



ELIAS SMITH, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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## Who is in Fault?

During the last three or four weeks many complaints have been made by agents and others, in counties south of Great Salt Lake, that they were not in the regular receipt of their papers, and, as might be expected, in such cases, they wish to know who is in fault or blame worthy, that some proper remedy may be applied to prevent such occurrences in future.

We do not know positively who are to blame nor who to censure for such failures, but will endeavor to find out and, when known, will expose the guilty and assist in applying such antidotes as the circumstances may require. Mail failures are exceedingly annoying, and in our opinion there is too much carelessness manifested on the part of some of the postmasters, between the Timpanogos and the Sevier, to ensure a safe and speedy transit of all mail matter passing through their offices.

## The California Mail.

The mail from the West arrived here on the evening of the first instant, within schedule time, as we suppose, but if the dates of California papers received by it can be relied upon as to the time of its starting from the other end of the route, it certainly has been a long time on the way, no dates having been received from beyond the Sierra Nevada later than the 31st of March.

With the time made by the carriers on that route we, of course, have no fault to find, and even if the mail was occasionally a day or two behind time no one would complain, at least we would not, if, when it came, the papers expected by it were received; but why it is that, when the mail is brought through so quickly, our California exchanges are often three or four weeks behind time, we do not positively know, but some postmaster, post-rider, or other person or persons at or beyond Carson valley could probably tell, if they would, the cause of delay, which, however, might not be very satisfactory to the public. From appearances, it is quite certain that the mail on the other end of the route is not carried regularly, or, if it is, the mail bags brought over the mountains are occasionally filled with "emptiness," as it is hardly probable that the wayside caching operation is resorted to on that, as on the eastern route, in order to save expense and make time in bad weather.

**THE PONY EXPRESS.**—At half past two p. m. on Friday last, the overland express arrived from the East, inside of time, as usual. It travels swiftly whether it carries much news or not.

We have been informed that there were only three or four letters for this place by the last trip.

**THANKS.**—The Hon. W. H. Hooper has our sincere thanks for his favors kindly forwarded, but which like other papers from the States, are not regularly received, in consequence no doubt of the "way mail" system. The last mail brought us but two papers bearing his frank and those were not recent dates, and should have been received weeks ago.

**ARRIVAL OF MERCHANT TRAINS.**—A mule train of nine wagons belonging to, and freighted with merchandize for Mr. Charles Crisman of this city, arrived from California, via the Southern route, on Wednesday last, and a train of five wagons belonging to Mr. F. Granger, of California, freighted with goods for Mr. Nixon, one of the most enterprising merchants in this city, arrived on Saturday last, all in good condition.

Gen. Jefferson Hunt, late from San Bernardino, has also arrived at Provo with a similar train of merchandize by the same route.

The trade with San Francisco this season by citizens of Utah, has not been inconsiderable, amounting to many thousand dollars.

## Daring Outrage.

On Thursday morning last, Jacob Hunter, a lad about 13 years old, son of Mr. Isaac Hunter of this city, was sent by his father, on a mule, to hunt up some others that belonged to him which were running on the Jordan range. After an unsuccessful search, the boy concluded to return home, and while on his way and within about one and a half miles of the Jordan bridge, on the Island road, he was assaulted by a ruffian who rode up to him and demanded some provisions which the boy had taken with him, and which were tied to the saddle, enough to last him over night, in the event that he had to remain out on the prairie, as is often the case with persons hunting stock on that range.

The boy, on demand being made, refused to give up his lunch, upon which the villain told him that, if he did not, he would stab both him and his mule. The boy still firmly objecting, the villain drew a dirk and stabbed the mule, inflicting three wounds in the right shoulder, one of which was very severe. He then, by force or by the boy's permission, obtained his rations, and rode off at full speed. The lad then dismounted from the wounded and bleeding mule and with difficulty succeeded in leading it home.

The boy describes the villain, who thus assaulted him, as being about a middling sized man, wearing a black, broad brimmed hat, a blue over coat, trimmed with fur, and black cloth pants. He was disguised with a green veil, tied over his face so that his features were not discernible, and was riding a horse which the boy describes as being between a bay and a gray color, which, he says, he can identify, if he ever sees it again.

