

DESERET NEWS:

WEEKLY.

TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

WEDNESDAY, - June 30, 1875.

JUDICIOUS THOUGH TARDY.

TIME does but justify and confirm the conviction of every intelligent and fair-minded citizen that President Grant acted with sound discretion when he removed the late Chief Justice of Utah, so far as the eminent unfitness of the incumbent for the office was concerned. The public had become well satisfied of that unfitness long before, and the general wonder was not only why the gentleman had been confirmed in or re-appointed to the office, but why he had not been removed at a distant previous period, when his whole course of procedure from the beginning was overthrown by the Supreme Court of the United States.

This gentleman has been one of the most unfortunate in office, for the simple reason that he allowed his powerful and not infrequently violent prejudices to completely run away with him, and impel him to divers extraordinary and inconsistent judicial acts and proceedings. If he had come to the Territory as a chief justice should have come, that is, as an impartial judge, who had no business whatever with the religion or politics of those over whom his jurisdiction extended, but whose sole mission was to administer the law fairly and without prejudice, bigotry, or personal or partisan bias, he might have done well, been respected throughout the whole Territory, and filled two full terms with credit and honor to himself, advantage to the people, and satisfaction to the authorities at Washington.

But, no; he chose a far different course of procedure. He elected to come as a sort of theologico-politico-judicial official; in fact he proved himself a good deal more of the theologico-politico than of the judicial sort of gentleman, to his sorrow at last. He seemed to imagine that he was sent here less to administer the law pure and simple, than to engage in a crushing crusade against "Mormonism" and the "Mormons." He pushed that crusade powerfully as long as he remained in power, and eventually the weakest went to the wall, but "Mormonism" and the "Mormons" did not go to the wall. They are a long way from the wall yet, a very long way, probably farther than ever.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the Territory the other day, in the case of Reynolds, affirming the illegality of McKean's last grand jury, and consequently of all the acts of that grand jury, was but one of the string of evidences that the late Chief Justice was incompetent for the high and responsible position to which he had been appointed, which string runs back to a similar affirmation by the Supreme Court of the United States three or four years ago, concerning the invalidity of his first grand jury.

The fact is, that in almost if not quite every case in which "Mormonism" and "Mormonism" were concerned, that came before the late Chief Justice, so judicially blinded was he by his prejudices, that he took a course which could not be sustained by the superior courts, and which consequently has been reversed by them, when properly laid before them. We need not refer specifically to all these individual cases. They will be readily brought to mind by our readers for themselves.

As we have repeatedly stated, the people of this Territory generally do not desire any favors at the hands of the judiciary. All they wish is good, wholesome, liberal, constitutional laws, fairly interpreted and impartially administered, and all this it is the right of the citizens, it is the right of criminals even, to have and to enjoy, which they could never do, however, under such prejudiced and partisan public officials as the late Chief Justice of Utah irrefragably demonstrated himself to be.

THE UTAH GOVERNORSHIP.

LIKE many other places and many persons, Utah is considered nothing if not sensational, and the sensational concerning her is stirred up originally and chiefly by unprincipled and mendacious adventurers, whose word nobody who knows them believes. Upon the appointment of Mr. Axtell, as Governor of this Territory, these unscrupulous adventurers at once set upon him with the most vicious fury, continuing their attacks with their usual spitefulness to the last. Everybody here, who knew the source of these assaults and the true character of his assailants, thought the better of him for the enmity displayed toward him, it being characteristic of them to attack everybody and everything that are good, fair, and honorable.

