

Correspondence.

Territorial Government and Veto Power.

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 12, 1874.
Editor Deseret News:

A Territorial existence, such as is provided by an Organic Act passed by Congress, but nowhere contemplated in the Constitution of our country, is at best at variance with the spirit of a true republican form of government. Some men, of whom we can instance Judge Hawley, the prolific maker of interminable "opinions," as a notable example, are of the opinion that the Territories are no part of the United States. If this opinion be correct, it follows as a corollary that a citizen of a Territory has no rights which the officials sent by the government of the United States to govern such Territory, are bound to respect. Such doctrines are not calculated to cause pleasant reflections in the minds of the Pioneers who carry civilization and industry beyond the confines of old and established States and societies, into the sterile wilderness, the trackless woods, and the impassable mountains, formerly unoccupied, save by wild beasts, and herds of untutored savages; who develop the hidden wealth of the mineral and agricultural resources of our continent; who drain the marshes and make the decayed vegetation that for centuries has generated unhealthy and poisonous vapors, an active agent in producing sustenance for man and beast; who erect edifices with modern conveniences, and in accordance with the rules and art of architecture, in places where formerly savage braves executed their war dances around the scalps of their vanquished foes. Such pioneers deserve encouragement rather than proscription, and should be allowed to engage in the pursuit of happiness as contemplated in the Constitution of the greatest Republic the world has ever known. They ought to be allowed to worship the Almighty unmolested, in accordance with the dictates of their own consciences; to educate their children in the school-houses which they themselves have erected; to enact their own laws, and to choose their own administrators of such laws, provided, always, that those laws are not in conflict with the fundamental doctrines upon which the Republic is established.

Utah Territory has been settled under the most adverse circumstances. Not only has a great, unknown and barren country been developed, but it has been situated far in the interior, surrounded by hostile tribes of savages, with scanty and difficult means of communication with the rest of the Republic. Nevertheless, it has proved a great benefit to the nation. It has been a way station for other pioneers, and a store house for those who have endeavored to develop the mineral resources of one of the richest mineral regions in the world. It has been the means of making possible one of the greatest enterprises in civil engineering of the nineteenth century—the Pacific Railroad. It has opened up resources and industries that will be worth countless millions to the nation. In addition to this, it must be admitted, for it is a matter of record, that the citizens of this Territory, for twenty-seven years, have lived under the laws which they themselves have enacted, in peace and harmony, and but few crimes have been committed, and there has been less strife and litigation than probably in any other community of equal numbers, during the same length of time, in the world.

Does it not seem reasonable that one hundred and thirty thousand American citizens comprising the people of this Territory, should have the power to enact their own laws and govern themselves? It may be true that the laws heretofore enacted by them are imperfect. *Tempora mutantur, et nos mutamur in illis.* Societies grow and change with the growth and change of time, and consequently the laws should be made conformable to such growth and changes. There is no room here to enter on the disadvantages of biennial sessions of a legislature in a country like this, nor to show that the time allotted for a session is much too short. Every observer of deliberative assemblies must know that it takes some time for members that are thus convened, less of their own choice than because of the

choice of their constituents, to get to work harmoniously and understandingly, and it would certainly be much better to make the sessions longer and annual.

The greatest disadvantage, however, to a legislature is the absolute veto power. This ought never to be allowed in any community, much less in a community where the Governor is appointed by the general government and not elected by the people. In a Territory, the Governor is, in most instances, like the rest of the Federal officeholders, a stranger, and although he may be a good man, it is not in accordance with human experience that he should be able to exercise a discernment and judgment for the best interests of a whole community, equal to that of all the members of the legislature. We have had some instances of the Governor's reasons for vetoing some bills passed lately—one in relation to juries, and another in relation to district attorneys. The only seemingly valid reason which he gives for not approving the jury law is that the sheriff of one county can summon juries in another county. But this reason falls to the ground when it is known that the act itself provides that the sheriff of the county in which the court is held shall summon the jurors of his own county, and shall then go into the other counties, not to summon the jurors himself, but shall only go with the Sheriff of such respective county, who shall summon the jurors.

