



ELIAS SMITH...EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday.....March 11, 1863.

TO THE PUBLIC.

I hereby inform the public that the DESERET NEWS is not and has not been an organ of mine, for, except matter accompanied with my name, I have only occasionally, and that too some time ago, known any more of the contents of the News until after it is published, than I have of the copy furnished to the compositors of the New York Ledger.

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

G. S. L. City, Jan. 28, 1863.

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

From the reports which have come to hand it appears that, as soon as it became known in other cities and settlements that a Mass Meeting had been held in this city to take an expression of the people relative to the course which was being pursued by Gov. Harding and Judges Waite and Drake, and some of their obnoxious acts and doings had come to the knowledge of the people, public meetings were called forthwith, and the citizens turned out *en masse* and gave expression to their feelings by speeches and the adoption of resolutions approving of all that was said and done at the Mass Meeting in this city on the 3d instant, and in some instances the resolutions passed were less conservative than those adopted by the citizens of Salt Lake City on that occasion.

At American Fork a meeting was held on the evening of the 6th, at the City Hall, which was called to order by the Hon. L. E. Harrington. Thomas Crooks, Esq., was called to the chair, and Wm. Greenwood chosen secretary. Speeches were made by Hon. L. E. Harrington, Judge Snow, C. D. Evan, Esq., and others.

At Pleasant Grove a large and enthusiastic meeting was held on the 6th, of which John Brown, Esq., was chairman, and E. Mayhew, secretary. Speeches were made by several prominent citizens, expressing great indignation at the conduct of the Federal officers in question.

A meeting was held at Cluff's Hall, in Provo, on the evening of Feb. 6, at which J. O. Duke, Esq., presided, and John Latham acted as secretary by the voice of the people, who were enthusiastic in their expressions of disapproval of the course which the Governor and the two Judges had pursued in attempting to deprive the people of Utah of their inherent rights.

The resolutions adopted at each of these meetings were to the point, clearly indicating that the presence and services of such men as rulers and judges were undesirable, and the sooner they were superseded by good men, the better it would be for the government and the people.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.—The Thirty-Seventh Congress was dissolved, adjourned or ceased to be at 12 o'clock, meridian, on the 4th instant. Some of the enactments of this Congress, to say the least of them, have been very remarkable, and if the public debt which has been created shall ever be paid, it will not be for many years to come, and few, if any, of those who have voted for its creation will live to witness its extinguishment.

We are requested to say in the "News," that W. W. Phelps has a letter for David M. Williams, or any one from Rlymney Iron Works, Manmouthshire, South Wales.

Losr.—In Salt Creek canyon sometime in December last, a bunch of black woolen yarn, belonging to Bishop Duke of Provo, to whom the finder is requested to report.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR

There has not much news been received relative to the progress of the war within the past week; less if possible than during the week preceding; and what has come to hand, with little exceptions, has not been very important or interesting. No great nor decisive battle has been fought, but important conflicts are represented as impending, and seemingly nothing but unforeseen impediments can prevent active operations on various fields much longer, and it will be strange indeed if some stirring news from fields of strife be not announced before many days.

It is reported that with the return of favorable weather, rendering military operations more practicable, the enemy has appeared in greater force on the Rappahannock than before, evidently determined to oppose the advance of the Army of the Potomac towards Richmond as vigorously as ever, if not more so; a fact of which General Hooker seems fully aware, and measures have been and are being taken to make the advance, when the time shall come, a matter of certainty. The army is said to be devoted to its leader, Gen. Hooker, and ready to follow him to the Confederate Capital, or to go wherever he may direct.

Since the roads became more passable, the enemy's cavalry, as reported, have been very active and manifested a disposition to encroach upon the Federal lines at Falmouth and at other points along the Rappahannock. About two weeks since, says report, Gen. Stewart with two brigades of cavalry, commanded respectively by Generals Fitz Hugh Lee and Hampton, crossed the Rappahannock at one of the fords above Fredericksburg and attacked the Federal out posts at Falmouth, drove in the pickets and made considerable impression upon the lines, before a sufficient force could be brought up to check their advance, which was ultimately accomplished, and the enemy had to fall back and recross the river in great haste, taking care to place every possible obstruction in the road they passed over, to prevent pursuit, which was made in force. For some days after that occurrence the Confederates refused to hold communication with the Federal troops under a flag of truce. Several small skirmishes are reported to have occurred of late between scouting parties above Falmouth and in the Shenandoah Valley, in which a few men were killed on both sides, and some prisoners taken. The prospects seem favorable for the recommencement of active operations on a large scale, between Washington and Richmond, at an early day.

