

THE DESERET NEWS.

ELIAS SMITH, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday, August 3, 1859.

The District Court.

We have carefully perused the proceedings of the Third Judicial District Court of the United States for this Territory, Hon. C. E. Sinclair presiding, now sitting in this city, as furnished by our reporter, and especially the charge to the grand jury, which having been delivered extempore, was corrected and revised by the Judge before going into the hands of the compositor. Some of the sentiments therein expressed we consider appropriate and just, while there are others that we cannot endorse; they are too absurd.

Not being accustomed to lauding those whose acts and expressions of sentiments are in accordance with our ideas of right, to any great extent, nor to the too common practice of finding fault with every thing that is seen and heard that does not correspond exactly with our notions and views, we do not intend to say much either one way or the other about the court nor its proceedings during the session, so long as it reasonably keeps within its legitimate sphere of action, even if utterance should occasionally be given to doctrines illegal and unjust in the extreme, unless attempts be made to put them in practice. We shall publish the doings of the court from week to week, or such portions thereof as we may select, that our readers may know what is passing and be able to judge of the merits or demerits of the proceedings for themselves.

There is one thing, however, that we feel to commend, and that is the course which the Judge has avowed he intends to take in relation to admitting members to the bar. The course that has been pursued heretofore by the courts in this Territory in licensing attorneys, has been ridiculous and calculated to bring the profession into disrepute with intelligent men, at least, if not with the entire community. Individuals of no legal knowledge whatever, officers of the army, merchants, merchant's clerks, loafers, gamblers, doctors, transient traders of all kinds, etc., etc., have been admitted to practice in the District Courts and in the Supreme Courts of the United States for this Territory, some of them not knowing the difference between a *capias ad respondendum* and a *demurrer*, nor the difference between either of those and a *plea* to the jurisdiction of a court.

This lax way of admitting members to the bar was in consonance with most of the judicial proceedings of those courts, and the lawyers thus made were as fit for judges as the judges who admitted them were for lawyers, as a general thing, so far as learning was concerned. A reform in relation to this subject was much needed for various reasons that might be stated. Ignorance in professional men, and especially in lawyers, is unbearable, and the worst of it is, too many of them ultimately, through the instrumentality of unprincipled friends, find their way to the bench.

INDIANS TROUBLESOME.—Capt. Howard Egan, the energetic agent for the California and Salt Lake mail line, who came in from the road on Thursday last, reports that the Indians in the vicinity of Shell Creek station, about 200 miles out, are very troublesome, and have been ever since that station was established, having been continually stealing and killing the animals and at two or three several times drove off nearly all the stock belonging to the mail company that were kept there.

On the 20th ult., by means of beacon fires kindled on the surrounding hills the night previous, about fifty "of the old inhabitants" collected in the vicinity and sent word to some friendly Indians, who were at the station, that they had better leave as they intended to make an attack upon the post and destroy it, kill the men and drive off the stock. Luckily about the time the men were thus apprised of their danger, Mr. Harrison Severe, superintendent of the Indian farm at Deep Creek, fifty miles this side of Shell Creek, arrived at the station and from his acquaintance with the Indians and knowledge of their language, prevailed on the belligerents to abandon their design and disperse. Mr. Severe informed Capt. Egan as he came in, that, but for his timely arrival an attack would have been made and, as there were only five men at the station, they would unquestionably have been overcome by the Indians without much difficulty.

These Indians are represented as being in a suffering condition, having but little to subsist

upon, and cannot be induced to join their red brethren at the Indian farm at Deep Creek, because there is nothing there for them to eat, and the superintendent does not choose to furnish them with provisions.

INDIAN MURDERS.—By reference to the communication from Judge Wright, published in another column, it will be seen, that according to Indian reports, which, from attending circumstances we have no doubt are very near correct, several emigrants have been recently murdered on the Northern route to California in the vicinity of Goose creek mountains. We understand that Dr. Forney, the Superintendent of Indian Affairs will leave to-day for that section of country to inquire into the matter, and that prompt measures will be taken to have a detachment of troops sent out immediately to protect the emigrants and prevent further aggressions on the part of the Indians on that route. When the matter is fully investigated, it may be made to appear that the report is too true that white men were the first aggressors.

THE ELECTION.—The General Election on Monday last, in this city, passed off with little or no excitement, as there was no opposition to the People's ticket. In consequence of so many being busily engaged in haying and harvesting, getting wood from the canyons, etc., the number of votes polled was not so large, as it would otherwise have been, especially if there had been some opposition.

CHARGE TO THE GRAND JURY.—The charge of His Honor Judge Sinclair to the grand jury, published with the proceedings of the court in this number, as taken by our reporter, was, at Judge Sinclair's request furnished him by Mr. Long on Sunday for correction and revision. Unfortunately, in consequence of the indisposition of the Judge, the whole of the charge has not been revised, such as has not been we give as reported.