In regard to the other bill, the reasons he gives for his veto are very unsatisfactory. They are directly in opposition to the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Snow vs. U. S.* etc. Does the Governor think that said court erred in its decision? Does he think that the Supreme Court of this Territory is more correct in its decisions? Did he not urge, as one of his reasons for vetoing a former bill, that the decisions of the latter court were not observed in certain matters? Now it seems reasonable that, right or wrong, the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States should at least have as much weight as the decisions of the courts of this Territory, if for nothing else, at least because the former is a tribunal of last resort, and all law abiding citizens are bound to respect its decisions.

The Governor's interpretation, that district officers mentioned in the Organic Act, mean "School Directors and Road Supervisors," is not warranted by any inference from the Act itself, but seems only to be his own dictum.

The questions which have been the most prolific source of vexation to litigants in the courts here for the past three years have been in regard to the Territorial Marshal, the Jury and the Attorney General. The bills above mentioned were passed by the Legislature in order to obviate a continuance of the difficulties. And although the terrible "one-man-veto-power" has prevented said bills from becoming law, still the Legislature have, with commendable zeal for the welfare of their constituents, already commenced to prepare other bills of a like nature, with a view to get laws approved, if possible, that are calculated to remove the causes most complained of, and thus loosen the lock-jaw of the goddess of justice, remove the clogs and grease the axles of the rusty balance wheels of her scales.

NON-UKASE.

The European Mission.

By a letter to Prest. L. J. Herrick, dated Weymouth, Jan. 13, and published in the *Millennial Star*, from Bro. Wm. Geddes, we learn that he was on the ship *Cyphrenes*, which left London Jan. 10. The *Cyphrenes* put into Weymouth, because the captain had committed suicide by jumping overboard. The captain had some difficulty with the owners of the ship. It was expected that a Mr. Wood, from Scotland, would take command of the ship, and that it would leave Weymouth in the evening of Jan. 13. Bro. Geddes was on a mission to Australia.

In a letter to Prest. Herrick, dated Bern, Switzerland, Jan. 7, and also published in the *Star*, Elder Henry Riser says—

"As we have just returned from our preaching tour, which Brothers Huber, Keller and myself had gone on some three weeks ago, I thought a few lines perhaps from me would not be taken amiss. I arrived in this land on the 25th of May, 1872, and was appointed Prest. of Bern and Jura Conference. The time I have spent here has been very pleasant to me, and the Lord has blessed my labors. Up to this time I have, through the blessing of the Lord, baptized quite a number, as you may see by the annual report sent by Brother Huber to you.

"I have great joy in the knowledge that this is the kingdom of God, and that I am an instrument in his hands in proclaiming the everlasting gospel among the nations of the earth. The Lord works through his servants in these days, as well as he did eighteen hundred years ago. A circumstance happened in my field of labor, in which the hand of the Lord was visibly manifest, which I will mention here. Early in December I was on my usual trip through the Jura, visiting the Saints and bearing my testimony wherever I had a chance. I went to Auvier, Neuchatel, where I had appointed a meeting a few days previous, and had written brother Beutler, of Moiraigne, asking him to attend the meeting, as I did not expect to go up to see him before holding meeting. When I arrived at Auvier, a feeling came over me that, in spite of the cold and foggy weather, led me to go and see brother Beutler. I started for his place, and in several places on the road persons wanted me to stay over night, but I refused to do so. I felt that I ought to go and see brother Beutler that night. I arrived there in due time, and brother Beutler said that he had only an hour before that time mailed a letter to me asking me to come up, as there was a family at Convent, near the borders of France, that had expressed a desire to see an Elder from Utah. We shortly afterwards went by train to see the family, all of whom were well pleased. I bore testimony to them of the Latter-day work, according to the dictates of the Spirit of God. They listened with the greatest interest, and at eleven o'clock that night I baptized eleven souls. After that we entered into a friendly conversation, and the father of the family then told me that they had for a number of years inquired about the Gospel, and that they had learned so much that they knew they must be baptized for the remission of sins. They could not, however, find any person who was authorized to baptize them, so they went, and each one of them immersed himself in the water. A few weeks ago, after thinking over the religions of the day, he had a dream in the night, in which he was told to go to Postgasse, at Bern, and buy there a medicine named Brigham. He awoke and got up to write down the name of the medicine, and in the morning he inquired of the family if they had ever heard of such a medicine, (he never had heard the name before,) and the mother of the family told him that that was the name of the 'Mormon' leader. He thought then he would not have anything to do with it, but a voice said to him, 'But what I will, that you shall.' He said he had nothing more to say, and a little while after, by accident, a member of the family went to brother Beutler, who resided six miles distant for some work; they were led to speak about religion, and brother Beutler then gave the man a pamphlet of ours. A daughter of the family also told me that she had had a vision. She thought she was on a great body of water. A large ship was on shore, and a man standing there, calling aloud to the people in the ship to go westward. Another of the family says she has seen President Young in vision, and described to me his appearance. On a preaching trip afterwards, we visited the family, and I baptized three more of them.