Because of the removal of Governor Axtell so soon after his appointment, and the sensational misrepresentations and falsehoods which his enemies have so studiously and sedulously circulated against him, some of our exchanges have been led to comment upon the situation here, sometimes with a tolerably correct but oftener with a more or less distorted view of matters and things in this region. Among others the Montana *New North-West* has something to say upon the subject, in this way—

"The dispatches state that Geo. W. Emery has been appointed Governor of Utah to succeed Mr. Axtell, who has been sent as Governor to New Mexico. Gov. Axtell's Utah career has been brief and unhappy. While in any other Territory his policy would probably have resulted well, in Utah it has been inglorious and a failure. The best that could be done for him was to release him from the position. There is no other Territory, there is no State, where, by politics, religious or social estrangements, the people are so radically and irreconcilably opposed to each other as are the Mormon and Gentile elements in Utah. The former has in the Territory an overwhelming preponderance and maintains its position with unyielding obstinacy; the latter is aggressive, vigilant and unrelenting, and is making a merciless crusade against Mormonism. Governor Axtell, assuming that he was sent there to administer the laws without distinction as to creed, hobbled with prominent Mormons, received censure from the Gentiles, naturally associated with those who treated him most friendly and for months has been under a most galling fire from the Gentile press. He was forced down and out as many have been before him. The Utah governorship is the political wheel on which has been broken every man who has accepted it. It is the most trying, thankless, hopeless, briefest-termed office in the gift of the President. Over the gubernatorial office should be inscribed Dante's legend over the gates of *Inferno*. There are no laws competent to squelch polygamy; there is no salvation for the executive and judiciary that either do, or do not suppress it. The prospects are not inviting for Governor Emery. He is reputed a personal friend of the President. That may save his head until his shoulders grow weary and shrink under the burden, and that, judging by his predecessors, is about the only sure hope he has."

So far as Governor Axtell is concerned, and so far as we are aware, his career as Governor of Utah has been brief, but neither unhappy, inglorious, nor a failure. There is not a great deal of legitimate gubernatorial business to be done in Utah, not a great deal to base wonderful success or glory upon, but this much we may say, that Mr. Axtell's brief incumbency here has proved an unusual time of quietude, peace, and lack of hurtful sensational proceedings and incidents. In these particulars, generally considered indicative of solid material advancement, his career has been happy and successful. As to the glory of it we may leave Frenchmen to quarrel about that kind of thing. Glory is not a matter of prime consideration with practical Americans. There was no necessity to release him from the position. Those who found so much fault with him, and who so violently and incessantly condemned him would do the same towards the best man in the country, were he

in the same office. They would find similar fault with any governor, unless he was a rabid partisan of theirs, and that is the whole secret of the hullabaloo against Governor Axtell.

The "Gentile press" signifies the untrustworthy, rabid, disreputable Salt Lake ring organ, as unscrupulous and corrupt a concern as could be, and utterly unworthy of acceptance or attention in any respectable or honorable quarter.

There is no real difficulty whatever in regard to the Utah Governorship. All the difficulties, which some people seem to think are stupendous, are purposely manufactured or assumed. The one thing needful for the Federal government to do is to appoint faithful, sensible, judicious, impartial officers, who will do their duty, and let religion and politics entirely alone therein. Officials, as such, have nothing whatever to do with "Mormonism" or the "Mormons." It is none of their business. It does not come within the scope of their legitimate jurisdiction. As regards the barking of the unscrupulous ring organ, it should be ignored as of no more real moment than the braying of an ass, or the whining of a mangy and ill-mannered cur.

Fair at Bountiful.

June 24th, 1875.

Editor Deseret News:

Having the pleasure of visiting the city of Bountiful this morning, my attention was drawn toward the rock building just east of the Tabernacle, where I learned the Relief Society was holding a fair, the proceeds of which are to be appropriated towards putting up a suitable building for said society.

On entering the room, the first thing that attracted attention was the portrait of President B. Young, which hung at the further end of the hall. In the centre of the hall are two rows of tables, covered with all kinds of fancy needlework, artificial flowers, ladies' bonnets, hats, &c. Everything was arranged in perfect order and with great taste, showing the artistic skill of the sisters, whose diligence and perseverance have made the fair a decided success. On the wall were tastefully arranged bed spreads, of great variety, and worthy of much praise are those who have done the work; table spreads, pillow slips, and every article of fancy needlework you can think of, all of which reflect great credit upon the ladies of Bountiful.

