

element with destruction has, through a series of unlucky circumstances, been brought to a state of abject poverty, and now lives on the charity of those whom he endeavored to defraud. This is in fulfillment of a prediction made by a prominent man in the Church a few years ago. T. O. Peter Michelsen is the acting Bishop of Weston at present, and there are 106 families of Saints residing in the ward. Only a few of these, however, live on the townsite. The Union Pacific Railway Company, who are shortening their Utah & Northern track by building a "cut off" road by way of the canyon through which Bear River passes from Cache Valley into the lower country, bring their new road within half a mile of Weston. This will undoubtedly be a benefit to the town. A separate branch organization, known as Dayton, embracing the settlers on Five Mile Creek (five miles north) belongs to the Weston Ward.

Tomorrow I go north to attend the Bannock Stake quarterly conference which will be held at Lewisville next Sunday and Monday.

ANDREW JENSON.

OXFORD, Bingham County, Idaho, May 16, 1890.

### THE GRAND JURY REPORT.

The grand jurors filed into the Third District Court May 24th, filed the following report, and were discharged:

To the Hon. Third District Court:

Your grand jury for the April term, 1890, beg to report as follows:

We have been in session 27 days. We heard 37 cases and examined about 144 witnesses. We found 24 indictments in Territorial cases, 8 for grand larceny, 2 for assault, 1 for assault with deadly weapon, 3 for forgery, 4 burglary, 1 bringing stolen goods into this Territory, 1 embezzlement, 1 abduction, 2 administering poison to animals, 1 resisting an officer, 1 robbery. Under United States cases 8 indictments, 1 for bigamy, one bigamy and adultery, 2 adultery, 3 unlawful cohabitation, 2 fornication.

The following cases were ignored: People vs. Caroline Peterson, grand larceny.

People vs. Thomas Haumhan, sodomy.

People vs. John Orr, disturbing the peace.

United States vs. Robert Condie, adultery.

United States vs. W. H. Folsom, unlawful cohabitation.

We examined into the matter of the Summit County jail, against which complaint was made. We found the same an unfit and unsafe place in which to keep prisoners. There are no iron cages or cells—nothing but a defective stone wall. There have been twelve or fifteen prisoners escaped from said jail during the last three years. We would recommend that the proper authorities be instructed to procure some good iron cages at once, for temporary use.

A committee was appointed to in-

vestigate the matter of non-payment of jurors' and witnesses' certificates in Territorial cases, and find they are not paid because the funds appropriated for that purpose in 1888 are exhausted. There seems to be no provision for the payment of certificates issued by the United States commissioner's court. This is a matter that ought to receive attention as soon as possible.

A committee was appointed to examine into county affairs, and reported as follows:

#### EXHIBIT A.

The grand jury appointed a committee to investigate county affairs, and we submit the following:

The books and papers of the county treasurer, county clerk, and county assessor were placed at our disposal, and from them the facts set forth were gleaned. The treasurer's books show the following figures of receipts and expenditures for the year 1889:

Jan. 1, To balance.....	\$ 24,971.54
31, " sundries.....	21,259.70
Feb. 28, " ".....	5,739.46
Mar. 31, " ".....	4,585.25
" merchant's license.....	356.25
April 30, " sundries.....	3,628.53
May 31, " ".....	7,307.40
June 30, " ".....	811.05
July 31, " ".....	1,626.25
Aug. 21, " ".....	2,593.25
Sept. 30, " ".....	1,502.15
Oct. 31, " ".....	21,598.88
Nov. 30, " ".....	61,263.61
Dec. 31, " ".....	22,156.55
	\$179,701.92
March 31, by sundries.....	\$ 8,942.33
June 30, " ".....	11,356.65
Sept. 30, " ".....	17,678.52
Dec. 31, " ".....	74,859.15
Balance.....	66,865.21
	\$179,701.92

The assessment book shows that for the year 1889, the taxes collected for Territorial, county, and school purposes in Salt Lake County amounted to \$238,718.05, of which the county was entitled to one-half, or \$119,359.02. The books on January 1st 1889, showed that \$19,580.29 was still due and unpaid on this account.

The expenses of the county for the year 1889 are made up of the following items:

Costs of inquests.....	\$ 367.60
Jail.....	1,888.85
Abstracting.....	3,698.99
Compensation.....	19,658.35
Pauper and insane.....	7,628.40
Criminal expense.....	1,626.85
Roads, rivers and bridges.....	25,005.95
Books, stationery, etc.....	2,263.05
Expense, light, fuel, etc., at county court house.....	2,632.05
Court house and improvement land account (purchase from city).....	41,250.00
Infirmary.....	2,300.01
Property sold to probate judge on tax sales.....	798.47
Prison.....	2,478.67
Relief.....	867.44
Total.....	\$112,688.36.

Vouchers are on file in the county clerk's office, covering all of the above items.

The expense for abstracting amounted to \$3,698.99 for 1889, and \$1,713.53 for 1888, making a total of \$5,412.52 up to January 1, 1890. In 1888 the Territorial legislature passed an act compelling county recorders to perfect abstracts and to keep them up. Under this law, the present recorder presented a petition to the county court on October 1st, 1888, and it was ordered "that the

necessary books be obtained, and Probate Judge Smith is authorized to arrange for the amount of compensation to be paid to the clerks to do the work." The work was at once begun, but it has never been pushed to completion. The records up to 1882, and from June, 1888, to the present time have been abstracted, but there remains to be done the work from 1882 to 1888, and the recorder states that the work will probably be completed by the time his term expires, next autumn. When the work was first undertaken, many more clerks than are now engaged on the work were employed. The Recorder explains that he was compelled to cut down the force on the county abstracts by reason of the lack of accommodations. Employees of private abstract companies demanded the room, and so the county has had to suffer. Since the passage of the law of 1888, three or four private abstractors have finished their books, but the county recorder appears to be in no haste to complete the county abstracts. It appears to us that these books, to be of value to the public, should be completed without further delay.

Another point in connection with these abstracts we deem of some importance to the county. While the recorder may use these abstracts paid for by the county, for the purpose of making abstracts of title for parties who demand them, the fees go entirely to the recorder, and the county receives no returns whatever. The county court should make some provision regarding the matter, if not prohibited by the Territorial laws.

Concerning the lack of accommodations, of which the recorder justly complains, it may be said that all of the county offices are overcrowded. The assessor has but one small room in which he transacts his business, and no wall room capable of displaying the maps which are constantly in use. The collector's office has no accommodation whatever for the public, and when four or five taxpayers assemble together to pay taxes the office is crowded. The recorder has men and women working in the probate court room even during the session of the court, and the hallway on the second floor is utilized by abstractors and others connected with the recorder's office. Some temporary relief should be granted until the completion of the joint city and county building.

The county is sadly in need of a more complete set of maps in the county assessor's office. Many additions have been platted in the city during the last year, of which no maps can be found in the assessor's office. Much of the valuable time of the assessor is also wasted by lack of proper maps. The county court from time to time orders the establishing of new school districts by metes and bounds, but as it makes no order for completing the maps in that regard, the assessor is constantly compelled to go to the records of the court to ascertain the boundary lines before he can make the proper assessments.