

Bishop can try any man for a breach of moral conduct, but he cannot sit in judgment on controverted points of doctrine, for they are to be referred to those who hold the keys of the higher priesthood, and their decision is the end of all strife.

In trying all matters of doctrine, to make a decision valid, it is necessary to obtain a unanimous voice, faith and decision. In the capacity of a quorum, the three First Presidents must be one in their voice, the Twelve Apostles must be unanimous in their voice, to obtain a righteous decision upon any matter that may come before them, as you may read in the Doctrine and Covenants. The Seventies may decide upon the same principle. Whenever you see these Quorums unanimous in their declaration, you may set it down as true. Let the Elders get together, being faithful and true, and when they agree upon any point you may know that it is true.

I will now say a few words upon the callings of men in a neighborhood or Ward capacity. Some of the High Priests may be ordained to officiate in callings pertaining to the church in Ward capacities. Now I will ask the Bishop of this Ward, if he has a right to neglect this Ward to meet with the High Priests' Quorum in their meetings. He has no such right—he has no right to neglect this Ward one minute for the sake of such meeting. That is not his right and calling, when his services are required here as Bishop. There is a poor widow, a sick family, business is going at random here and there, and he has no right to believe that he has the privilege of leaving all his Ward to look out for themselves, and say, "if you do well, it is well; and if you do ill, I cannot help it, I am going to my Quorum meeting." It is his duty to devote his time, from New-year's morning to New-year's morning again, for the benefit of his Ward. He is placed to preside over it, and he will dictate all in his Ward. If he sees a Seventy or a High Priest squandering his property, or, if he sees any getting drunk, gambling, or loafing about wasting their time, he has a perfect right to call them to account.

We have Mass Quorums of Seventies in most of the settlements in the Territory, and I have frequently thought, if the brethren did not improve pretty fast, the title would have to be altered a little; but as they have improved we do not see any necessity of making the application and calling them Mass Quorums. Joseph Smith never would permit the Seventies to get together and believe themselves a separate body from the rest of the church. I never cared much about this, for I was not a particle afraid that they would get any power that truly does not belong to them, for, if they did, I was always satisfied that it would be blown to the four winds. I want to inform the Seventies living in Bishop Miller's Ward (and what I now say applies to all the other Wards and Bishops), if he calls on them to act as Teachers, it is their imperative duty to act as Teachers, seeking to benefit and bless the people by enlarging their understandings, that they may prove themselves before God and one another. There is a world of intelligence to impart, and the Priesthood, in its various callings, appointments, helps and governments, is the means, through its ministers, of imparting it to the people. It is not the duty of a Seventy or High Priest, who is appointed a Teacher or a Bishop, to neglect the duties of those callings to attend a Seventies or High Priest's meeting. Attend to the wishes of your Bishop, and never ask who has the most power. The man who has the most power with God will wield it, and earth and hell cannot hinder it. Talk about power, and "I want you to give me influence!" There are but few things that offend me more than to have men come to me and say, "br. Brigham, give me influence, for I am a great man in this kingdom," and what would he do with it? He would take himself, and all that would follow him, to the devil. Every man who has true influence has obtained it before God through faithfulness, and in all such cases there is not the least danger but what he will have it before the Saints. It is the man who converses with the heavens, who delights in doing so, and knows for himself that this is the kingdom of God, who has true influence.

As I said last Sabbath, the greatest proof and the least, to prove that this is the kingdom of God, consists in its embracing every truth and rejecting every error, and that embraces God and heaven and all holy beings. Who, then, has the greatest power? Those who best do the will of God. When a Bishop calls upon a man to officiate as an assistant to him, he does not call upon him as a Seventy or as a High Priest, but as one of his family, as a member of his Ward. You know what the Spirit of the Lord teaches me, to see that the widows go not hungry, that the orphans are clothed, that every able-bodied man is judiciously and profitably employed, and that every man is doing his duty; to see that the cattle and wagons are got together when they are wanted; and it is as much the duty of the Seventies to look after these matters, as it is the duty of any of their brethren. When the Bishops say, "go and drive that team, do this, or do that," "O, yes," says a Seventy, "with all my heart." "Bishop, we thought we would meet once a week as Seventies, or High Priests, can we have your permission?" "Yes, go to the school house and sound life eternal to the people."

Told by their President to have a mass quorum meeting here! No; no such power is vested in the Seventies anywhere. No man gets power from God to raise disturbance in

any Branch of the Church; such power is obtained from an evil source.

Now, High Priests and Apostles, go to with your might and assist your Bishops in providing for the widows and fatherless.

If Bishop Miller is not responsible for this Ward, to dictate all this Ward, who is? He is the man that is appointed here to preside, and as a High Priest he has a right to meet with his brethren of that quorum, and to baptize, confirm, bless children, administer to the sick, and perform all other duties pertaining to the office and calling of a High Priest; his being a Bishop does not take away any of his priesthood or power.

May God bless you. Amen.

