

GEORGE Q. CANNON,  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Tuesday, September 27, 1870.

## THE PROVO OUTRAGES.

WE had a call this morning from Mr. Black, Private Secretary of His Excellency, Governor Shaffer, who handed us, for publication, a copy of a letter which the Governor had addressed to Gen. P. R. De Trobriand, the General commanding the Post at Camp Douglas. We cheerfully give it the desired publicity:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
Salt Lake City, Utah Territory,  
Sept. 27th, 1870.

General:—Several days have now elapsed since the outrages perpetrated by a portion of your soldiers at Provo, and as far as I can learn no action has been taken on the part of the military authorities to bring them to punishment, nor has there been any official report made public by the officer in command, sitting at the facts.

I have waited thus long in the earnest hope that you would have taken such action in the premises as would convince the citizens that the soldiers were stationed at Provo to protect and not destroy. Hearing nothing like an explanation from the commanding officer there, and feeling that the outrages were those that should be followed by swift and certain punishment, I now, as Governor of the Territory, sworn to protect the citizens, ask of you to deliver up to the civil authorities, for execution, private or non-commissioned officers, engaged in the outrages, that I may see that they are properly tried, and if convicted, punished. I insist on this for the reason that much feeling exists in this community against the Federal officers and soldiers, growing out of this transaction, and that feeling is extended to all the Federal officers.

As Governor of the Territory I am sworn to execute the laws, which, if possible, I propose to do, and in so doing I shall have as high regard for the property and persons of the citizens as of any other class or denomination. In short, I know no distinction and shall know none as between citizens of this Territory. All are entitled equally alike to whatever aid, assistance or protection I can give them. In this case the perpetrators of the outrages are men employed by the Government, and paid for their services, to be the special guardians of the rights and liberties of those among whom they are stationed, coming here at the expense of the Government to aid and assist the civil authorities in securing to all men their rights, in place of which they have taken it upon themselves to execute all manner of violence and mob law, to satisfy their own individual and personal grievances. If the U. S. soldiers cannot fulfill the high object they were sent here for, then far better, for the sake of the credit of the nation and the American arms, we let alone to ourselves.

Respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Signed) J. W. SHAFFER,  
Governor U. T.

To Gen. P. R. De Trobriand,  
Camp Douglas, U. T.

We are glad to learn that the Governor is becoming aroused to the importance of taking steps in relation to the outrages which have been perpetrated at Provo. It is now five days since they were committed, and until we received the foregoing letter we had not heard of anything being done by the civil authorities to show that they felt the least interest in the arrest or punishment of the rioters. This being the case, can it be a cause of surprise that there is "much feeling" in this community, or that many have entertained the idea that this whole affair was a conspiracy on the part of the "ring," and that the soldiers who were engaged in these wanton attacks upon the houses and persons of citizens were "put up" to the job, and had, as they stated, "men to back them?" We find nothing, thus far to warrant the belief that the men who engaged in these deeds of violence had any "individual or personal grievances" to satisfy; but there is sufficient evidence to be found in the affidavits and those which we published yesterday, and those which we publish to-day, to prove that the soldiers felt that they were carrying out, in their own violent way, their part of a scheme of which they appear to have had cognizance. All their expressions sustain this idea. And can this, under circumstances, be wondered at? When men in authority say the "Mormons have run this Territory long enough," and then trample upon the laws to get the "running of it" into their own hands, is it much to expect that the soldiers, with such an example before them, will try and help forward the scheme? They are not acquainted with tricks of law, with subtleties and all the ingenious dodges resorted to by the shrewd and cunning; but they are acquainted with brute force; they are familiar with the use of weapons, and with ignorant daring they proceed, to the execution of that which, if they were more subtle, they would accomplish, for the present at least, in a less violent but more dangerous and dastardly way.

