



ELIAS SMITH, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Wednesday, ..... March 5, 1862.

## The Election.

The first general election under the Constitution, and for its adoption or rejection, by the people, according to the provisions thereof, was held on Monday last, and in this city was very generally attended by the electors, much more so than any previous election that has been held, and so far as has been heard from the sovereigns in every precinct of the county turned out numerously and voted on the occasion, expressing unanimously, so far as known, their desire for a State government, and designating the persons they prefer for rulers and representatives.

The day was very stormy and uncomfortable, and there were not as many votes polled in this city as there would have been if the weather had been more favorable. The whole number of votes cast was, nineteen hundred and fifty-six, not quite so many as anticipated, but it is well known that there is a less number of legal voters in Great Salt City according to the number of inhabitants, than in any of the cities and settlements in the Territory.

Owing to the muddiness of the roads the returns from all the country precincts were not received in time to be canvassed yesterday, but we believe there was not a vote "against" the Constitution, and we do not think there were a dozen men who went to the polls on that day who were not decidedly in favor of throwing off the Territorial yoke which they have heretofore so patiently borne. Returns from most of the counties will be received, in all probability, in the course of the present week, when the result will be made known.

## Utah and Wasatch Counties.

For some ten days past, as reported, Utah county has been blessed with more than its usual share of mud, which has rendered traveling with loaded teams next to impossible. The frost on Sunday night, although it was beneficial, did not extend to the bottom of the mud, hence the roads are still in a bad condition for traveling.

Communication with Wasatch county is entirely cut off, by the snows that have fallen and drifted in heaps in Provo Canyon. One man, in attempting to perform the journey the other day, had his mule fall over some rocks and break its legs, so that humanity obliged him to kill it.

Hon. George A. Smith, we are told, has been through Utah county delivering lectures in favor of the Constitution and a State government for Deseret. His lectures at Payson, Spanish Fork, Provo, Pleasant Grove, American Fork and Lehi were well attended, the people turning out *en masse*, manifesting a lively interest in the politics of the speaker, and in the rights of the citizens of this Territory.

**Snow Storm.**—The weather, which had for a few days previous been mild and pleasant, became cooler, on Friday morning last, and the wind blew from nearly every direction for a while and then veered to northwest, shortly after which, it commenced snowing and continued squally during the day, the snow falling very fast some of the time.

There was another fall on Saturday; and on Monday, it sifted down again, commencing early in the morning and continuing till afternoon, and, notwithstanding it thawed considerably during the day, there was quite an amount on the ground in the evening. On the mountains and hills, from their appearance, it fell in large quantities.

The prospects for a supply of water for agricultural purposes are decidedly more favorable than they were at the commencement of February. The weather clerk estimates the amount of snow which fell on Monday at from eight to ten inches.

## Improvement of the State Road.

An effort is now being made to repair the State road south, between the city and Big Cottonwood, which at the present time is in a miserable condition. Many attempts have been made at different times, by the Territorial, County and City authorities to make a good road, but owing to the spongy nature of the soil in that vicinity, no plan heretofore adopted has accomplished the desired end. During the greater part of this winter the road has been nearly impassable, in consequence of the unusual mildness of the season and the plentiful supply of mud.

President Young and Bishop Hunter have now taken the matter in hand, and intend concentrating the whole force of this county upon it, in the shape of labor titling, the present week. It is purposed to dig a large ditch on the east side of the road, to carry off the water that settles in the low lands every spring, after which a heavy coating of gravel is to be put on; and it is thought that this will make a permanent and good road of it.

The object in doing the work at this season of the year is two-fold; first because the Presidency design raising all the means within their power to build the Temple the ensuing summer, and the granite rock now being quarried at Little Cottonwood for the Temple, will have to be brought over that part of the road which is so notorious for having the bottom "fall out" in the spring of each year; and the other reason is that the work can be done to better advantage now, as men cannot labor to profit at other kinds of out-door labor for several weeks to come.