Nothing of importance has been made public concerning the movements of Gen. Foster of late, and why some decisive blow has not been struck before this time, either in South Carolina or Georgia, has not been made to appear. The capture of Fort McAlistar was announced a short time since, but subsequent reports from Southern sources contradict the statement and represent that the Confederate flag was recently floating over that stronghold of the enemy.

The latest intelligence from New Orleans represented that Gen. Banks had issued an order explaining the system of labor adopted for the negroes during the year. The levees below Baton Rouge had been made safe against the overflow of the Mississippi, but in relation to his warlike operations nothing of any considerable importance has been made public.

Intelligence from Vicksburg of recent date represents that things were progressing favorably there, and that Gen. Grant's arrangements for the capture of the entire Confederate army in and around Vicksburg, were nearly complete.

The greatest confidence was expressed in the success of the plans which had been adopted for the reduction of that stronghold. The canalizing operations were progressing rapidly, and the prospects were that they would be a complete success, and that shortly gunboats would be steaming on both sides of the Mississippi, in waters where such craft have never as yet been seen.

It has been reported, and the report has been confirmed, that the gunboat Indianola, which ran the blockade at Vicksburg after the ram Queen of the West had successfully passed from above to below the Confederate batteries commanding the river, has also fallen into the hands of the enemy, having been attacked by the Queen and another Con-

federate ram on the 24th of February, a short distance below Vicksburg, and forced to surrender after an action of fifteen minutes duration.

Gen. Rosecrans had not, up to latest dates, made any particular demonstrations against the enemy, and there were no indications that a forward movement would be made soon. The late storms had put the roads in a worse condition than they had previously been. His army is reported to have been reinforced, so that it numbers one hundred and fifty thousand men.

The late movements of the Confederate forces had induced the belief that they were advancing their lines, as they were making frequent demonstrations in the immediate vicinity of Murfreesboro. Gen. Van Dorn had advanced from Mississippi with the forces under his command and was in the vicinity of Franklin. A battle is reported to have taken place recently at Spring Hill, between Van Dorn and Col. Colburn, each commanding a large force, the result of which was decidedly adverse to the Federal arms; the enemy taking a large number of prisoners; but when the full details of the conflict shall be reported, the defeat may not be as disastrous as at first represented.

A few days previous to the battle of Spring Hill, an expedition consisting of one thousand cavalry and sixteen hundred infantry was sent from Murfreesboro to Badville, which made a brilliant and successful attack upon a strong cavalry force belonging to Morgan's command. The enemy was routed and driven from the field with considerable loss. It is represented to have been the most important and gallant achievement that has been obtained since the battle near Murfreesboro.

ARREST OF BRIGHAM YOUNG FOR POLYGAMY.

Ever since we as a people were driven from our homes in Illinois; traversed an almost trackless desert and settled in these distant valleys; a constant effort has been made by wicked and designing men to disturb our peace and interfere with those religious rights secured to us by the Federal Constitution. We have neither time, space, nor inclination to review the wrongs and insults that our bodies, and we as a people have suffered. They are all matters of history; delineating them will present one of the darkest pages ever recorded of any religious people.

It is well known that the Latter Day Saints have publicly proclaimed for many years, through their discourses and published volumes, the divine right of polygamy. It rests upon the sacred scriptures for its foundation.

As a principle, it is incorporated into, and forms part of our religious faith. Our fathers, in forming the Federal Constitution, wisely guarded and protected the religious rights of the citizen. Left free to adopt such faith and mode of worship as the subject might choose he was secured from all intolerance and interference by law or otherwise.

Well aware, as the late Congress of the United States must have been, that plurality was as much a part of our religious faith as the crucifixion of the Savior for the redemption of man, still true to that same persecuting spirit which has been too painfully manifest ever since our religion was established upon the earth, they passed a law making this part of our faith penal and criminal.