It is now upwards of twenty years since the settlement of the town of Provo. During that period there have been several Indian difficulties of a serious character, in all of which the citizens there, with the occasional help of their fellow citizens from other places, under the direction of the General commanding the militia of the Territory, have been able to defend themselves and maintain their foothold. But after the lapse of a fifth of a century, at a time of profound peace, when the settlements are numerous and comparatively strong, a detachment of troops must, forsooth, be sent there as special guardians of the rights and liberties of the settlers! A fort must be established, and strict measures be taken to maintain quiet! Is not this a most extraordinary proceeding? Is there any

good reason to believe that the citizens of Provo who, for twenty years past, have protected themselves, their families and hearths from lawless violence, are not able to do so to-day? Of this there cannot be any doubt. But it does not suit the "ring" who are bent on "running the Territory of Utah" to have it so. Failing to get the Cullom bill passed, they have employed ceaseless efforts to get troops scattered and forts established in the settlements of this Territory, by which the people could be overawed and themselves be aided in carrying out their infernal schemes. The soldiers have known this, and have doubtless thought they were performing their part of the programme by committing this violence, especially when they received, as we are informed they did, two wagon loads of beer from the liquor establishment in this city which was recently abated.

As will be seen by a dispatch in another column General De Trobriand is at Provo, and is doing all in his power to ferret out those who were engaged in the riot. Whatever feeling there may be in this community about these outrages there is no disposition to attach blame to the commanding officer of this post. Since the officers of the regular army have been in charge here we have been fortunate in having gentlemen in command. They have known what was due to themselves and the citizens. Strict discipline has been maintained, and infractions upon the rights of citizens have been promptly punished. We speak understandingly when we say that none but kind feelings have been entertained by the community for several years past towards the army officers generally. We trust that the thorough investigation of these Provo outrages will have no effect to change these feelings; but exhibit in still stronger light the disposition of the officers in command to hold themselves aloof from all schemes and cliques.

## THE PROVO RAID.

Deposition of Verne Halliday.

On being sworn said, on the night of Sept. 22nd, 1870, I was at Mr. Macdonald's house. I heard a noise in town. I heard, as I supposed, a roar near the Co-operative store. I dressed myself and by this time I heard the soldiers at the front of the house. They commenced swearing, and broke in the windows and doors of the house. They entered the house. It was dark. I supposed there were sixteen soldiers, I stayed up stairs with the women and children, who were very much alarmed. I heard the soldiers say they intended to visit Alderman Sheet's house; also Mayor Smoot's and Pres. Young's; and they appeared to be in a hurry to accomplish all they had designed or planned out. I heard five shots fired, all the windows and doors of the lower story of the house were broken, and they also sacked the lower rooms, throwing the bed clothes out of doors.

Richard Breckerton.

On being sworn said that about twelve o'clock on the night of Sept. 22d, I was waked up by Mr. Halliday, who informed me that the soldiers had made a raid on the town. I immediately awoke two men who were living with me; we went over the street towards Macdonald's house, and I saw the soldiers break in the windows and doors of Macdonald's and Alderman Sheet's houses. I heard them say they would pull down Sheet's house and hang him, and then would go to Mayor Smoot's and President Young's houses. Upon breaking the windows of Alderman Sheet's house a shot was fired in the direction of Mayor Smoot's, and the soldiers retired and went down west. I found that the Co-operative shoe shop had been broken open, and the window and door were smashed in.

William Bird.

On being sworn said that on the 22nd, while coming down from Mr. Bachman's I heard music at J. W. Cunningham's house. I went over and heard them singing and playing music. After a while, one soldier, whom they call Haws, came on and said that he had been hurt; the soldiers went up stairs and got their guns. There were about fifteen or sixteen guns. They went down the street and brought up Alderman Miller to Cunningham's house; they then went back and took him back. One soldier came back and said they had strung up Alderman Miller by the heels under the shed. I went down the street for the purpose of letting him down if possible, and the soldiers arrested me and took me with them. They gave me Alderman Miller's album. I saw them break in the Co-operative shoe shop. When at the meeting house I slipped the door, the fence and got away. I went down Center street and met Mr. Harrison and others near the Third ward school-house. Myself and A. Penrod went over towards Cunningham's, when the soldiers shot two shots at, but missed me about half a foot; I laid down. The soldiers then started up the street towards Camp. They arrested me at Bachman's store. I met Ezra Oakley, and a soldier going east, near McAuliffe's, he was not a prisoner, but was walking along with the soldier. I afterwards met Mr. Gray, and A. Penrod, and myself went into Dr. Roberts' store. Mr. Gray went up east. There were about fifteen soldiers in the crowd that took me; they had bayonets on their guns, and one of them punched me in the back with a bayonet, saying I did not walk fast enough. I saw Ezra Oakley about three-fourths of an hour after. I saw him with the soldiers at the Third ward school house. I saw him at Cunningham's after the soldiers had gone. E. Oakley was at Cunningham's from about seven o'clock to eleven o'clock; he drank beer with the soldiers, and was with them about all the time. There seemed to be two of the number who took charge of the crowd that had me in custody, and directed the movements.

