

This was one of those Plain City cases, about which so much has been said. The lady indicted is the wife of Mr. Geddes, and voted under the provisions of the statute conferring upon women the elective franchise. She pleaded guilty, under advice of some friends, in order to save the expense of fully testing the law. We do not wish at present to enter into the merits of the case, except to say that the prosecution would have had hard work to make it stick if the plea of guilty had not been entered.

We wish to draw attention to certain proceedings of the District Attorney in relation to this and similar cases. The fine of \$5 was a merely nominal penalty, and showed that the Judge was not disposed to deal harshly with the defendant under the circumstances. But when the costs were footed up they reached a total of a little over \$84, making \$89 and some odd cents in all.

It appears that of this sum the District Attorney claimed \$50. And this is by no means a new proceeding of this officer's. By what right does he make such an extortionate demand? According to the United States statute governing these matters, he could only claim a fee of Ten Dollars. Section 824 of the Revised Statutes allows him, "in cases at law when judgment is rendered without a jury, Ten Dollars. If a jury was empaneled, can the Attorney inform us what need there was of a jury to try a case in which a plea of guilty had already been entered? And when it was fully understood that a plea of guilty would be made, why was a jury empaneled, even if the plea had not been entered but only agreed upon? Unless it was for the purpose of increasing the costs, and opening the way for the excuse of a bigger fee for himself, we fail to see what object the Attorney had in view.

But even supposing the case had gone to trial before a jury and conviction obtained it would only be by an extreme stretching of the law, straining it to its utmost possible extension, that the District Attorney could show any color of reason for this exorbitant demand. A docket fee of twenty dollars is allowed to the Attorney on a trial by jury; and "when an indictment for crime is tried before a jury and a conviction is had," an additional fee is allowed in proportion to the importance and difficulty of the case, not exceeding thirty dollars."

Was this a case of importance and difficulty? Did he earn the fees he demanded, seeing that he had no argument to make and no trouble at all, the defendant having plead guilty. The fine was but \$5 and he wanted \$50 for securing it.

When officials are so technical and zealous about obedience to the law that they will cause ladies, with nursing infants in their arms, to be dragged from their homes fifty miles to plead to an indictment inspired by malice, and to appear in court for trial for voting when they had good reason to believe they had a legal right to do so, it is certainly to be expected that those sticklers for and representatives of the law will themselves observe its provisions.

We hope those persons who have yet to appear in similar cases will not submit to any such extortion. And we hope the Court will preserve its own dignity by preventing any such farce as the empanelling of a jury when it is understood by all parties that a plea of guilty is to be entered. Also that the Chief Justice of this Territory will set his face against any such disreputable schemes to take advantage of persons unfamiliar with the law, as is disclosed by the Geddes case, and which can be more fully exposed by reference to other cases, which we shall feel it our duty to open up if this official phlebotomy is not put a stop to without delay.

Married.—We are requested to publish the following marriage notices—

Married, Aug. 6, 1877, by Elder Wm. Galbraith, at Crown Point, Newton Heath, Manchester, Miss Julia Malam to Mr. Samuel Willard Richards Brown, of Pendleton, Manchester.

Also, Sept. 3, 1877, by Elder Orson Pratt, at 42 Islington, Liverpool, Mr. Wm. Fleming Barton, of Bolton, Lancashire, to Miss Emily Steele, of Leigh, Bedford.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, SEPT. 28.

Nicely Arranged.—The Z. C. M. I. grocery display window has just been remodelled by Mr. S. R. Marks, and for tastefulness of arrangement would be hard to excel.

Cheap Trains.—The Utah Central and Utah Southern railroad companies announce that they will run cheap trains during Conference. The tickets will be good from Oct. 4th to 11th.

Stabbing Affray.—The following special dispatch was received this afternoon:

SILVER REEF, Utah,
September 28.

Editors Deseret News:

Jno. Daly was stabbed yesterday about 11 a.m., near the Tecumseh mine, and badly wounded. Daly says one Wm. Kenner was the party who stabbed him. Kenner denies this. Daly made a sworn statement before W. T. Barbee, notary public. Kenner was arrested by the citizens and used rather roughly. Excitement ran high for a short time, but all quiet now. Daly's wounds are not necessarily fatal.

Arrived.—Elders Orson Pratt and Joseph F. Smith, of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, arrived last night, from England. Elder F. S. Richards also reached his home, in Ogden, having traveled in company with them.

They had rather a rough passage across the sea, but with the exception of Brother Richards, reached home in excellent health.

Elder F. S. Richards was in a feeble condition of body when he started on his mission, but it is thought that the change of air and scenery might prove beneficial. However, the climate of England did not suit him. He suffered much from chilliness and colds repeatedly contracted, and those who traveled with him communicated these facts to the authorities at home who sent instructions for his release. Before they arrived, the President of the mission had taken the matters into consideration, and Elder Richards was advised to return home at once. It was for these reasons that he came back so much sooner than he intended. While abroad he labored faithfully in the great cause, and we share his regret that his health did not permit of a continuance of his efforts to spread abroad the truths of the gospel. We hope to hear of his speedy convalescence.

