

## Proceedings of the Legislature.

Friday, January 3d. The Council met at the hour to which the adjournment was taken but there was not a quorum present, and on motion of Mr. Spencer the Council adjourned till the next day at 1 p.m.

In the House on the 3d, the following communication was received and read:

"SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
G. S. L. City, Jan. 3, 1862.  
HON. JOHN TAYLOR, SPEAKER, HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES:

SIR:—The duties of the Executive devolving upon the Secretary in the absence of the Governor, and Gov. Dawson having withdrawn from the Territory, I respectfully request that all communications designed for the Executive, be forwarded to me.

Respectfully,  
FRANK FULLER, Secretary."

On motion of Mr. Long a committee of three consisting of Messrs. Rockwood, Long and Stout was appointed to inquire into the reasons that induced Gov. Dawson to leave the Territory during the session of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Rockwood presented the petition of Louis Robinson and Joshua Terry, praying for an extension of the time allotted to them by the Legislature for building a bridge over Green river, which was referred.

Mr. Johnson presented the petition of Levi Steward for the location of a road from Great Salt Lake City, running west of Utah Lake, through Goshen and lower Salt Creek canyon to Nephi city, and asking an appropriation of \$600 therefor, which was read and referred.

Mr. Johnson presented a remonstrance from eighty-three citizens of Payson against the repeal of Payson city charter, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Long presented a petition of many citizens of Great Salt Lake county, praying for the passage of an act prohibiting the erection of fish traps in the Jordan or other rivers, and their tributaries, in this Territory, which was read and referred.

The bill for repealing certain city charters, which was the special order of the day, was tabled indefinitely. Several other bills were disposed of in the same manner.

In the Council on Jan. 4th, a communication was received from the House requesting a joint session to consider, in committee of the whole, that part of the Governor's Message relating to the direct tax imposed by Congress. The request was complied with, and Wednesday the 8th inst., at 10 a.m., appointed as the time for the holding of the proposed joint session.

Mr. Harrington presented a petition from the inhabitants of Provo valley praying for a separate county organization, with boundaries as set forth, which was read, and, on motion of Mr. Cummings, referred to the committee on counties.

In the House on the 4th, Mr. Thurber presented a petition, signed by Aaron Johnson and two hundred and thirty-one other citizens of Springville, praying for the repeal of the Springville city charter, which was read and referred to the committee on incorporations with instructions to report a bill.

Mr. Holbrook presented a bill for an act to attach Miller's Island to Davis county, which was referred to the committee on counties. Progress was made with several other bills, among which was the bill in relation to the Superintendent of Common Schools, and which was referred back to the committee on education.

Mr. Long offered a resolution which was adopted instructing the committee on elections to take into consideration the propriety of bringing in a bill to change and equalize the representation of the several counties in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Moody presented a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the committee on judiciary to bring in a bill legalizing the transfer of all writs and judgments from one county to another.

Both Houses adjourned till the 7th at 1 p.m.

On Tuesday, Jan. 7th, in the Council, Mr. Smith presented a petition of the citizens of Washington county asking for an appropriation of \$1,500, to be expended in improving the roads in that county, which was read, and referred to the appropriate committee.

A communication was received from Acting Governor Fuller announcing his approval of the memorial to Congress for semi-weekly mail service from Fillmore to San Bernardino, California, and the memorial for an act au-

thorizing treaties with Indians and the extinguishment of the Indian titles.

Mr. Hyde, chairman of the committee, reported favorably on the petition of the citizens of Washington county for an appropriation for the improvement of the roads in that county, and recommended that the sum asked for be included in the Territorial appropriation bill.

In the House on the 7th, Mr. Thurber presented the petition of the citizens of Spanish Fork City asking for the repeal of their city charter; also Mr. Callister presented a similar petition of the citizens of Fillmore praying that the charter of Fillmore city may be repealed. The petitions were appropriately referred.

Mr. Midgley presented a petition of the citizens of Juab county for a distribution of the public library, which was read and, on motion of Mr. Thompson, was referred to the committee on library.

Mr. Rockwood, from the special committee appointed to inquire into the reasons that induced Governor Dawson to leave the Territory during the session of the Legislative Assembly, reported that they had applied to the Hon. Secretary for such information as he might have in his possession, and had received the following communication:

"EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, Utah,  
G. S. L. City, Jan. 4, 1862.