John M. Cunningham.

On being sworn said several days previous to this difficulty some of the soldiers came to my house, and one of them, called Jack Minkey, said they

wanted to have a party in Provo, and to engage thirty supper; they tried to hire Cluff's Hall and Bullocks house, but did not succeed; they wanted me to hire Alderman Miller's hall, and said that they could hire. I saw Alderman Miller, but his terms were more than they would give, I told them that they could not get the hall; they engaged the supper at my house on the night of the affray. While at the supper table a crowd of soldiers came in with their guns and bayonets and ran up stairs; afterwards I was called out and found that some fifteen soldiers had Alderman Miller in custody, and wanted to prove by me that Miller had rented the hall and afterwards refused. I denied his having done so. They then took Alderman Miller away home again. I told them at this time they must not do this or they would repeat it. There were three parties of soldiers, twelve or fifteen in one, and another party of about fifteen who had guns and pistols with them, and some of the third crowd had guns. The man who appeared to be the leader was a sergeant, named McMannan I think. I talked truly saucy to them. After they came back from the affray they swore and threatened considerably and started off to camp. I never heard any threats by any of the soldiers prior to this time. I do not know where the soldiers got their whiskey; they took two kegs of beer from the beer wagon. My boy knows where they got the whiskey. The soldiers who had guns came about half past nine o'clock. The most of them had pistols. There were about forty or fifty soldiers in all. The first crowd was peaceful until the second crowd came. I apprehended danger at this time, but having spoken to Mr. John, in the morning, requesting that some policemen be around, I thought all would be right. After they left with Alderman Miller I heard several shots fired and a good deal of shouting and hollering. They fired some shots near my house about 1 o'clock in the morning. Henry or Jack Minkey, a drummer, had considerable to say at the time they had Alderman Miller in custody. I would recognize the leader of the crowd. Mr. Minkey engaged the supper. They did not rent my house for a dance, but did dance while the music was playing. The Smith boys played for them while the supper was being got ready.

Joseph A. Thompson.

On being sworn said that on the evening that the riot occurred I was at J. M. Cunningham's house. About 8 o'clock a party of soldiers came for supper, about fifteen of them. Soon afterwards I was invited to go up to the room, where they were assembled; they had three or four musicians, who played three or four tunes. A song was called for. A soldier sang some songs. Mr. F. Bee sang some songs on being called for. Afterwards they proposed a cotillion which was danced. I went down into the lower room. I then went home and came back; I went up stairs and found a keg of beer was being drawn by a soldier. There seemed to be a little confusion; a soldier, whose name I heard was Haws, came in and said Sergeant Waite had been cut up by the Mormons. Mr. Morris, the man that carries the mail between Camp Rawlins and this city, R. Roberts, and myself tried to convince this party that nothing of the kind had transpired or we would have heard of it. I went into the lower room, and my little girl came to me and said the soldiers had Ald. Miller and were going to hang him. I went out to see where he was and what was going on. I saw a little group down the street, below the hotel. I went to that party and was asked to give the countersign; I told them I had none. I went on and they presented a gun to my breast and said I was a prisoner. I said I wanted to speak to Jack Minkey; they held up the gun and I asked what they were doing with Ald. Miller, (there were five of them) and what occasion they had for having him. Ald. Miller said they could have his hall for fifteen dollars. I told him they must be mistaken as I had no such conversation. I asked if they were doing this by authority of their officers, and they said they were running this shabang themselves. I asked who was the leader; they said "Capt. McMahon." They said I could go back, and they started with Ald. Miller, and said I could not go with them. After they had got out of sight I heard a good deal of hollering and shooting, and heard them say, kill the G—d—son of a b—h. In about five minutes the noise ceased and I didn't know where they had gone. As I returned to Captain Cunningham's two soldiers hailed me; they had guns and demanded the countersign; I said I had none and was an American citizen and did not want to be stopped. I passed up the street, crossed the race to the log, got to the house and found Abraham Durfee. I told him that from the noise I had heard that Ald. Miller was probably injured and left in the street and asked him to go with me. We went around the block. As I passed the Alderman's house I saw some person among the corn shocks and called to him; it was Ald. Miller. We had a little talk and found he was all right. We went to Captain Cunningham's and loaded a shot gun. Cunningham and myself went out and were hailed again and the countersign demanded. We went back to the house, afterwards took the gun and started for home. I found a policeman on the corner of Carter's block and stayed talking to him of what had taken place, and remarked that I thought some of the soldiers were in the back yard of Cunningham's. At this time the soldiers ran a wagon across the ditch, which afterwards proved to be the beer wagon, and they went away. I think that one load of beer had been sold to them before this time, as they used it freely—the Philadelphia wagon; but the other man did not sell any beer. I did not hear any of the soldiers say they were going to have any fuss or run the town, at that time or any other previous time. I could not recognize any of the soldiers except Minkey. One party of about eight that came had their guns with them. I think some of them came on foot. There would be about twenty-five or thirty in the house, at one time, but think there were more out in the street.