"I feel well in health and spirits, as also do brothers Keller and Huber. We are united together, and all goes on very well in the Mission. We have held sixteen meetings, and baptized seven persons in the three weeks while we were together. Brother Naile is in Germany, and brother Keller at Zurich."

Show and Fine Display Business Cards printed at the NEWS Office.

Pioche to San Juan.

ST. THOMAS, Nev., Jan. 30, 1874.

Editor Record: Captain John Moss remained here with me two days—the 26th and 27th—while on his way from California to the San Juan country. I asked him to give me a table of distances from St. George to the Rocky Mountains, with a diagram of the farming and mining districts, which I forward you for publication. The distances are as follows:

	Miles.
From St. George to Kanab.....	70—
Kanab to Lee's Ferry.....	70—140
Lee's Ferry to Navahoe Springs.....	9—149
Navahoe Springs to Limestone Tanks.....	21—170
Limestone Tanks to Rye Grass.....	22—192
Rye Grass to Lee's Ranch.....	10—202
Lee's Ranch to Moon Copple (Moquis Farm).....	8—210
Moquis Farm to Sheep Camp (Pinto Creek).....	10—220
Pinto Creek to Navahoe Camp.....	12—232
Navahoe Camp to Canyon Spring.....	16—248
Canyon Spring to Red Buttes.....	12—260
Red Buttes to Pinyon Tanks.....	14—274
Pinyon Tanks to Piute Canyon.....	8—282
Piute Canyon to Robinson Tanks.....	10—292
Robinson Tanks to Corn Patch.....	8—300
Corn Patch to Bonito Canyon (Chiqueto).....	22—322
Bonito Canyon to Moss' Crossing (San Juan).....	28—350
Up the river from Moss' Crossing.....	35—385
Thence to McMillin's Fork.....	14—429
McMillin's Fork to Case Camp.....	12—451
Case Camp to Ute Ranch.....	8—459
Ute Ranch to Dolores River.....	10—469
Dolores River to West Fork of the Mancos.....	18—477

[The distance from Pioche to St. George is 100 miles, making the entire distance from here to the San Juan country, by the Moss route, 577 miles—Ed. Record.]

Moss says there is good grass and water the entire route. Gold, he says, is found on the Dolores, Miguel and Unaweep, tributaries of the Grand River, and the Mancos, La Plata and Animas, tributaries of the San Juan River. The best prospects are on the small mountain streams emptying into the Animas and La Plata rivers. The best time to get into the country is during the month of May. The Rocky Mountains, at the heads of the Dolores and Mancos, come to a point with a V, the waters of the Grand and San Juan rivers being separated by a low ridge. The Del Norte heads in the extreme end of the V. From the San Juan to the Grand River there are no mountains to cross. If you cross the mountains from either the San Juan, on the south, or the Grand, on the north, you come right into the valley of the Del Norte.

Moss has a company of nine men with him, and one six-horse wagon loaded with blacksmith's tools, mining tools, etc., etc. They also have sixteen saddle horses. He will travel the route indicated in the table of distances, and will go all the way through with a wagon. Moss came over this same route last Fall while on his way to California. No snow was found on that route. His statements are corroborated by a man well known here and at Las Vegas Ranch and Ivanpah, who was with him last year. Belden and Sebright start with a four-mule team tomorrow to join Moss at St. George. They are taking farming tools, seeds, etc.

Fry and his family, late of Ballyville, leave here with Belden, destination San Juan.