GENTLEMEN:—In answer to your letter of inquiry concerning the cause of Gov. Dawson's early withdrawal from the Territory, I present the following extract from a note received by me from that gentleman on the day of his departure:

"My health is such that my return to Indiana for the time being is imperatively demanded; hence, I start this day."

Gov. Dawson announced to me on the day of his arrival, his intention to return to Indiana at the close of the Legislative session, but I am not aware that any reason was assigned by him for his departure at an earlier day, other than the one above given.

Respectfully,

FRANK FULLER,  
Secretary and Acting Governor."

A report presented by Mr. Farr of the number and kind of officers to be elected by the joint vote of the Legislative Assembly, was laid on the table to come up in its order.

A bill providing for establishing and regulating stray pounds, and for other purposes, was submitted by Mr. Rockwood, chairman of the special committee to whom had been referred a bill defining the duties of stray-pound keepers, as a substitute, which was read and ordered to be printed.

Among the bills that were passed were an act in relation to attachments and garnishments; an act amending the charter of Great Salt Lake City; an act amending certain acts therein named, and an act to establish a road in Davis, Weber and Box Elder counties.

The bill in relation to Superintendents of Common Schools passed its second reading.

The bill to repeal certain city charters was referred back to the committee on incorporations.

On January 8th, most of the day was occupied in discussing, in joint session, the question of the direct national tax without coming to any conclusion on the subject as reported by the chairman, Mr. Harrington, when the committee of the whole, into which the Assembly resolved itself, arose.

In the Council, after the joint session dissolved, a lengthy communication, from T. W. Ellerbeck, Colonel of Ordnance, Utah Militia, in relation to the quota of arms due the Territory from the United States and the unsuccessful measures that had been taken to obtain them, was received, read and ordered to be spread on the journal.

Mr. Smith presented a memorial to Congress for a donation of land to cities, towns and villages, and for the aid of common schools, which was read, and, on motion of Mr. Richards, adopted, and ordered to be sent to the House for concurrence.

In the House, after the dissolution of the joint session, Mr. West presented the petition of citizens of Weber and Box Elder counties, asking for an appropriation for improving the road up Weber canyon, which was read and appropriately referred.

There were but few matters up for consideration, in the Council on Thursday the 9th. The bills in relation to attachments and garnishments, and the bill amending certain acts, which had been passed by the House were received. The first passed its second reading and was laid over till next day, the other its first reading and was then referred to the com-

mittee on incorporations to report thereon on the 11th instant.

Mr. Smith presented a memorial to Congress for a daily mail on the overland route, which was adopted and sent to the House for concurrence.

In the House on the 9th, the memorial to Congress for a donation of land to cities, towns and villages, and for the aid of common schools, adopted by the Council on the 8th, was received from that branch of the Legislative Assembly, and concurred in.

Mr. Maughan presented a petition of citizens of the town of Paradise, Cache Valley, asking that the boundaries of Cache county be changed so as to include that place in Cache, instead of Box Elder county, which was read and referred.

Mr. Thompson presented a petition signed by citizens of Beaver, asking an appropriation of three hundred and fifty dollars to aid that county in improving the State road, which was referred to the proper committee.

The chairman on roads, etc., to whom was referred the petition of Levi Stewart and others for a road from Great Salt Lake City to Nephi, on the west side of Utah lake, reported unfavorably thereon, and, on motion of Mr. Stout, the report was referred to a special committee consisting of Messrs Johnson, Smith and Rockwood.

A bill was presented and laid on the table to come up in its order, amending an act granting to Robison & Terry the right of building a toll bridge across Green river. The bill defining the boundaries of counties reported back with amendments was tabled to come up in its order.

The bill for an act providing for a poll tax for road purposes was taken up on being reported back to the House and with some amendments was passed; and also the bill in relation to Superintendents of Common Schools.

The memorial to Congress for a daily mail on the overland route, adopted by the Council, was received and concurred in.

Mr. Clawson, from the committee on claims, reported that they had examined the claims of Daniel Carn and Alexander McRae, ex-Wardens of the Penitentiary, and found due the former \$1,652 15, and to the latter \$176 14, and recommended that those sums be included in the appropriation bill. The committee on appropriations were thus instructed on motion of Mr. Long.

In the Council, on the 10th, Mr. Smith presented a bill in relation to the compilation and revision of the laws and resolutions now in force in this Territory and embodying certain amendments, which was received, and, on motion of Mr. Woodruff, laid on the table to come up in its order.