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LIST OF LETTERS  
Remaining in the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, on the 26th day of Sept., '70; which, if not called for within one month, will be sent to the Dead Letter Office.

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Angel A  
Andrus M  
Arnold J S  
Barnes J H  
Bartlett E  
Bennett E  
Blair W W  
Butterfield J K  
Burbridge J W  
Burdett T  
Bradford L H  
Cahmore E  
Childers F C  
Cherrington J  
Clark W B  
Clements L B  
Cook D O  
Cordage O F  
Cowell R  
Crosby H 2  
Culver F O  
Cushion J  
Crowley W M  
Davis D L  
Davis R  
Duncombe D  
Dunconson D M  
Dunconson Mr 2  
Dunconson F  
Elliott E  
Eliott J F  
Eliott C L  
Fife A  
Fox C H  
Forbes H  
Friedman E  
Fuller M A 2  
Gibson J  
Gibbs G F  
Gofforth W  
Gorman T M  
Gronlund N  
Green H  
Handison J  
Henderson J  
Harris H H  
Harvey J C  
Henderson J  
Heath T  
Hill J A  
Hirst J  
Hyde J E  
Jensen H  
Jensen Cap J  
Jones T T 2  
Kedington Mr  
Kimball H P 3  
Kimball C  
King A  
Lawson J  
Lawsen J  
Rab A B  
Beebe C  
Bledsey E R  
Brown A  
Brown H D  
Cann A  
Chaley S J  
Christensen H  
Clark O  
Fisher M A  
Fielding M A  
Faltouth E  
Harwood H  
Horrocks C  
Jensen S  
Madison M  
Madsen M  
Olsen M  
Peads P  
Pead W  
Polson H  
Sutan J  
Spencer E  
Spencer S  
Thompson T  
Timbley E  
Wheelock E B  
Young W G

LADIES' LIST.

Jensen S  
Madison M  
Madsen M  
Olsen M  
Peads P  
Pead W  
Polson H  
Sutan J  
Spencer E  
Spencer S  
Thompson T  
Timbley E  
Wheelock E B  
Young W G

Persons inquiring for the above letters are requested to state when advertised.

J. M. MOORE,  
Postmaster.

## Special Notices.

WANTED.—A House GIRL, at Mrs. Geo. Dunford's, 17th Ward. d261-3

WANTED.—A Woman to do general Housework. Apply to H. S. BEATTIE, Eagle Emporium. d261-4

WANTED.—At the DEERET NEWS Office 1,500 feet of Long-leaved Pine, 7 or 14 feet long, 4 inches thick, and from 4 inches wide upward. Also a lot of Maple Plank 2 1/2 inches thick, and from 8 to 10 inches wide. d261-5

Fruit Wanted.—A limited amount of fruit wanted for preserving purposes, at Deereet News Office. d261-6

PURE CANDY.—Greatest variety in town made by H. WALLACE. d216-1m

## Z. C. M. I.