[From our Extra of the 26th Inst.]

EASTERN NEWS

BY TELEGRAPH AND PONY.

The Pony Express, with eastern advices up to the evening of the 19th, arrived here this morning a few minutes after 8 o'clock.

The absence of the dispatches, which should have been received by last Pony, necessarily breaks to us the chain of revolutionary events. We are led to infer from what is before us, that the secessionists have evacuated Harper's Ferry, or had at least drawn largely the troops from that place for the better defense of Manassas junction, their principal line of defense.

The dispatch referring to the flight of Gov. Jackson will be better understood when we state that the Governor had, on or about the 14th, issued a proclamation calling for fifty thousand volunteers to drive "the minions of Abe Lincoln" from the soil of Missouri.—The Governor sets forth that Missouri was still in the Union and the laws of the Federal Government should be respected, but the laws of the State and its defense had the first claim upon its citizens.

The dispatches by this arrival would doubtless have been more numerous, but for the hindrance to telegraphic communication, caused by a thunder storm at the moment of operating. The operator to Kearney had to discontinue in the middle of a dispatch. The line otherwise seemed to be again in good working order.

WASHINGTON.

A dozen rifled cannon, cast at the Western Foundry, had been received at Washington, six of them had been sent to Alexandria.

P. F. Wilson was to leave Washington shortly for Nebraska. He is sent out for the purpose of overhauling the accounts of the late officials in that Territory. It appears that J. Sterling Morton, the secretary, Addison R. Gilmore, receiver of the land office, have balances against them on Treasury books for which they have acceptances. Enos Lowe, late receiver of the Iowa land office is also a defaulter.

A special dispatch to the *Tribune* reports that General Scott had said the evacuation of Harper's Ferry, was in perfect conformity with his plans and expectations; but that nothing which the rebels had done had interfered in the slightest with his plan of this campaign, or with the several steps which he had proposed to take.

Everything was in the best condition for advancing to Richmond. Officers confess that the movement toward that place will begin within a fortnight, and when once begun, it would not halt until the rebel capital was taken. It was believed the capture would be made before the day fixed for the meeting of the Davis' Congress.

The Government had received information that rebels had set a trap in some woods, fifteen miles from Alexandria, in which they expected to draw the unsuspecting Federal forces. Several small batteries had been erected by them on the outskirts of the wood lawn. They propose to array their forces at no distant day, and press forward their pickets, until a collision ensues. The scout who brings this intelligence, also states that a number of Indians, dressed in their war costumes, who were supposed to belong to the savages who volunteered from North Carolina, were seen lurking about.

The Government was considering the propriety of establishing submarine telegraph communication between Point Lookout and Fort Monroe. A guard was to be placed at Point Lookout to protect that station. Soundings had already been taken the whole distance.

A Washington dispatch of the 19th says there is no doubt that the rebels were erecting batteries at important points on the Poto-

mac. They hope to control the navigation of the river and expel the Federal troops from its waters, closing up the connection with the north except by Annapolis.

The President having sent Gov. Letcher a pardon for a convict, who had been sentenced for robbing the mail, Letcher answered that the President's powers were not recognized by Virginia.

VIRGINIA.

A Baltimore dispatch of the 17th, states that persons just from near Fortress Monroe, reported a skirmish there on the preceding morning. Three companies sent out by Colonel Phelps to drive in cattle, belonging to secessionists, had been fired upon by a company of light horse, and three men wounded.

The rebels were evidently landing a large body of troops at the Point, seven miles above Newport News on the same side of the river. An attack from that quarter was anticipated.

An experiment with Sawyer's American rifle cannon at Rip Raps, had been a brilliant success. Sewall's Point was already within range of these guns. Seven forty-eight pound shells exploded a short distance from the rebel's camp, and one of them over their entrenchments, it created a sensation among the secessionists, and a house near the secession banner, displayed a white flag.

At Acquia Creek, several heavy guns on new batteries had been mounted by rebels. The garrison and troops at Fort Monroe and Hampton were all under arms. The big gun Ex-Floyd was being mounted at the Rip Raps. Shells discharged, by way of experiment, reached Sewell's Point, four miles distant.

The troops at Manassas were estimated at 22,000. All the Harper's Ferry force except the rear had arrived. The latter had advanced as far as Winchester.

The entrenchments at Manassas are very strong. They expected an attack from the Federal forces there on the 19th, and swear they will repulse them with great slaughter and drive them across the Potomac. They do not say what they will do in case no attack is made on them from that quarter.

A Washington dispatch of the 18th, says that Gen. Scott received the following dispatch last night:

"I left camp according to instructions with the 1st Ohio regiment, six hundred and sixty-eight strong, went on the expedition to Falls Church to patrol round in that direction. I then proceeded to Vienna with four companies—company E, Capt. Paddock; company C, Lieut. Woodward; afterwards joined by Captain Pease; company G, Capt. Dailey; company H, Capt. Hazlett; total two hundred and seventy-five. On turning the curve within quarter of a mile of Vienna, we were fired upon by raking masked batteries of three guns with shell, round shot and grape, killing and wounding the men."

