. Stockton is very feeble, and his discourse was delivered while sitting in a chair. In the course of his sermon he referred to the fact of his having served as Chaplain twenty five years ago, and called over the names of the great men who had passed from the House, the Senate, and Supreme Court, commenting eloquently and touchingly upon each individual. Once during his sermon, warmed with his subject, he arose from the chair and remained upon his feet about two minutes, but his strength failed him, and he resumed the sitting posture.

TABERNACLE.

On Sunday, April 22, at 10 a.m., Elder Wilford Woodruff addressed the congregation on the necessity of the Elders being inspired by the Holy Ghost when they stand forth to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ; argued that the people must have the Holy Spirit with them constantly, in order that they may grow in the light and knowledge of the truth, that by keeping it within them, they may be enabled to magnify their callings and positions in the kingdom of God.

In the afternoon, Bishop Edwin D. Woolley, made some remarks on the simplicity of the gospel; referred to his contemplated visit to the Eastern States and said that he hoped to go and come with as good a feeling as he now enjoyed.

Elder Orson Hyde made remarks on the necessity of working righteousness and doing all we could to build up the kingdom of God.—Warned the Saints against the temptations and snares of the adversary, and spoke of their liability to be overcome by him, hence the importance of having the wisdom of the Almighty to assist them, of being filled with integrity and clothed with the garments of righteousness.

President Brigham Young spoke of the beauties of the true system and sciences of life; said that the blessings of pure religion are as much superior to the systems of men as the taste of pure honey is to that of the dirt in the streets. Reasoned on family government, the necessity of obedience to union, of union to harmony, and of each and all being under the immediate control of the spirit of the gospel, that they may continue to be of one heart and one mind. He complimented the Saints on the increase of patience and integrity among them. Admonished the brethren to be faithful and diligent until we can return and build up the centre stake of Zion, and there receive the reward due to our labors.

—Resolutions have been introduced into the Pennsylvania Legislature contemplating the purchase of that portion of Virginia known as the "Pan Handle." It empowers the Governor to appoint three commissioners, to meet a similar number to be appointed on behalf of Virginia, to negotiate such cession. The Pennsylvania commissioners are to report the terms and conditions, if any are agreed to, to the next session of the Legislatures of the two States.

—In some of the Western counties of Pennsylvania, the people are in a state of rebellion against the taxes laid to pay the interest on bonds issued to railroads.

—The Richmond Dispatch says that homespun clothes are becoming so fashionable with business men in Virginia, that the factories in different parts of the State find it impossible, with their present facilities, to fill the numerous orders that pour in upon them.

—The Hibernian Hall, Charleston, is to be the head quarters of the Douglassites during the convention.

—Two disreputable females in Syracuse, N. Y., recently chartered a couple of hacks, and each with a party of female friends, proceeded to a piece of woods, some little distance from the city, where they alighted and had a regular fight, which lasted for half an hour, and until one of them cried enough. The only male spectators were the hackmen, and they describe the battle to have been such as was never witnessed in the annals of the prize ring.

—A Southerner who resides in Detroit, Mich., has, it is said, opened an agency in that city to enable fugitive slaves in Canada to return, if the wish to their owners in the Southern States.

—The house of Spencer De Witt, of Oxford, Iowa, was burned on the 2d March. Three of his children, between the ages of three and nine years, perished in the flames.

—The bridal-bed, the prison and the grave were each represented on a train of cars which left Pontiac. There was a bridal party, four prisoners bound for Jackson, and a funeral party with a corpse. So says an exchange.

—It has been decided by the United States District Court for Iowa, lately sitting at Keokuck, that the Rock Island Railroad Bridge is a public nuisance, and its removal was decreed.

—One thousand persons, it is said will attend the Charleston Convention from Illinois.

The best Remedy for Rheumatism—Hall's Sarsaparilla, Yellow Dock and Iodide of Potass. 8-6m.