LAYING THE CORNER STONES OF THE NEW TABERNACLE.

A large concourse of people assembled on the Temple Block, in this City, to-day, to witness the ceremonies of laying the corner stones of the New Tabernacle. The Assemblage first congregated in the large Tabernacle and precisely at twelve o'clock noon, from there proceeded to the south-east corner of the site of the proposed building, headed by the general and local authorities of the Church in the following order.

Of the Apostles, President John Taylor, Elders Wilford Woodruff, Orson Pratt, Erastus Snow, Franklin D. Richards, George Q. Cannon, Joseph F. Smith and Albert Carrington and D. H. Wells.

Patriarch John Smith.
Of the Presidency of the Salt Lake Stake of Zion, A. M. Cannon, D. O. Calder and J. E. Taylor.

Of the presidency of the High Priests Quorum, Elias Smith and Elias Morris.

Of the First Seven Presidents of Seventies, Joseph Young, A. P. Rockwood, H. S. Eldredge and John Van Cott.

Of the presidency of the Elders' Quorum, Edward Davis.

Of the presidency of the Bishopric of the Church, R. T. Burton, Counselor to Bishop Hunter.

There were also a large number of Bishops with their Counselors and other prominent Elders.

The architect, Brother Obed Taylor, and the building committee, Thomas Taylor, Henry Grow, Edward Brain and George Goddard, were on the ground.

At the proper moment, Obed Taylor, the architect, and Edward Brain, the Master Mason, under

the direction of the Twelve, adjusted the stone in its position, when

PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR stood upon it and in behalf of the Twelve and Presidency of the Stake, said—

I now declare this stone duly and firmly laid, according to arrangements heretofore made in relation to its position.

ELDER GEORGE Q. CANNON then offered the following prayer—

O our Father, who art in heaven, we thy servants have assembled together upon this holy and consecrated ground this morning, to attend to the laying of the corner stones of another house of worship wherein thy Saints can assemble to offer unto thee their thanksgiving, their praise and their offerings, and wherein they can partake from time to time, when it shall be necessary, of the Sacrament, and also listen to the instruction that shall be given unto them by thy servants as they shall be inspired by the Holy Ghost. And we come unto thee, our Father, upon this occasion, desiring to return unto thee the thanksgiving and gratitude of our hearts for the many blessings which thou hast bestowed upon us since thy servants first trod this soil. We look back with delight at the many favors and deliverances which thou hast extended unto us as a people; that notwithstanding the many efforts which have been made from time to time to destroy thy church and to break up the organization of thy kingdom upon the earth, and to bring to pass the overthrow of righteousness and of truth as thou hast taught thy servants to establish them in the earth; that notwithstanding these efforts we are permitted here, today, in peace and quietness, to assemble together and lay this, the south-east corner stone of another tabernacle, another sanctuary, another place in which the Priesthood and the Saints can assemble in peace and in quietude to listen unto thy word and to be taught and instructed therein. And we pray thee, our Father, that inasmuch as this ground has been dedicated and consecrated and set apart unto thee as a place upon which holy structures shall be erected, in which ordinances shall be administered, and in which thy word shall be declared; and as we have been enabled to preserve this ground holy for this purpose up to the present time, so we beseech thee this morning that thou wilt continue thy favor and protection unto us as a people, and help us to preserve this land and this dedicated spot holy and pure from this time forward, that no unclean thing shall enter herein; that when tempests visit the earth, this building, the corner stone of which we have now laid, may escape; that when floods descend, it may remain undisturbed till it shall have fully accomplished all that is desired by thy servants who shall erect it or who shall meet herein hereafter; that it may be a holy and sacred place and that within the walls of this structure thy Holy Spirit may descend and rest upon thy servants, and thine angels be present and even thou thyself condescend to be present and to pour out thy power and thy blessings upon thy servants and thy people. Hear us, O Father, in this our feeble supplication and in this feeble dedication this morning. Look not at the feebleness of our language, but look, O Father, at our desires and our hearts, for we desire thy blessing to rest upon us, to rest upon this people and rest upon the honest in heart throughout all the nations of the earth, upon all thy children everywhere. We beseech thee to assist us in rearing this structure, that no accident may befall any workman engaged therein, that the walls may rest secure and stand steadfast and immovable, and receive the timber and be roofed in and be finished, without anything occurring that shall be unpleasant connected therewith, that the people may be inspired to devote their means to its erection, that it may be speedily constructed. All of which we ask, dedicating all unto God in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The hymn on page 115, "On the mountain tops appearing, Lo! the sacred herald stands!" was sung and ELDER JOSEPH F. SMITH offered the concluding prayer as follows—