The fellow was coming from the north and riding very fast, his horse wet with sweat and much fatigued, and, on obtaining the provisions, he continued his course southward at a rapid rate.

He was unquestionably one of those stock dealers that have been so plenty in this vicinity of late, who, from the force of circumstances, had been camping out till he was greatly in want of food, and should have had a few rations of lead issued to him there and then. It would have satiated his appetite better than any thing else that could have been applied.

## Another Fatal Occurrence.

On Thursday last, May 3d, as we have been informed, John W. Brown, son of Ebenezer Brown, of Draperville, in this county, and one of the missionaries that went to the Sandwich Islands in 1856, was instantly killed by the falling of a rock while engaged with ten or twelve others in digging a canal to convey the waters of Dry Creek to the Draper settlement for irrigating purposes.

The deceased was engaged alone in undermining the rock which were on the upper line of the canal, when it suddenly gave way and came down upon him with a crash, carrying his body with it, shockingly mutilated, from fifteen to twenty feet down the side of the hill, near the foot of which the canal is being dug. The rock was a granite, and said to be twelve feet long, six feet wide, and five feet in thickness.

He was a young man of promise, and much respected by all who were acquainted with him, and especially by his co-laborers on the islands of the Pacific, where he faithfully discharged his duties as a missionary, and from which field of labor he returned home to his father's house about one year ago. He was in the 23d year of his age, and leaves a wife whom he married in November last, and a large circle of relatives, and friends who mourn his loss.

## Latest from the North.

The Indians who have lately committed some depredations in Weber, Box Elder and Cache counties, and manifested a hostile disposition, are, according to late accounts, suing for peace and promise to return the horses they have stolen, and quit stealing in future.

Peace with Indians is far more preferable than war, and if those Indians in the north can be induced, by fair means, to quit their thieving operations and live in peace with the citizens, it will be a good thing for the new settlements in that part of the Territory. They allege as a cause of their being mad that the superintendent has not kept his word with them. The Doctor, of course, knows more about that than we do, and will unquestionably deny the charge.

## Snow Storm.

From Wednesday to Saturday last the wind blew tremendously most of the time, changing constantly from one point to another, and when rushing from the north or north-west it was exceedingly cold and uncomfortable. Snow was falling on the mountains all day on Sunday, and in the evening it commenced falling in the valley, continuing during the night, and on Monday morning in places where it had not melted by the warmth of the ground, it was six inches deep. Fruit and shade trees were heavily laden with the snowy covering, and their branches were bent downwards like weeping willows, some of them broken, and every thing as far as the eye could reach, had most decidedly a wintry appearance.

In the course of the day much of the snow disappeared, but there was plenty of it remaining at evening, not only on the roofs of buildings, but on the ground, in the fields and gardens and even in the streets. At night it was very cold, and there was any amount of ice to be seen on Tuesday morning.

The weather has now, although it is yet cold, more the appearance of spring than it had before the storm.

## From the Plains.

We have been favored with the perusal of a letter from Gen'l Eldredge, written on the 22d of April, west of Laramie and mailed there on the 24th.

His company, which left here April 2nd, was getting along very well, all things considered. They had experienced some stormy weather and encountered much snow, especially at the Pass and on Rocky Ridge.

On the evening of the 18th, while encamped four miles below the crossing of the Platte it commenced raining and continued all night. The next morning the rain turned into a snow storm, in consequence of which they laid by all day, and from thence to Laramie the roads were very bad.

## More Stealing.

The stealing operations which for some weeks past were measurably suspended in this vicinity, have again been resumed and stock is changing owners occasionally, quite unceremoniously.

Among those who have been the sufferers by the thieving propensities of some of the lazy scoundrels that are loafing about by scores, is Gen'l Ferguson, one of the editors of the *Mountaineer*, who had a fine horse taken from his stable on Sunday night last.

We hope the thief or thieves will be caught and tried by a jury of printers, who, no doubt, would give them JESSIE, according to their ideas of law, if they were not limited by the statutes.