THE SALE of Government mules, wagons, etc., at Camp Floyd, we understand has closed. It is reported that the government property, especially the mules, brought higher prices than ever known before at similar sales, most of the animals having been purchased by citizens, and not by speculators as some anticipated.

It is also reported that there will be another sale there sometime in September next, it being reported that the number of teams at that post are to be reduced to some forty or fifty.

If this be so, the army in Utah will thereafter be in a poor condition to enter at once upon an Indian war, if one should occur.

Always Buy where you can Cheapest!

The merchant train of Ewing, Winsor and Letton has arrived and they are selling off as per advertisement, at the store owned by D. Amy, next below Godbe's Drug store, at reasonable rates compared with prices that have been demanded during the last year.

They propose to sell Sugar at 35 cents per pound by the single sack; Coffee at 40c; Prints at 13 to 15c per yard by the bolt; Domestic at 15 to 17c; Castings, 25c per pound; Tobacco, 45 to 65c; Bacon, 35c (retail); Nails, 25c per pound by the keg; also Ready Made Clothing, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps at at St. Louis cost and transportation.

To those who purchase in larger quantities, liberal deductions are made from the above rates.

RECOVERED.—Mr. William U. Williams, who was taken up some two weeks since, in a state of temporary insanity, has nearly recovered, and from present appearances will soon be able to pursue his journey to California, or to return to his friends in the east, should he desire to do so. He states that, being unwell he informed some quack of the fact, who gave him some medicine which made him worse, and soon after he was taken up perfectly frantic. Since his reason has returned, he remembers all the circumstances that have transpired since the commencement of his affliction, and can relate them with precision, and if the quack story is not true, it is an exception.

Dr. France was called to attend him soon after he was taken up and put in confinement, and to his skill and attention the early recovery of the sufferer may be imputed.

RETURNED HOME.—Mr. Ord, whose escape in a state of mental aberration was noticed in our last issue, has been heard from, having returned to his family at Nephi. It seems that after leaving this city he made his way by some circuitous route to Camp Floyd, where,

like others who have been similarly afflicted, he claimed protection, imagining from the promptings of the evil spirit that afflicted him that he had done something for which he might be killed, if not protected. From Camp Floyd he went home by the west side of Utah Lake, thus eluding the search that was made for him. From report he is no better.

GLOBE RESTAURANT.—This establishment after having been closed some months, has of late been re-opened by the former lessee, Mr. Candland, the well-known "Restaurateur," than whom no one is more gentlemanly in his demeanor to those who patronize him in his vocation, nor more assiduous in providing for the comfort and wants of those who having money to spend wish to epicurize a little during their sojourn in the city.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—Mr. Christopher Arthur, late of Cedar city, and formerly from Monmouthshire, England, was killed by lightning at Beaver on the 19th ult. Particulars not known.

Alderman's Court.

Brooks, a colored man in the employ of Mr. Hereford, was brought before Alderman Clinton, on Monday, charged with running his horse in the streets on the Sabbath day, and came very near running over some children.—Said Brooks was spoken to by a citizen named Workman, who informed him that he was breaking the laws of the city. Brooks took offence and got off his horse and made an assault on Workman. Fined ten dollars including costs.

A colored man named Lee, in the employ of Dr. Forney, was running his horse with the said Brooks, and when spoken to by Workman, desisted. Fined five dollars including costs.

Election at Camp Floyd.

G.S.L. CITY, Aug. 2, 1859.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—

I was in Fairfield, near Camp Floyd, on yesterday, the day of our general election. About 9 a.m., Judge Eckles, with some sixteen other persons, came into Fairfield and opened the polls to receive votes.

By what right Judge Eckles superceded the acting justice of that precinct, I will not attempt to explain, unless the importance of the soldier's votes required the interference of his Honor.

After the polls were opened, Judge Eckles announced that they were ready to receive votes, and that the United States soldiers could vote at the election. In a short time Fairfield and the poll were taken as by assault, and in less than an hour the town was filled with officers and soldiers, very many of them breathing out invectives against the nominations by the OLD CITIZENS.

I saw soldiers pass through files of the guard where they received tickets ready folded, and, after depositing them, go through a side door into a saloon where liquor was being freely dispensed, probably the price of their votes.

I left the place about 1 p.m., and up to that time but few of the OLD CITIZENS had voted.

Respectfully,

N. V. JONES

From our Humboldt Correspondent.

HUMBOLDT RIVER, July 22, 1859.

EDITOR NEWS—DEAR SIR:

Perhaps a few items from this uncivilized portion of the Territory may not be altogether devoid of interest to some of your readers.

There has been a good deal of emigration this season by the northern route; but I should think, from what I have seen and heard, a poorer set of people never passed this way before; many are entirely without money and almost naked. Some have begged their way from station to station along the mail route.