The next room was the art gallery, which surprised me beyond measure. The walls were neatly hung with pictures of great variety. Some were oil paintings from the brush of R. Kirkham; pictures formed with the needle; and also some good chromos, and many little bits of work and art that I had not time to note. I noticed a nice collection of flowers, little workbaskets, and a thousand other artistic things, too numerous to mention. I saw a fine specimen of home-raised silk, which reflected credit upon the persons who are engaged in that home production.

The whole was far superior to my expectations, and should be encouraged, for it shows a spirit of industry and diligence which I did not think the sisters of Bountiful were blessed with.

Respectfully yours,
A VISITOR.

Special to the DESERET NEWS.

TERRITORIAL DISPATCHES.

PER DES. TEL. LINE.

A Disastrous Fire.

BULLIONVILLE, June 22.

A disastrous fire occurred here this morning at two o'clock. It originated in the store of Wm. Gedling, and soon spread to the adjoining buildings. The hose of the R. & E. mills was soon playing on the flames, and through this means they were confined to a small number of buildings. The large hotel was several times on fire, but through the persevering exertions of the citizens was saved; had it burned nothing could have saved the town. None of the mills were burned. The losses are—H. Bryan, dwelling house and restaurant, \$2,500; Wm. Gedling, store \$1,500; P. S. Butler, dwelling house and saloon, \$1,500; C. Mathews, butcher shop, \$800; the telegraph office was also destroyed, but everything belonging to it saved. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM WEDNESDAY'S DAILY, JUNE 23.

Coming Emigrants.—A Washington paper of June 17 says—

"The steamer *Wisconsin*, which sailed from Liverpool yesterday for New York, brings one hundred Mormons, half of whom are Germans."

Whisky and Victuals.—This morning a man was arrested for being drunk and using profane language and for obtaining meals at a restaurant and refusing to pay for them. He was fined \$10 on each of the two charges.

Provo Valley.—To-day we met with Bishop Abram Hatch, of Provo Valley. He states that there was a sharp nip of frost there a short time since, which, however, did no further damage than to kill some of the fruit. There never was a better prospect for grain crops than now since the valley was first settled. The co-operative store, he says, is doing a prosperous business. A co-operative tannery has been built and is in successful operation, producing leather.

The Ute Indians of the Uintah Reservation are developing remarkably industrial habits, being ambitious to do their own work, and become measurably independent. This season they have under way a great deal of grain and potatoes and anticipate raising good crops.

Applications.—Judging from the numerous applications for the office of City Watermaster, one would suppose that the number of persons well qualified to fill the position is legion. Among the things that used to be an office hunting a man, but the preponderating fashion now-a-days is infinitely on the other side, so far as the hunting is concerned. Well, the promise is, "Seek and ye shall find," and, as the City is probably seeking for a good watermaster it is to be hoped it will find one; but the natural conclusion must be that all who are seeking the office cannot very well find what they are looking for. Let us hope so.

In the meantime the duties of the position devolve, *pro tem*, upon Mr. Hyde, the efficient supervisor.

An Acknowledgment.—We have been requested to publish the following card:

"SALT LAKE CITY,
June 21st, 1875.

"Editor Deseret News:

"The Pioneer Engine Company No. 1, wish, through the columns of your paper, to return the thanks of said Company to Bishop Tanner, Mayor Page, Messrs. McClellan, Combs and Patten; also to the citizens of Payson in general, for their kindness and liberality on the Company's recent visit to Payson.

"Signed, in behalf of the members of the Company,
"C. M. DONELSON,
Foreman,
"JOHN READING,
Asst. Foreman."

Severe Accident.—The following is from the Ogden Junction of June 22—

"This morning two men jumped on the U. P. passenger train while in motion. Soon after getting on, a brakeman, in climbing over the car, saw them, and probably supposing they were there without tickets, ordered them off. They asked to be allowed to ride to the next station, which was refused. They then jumped off while the train was running. In jumping off one of them, who gives his name as Wm. Jaman, fell on his forehead, peeling the skin and flesh off in a frightful manner, his face is also badly cut up, and his brain is injured and his whole system jarred by the fall.