Mr. Smith also presented a memorial to Congress for a National Central Railroad, which was adopted and sent to the House for concurrence.

The House bill in relation to attachments and garnishments was up for consideration; and after sundry amendments were made, the bill was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Carrington and Cummings.

The House bill providing for a road tax for road purposes, and the bill in relation to the Superintendent of Common Schools passed by the House, were read and referred.

In the House, on the 10th, Mr. Long presented a petition numerous signed by citizens of Great Salt Lake County, asking for the removal of a certain fish trap, which was, on motion of Mr. West, referred to the committee on public domain.

The chairman of committee on roads, bridges, ferries and canyons, to whom was referred the "petition of the citizens of Weber and Box Elder counties, asking for an appropriation, recommended that the sum of \$2,000 be appropriated to improve Weber canyon road, which, on motion of Mr. Stout, was adopted, and the committee on claims and appropriations instructed to incorporate the same in the Territorial appropriation bill.

Mr. Rockwood, chairman of the committee on the Penitentiary, made an unfavorable report in relation to the management of the institution by the Board of Directors and Warden, and reported a bill for an act repealing the several acts in relation to the Penitentiary, which was received, read and laid on the table, to come up in its order.

The bill repealing the act incorporating the city of Palmyra passed its third reading, and also the bill in relation to the extending the

time of building a toll bridge across Green river.

Mr. Eldredge, chairman of committee on public domain and school lands, to whom was referred the petitions with regard to fish traps, fisheries, etc., reported a bill for an act in relation to fish traps and fisheries, which was read, and, on motion of Mr. Long, was accepted, and the bill laid on the table to come up in its order.

In the Council on Saturday the 11th, Mr. Woodruff presented the petition of A. H. Raleigh and others asking for chartered rights under the name of the Jordan Irrigating Company, which was referred, and Mr. Richards presented a bill for an act to organize Wasatch county.

The House bill in relation to attachments and garnishments, with sundry amendments, was passed. There were several other matters up for consideration, but none of much importance.

In the House the amendments made by the Council to the bill in relation to attachments and garnishments were concurred in. Progress was made with several bills, the most important of which was a bill presented by Mr. Long for regulating the assessing and collecting of County, Territorial and City taxes.

The minutes of the proceedings of both the Council and House on Monday and Tuesday are somewhat voluminous and we have not space for even a brief summary. The members seem to be fully aware that the session is about to terminate, hence they are more industrious than they were before the holidays.

## Wind, Rain and Snow.

The weather has been exceedingly variable during the past week, although at no time excessively cold.

On Wednesday the wind blew heavily from the south, and continued rushing from that direction most of the time till Saturday. The snow that was on the ground when the wind commenced blowing, soon disappeared in the valley and from the sides of the mountains. The streets were muddy at first, but improved rapidly under the operation of the wind till Saturday, when a heavy rain restored them to their former muddy condition.

Late in the afternoon on Saturday the wind veered to north west, the air became cooler, and a sharp and severe hailstorm, attended with thunder, preceded a snow storm, which continued till about midnight. During Sunday the weather was pleasant, and the snow which fell the preceding evening melted away very fast. On Monday the air was somewhat chilly, and at night cold and freezing. Early yesterday morning snow commenced falling again, and continued at intervals till some time in the afternoon, and last evening, sleighs were passing through the streets briskly; but the amount of snow is quite limited, and will soon be gone if there be no accession thereto.

## Destructive Flood at Ogden.

Mr. John Murdock, who left Ogden city on Monday last, reports that the northern counties have been visited by a great rain storm which commenced on Friday the 10th instant and continued till Sunday, causing an overflowing of the streams, doing much damage to roads, bridges, mills, etc., and destroying much property on the bottoms which were inundated by the flood.

The Weber at Ogden city rose some three feet higher than it did either at the time of the freshet last spring or during the flood in November, overflowing the bottoms and inundating the lower part of the city, compelling the people in those localities to leave their habitations and retire to higher grounds for safety.

The full extent of the damage sustained by the unexpected overflowing of the streams in Weber county had not been fully ascertained when Mr. Murdock left, but at and in the vicinity of Ogden it was great, all the bridges on the tributaries of the Weber, with one or two exceptions, had been swept away.

THAT MOON.—Some of our readers interested in the many changes occurring in these days have been kindly pleased to congratulate us on our astronomical observations on the important events expected "before another moon has shed its luster and passed away. We are warranted in saying that "the end not yet."