We have been aware for a number of days that the issuance of writs against President Young was in contemplation. There has been an unusual stir at Camp Douglas, the most ample preparations made for the purpose of making a descent with an armed force upon the President, whenever those writs should be placed in the hands of the Marshal. It was vainly and foolishly supposed that he would resist the service of a writ issued under the act referred to. Persons desiring collision were anxious to make the pretext of an armed military force in executing this process the excuse for gratifying their wicked purposes. But in this they have been disappointed. As a people we believe in, and have ever taught obedience and submission to the law of the land. No one has more earnestly taught this than the President of this church. It is well known that in his private and public teachings he has taken the position of obedience to any legal writ emanating from proper authority, whether against him or any of the people under this, or any other law. On the 10th inst, an affidavit was made

before His Honor Chief Justice J. F. Kinney, charging Brigham Young with having violated the act of Congress, by taking another wife. Judge Kinney promptly issued a writ for his arrest and placed it in the hands of Mr. Gibbs, United States Marshal. The Marshal adopted the very prudent course of serving the writ himself, without calling for a "posse," and accordingly waited upon the President, only fortified by the process, and with such civil authority as the law invested him.

An immediate response was made to the writ, by the prompt appearance of the defendant before Judge Kinney at the State House, accompanied by two or three of his immediate friends. An investigation was made of the facts charged in the affidavit, by the introduction of evidence, resulting in the Judge holding the defendant to bail in the sum of two thousand dollars, for his appearance at the next term of the United States Court for the Third Judicial District.

The sureties were required to justify under oath, when it appeared that they were worth some twenty thousand dollars.

We have no fault to find with Judge Kinney for issuing the process, or his determination upon the testimony. As the Judge of this district, he can make no distinction, and it is his duty to magnify all constitutional law, as we trust it will ever be the pleasure of the people to submit to and obey the authority with which such law invests him.

THE SEQUEL TO THE MASS MEETING.

The committee appointed by the Mass Meeting held in the Tabernacle on the 3d instant have handed us for publication the following brief report of their visit to the Federal Officers named:—

G. S. L. City, March 5, 1863.

TO THE CITIZENS OF GREAT SALT LAKE CITY:

GENTLEMEN:—Your Committee, appointed at the Mass Meeting held in the Tabernacle on the 3d inst., waited upon his Excellency Governor Harding and their Honors Judges Waite and Drake, on the morning of the 4th.

Gov. Harding received us courteously, but, upon being informed of the purport of our visit, both himself and Judge Drake, who was in the Governor's Office, emphatically refused to comply with the wishes of the people, notwithstanding the Governor had repeatedly stated that he would leave whenever he learned that his acts and course were not agreeable to the people.

Upon being informed that, if he was not satisfied that the action of the Mass Meeting expressed the feelings of the people, he could have the expression of the whole Territory, he replied, "I am aware of that, but that would make no difference."

Your Committee called at the residence of Judge Waite, who, being absent at the time, has since informed us, by letter, that he also refuses to comply with the wishes of the people.

JOHN TAYLOR,
JETER CLINTON,
ORSON PRATT, Sen.

Had we inclination, we might fill the News with some very interesting reports in circulation touching the sayings of the Governor and Judges, but we shall only say, that so far as the people of Utah are concerned—the bona fide citizens of the Territory, the unpopular officials can make no capital out of their actions to save them from their fast approaching oblivion. If we thought that there was a citizen so far lost to self respect as to offer an indignity by word or act to such persons, we should certainly commend him to the care of his friends. The people *en masse* have rendered a legitimate verdict upon the conduct of the men whom the government pays to serve them, and if the said servants are so indigent as to require such unwelcome bread, let them by all means eat it in peace, it is bitter enough. They cannot hire any man to do them the service they so earnestly seem to desire.

HOME-MADE GLASS BUTTONS.—We were yesterday shown several samples of glass buttons, manufactured by Messrs. Stewart & McClatchy, suitable for ladies' dresses, vests, etc. They were of various colors—amber, green, blue and variegated; and it is expected they will be able, ere long, to make them of any color desirable.

ARRIVALS.—Bea M. Hughes, Esq., General Director of the Eastern Stage Line, accompanied by ex-Gov. Gilpin, of Colorado, arrived in the city on Friday last from the east. They reported very heavy snows to the east of Millersville, which had impeded considerably the facility of travel.