Our Father who art in heaven, as we have performed the ceremony of laying the corner stones of this building, we now offer unto thee the thanks and gratitude of our hearts that we have had this privilege, and we pray, Father, that the commencement that has been made for the erection of this building may be acceptable in thy sight and may be acknowledged of thee in the heavens thy dwelling place. And grant, oh God, that thy Holy Spirit and thy power may accompany the erection of this house unto thy most holy name. Let thy spirit and blessings attend those who shall labor upon the same, that no accident may befall them, that they may be filled with the light of truth, and with the Spirit of the living God, that there may be no contentions among the workmen who shall labor upon this building, that there may be no profanity and that there may be no spirit that shall grieve the Spirit of the Lord, manifested here; but may the spirit of life, of light, of truth, of union and of peace pervade the hearts and minds of those thy servants that shall labor upon this house, that their labors may be acceptable unto thee, and that it may be sanctified to the honor and glory of God and to the good of thy Saints who shall participate in the blessings of thine house which is to be reared.

We humbly ask thee now, Heavenly Father, to accept the offering that has been made here, and answer the prayer that has been offered unto thee by thy servant brother George Q. Cannon, at the commencement. And grant oh! God that the desires of our hearts may be realized in all things that we put our hands unto in righteousness before the Lord our God.

Bless thy servants the Apostles—thy servant brother John Taylor and all associated with him, and thy servants of the Holy Priesthood, and all who bear the holy priesthood in the midst of thy Saints, the Presidents of the various Stakes of Zion, the members of all the quorums, the Bishops and their counselors and all that are associated with them as teachers in

the midst of thy people, with thy servant Bishop Hunter presiding over the Bishopric. Let thy Holy Spirit rest upon these thy servants oh! God to fill their souls with light, wisdom, truth and with the knowledge of thy law that they may be wise counselors and wise judges and fathers in the midst of thy Saints. And inasmuch as it has seemed good in thy sight to take away from us thy servant President Young so suddenly, we ask in the name of Jesus Christ that the spirit and power of the living God may rest more abundantly upon thy servants who remain in the midst of thy Saints, that they may continue the work that thou hast begun and continue in faithfulness before thee in rolling forth thy great latter-day work. We realize Heavenly Father that it is not the work of man and we realize that no man can perform this labor and this work, but thou wilt do it.

Heavenly Father let thy Holy Spirit rest upon thy servants upon whom thou hast placed the responsibility of the kingdom, to counsel and labor in the midst of the Saints in these for the building up of Zion latter days.

Hear us, oh! Lord, in these our feeble supplications, hear and accept our thanks. Bless the labor that has been performed this day, and bless those that shall labor upon this building, the materials that shall be used in the walls and completion thereof, that all may be sanctified and placed in a proper position, that it may be firm upon its foundation and strong, and that it may endure and subserve the purposes for which it is designed. All of which we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

All the Twelve in the city and neighborhood were present, excepting Elder Brigham Young who was confined to his room by cold and fever. Presiding Bishop Hunter was out of town and his first counselor, Elder L. W. Hardy, was prevented from being present by sickness.

We are indebted to Brothers Rudgar Clawson and John Q. Cannon, for a verbatim report of the remarks and prayers on this occasion.

The interesting proceedings being finished, the assemblage dispersed. The ceremonies lasted only forty minutes, beginning at noon and concluding at twenty minutes to one o'clock.

An Enterprising Ward.—The 21st Ward was organized on July 5th of the present year, and ground was broken for a new meeting house about two weeks afterwards. The building is already nearing completion, and is as nice, comfortable and tasteful a little public building of the kind as any one need wish to see. It has been erected under the supervision, in connection with Bishop Burt, of Brothers H. J. Foulger, W. L. N. Allen and William Paul, Sen. The means have been obtained by voluntary contributions from members of the Ward, with some aid from the 20th Ward, of which the 21st formerly constituted a part.

The building is of brick. The size of the main structure is 44 feet long by 28 feet wide, and 16 feet from floor to ceiling. There are three windows each on the north and south sides, 8 feet by 3 feet six inches, with segment heads. There is an addition to the building, for a stand, on the east end, 17 feet by 13 feet. The brick work is finished, the roof and cornice are on the main portion, and the addition is receiving the roof now. Plastering will be commenced next week, and it is expected the hall will be ready for meetings in a couple of weeks from next Sunday. The seats have been purchased, and are ready to be placed in position as soon as the building is ready to receive them.

The Ward has shown a good deal of public spirit in erecting so creditable a building in so brief a time, especially in view of the fact that when finished it will be paid for with the exception of a comparatively small amount.

Blue gum telegraph poles are being put up on the railroad from Oakland to Martinez, California. This shows the remarkable growth of the Encalypsus. The plantation from which the poles were obtained was set out ten years ago. They measure from twenty-four to thirty feet long, and from seven to ten inches through at the butt, and from four to five inches through at the top.

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