By the way, one of the finest herds of cattle that has ever passed through this country has just arrived here by the Salt Lake and California mail route. The drove numbered over one thousand head, besides some mules; it belonged to Mr. B. Holliday, of your city, in charge of Capt. D. M. Yates—Howard Egan, Superintendent of the mail line from here to the city, has piloted them through. They arrived at Gravelly Ford in the remarkably short time of seventeen days from Camp Floyd, including two days they laid by to rest, without losing a single head. The cattle appear and feel remarkably well, presenting a marked contrast to most of the stock that has come the northern route.

This has demonstrated the practicability of the mail route, as a road for large cattle droves as well as for emigrants generally. Mr. Egan returns with this mail, to pilot out some mules for the same party.

This river is said to be higher now than it was ever known to be before at this season of the year.

The troops who left your city to protect emigrants to California were obliged to leave the river and take the road along the foot of the mountains, made by Capt. Egan some years ago.

The mosquitoes are also worse than ever felt on this river before—neither man nor ani-

mal can get any rest. They make the animals nearly crazy.

There is a very strong probability that the mail route will soon avoid the Humboldt altogether. When that is accomplished, no man who has ever tasted the sweets of 'Mosquito bend' will ever want to travel the Humboldt road again while in possession of his senses.

Major Lynde and most of his command have gone down the river, about 175 miles below Gravelly Ford. A small portion of his men are waiting near the latter place till his return. By which road they will return to Camp Floyd, I am not informed, but their presence along the mail route would certainly exert a beneficial influence, as the Indians are rather troublesome and impudent here.

I have just learned of the murder of three men, about 75 miles below Gravelly Ford, supposed to have been done by a party of emigrants with whom they were traveling. Two passengers in the mail coach saw their bodies. An Indian informed me, the other day, that he saw a white man blow his own brains out with a pistol, on the river, somewhere above Gravelly Ford. He said his companions 'didn't cry.'

Many of the emigrants are perfectly reckless as to what they do or say. The other day some passed along and, in the course of conversation, informed us that they had a lot of strychnine with them on purpose to give to Indians. I thought it would only serve them right to make them take it themselves. Should they carry out their benevolent intentions and innocent men and women be massacred by the enraged savages in consequence, our impartial and penetrating judges may, perhaps, discover 'Mormon influence' at the bottom of it.

By a telegram to Mr. Geo. F. Jones, agent of the western division of the C. and S. L. mail line, we learn that Attorney General Black has decided that the C. and S. L. mail cannot be reduced to semi-weekly service, so, I presume, we shall still enjoy weekly communication with the rest of mankind—by California, if not by the East. I doubt not this is due to Major Chorpene's energetic perseverance. Prosperity to the mail route; and may the railroad soon follow.

Emigrant Cruelty and Indian Revenge.

BRIGHAM CITY, Aug. 1, 1859.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:—

SIR:—On the evening of July 30, a small party of Shoshonee Indians came to our settlement from the north, having in their possession some ten or twelve American horses, mules, and oxen, which they appeared very anxious to dispose of. Feeling a little suspicious of their rights of property, inquiry was immediately instituted as to how they came by it. One of the party stated (as well as we could understand him) that about six weeks ago, at or near the Goose Creek Mountains, four lodges of the Flat Head Indians were camped near the California road; that two of their number went to a small emigrant train to swap some buckskins, when (as they stated) the emigrants fired upon and killed them both; the others of their party, learning this statement, applied to the Shoshonees for help, and a company of Flat Heads and Shoshonees, to the number of twenty, attacked the train and killed five men and two women, only two men and one woman making their escape. They then plundered the wagons, took the animals, divided the spoil, and fled.

The Indians who have just come into this settlement, had with them a very neatly executed Dagueratype likeness of a man, woman and two young ladies, which was bought by Mr. Joseph H. Tippetts of this place, and is sent by him to the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Dr. Forney, for his inspection.

The above report was made by an Indian, who said that he had nothing to do with the fight.

A dispatch from this place has furnished Dr. Forney with a corresponding statement, who, if this report be true, will undoubtedly shortly be advised of the facts through some more definite and reliable source of information than that of Indian testimony.

The horses and mules above referred to were branded S on the left shoulder.

Respectfully,

J. C. WRIGHT.

CHESS.

Is this a play, where King and Queen,
Churchmen and Knights and Peasants wage
Their wars? 'Tis like a living scene,
Each piece an actor on life's stage.
The Queen, like England's royal dame,
Steps forth in regal pomp and pride—
Her Consort's part is rather tame—
He's always safer by her side.
The Rooks are strongholds in distress,
Where Knights and Bishops strive in vain
To aid the King—and dangers press
The CASTLES—and is safe again.
The stately Bishop moves along—
His course TO RIGHT or left, is clear;
'Twere well if in the worldly throng
FROM RIGHT his course did never veer.
The valiant Knight, on prancing steed,
Steps quick aside, wary, yet bold;
And ever at our greatest need
He comes—like errant Knight of old.
Forward the sturdy Peasants go,
Slow, but secure in quiet strength,
And he who wins the forward row
Is sure to win a crown at length.
So should it be. If adverse fate
In life's low paths has kept you down,
Act well your part in humble state,
And you shall gain at length a crown.