

our fault or neglect, we may be sure the people will hold us to swift and exacting accountability.

THE OATH.

The oath I now take, to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States not only impressively defines the great responsibility I assume, but suggests obedience to the constitutional commands as a rule by which my official conduct must be guided. I shall to the best of my ability, and within my sphere of duty, preserve the Constitution by loyally protecting every grant of Federal power it contains; by defending all its restraints when attacked by impatience and restlessness, and by enforcing its limitations and reservations in favor of the state and the people.

Fully impressed with the gravity of the duties that confront me, mindful of my weakness, I should be appalled if it were my lot to bear unaided the responsibilities which await me. I am, however, saved from discouragement when I remember that I shall have the support, counsel and co-operation of wise, patriotic men, who will stand at my side in cabinet places, or represent the people in their legislative halls.

I find also much comfort in remembering that my countrymen are just and generous, and in the assurance that they will not condemn those who by sincere devotion to those services deserve their forbearance and approval. Above all, I know there is a Supreme Being who rules the affairs of men, whose goodness and mercy always followed the American people; and I know He will not turn from us now, if we humbly and reverentially seek His powerful aid.

THE GRAND JURY REPORT.

The grand jury for the February term presented the following report to Chief Justice Zane this afternoon and were discharged from further service.

They commenced their labors on Monday, February 6, 1893, holding two sessions daily, Sundays and holidays excepted. Up to this date they had investigated fifty-four complaints as follows: Nine United States cases, 45 Territorial cases, finding the following indictments: Three United States cases, 28 Territorial cases, and ignored 6 United States cases, 17 Territorial cases.

The report proceeded: We visited the penitentiary and are pleased to report that we found it to be in a very clean and comfortable condition. The food furnished the prisoners was examined and found to be excellent in quality and quantity. The bread was notably good. The arrangements for lighting appeared to be deficient, and it is suggested that the buildings and grounds be lighted by electricity. A sewerage system is necessary and should be immediately put in, connecting with each cell; also the present water closets and bathtubs are much too small—should be twice as large.

The main yard in which prisoners exercise was in a very muddy condition. It should be cemented; the cost would not be great, as gravel could be had upon the penitentiary grounds for nothing. The heating of the main building is by steam, of the warden's

apartment by stoves. If a pipe was run into the warden's apartment, and it fitted up for steam heating, it would save considerable expense for fuel.

The government should provide a sewing machine, knitting machine and a cobbler's outfit. A cobbler's outfit would enable prisoners to mend their shoes, and would cost about \$36, while the saving would amount to hundreds of dollars. As it is now, when the soles of shoes are worn they are thrown away. If barbed wire was stretched along the top of the wall it would be an additional preventive to stop prisoners scaling the wall and escaping.

The library attracted considerable attention. Its shelves were well stocked with choice books. Believing that education is an important factor in the reforming of criminals, we speak of this library, that those who have books to spare may know of its existence.

Some time ago a prisoner established a school, and several inmates learned to read and write. There are persons now confined in the penitentiary competent to teach, and it would be well if the Marshal would establish the school again and make it a rule that attendance of say one hour per day be required. This would be beneficial to all concerned, and relieve to some extent the monotony of prison life. There are a number of holdovers at the penitentiary, mostly held in territorial cases. If possible, arrangements should be made to have these territorial holdovers kept in the county jail. They are not, properly, a charge on the government.

CITY JAIL.

The less said about the city jail the better. We visited it, and we regret that we did, as we never believed that for years human beings would be crowded and huddled into a prison that should be properly called "black hole." We suggest, in the interests of common humanity, that the City Council spare no efforts to tear it down and build a decent jail in place of it, and while a new jail is building that, if possible, arrangements be made to confine prisoners elsewhere.

COUNTY JAIL.

At the county jail there was considerable complaint about the food that is provided the prisoners. We were informed that they are only allowed bread and molasses and water at the noon meal, and that vegetables were only provided twice a week. We were shown the meat to be used at supper, which was inferior in quality, and a general complaint was made that the meat was often tainted. We would suggest that if the sheriff is not allowed sufficient compensation to provide the prisoners with good, plain food, it should either be increased or the system changed, and instead of allowing the sheriff so much per head for food, a bill of fare be prepared by the county physician, and the sheriff be authorized to buy the provisions and present sworn bills to the court.

COUNTY POOR HOUSE.

The county poor house, although very much crowded, was found to be clean and well taken care of. The food furnished the inmates is plain but good, and the supplies were found to be of good quality. We are informed that

an addition to the building is contemplated, which should not be delayed, as we found each of the sleeping rooms occupied by from three to five persons. We were informed that indigent persons have been given orders on stores for food, which have been used otherwise. We would suggest that some cheap cottages be built on the Poor Farm, and to prevent imposition such persons should be supplied with food by the superintendent of the Poor House. There are also a number of county patients at the hospitals, also poor families, that are being kept by the county, that could be kept at the Poor House, at less expense, if proper buildings were to be constructed.

DEFALCATIONS.

As directed by the court, we examined the defalcations by a clerk in the office of police justice, Salt Lake City. Our investigations made it clear that the city auditor should have additional help, and we recommend that the City Council provide it.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT COAL.

Complaints have come to us in regard to parties being charged for coal which was not delivered. We have looked into these complaints, and regret our inability to indicate such action as will afford the needed relief. We can only suggest as did the former grand jury that the city authorities be active in enforcing laws already passed to correct the evil, and where they are deficient amending them as soon as possible. And here, though probably beyond the province of this report, we may express the hope that measures may be taken by the citizens as will hasten the day of cheap coal. The price charged for this necessary commodity is very high, being in the winter months, when employment is scarce, an evil and almost a wrong, as women and babies are made to suffer from cold; and if the owners of these coal companies cannot be moved by feelings of humanity, the citizens should organize and protect themselves. If necessary get authority from the next legislature to issue county bonds to build a road. Cheap coal means the relieving of much suffering, the building up of manufactures, and to a large extent general prosperity.

Having concluded our labors, we respectfully ask to be discharged.

J. J. THOMAS, Foreman.

E. R. ELDRIDGE, Clerk.

MARCH 2nd, 1893.

THE OUTERMOST planet, Neptune, is two and three-quarter billions of miles from the sun, nearly thirty times as far as the earth; and yet with this immense span intervening, Neptune is quite neighborly compared with the nearest of the fixed stars—Alpha Centauri—which is so far off that the finite mind cannot even faintly conceive of the immensity of space separating us. If President Cleveland had an office to give out for every ten million miles of that space, he would be compelled to recognize the Utah contingent, as even then there would not be enough men and women in the country to hold them all. We merely mention this to show the vastness of the thing.