

AN EXTRAORDINARY LETTER.

In another column of to-day's paper will be found a correspondence between Lieutenant-General Daniel H. Wells and Governor J. W. Shaffer. It will be read with interest by our subscribers. The difference in the tone of the two letters will strike every reader, resident or non-resident of the Territory. That of General Wells is respectful and gentlemanly, a letter in which there is no want of courtesy, a letter, in fact, that no gentleman would be ashamed to acknowledge having written and no gentleman would be offended at receiving. We leave the public to pronounce upon Governor Shaffer's, merely adding that if we wished to be brutal in writing, or to publish studied insults, we should be anxious to know the man whom Governor J. W. Shaffer employs for this purpose. He contrives most effectually to insult the persons to whom he writes. He did so in the case of General De Trobriand; he has tried to do so in the present instance. We scarcely think, however, that the letter to General Wells was penned by the same hand that wrote that to General De Trobriand. We saw the original manuscript of the letter to the latter gentleman, we have seen the original manuscript of the letter to the former. The handwritings are not alike. Disgusted with his former amanuensis, who wrote such an indiscreet letter to Gen. De Trobriand, we conclude the Governor has employed a new assistant to write this letter to Gen. Wells. But Governor Shaffer has not gained by the change. He ought to have stuck to his first amanuensis. He, it is probable, learned something from the De Trobriand correspondence, and would not have been betrayed into writing such a letter as this which we publish to-day. Ignorance of law, of military practices, governmental affairs, of the customs of the States and Territories and of gentlemanly breeding crops out of every line of it, and if Governor Shaffer had the vigor of mind and perception which we suppose he must once have had, he would perceive and be ashamed of it. That he did not perceive it before publishing it is conclusive evidence to our mind that his sickness affects his judgment. But has he no friends who have respect for his reputation? Or do the members of the "ring" surround him, exclude every one from his society who has any regard for him, and use him reckless of all consequences but the accomplishment of their own base ends?

There is one point of similarity in the manner in which the Governor's correspondence with Gen. De Trobriand and Gen. Wells is made public. Gen. De Trobriand first saw at Provo, in the columns of the EVENING NEWS, that addressed to him; had Gen. Wells been out of town his would probably have reached him first through the same channel. As it was, he received it the day after it was written, and in the interim it had doubtless been put in type.

We have not time or space to-day to dwell further upon the extraordinary production which is signed by Governor Shaffer. We may sum it up for the present by saying that we do not recollect a plainer case of *ad captandum vulgus*. The letter contains the best evidence of the character of the Governor's own proceedings. He deliberately ignores and tramples upon the laws of the Territory, sets at defiance the laws of Congress and by his vexatious and unwarrantable acts exhibits most clearly his intention to wield despotic and dictatorial powers. If this is not the Governor's true position, then the writer of his letter has done him great injustice.

BEE CONVENTION.

We suggested, some short time since, the propriety of holding a convention of those who are, or who wish to be, interested in bee culture. All whom we have heard speak upon this subject have expressed a desire to have such a convention held. At Provo, where a branch organization has been effected, they find their meetings productive of excellent results. Those who attend them can compare their experience with that of others, and derive much information thereby, which in this country, where bees are comparatively untried, is very valuable. We are now in a condition to pay attention to such organizations as these, not only for the cultivation of bees and arriving at the best method of promoting this industry; but also organizations for the introduction and improvement of stock, grain, fruits,

etc. There is considerable being done by one and another in relation to the purchase and importation of stock. We hear of parties who propose to go this coming winter to the States, and to Canada with the intention of procuring fine-blooded animals. There is a growing disposition to invest means in this direction. But with a proper organization these results can be reached much cheaper and in a more satisfactory manner than if each one follows his own judgment and acts in an individual capacity. There are many points which an organization would possess full knowledge about that but few individuals would be likely to understand. A society has better means of learning what good stock we have in the Territory, and what kind we most need, than any individual possesses. A member of such a society, with all its means of information within his reach, could expend his means in purchasing fine-blooded stock to much better advantage than if he made investments independent of it. There is some very excellent horned stock now in the Territory which the owners have taken pains to preserve. Probably some breeding animals of as good blood can be obtained from them at as reasonable rates as they can be purchased in the States, and the transportation and risk be saved. President Young has a strain of choice Devon stock that he has had for years, the qualities of which are known. Others have choice animals of other breeds, from which selections can be made. In Utah County Bro. A. O. Smoot has several choice animals, and Bro. Wm. Bringham, of Springville, has a short-horned Durham Bull, the superior of which it would be difficult to find in any country.

