

A DISCOURAGING PICTURE.

Extracts from an Address, unanimously adopted by the People's Meeting, at Bozeman, Montana, to the Voters of Lewis and Clarke County.

As is usual when no vital issues divide parties, the contest has ceased to be one of principle, and has become simply a scramble for office. Earnest and true men retire in disgust from the arena of politics and their places are filled by a lot of hungry cormorants, who jostle each other in the struggle for power and pelf.

Each party exposes the depravity of the other, and furnishes indubitable proof that corruption is spreading into almost every department of the government and every avenue of public life. Our leading Representatives in Congress suddenly grow to be worth their millions. Public life is becoming a highway to fortune, instead of necessitating a career of honorable poverty, as in former days. Everywhere corrupt rings and monopolies prey upon the industrial interests of the country—Clayton & Co., in Arkansas; Moses & Co., in South Carolina; Sanborn & Co., in New York; and Shepherd & Co., in Washington, have in turn startled the country by their bold and unscrupulous disregard of every principle of honesty and decency. The careers of such men are without a parallel in the better days of the Republic, and only find their counterpart in the shameless robberies of Tweed & Co., in the Democratic city of New York.

The good men of the country are everywhere clamorous for reform, but no reform is possible while undertaken through the agency of present political organizations. Party lines only serve to divide good and true men upon dead issues; while demagogues and office-seekers use them as a means to worm themselves into positions of honor and profit.

It is idle to vote resolutions in favor of retrenchment and reform, unless we take the necessary steps to accomplish such a result. The Democracy controlled for years the county of Lewis and Clarke, and involved it heavily in debt. Although burdensome taxation was imposed upon the people, yet, the revenues were dissipated with but few beneficial results, and a large public debt was also created against the county. The Republican party came to the rescue, pledged to retrenchment, and profuse in its professions and promises. They have proved, however, simply a new swarm of hungry flies, equally as bad as the first, and on the first day of September last had swelled our county debt to \$148,550.30. The debt now amounts to over one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.

With taxes growing heavier every year, and our county indebtedness daily increasing, with interest alone accumulating upon us at the rate of more than twenty thousand dollars per annum, there is nothing ahead of us but *Insolvency or Reform*.

It is idle to look to either of the political parties, with their swarms of hungry politicians, for any substantial reform. True reform can only come from the people.

Our criminal docket is one of the great sources of expense to us. The expenses caused by our Probate and Justices Courts alone, from September 1, A. D. 1871, to September 1, 1873, was about \$19,500. This does not include the cost of our criminal docket in the District Court. Every criminal sent to jail costs the county \$1.50 per day for board, besides incidentals, fees of officers, etc. Besides this the cost of supporting the paupers and vagrants in our midst has been about \$18,000 in the two years ending September 1, A. D. 1873. It is estimated that at least one half of these paupers and vagrants are the victims of intemperance.

We have a Territorial population not exceeding twenty thousand, and yet we have as many murders, breaches of the peace, and general crimes committed as an ordinary community of one hundred thousand people. What is the secret of this? There can be but one answer. In the town of Helena alone there are more saloons and gambling halls than will usually be found in a place of five times our numbers. Here is the secret of the vagrancy and crime which crowd our hospitals and jails, swell the criminal docket to

undue proportions and burden our young community with a great and growing indebtedness. Five men, unrestrained by any law, are pouring poison into the mouths of our people—firing the blood and filling the brain with madness, where in an ordinary community there would be but one, and that one subject to wholesome restrictions. To stop vagrancy and crime we must put a check to this system of unrestrained poisoning which fills our streets with the clamor of madmen, and too often paints them with blood.

It would be cheaper to support out of the public treasury the men engaged in this business than to allow them unbridled license to carry on their traffic in our midst.

Two criminal trials alone cost this county about thirty-five thousand dollars. We allude to the Territory vs. "Shavy" for the killing of Forkey, and the Territory vs. Bull for the killing of Peele. Both of these cases had their origin in the bar-room and bawdy house. Both men were acquitted on a second trial, although both were hung after leaving the Territory for offences subsequently committed.