The digging of a deep ditch on the upper side of the road will most unquestionably benefit it materially, and the application of gravel, will make it durable. It is believed by some that draining off the water, in the way proposed, will somewhat effect the meadow lands on the west side of the road for some distance below, but should such be the case, they will be made better for grain growing purposes. The result will soon show the advantages and disadvantages that will accrue from the improvement. There is no question as to its making a good road, and that is a matter of great consideration at the present time, and, should a few acres of land be depreciated in value, which is problematical, the benefits that will accrue to the public may be expected to greatly over-balance all the injuries anticipated to ensue.

That the ditch will be dug and the road made, there is no doubt, as the response to the call will be general, and the people will do everything and withhold nothing, that will tend to the furtherance of the work of building the Temple, and the accomplishment of whatever may be required at their hands as saints by the authorities of the Church.

## Mails and Bad Roads.

For some days there has been no mail from the West for this place, and for many more days the Eastern Mail has only been heard from—somewhere on the road. First, the floods in the West caused a lengthy interruption of the mail, then the roads through the passes in the Eastern mountains were next to being entirely washed away, and traveling was reported something of a dexterous feat, and only undertaken by runaway governors, used up Indian agents, crazy judges and doctors. Weather and roads for a short spell became decently good, and we had begun to anticipate with some degree of regularity our mail matter; but all of a sudden, we find there is a prospect of greater irregularity than before. The snows are reported to have been very deep in some places on the Eastern road—much more so than our mild winter in the valley has led us to conjecture, and what is not snow is mud and break up of roads and high rivers. With these, the employees and agents of the mail contractors are said to be struggling manfully, and employing all the human and animal strength that they can use and command. We hear of other floods in the West, and so, of course, we must be satisfied for the present with irregularities—for we can't help ourselves.

The Eastern stage, with New York advices up to the 10th, and St. Louis to the 13th ult., arrived last evening about 8 o'clock; but brought very little mail matter for this city, and nothing of particular interest more than what had previously been received; but according to late intelligence by the wires, the war spirit has not abated in the East.

## How the "Judge too many" obtained Cash.

Knowing the circumstances attending the financial affairs of H. R. Crosby, the last Judge appointed for Utah by Mr. Buchanan and generally known as "the Judge too many," during the last six months of his sojourn in this city, it was a mystery to some how he became seized of the means with which to pay his fare and that of the silly woman who chose to become his bride from hence to the States, as he professed to have none with which to pay his honest debts and could not leave, as understood, till his creditors consented to let him depart, which was not till they became fully convinced that his longer detention would be of no avail to them in the realization of what were their honest dues. That he received a liberal compensation for releasing the convict Hoops from the Penitentiary was generally believed, but with his dissolute habits, a few hundred dollars would not last long, when no credit could be obtained, as was the case with Crosby for months before he started eastward; consequently, there was some inexplicability attached to the departure of the quasi Associate, as the agents of the Overland Mail Company were understood to adhere strictly to the *quid pro quo* principle in relation to passengers.

Within the last few days, according to well authenticated reports, a circumstance has been brought to light, fully explaining the matter, and showing how the money was obtained. It is stated that, some years since, a lady now residing in Davis county, who owned a lot in San Francisco, sold it and made a deed to the purchaser through an agent duly authorized so to do. The consideration was not large, as the lot then was not considered very valuable; but recently, by the extension and growth of the city, it has become of great value; and it is said that sometime last summer, a limb of the law who had been in this Territory and had heard of the sale and transfer of the lot, informed the present owner that his title was not good, as the lady who made the deed in her own name was not a *femmesole* at the time of its execution. The information thus given, whether true or false, induced the owner to employ a celebrated real estate agent to inquire into the matter, agreeing to pay a handsome sum for the perfection of the title.

The agent who undertook the business sub-let the job to the individual who gave the information in the first instance, and who came here last fall, clothed with full power to act in the premises. Negotiations were commenced with the lady's husband, but before they were completed, the circumstances became known to a certain practicing attorney, who being of the opinion that something could be made out of the matter, managed to place some obstacle in the way which prevented the person who came from San Francisco from obtaining the deed.