**AN ACCEPTABLE PRESENT.**—Bishop Rowberry, a few days since, was the recipient of fifty well bound Bibles, liberally donated by the firm of Miller, Russell & Co., for the use and benefit of the Sunday schools in Tooele, which was certainly an acceptable present and one from which good results may be expected to flow. We do not believe that the rising generation in that county, notwithstanding some have thought otherwise, need enlightening more than they do in other places, neither that the people generally are destitute of the scriptures, but there may not be a sufficiency of the kind of bibles donated for the use of the scholars attending the Sunday schools there, and those thus beneficently furnished will, of course, be very acceptable and the donors will, no doubt, be gratefully remembered by the recipient and those benefited by the gift.

**COMPLIMENTARY.**—Mr. C. H. Oliphant, nurseryman, will please accept our thanks for the select assortment of flower seeds presented to us and for the almond tree, which we trust will "grow and flourish" under the supervision of those to whom committed for cultivation, for the uses for which they were intended.

Mr. Wagstaff will also accept our thanks for similar favors.

## WOOD! POTATOES!!

A few cords of FIRE WOOD will be taken on account in this office if delivered soon; also, a few bushels of POTATOES.

**LOST!**—One of those pigs brought in last week. He is of dark sandy color, with small black spots, about 4 or 5 weeks old. Please leave information of his whereabouts at this office.

## The Conventions.

The result of the Charleston Convention which met on the 23d ult. is not yet known here. The news was expected by the pony express which came in on Friday last, but on its arrival, those who were expecting it were disappointed. The next express, no doubt, will bring the announcement of the result of the political game that was played by the aspirants for the honors to be conferred, and their respective friends who were in attendance to assist in the grand shuffle, that was of course made to effect the issue.

The Baltimore Convention, according to appointment, meets to-day, and on the 16th the Chicago Convention is to assemble, when another great effort will be made by the aspirants for Presidential honors in the Republican ranks, and there are not a few who consider themselves qualified for that high office, among the Republicans as well as among the Democrats.

To secure the nomination by their respective conventions is one thing, and their election by the people afterward, is another, and under present circumstances, the latter is certainly attended with a great deal of uncertainty. The circumstances are such that the victorious candidate can not win the race without making some extraordinary efforts to obtain that which he is seeking after.

The chances of success between the Democratic and Republican parties are at this time so even, that a mighty effort will be made by the one party to retain, and by the other to secure the ascendancy; and if there is not some big things done before next November by each of the contending factions, the expectations of many will not be realized.

As a matter of course, the people of Utah are not much interested in the result of the conventions, neither in the result of the coming election. If their prayer for admission into the Union as a free and independent State, is not heard and favorably answered, they will have no voice in the matter, and can look on and watch the progress of the fight, caring but little who loses or who wins; neither do they care of what kind of timber the respective contestants construct their platforms, nor whether they have in them one plank or twenty.

**COPPER.**—We have recently been presented with a specimen of virgin copper, found in Cedar county, some ten or twelve miles from Camp Floyd, which those well versed in mineralogy, to whom it has been exhibited, pronounce equal to the best they have ever seen.

If it exists in that vicinity, as is alleged, in any considerable quantities, it would probably pay well for working, if any felt disposed to engage in such an enterprise, but in these days, gold is the principal thing sought after, and a man who would engage in copper mining in an inland country like this, might by some, be considered in a state of insanity.

**DEPARTURE.**—Elders Lyman and Rich left for the States, with a few others, on Tuesday last. They only went out a short distance that evening, where they could get feed for their animals and the next morning proceeded on their journey in company with several other mule teams from the south, going to the Missouri river for machinery and other freight.

—John W. Forney, clerk of the House of Representatives, at a serenading after his election poetically compared himself to Mazeppa, of the Ukraine, immortalized in Byron's poem. One of the New Jersey papers thinks the comparison a remarkable happy one.

—Daniel E. Sickles, it is rumored, is about to quit the "filthy pool of politics," and connect himself with some church, having experienced a change of heart.

—During the past ten years the business of the French Post Office has more than doubled. In 1848, the year of the last Revolution, it amounted to one hundred and twenty-two millions of letters. Last year it reached two hundred and fifty-nine and a half millions. In ten years the sale of stamps rose from twenty-one millions to two hundred and seventeen and a half millions.

—One of the late discoveries in the application of the Daguerrean art, is that of the transfer of photographic portraits to porcelain surfaces. The inventor of this new method is a German residing in this country, where he has been very successful in the practice of the art.