Persons arrived from Richmond state that the rebels were making gigantic preparations for the defence of Richmond. It seemed as though the first grand stand would be made there. Masked batteries were placed at advantageous points. The city was strongly fortified. Not less than thirty thousand troops were there.

The Richmond correspondent of the *Charleston Courier* says that Jeff. Davis and Wigfall were to take the field in person in a week.

Vienna is now occupied by four thousand Federal troops.

The forces of General Johnston and Cadwallader, it was believed, were likely to meet at some point north west of Harper's Ferry.

It was supposed that Beauregard, in withdrawing his advance, aims to catch McDowell's columns in ambush. He will hardly succeed, after the warning at Vienna. The people say that the South lost six men killed by the return fire of the Ohioans.

A Grafton dispatch of the 19th states that a courier had just arrived from Phillippi. It was ascertained that the rebels, twelve hundred strong, were encamped twelve miles from there on the Beverly road with reinforcements. From four to six thousand strong advancing—including three South Carolina regiments. An attack on Phillippi was expected hourly. William Gibbs and William Martin of company "K" of the 14th Ohio regiment, were killed by concealed foes while scouting within five miles of Phillippi, on the Beverly Pike. A third scout had his clothing riddled with bullets.

MARYLAND.

The Indianapolis *Journal* received the following special dispatch from Colonel Wal-

ace, commander of the 11th regiment at Cumberland, in regard to the fight at Romney.

The rebels did not rally and return, they ran sixteen miles towards Winchester before they stopped. So far from my retreating, I brought into camp at Cumberland their tents, valuable arms, uniforms, and medical stores, without leaving anything behind. Their rout was total. Next day there were seven funerals in the town. We killed a Captain, an ex-Member of the Legislature, and took one of the Majors prisoner. I send you this to stop the infamous secession slander about my retreating, started by some cowardly scoundrels in Alexandria. My boys are entitled to all honor, and they won it bravely. They have not forgotten Buena Vista.

(Signed) LEWIS WALLACE,

Colonel 11th Regiment.

There were flying rumors in Washington on the 17th of a fight between one of the Ohio regiments and a band of rebels near Vienna, on the Loudon railroad, which had been partially confirmed. An engagement had taken place, probably without serious results. The enemy had been on the bridge, two miles from Seneca mills, which crosses a branch of the Potomac river, over which the Federal forces must march in advancing across the river.

It was reported that the legislature of Maryland would attempt to pass an act releasing the State of Virginia from paying damages to the citizens of Maryland who had sustained damages by the wanton destruction of railroads and canals within the State of Maryland.

Repairs on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad were deferred until the Government gets possession of the route. About seven thousand feet of the bridge had been burned by the rebels.

Tenders of companies still continued to pour into Annapolis.

Colonel Meredith had twenty companies tendered him, and Colonels Brown and Milton's were rapidly filling up.

MISSOURI.

A dispatch from St. Louis, on the evening of the 17th, reports that as a body guard of one hundred and twenty men, part of Col. Jailman's regiment reserve corps, were returning from the North Missouri railroad, about eleven o'clock that morning, when opposite the Recorder's Court Room, Seventh Street, between Olive and Locust, a company near the rear of the column suddenly wheeled and discharged their rifles, aiming chiefly at the windows in Recorder's Court, and second story of the adjoining house, killing four citizens, and mortally wounding two and slightly injuring one.

Statements regarding the cause are said to be very conflicting. One being that a pistol shot had been fired from the window of a house on the corner of Seventh and Locust Streets, took effect in the shoulder of one of the captains, on which he gave word to fire. Another statement is that a soldier accidentally discharged his rifle in the ranks, at which the whole company became frightened, and discharged a full volley at a crowd on the side walk and the windows of the houses. The Recorder's Court was in session, and crowded with prisoners and spectators. Police officer Pratt was shot in the side, and died in ten minutes. Deputy Marshal Frango received three balls in his legs, and he will undoubtedly die. The names of other persons who were killed on the pavement below had not been ascertained. The window just behind the Recorder's desk was riddled with bullets, and broken glass was scattered over his desk. The bodies of those killed were removed to the health officer's, where a thorough investigation of the affair was to be had, and when particulars would be given.

A Jefferson city dispatch of the 18th, states that it was reported by two reliable persons from Boonville that a fight had taken place between the Federal and State forces and that three hundred secessionists were killed and a number taken prisoners. One report says seventeen, and another that twenty-nine Federal troops were killed. Gov. Jackson had fled and the State forces were routed.

An outbreak occurred at the penitentiary that day. After dinner, as the convicts were about being conducted to their cells, they made a rush upon the guards and after overpowering them attempted to break through the walls. One was shot, and two or three wounded by the U. S. troops who were promptly on the ground, and soon succeeded in securing and placing them in their cells.