If you deduct from our county indebtedness the expenses of these criminal trials, and expenses incurred on account of paupers, vagrants and the prosecution of offences resulting from intemperance, it would leave us free from debt, and with a handsome surplus in the treasury.

It is a grave question as to how far a few men have the right to carry on a traffic to the injury of every one else, demoralizing society and burdening the community with debt and consequent heavy taxation.

Let us then, fellow-citizens, resolve to act in concert upon the following propositions, viz:

First—That we will support none but sober men for office.

Second—That saloons should be licensed, subject to such conditions, and surrounded by some such safeguards as above suggested.

Third—That laws should be enacted closing all saloons upon the Sabbath day, and also upon election days.

Fourth—That the men who fill our offices should be selected from our best citizens, and not from adventurers and mere office-seekers who have no interest in common with the taxpayers of the county.

Fifth—That the office should seek the man and not be sought by him.

As in many of the States, our sheriffs, constables, probate judges and justices of the peace should receive a fixed salary for services in criminal cases, and all fees received in excess of this salary should be paid into the county treasury. Under the present system a grave suspicion is often excited that men are arrested and imprisoned for trivial offences, simply for the sake of the fees involved. As long as the compensation of officers in criminal cases depends upon the amount of business done, there is danger that they may forget that arrests and imprisonment, though a source of profit to themselves, will cost the county from fifty to one hundred dollars per capita.

Our Territorial judicial system also needs a radical reformation.

We trust, fellow citizens, that you will realize the absolute necessity of a thorough and radical reformation in political affairs. The coming political struggle is one of momentous interest. It is a conflict between good and evil, light and darkness, heaven and hell. It will determine whether Montana will take a step in advance or fall back into primitive barbarism. It will decide whether this Territory is to be a fitting place to which good citizens may emigrate with their families and rear up their children, or whether our better class of citizens shall continue to fly from our borders, and the Territory be given over to the dominion of the bar-room and bawdy-house.—*Bozeman, Avanti Courier.*

PLENTY OF STEALING, BUT NO THIEF.—This is how the *Ploche Record* comments upon some things happening at the seat of the federal government—

"That sanctified —, Harlan, alluding to the report in the *District frauds*, says that 'while undoubtedly there was much wrong doing, not a single wrong doer could be found.' We expect that, as the housemaid said about the broken

crockery, the cat must have stolen those ten or twelve millions of dollars. It could not have been that Christian —, Shepherd. Those fellows who are careful to pray in public places never steal!"

Correspondence.

Accident.

LOGAN, July 12th, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

On Saturday, July 11th, 1874, at about 3 p.m., Alexander Hill, a lad about eleven years old, the son of A. B. Hill, of Wellsville, who owns a saw mill some twelve miles south of Paradise, met with a severe accident. At this mill the lad in question was handling some lumber, when, through some unexplained inadvertency, his left hand came in contact with the saw when in motion, and was terribly lacerated, being cut on both sides, the forefinger severed, and a severe flesh wound being inflicted a little above the elbow of the right arm.

Immediately after the accident the lad was brought to Dr. Ormsby, junior, at Logan, a distance of twenty-five miles, who dressed the wounds, and disjoined the fragmentary finger close to the hand.

In consequence of so much of the flesh being torn away from the rest of the fingers, the protruding bone can only be healed over by the process of granulation, which in all probability will take much time.

JAMES A. LEISHMAN.

Caneus in Tooele.

TOOELE, July 13, 1874.

Editor Deseret News:

The county delegates from the following precincts, met in the Court House this morning at 10 a.m., viz., Tooele, Grantsville, Mill, Stockton, and St. Johns.

The meeting was organized with W. C. Rydall, chairman, E. Broad secretary. Adjourned till 2 p.m., when the following named gentlemen were presented as candidates for the next August election—

George Atkin, representative; John Rowberry, probate judge; G. W. Bryan, selectman; W. H. Lee, sheriff; Thomas Atkin, Jr., county treasurer; Richard Warburton, county recorder; A. Galloway, superintendent of common schools. Unity was the order of the day.