A society would of course know all about this stock, and its members desiring to purchase would be in a better position to know what kinds would be profitable, and could expend their money satisfactorily. Hence, the propriety and advantages of a society organization.

With the object of promoting these results it has been proposed to hold a convention at ten o'clock a.m. on Monday next in the Tabernacle. It is called with the view of getting the bee-keepers of the city and country together, and also all those who take interest in bees and honey; but it is probable that something will be said or done also in relation to stock. There will be an organization of a Bee-keepers' Society, and it is not improbable that an organization will be arrived at in the interests of blooded stock. It is hoped and desired that there will be a full attendance at the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN LIEUTENANT-GENERAL D. H. WELLS AND GOVERNOR J. W. SHAFFER.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, U.T.,
Salt Lake City, Oct. 25, 1870.

HIS EXCELLENCY J. W. SHAFFER,
Governor, and Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of Utah Territory,
SIR,—Whereas, a Proclamation has been published emanating from your Excellency, in which the holding of the regular musters in this Territory is prohibited except by your order, and

Whereas, the notices for the regular musters were given out as usual, and some of them held in portions of the Territory, and

Whereas, to stop the musters now, neither the terms of the proclamation, the laws of the Territory, nor the laws of Congress requiring reports of the force and condition of the Militia of the Territory, could be complied with: We, therefore, the undersigned, for and in behalf of the Militia of said Territory, respectfully ask your Excellency to suspend the operations of said Proclamation until the 20th day of November next, in order that we may be enabled to make full and complete returns of the Militia as aforesaid.

DANIEL H. WELLS,
Lieut.-Gen. Com'g Militia, U. T.
H. B. CLAWSON,
Adj. Gen. Militia, U. T.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Utah Territory,
Salt Lake City, Oct. 27, 1870.

D. H. WELLS, ESQ:

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday, in which you sign yourself "Lieutenant-General Commanding the Militia of Utah Territory." As the laws of the United States provide for but one Lieutenant-General, and as the

incumbent of that office is the distinguished Philip H. Sheridan, I shall certainly be pardoned for recognizing no other.

In your communication, you address me as "Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of Utah Territory;" it is now twenty years since the Act to organize this Territory was passed by the Congress of the United States, and, so far as I am informed, this is the first instance in which you, or any of your predecessors in the pretended office which you assume to hold, have recognized the Governor of this Territory to be, as the Organic Act makes him, the Commander-in-Chief, &c., &c. My predecessors have been contemptuously ignored, or boldly defied. I congratulate you and the loyal people here and elsewhere, on the significant change in your conduct. You do me the honor to ask me to suspend the operation of my Proclamation of Sept. 15th, 1870, prohibiting all musters, drills, &c., &c. In other words, you ask me to recognize an unlawful military system, which was originally organized at Nauvoo, in the State of Illinois, and which has existed here without authority of the United States, and in defiance of the Federal officials. You say, whereas, to stop the musters now, neither the terms of the proclamation, the laws of the Territory, nor the laws of Congress, &c., could be complied with. That is, my proclamation cannot be carried out, unless I will let you violate it. Laws of the Territory which conflict with the laws of Congress, must fall to the ground, unless I will permit you to uphold them, and the laws of Congress cannot be complied with unless I will let you interpret, and nullify them. To state the proposition is to answer it.

Mr. Wells, you know, as I do, that the people of this Territory, most of whom were foreign born, and are ill acquainted with our institutions, have been taught to regard certain private citizens here as superior in authority, not only to the Federal officials here, but also at Washington. Ever since my proclamation was issued, and on a public occasion, and in the presence of many thousands of his followers, Brigham Young, who claims to be, and is called "President," denounced the Federal officers of this Territory with bitter vehemence, and on a like occasion, about the same time, and in his (Young's) presence, one of his most conspicuous followers declared that Congress had no right whatever to pass an Organic Act for this Territory; that such an act was a relic of Colonial barbarism, and that not one of the Federal officials had any right to come to, or remain in this Territory.

Mr. Wells, you ask me to take a course which, in effect, would aid you and your turbulent associates to further convince your followers that you and your associates are more powerful than the Federal Government. I must decline. To suspend the operation of my Proclamation now, would be a greater dereliction of duty than not to have issued it. Without authority from me, you issued an order in your assumed capacity of Lieut. General, &c., &c. calling out the Militia of the Territory, to muster, and now you virtually ask me to ratify your act. Sir, I will not do anything in satisfaction of your officious and unwarranted assumption.