"Drs. Waugaman and Condon dressed his wounds."

City Council.—The regular weekly meeting of City Council was held last evening. In the absence of the Mayor, Alderman George Crismon was called to the chair.

Petition of Mark Lindsey and others, asking that a flume be placed in the ditch at the corner of Maple and Wall Streets; referred to committee on streets and alleys.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of the Wasatch Fire Engine Company, for increased engine house accommodation, recommended that the petitioners be allowed to occupy a room adjoining

the present quarters, in the 12th District Market House; adopted.

The report of the street supervisor for the quarter ending May 31st, 1875, was presented and referred to committee on claims.

William Hyde, supervisor, was appointed watermaster *pro tem*.

The committee on revision reported back a bill for the regulation of water and water ditches. The bill was passed, with further amendments.

Petition of William Hickenlooper and others asking for the appointment of a committee of inspection to examine the Sixth Ward canal, in the vicinity where the child of Mr. Goss was drowned, with a view to taking precautionary measures to prevent similar casualties in future; referred to committee on streets and alleys.

Petition of Sunday School Union, asking for an appropriation to aid in defraying the expense of a 24th of July celebration; referred to committee of ways and means.

Poisoned Bites.—We have before alluded to the exceedingly injurious effects that have resulted to Mrs. Avery, of the 6th Ward, from having been bitten by a poisonous spider. The physician in attendance is of opinion that she will regain the use of her arm, but large portions of the poisoned flesh are peeling and being taken from it.

Mr. William Strong informs us that he has found a sovereign remedy for the bites of snakes, scorpions and spiders, in liquid ammonia, applied externally, to the bitten part, soon after the bite has been inflicted, and the effect is equally salutary in cases where persons have been injured by contact with poison ivy. This antidote was communicated to him by a man who professed to be a rattlesnake-tamer or charmer, and he has tested its virtue in the case of a daughter of his, who was bitten by a scorpion.

Another gentleman informs us that a little daughter of his was once bitten by a rattlesnake, in the arm, and the poison was completely drawn out by burying the limb for some time in the earth. It has also been noticed that dogs that have been bitten by rattlesnakes have immediately set to work digging a hole in the ground, in which they partially buried themselves, and thus escaped comparatively uninjured.

A decoction made from vervain, taken inwardly, and applied outwardly by means of wetted cloths, is a most effective remedy for ivy poisoning.

Cruelty to Animals.—The following was handed in by a gentleman to-day:

"Yesterday afternoon a man was driving four horses on Centre street, over the 19th Ward bench, one of which showed but little inclination to be driven. The man had hitched it by a rope around its neck to the tail of one of the other horses, thereby dragging it along while the rope at the same time was tightening and strangling the refractory animal. He also procured a boy to beat it, who struck it with a club so unmercifully about the head that the blood flowed freely from the nostrils of the poor beast, while one of its eyes was nearly knocked out. When near the residence of Mr. Henry Grow, the poor brute, to free itself from the strangulation of the rope and the blows from the club, gave a lunge backward, and in doing so stumbled and fell into the ditch, breaking its neck in the fall. The man then drove up the other horse to try to pull him on to his feet again, but it was too late, the poor thing had done all he could do and was dying. It was not until a workman from a house close by, ran and cut the rope, after the horse was down, that the animal ceased to groan. The man, after he was satisfied the animal was dead, coolly drove on, leaving the dead carcass in the street, and it was still there at a late hour this morning.

"Such brutality should receive the attention of the proper authorities, the man be hunted up, arrested and punished. The sight was a most shocking one to the sensitive nerves and feelings of the women and children who witnessed the scene."

Since the above was received we understand the police have taken the matter in hand, and the carcass has been removed.