I will say this much, that there is not a neater or more truthful set of records kept in this or any other Territory, than these kept by the present incumbent in office for this county, Mr. Warburton, and we bespeak him a large vote from his friends and acquaintances.

The other nominees are gentlemen, and as such are known to a large majority of the citizens of this and other counties, and as the poet has it, "An honest man is the noblest work of God!" On this base we have fought, and intend fighting to the end.

RURAL.

By Telegraph.

AMERICAN.

UTICA, N. Y., 13.—The body of Louise A. Kilburn, aged 24, was found in Fish Creek at Toberget, on Sunday, under a fifty foot precipice; she was evidently murdered by being thrown over the bank into the creek by the murderer.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., 13.—Reports are reaching here of a great flood in Hampshire Co., caused by the breaking of a reservoir at Middlefield. The reservoir covered nearly a hundred acres, and though built nearly thirty years ago was considered safe. A large number of farms, gardens, and mills along its course were inundated by the flood. The heaviest loss is at Chester. Dr. Heman's loss is estimated at ten thousand, the water having swept through a story of his Emery mill and carried off a large amount of emery. The Hanum Edge Tool Company is entirely destroyed; the farms of Mr. Lucius and Newton Cowles are badly damaged. Several buildings were floated off from their foundations or flooded. The high water continued at Chester nearly two hours, and the heaviest loss is experienced in the destruction of roads and bridges. To replace the bridges will cost about ten thousand, besides several thousand to repair the roads. The Bos-

ton and Albany railroad is very badly damaged for a distance of nearly twenty miles. Every bridge between Middlefield and Huntington is wholly or partly destroyed. The road bed is also washed out in many places and travel between this city and Albany will be suspended for several days. The wires are still down beyond Chester, and no definite information has been received as to loss of life at Blush Hollow, which it is now thought must have been considerable.

A special to the *Union*, regarding the flood, says that about twelve years ago the second reservoir was built, three miles further up the stream, by Church Bros.; this was smaller than the lower one, and covered from fifty to eighty acres. The upper reservoir, with an immense volume of water, made a break about four rods in the highway to the dam of the lower reservoir. The upper reservoir was built of earth, and the whole dam suddenly gave way. Harvey Meacham was at the reservoir, and speedily warned the people at Blush Hollow. His warning, and the fact that a part of the lower reservoir dam gave way, prevented loss of life, and very much lessened the damage done. The Boston and Albany railroad suffers heavily. At the Middlefield switch a long two-arch stone bridge, under which is the Middlefield brook and turnpike, was swept away, also a considerable length of the track, amounting to 200 feet. It will cost about \$100,000 to repair this break, and will require considerable between the Middlefield switch and the Chester depot. There are eight railroad bridges, five of which are either unharmed or but slightly damaged, two of these are stone, costing each \$75,000. The three bridges are so badly damaged as to need to be entirely rebuilt; one of these is of stone, costing forty thousand; of the two others, those next to Westchester, one was to have been replaced this fall by an iron bridge. The loss on these bridges is about \$150,000 each. The damage to the company's bridges and roads will amount to \$150,000, and the loss from the idleness of the road much more. The highway between Blush Hollow and the Middlefield switch was entirely obliterated, and six bridges were carried away. No lives are known to have been lost, though several persons are missing. Heavy rains had been prevailing in that section, which were the immediate cause of the break.

Two unoccupied houses were swept away at the Middlefield switch, also barns, and among other things, a tenement occupied by Leon Jones Deaux and family was carried off, and the inmates barely escaped. The arch of the bridges above Chester alone saved the village from destruction by staying the flood. The water had nearly spent its force before reaching Huntington, so that little damage was done there. Below that point some low lands were flooded. In Blush Hollow, the first house, occupied by Charles King, the water passed through, doing great damage to the floors and windows. The large house of Alfred O'Brien was nearly overwhelmed. Oliver Blush's house was badly torn by the torrent; a large building used for storing wood was also swept off. The dam of Blush's three story mill yielded to the torrent and poured down on the mill, which appeared like a shell. Blush's carriage, felloe and shaft manufactory was split open at the bottom, and the dam by the side of it went down. Church's mill below this was nearly undermined, but still stands. Several less important structures were more or less seriously damaged. The roads and bridges suffered also, and the road bed is now a torrent. Nobody appears to be missing. The latest accounts give the total loss at \$350,000.