After having accomplished his designs thus far the intriguing attorney associated with him in the supplanting operation a transient lawyer from the east, ever ready for a speculative job, who readily joined in the proposed fleecing of the San Franciscan and the duo soon started westward on what subsequently proved to be a wild goose chase, for the individual who came from California to obtain the transfer was on the alert and managed to get in "a plea in bar" in time to head off his plotting opponents, and they returned without having accomplished their designs, poorer than they were before. The deed was not obtained through the agency of either party and neither obtained the cash.

Subsequently, as the story goes, a deed, such as was sought to be obtained, was made out by the agent in San Francisco and forwarded to Crosby (who being a Federal Judge was probably supposed to be an honorable man), accompanied by a draft for some seven or eight hundred dollars, with the request that he should negotiate with the proper parties for the execution of the deed on as fair terms as could be obtained; but, as is alleged, on receiving the papers, instead of attending to the business intrusted, he sold the draft, pocketed the money and started eastward as soon thereafter as was possible, went as far as Fort Bridger and there waited till joined by his betrothed, when he resumed his journey to the States, it is hoped never to return. It is certain that there are no persons here who would be pleased to see him again, unless it be the attorneys who were less fortunate than he.

## California Items.

Papers from the west to the latest dates are filled with statements of losses sustained by the people west of the Sierra, by the floods that have visited the Pacific coast during the winter, which were far greater than was at first supposed. Every county in California has been flooded, more or less, and nearly everything along the streams, and wherever the waters went, has been swept away or destroyed, and it is stated that there was not much prospect that the waters would subside very soon, as rain continued falling in the valleys, and snow on the mountains which would prevent the streams from falling till the storm ceased, and when the snows should dissolve, another excessive overflowing was anticipated, which, according to telegraphic accounts, has been realized in the northern part of the State, the Sacramento and other streams being higher a few days ago, than they had been before, since the stormy season commenced.

The effects of the January flood in southern California are represented as having been terrible. The storm was continuous for four weeks, with two slight interruptions, and reports say that it seemed as if the clouds had been broken through, and the waters over the earth and the waters under the earth were coming into conjunction.

In San Bernardino, as reported, almost the entire property of the valley was destroyed. The dead bodies of thirteen Indians were afterwards discovered, who had been drowned by the flood.

The town of Visalia was, nearly or quite destroyed, and at Jarupa the flood washed away every house excepting the church, in which five hundred persons took refuge and were there some length of time without food, or the ability to get any, or effect their escape. Many vineyards were destroyed, and a great breadth of land was washed away, which had been planted with oranges and other kinds of the most valuable fruit trees. The loss of life as reported was also fearfully great.

The Nevada Transcript in speaking of the flood says, there were no means of ascertaining how much water had fallen, but probably not more than seven feet, which is admitted to have been a heavy fall, but adds, that rain has fallen at Paramaribo, in South America, in one season, to the depth of 19 feet, 23 feet in Brazil, and 25 feet on the western side of the Ghaut mountains in South Bombay, and that on the western side of Patagonia 153 inches or near 13 feet of water, have been known to fall in forty-one days, probably more than double the amount that has fallen in California in the same length of time, or at least since it has been settled by Americans.

With the great losses that have been sustained by the people of the State, which are said to have fallen more heavily upon the agriculturalists than upon other classes of the community, many advantages have been derived. In some places the soil is said to have been benefitted by the flood. Several new and rich gold diggings have been developed and others have been improved. The attention of the people has been turned to higher locations for cultivation, and lands are being surveyed, and claims taken up that were before considered of but little value. Thousands, after the waters commenced to recede, were looking about to repair their fortunes in various ways, and preparing to build up again that which had been destroyed.

The land slides that have occurred which are reported to have been many, and in some instances very destructive to life and property have disclosed much treasure, and among other things of value, brought to view as supposed, is a coal mine, on the Petaluma side of the Sonoma mountain.

The usual number of accidents, fights, burglaries, robberies, thefts, and other crimes are reported, aside from which, nothing of much interest has transpired on the Pacific slope since the inundation.

**Too Late.**—The proceedings of several conventions held for the purpose of nominating candidates for Senators and Representatives in various counties, forwarded for publication, were not received in time for insertion before the election, consequently they were tabled.