By the provisions of the Organic Act, the Governor is made the Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of the Territory, and, sir, as long as I continue to hold that office, a force so important as that of the Militia shall not be wielded or controlled in disregard of my authority which by law and my obligation it is my plain duty not only to assert but, if possible, to maintain. I hope the above is sufficiently explicit as to be fully understood, and supersede the necessity of any further communication on this subject.

I have the honor to be &c., &c.,

J. W. SHAFFER,
Governor, & Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of Utah Territory.

LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT-GENERAL D. H. WELLS.

EDITOR DESERET EVENING NEWS:—
SIR,—I find myself under the necessity of requesting you to give space in your columns for the enclosed correspondence between myself and His Excellency Governor Shaffer. His reply to my communication reached me yesterday, and it was only a few hours afterwards that I saw the entire correspondence in print. I might have

felt some reluctance before this in giving our correspondence publicity; but now I have no alternative; my duty to the public, my regard for truth and my own self-respect will not suffer me to remain silent; and as Governor Shaffer closes his communication by saying, that he hopes what he has written will "supersede the necessity of any further communication on this subject," I am constrained to address you this letter.

The first point which I will notice in his communication is the statement that,

"As the laws of the United States provide for but one Lieutenant General, and as the incumbent of that office is the distinguished Philip H. Sheridan, I shall certainly be pardoned for recognizing no other."

What inference does Governor Shaffer wish drawn from this? The same law of Congress which provides for one Lieutenant General, provides for one General and for five Major-Generals, (see army register for 1869, also Gen. E. D. Townsend's report to Gen. W. T. Sherman, commanding U. S. Army for same year;) must we therefore conclude that there shall be no Major-Generals of militia in the States or Territories? The same law prescribes that there shall be eight Brigadier-Generals; are we to understand Governor Shaffer that the distinguished gentlemen who hold these positions in the regular army are the only ones in the States and Territories who are to be recognized as such? This being the inference to be drawn from his language, who shall presume to recognize any officer of militia in any of the States and Territories as Major-Generals and Brigadier-Generals, when the law of Congress has already provided for but five of the former and eight of the latter?

As His Excellency seems to take pleasure in referring to law, permit me also to direct his attention to the following: Sec. 10 of an Act, approved July 28th, 1866, limits the number of officers and Assistant Adjutant-Generals in their respective corps, prescribing their rank, pay and emoluments; and Sec. 6 of an Act, approved March 3rd, 1869, provides that, until otherwise directed by law, there shall be no new appointments in the Adjutant-General's Department. Also an Act of June 15th, 1844, Chap. 69, entitled: "An Act to authorize the Legislatures of the several Territories to regulate the appointment of representation and for other purposes," provides, in Sec. 2: "That Justices of the Peace, and all General officers of the militia in the several Territories, shall be elected by the people, in such manner as the respective Legislatures thereof shall provide by law." Also see Brightly's Digest of the United States Laws, page 619, on "Organization of the Militia," Sec. 3. "Within one year of the passage of this Act, the militia of the several States shall be arranged as the Legislature of each State shall direct."

These extracts are from laws of Congress—the laws for which his Excellency seems to have so much respect; and if they are the only laws which obtain in the Territory, how can His Excellency reconcile with them his recent appointment by proclamation of a Major-General and an Assistant Adjutant-General for the Militia of Utah? And what about the five distinguished incumbents of the office of Major-General already appointed under the law? Or, does His Excellency imagine that it falls to his province to fill the vacancy created by the death of the lamented Geo. H. Thomas?

The second point in Governor Shaffer's communication which I will notice is wherein he states that

"So far as I have been informed, this is the first instance in which you, or any of your predecessors, in the pretended office which you assume to hold, have recognized the Governor of this Territory to be, as the Organic Act makes him, the Commander-in-Chief, &c., &c. My predecessors have been contemptuously ignored, or boldly defied."

It is scarcely necessary for me to remark to any resident familiar with the history of this Territory that Governor Shaffer's information upon this subject is very defective. That which he styles a "pretended office" I have held by the unanimous voice of the people of the Territory—the office having been created by act of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah, approved by the Governor Feb. 5th, 1852, and not transported from Illinois, as stated by Governor Shaffer in another part of his letter. Even if it were as he states, can no good thing come from Illinois? Or, is it such a crime to copy after anything emanating from that distinguished State? I may here add, further, that I