The paymaster train on the Fitchburg railroad, consisting of an engine and a passenger car, was thrown from the track on the Troy and Greenfield road, at Shelburne this p.m., near the bridge over the highway, and the engine and car went down a fifteen foot embankment. There were nine persons on board, all but two of whom were more or less hurt. Mrs. Wm. H. Swift, of Boston, was probably fatally injured. Miss Annie Wood, of Woodbury, had a rib broken. Mr. Webster, assistant road master, had his hip broken; the engineer and fireman were bruised.

McONELLSBURG, Pa., 13.—Yesterday morning Mrs. John Moor, living ten miles south of here, while

in a state of mental aberration, shot and killed her husband, who was asleep, and then, with a razor, inflicted a horrible wound upon the head and neck of one of her children, and with a pitchfork almost killed another.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., 13.—During a severe thunder storm on Saturday, the house of Levi Harrison, in Frumbull County, was struck by lightning, and Harrison, his wife and daughter were killed.

CHICAGO, 13.—A fire at Streator, Illinois, early on Saturday morning, originating in the *Free Press* block, destroyed that building and a large number of stores and offices; the loss is estimated variously, but will probably reach \$150,000, with small insurance. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

A fire at Rockford, this morning, destroyed B. Miller's livery stable and contents, and a number of other buildings; loss probably \$20,000.

The *Tribune's* special says that a fire at Manistee, Mich., this p.m., destroyed six stores and part of their contents; during the fire the proprietor of the Eagle Hotel was detected firing his building, and was arrested; the hotel was burned. The total loss was \$20,000, partially insured.

NEW YORK, 13.—Mrs. Dwyer, who killed her three children in Brooklyn a few weeks since, has been committed to the Poughkeepsie Asylum.

Tilton has written to the Plymouth Church investigating committee, a letter in answer to that by Beecher, requesting them to investigate Tilton's allusions against his character. It says that the writer was unaware that this committee was a private one, when he met them by appointment last Friday, and having been advised to preserve silence about the worst features of the case, he had done so in order to facilitate a moderate presentation of Mr. Beecher's offence and apology, and that, rather than prolong it, he had merely stated that his letter to Dr. Bacon was written in self-defense, and that having defended himself thereby he was unwilling to proceed further against Mr. Beecher without further provocation and necessity. The letter concludes as follows:

"Such necessity is now laid upon Mr. Beecher himself, in the publication of a direct request by him to you, to inquire, officially, into his character as affected by his offence and apology, to which I referred. He thus offers me a direct challenge, not only before your committee, but before the public, which I hereby accept. I therefore give you notice that I shall prepare a full and detailed statement, in accordance with the terms of your committee's invitation to me, to furnish such facts as are within my knowledge touching the matters which compromise the character of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. I shall be ready to lay this before you within a week or ten days, or as soon thereafter as I shall find myself able to set the numerous facts and evidences in such strict array, that I can cover them each and all with my oath to their exact truth, sworn before a magistrate. I await the appointment, by you, of a day mutually convenient for any presentation of this statement in person before your committee; in the meanwhile I shall make public my present note to you, because Mr. Beecher's letter, to which this is a preliminary response, has been made public by him.

With great respect, I am, etc.

"THEODORE TILTON."

General orders from Adler's military division in Mo., announce that in consequence of the hostile attitude of the Comanches, Kiowas and Cheyennes, existing orders, fixing the limits of that department, are modified so as to extend the southern line of that department to the main Canadian River. Gen. Pope, commanding there, has written a letter to the Governor of Kansas, showing that the whole frontier of that State is lined with troops, and that damage by Indians seems impossible. Gen. Pope says that he has no sympathy with trading firms, who have established posts or rumshops along the Pan Handle of Texas, to trade with ruffians who have depredated with Indians, and excited them to this outbreak, and they must expect no aid from him; he says they should be punished, not protected. Gen. Pope writes to Sherman that only stragglers and remote settlers cannot receive the fullest protection.