Nearly all of the Muddy settlers are sooner or later going to the San Juan country. Mr. Cullum from Illinois, brother of ex-Congressman Cullum, left Salt Lake on the 20th inst., destination Muddy Reservation; occupation, boss farmer. The Indians are very short of grub, the money that was to have been appropriated in buying them food, having been spent in transporting agents, deputy agents, farmers, cooks and old trunks to and from Salt Lake.

Dr. Bishop's mare passed here a few days since, at least I took it to be her. The rider of said mare boasted at the ferry of having hired the animal at Johnston's stable. He also stated that he had a partner by the name of Thatcher, who was some two weeks in advance of him; that he also had two stolen animals. I recollect of seeing him pass here about that time. One of the animals was a black or dark brown.—*** in Pioche Record.

NOTES FOR THE LADIES.

Washerwoman's motto—"While there's life there's soap."

"The one thing," says Jean Paul, which a maiden most easily forgets is how she looks—hence mirrors were invented."

There is no telling what that intelligent coroner's jury will do next, since it has indicted a Connecticut man for shooting his wife, whom he upon honor "mistook for a stray cat."

A New York divorce lawyer's advertisement: "Hymeneal incompatibilities, as a specialty, delicately adjusted. 'Tis slavery to detain the hand after the heart hath fled."

Barney Williams was once acting in Philadelphia, and being disturbed by a child's cries, said, "Shure there's a nurse wanted." The woman retorted, "No Irish need apply," and retired triumphantly.

The London *Lancet* is of opinion that the constant exertion of the feet in using sewing machines is injurious to the health of women. It suggests the use of steam in large sewing establishments. [Well, they should not exert their feet constantly.]

The Providence *Press* tells of a married couple who were passing a jewelry store the other day. Her attention was attracted by a "perfectly lovely" pair of earrings. Said she, "Oh, Ned, go buy 'em!" And Ned went by 'em.

The most confiding woman lives in Providence. She went to an auction, and knowing the prevalence of thieves at such places, asked a nice-looking young man to take care of her pocket book, containing eighty-five dollars. He is still taking care of it.

JOCULARITIES.

John Henry says love in a cottage often leads to a war in Ashantee.

The New York *Times* says that no form of social entertainment is more deceptive in its promises, more illusory in its pleasures, more totally unsatisfactory in its results, than a grand ball.

A New Haven editor spent a Sunday in Slawson, and attended church. When the contribution box came around he was in a doze, but on being nudged, hastily exclaimed, "I have a pass."

It is unnecessary for the Current Top of the Rochester *Dem.-Chron.* to worry over the question of "What is Honesty?" There are enough problems of real personal benefit that it could turn its attention to. *Ex.*

The dirtiest, raggedest and most grotesquely gotten-up tramp that ever visited Providence, Rhode Island, was searched, the other day, and among the mass of rags that adorned his person, were found about \$120 in postal currency.

"Sir," said the astonished landlady to a traveler who had sent his cup forward for the seventh time, "you must be very fond of coffee?" "Yes, madam, I am," he replied, "or I should never have drunk so much water to get a little."

It is said that railroad cross-ties are the circulating medium in portions of Warren Co., Ky., and taken in exchange for dry goods at fifty cents apiece, ten thousand having exchanged hands at that price in the last three months.

When old King Lear complained of the shabby treatment he had received from his daughters, after he had divided up between them, and took his place as a boarder in their respective houses, they consoled him by saying, "You may go, father, and fare worse."

Quilp and his wife had a bit of contention the other day. "I own that you have more brilliancy than I," said the woman, "but I have the better judgment." "Yes," said Quilp, "your choice in marriage shows that." Quilp was informed that he was a brute.

Speaking of law as at present violated, Rev. T. K. Beecher says: "It is extremely difficult to commit the crime of murder in such an accurate and honest way that it shall satisfy the specifications of the statute. Unless the would-be-murderer take legal council beforehand and follow instructions minutely, he will fail nine times in ten, however sincerely he may try. Anybody can kill a man, but he cannot do it in the first degree murder style without counsel and care."

A country fellow entered one of the New York banks, and walking up to the counter exclaimed: "Here I am; I want you to take a fair look at me." Without a word further he strode out. The next day the same customer re-appeared, uttered the same words, and again disappeared. The third day, at about the same time, he walked in, and, advancing to the teller's desk threw down a draft payable three days after sight. "Now," said he, "you've seen me three times; I want the money for it."