

THE DESERET NEWS.

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The New City Charter.

In this number, by request, place has been given to the new City Charter, which, if verisimilitude is an index to excellence, is certainly an invaluable investiture of rights, and as great a boon as was possible for the Legislative Assembly to bestow.

We have not had time, owing to its great length, to carefully examine it in all its parts, but its provisions so far as it has been read or examined, are so numerous, that in our opinion, the one half of them will for years remain unnoticed and unobserved by the citizens generally, if not by the city authorities. However, if a few of them, which it would not be difficult to point out, are strictly carried into effect, matters and things in and about the city will soon wear a different aspect from what they now do, and have for sometime past.

The machinery of municipal government, under the new charter, may work most admirably. We hope it will, but complicated machinery, generally, requires more oil to keep it in running condition, and is more liable to get out of gear than that which is more simple in its structure; and if, when the great, ponderous concern gets fairly in motion, it is found to be complete in every particular, and all things propelled by it work to a charm, without creaking, a degree of perfection has been arrived at by its originators, not often attained in such cases, and honor will accrue to those who have been instrumental in its production or formation.

The first election, under the new charter, as will be seen by the notice of the County Clerk, inserted in another column, will be held at the City Hall on Monday the thirteenth instant, at which time and place every legal voter within the limits of the corporation ought to attend and cast his vote for such men for officers as will, in his judgment, faithfully discharge the duties that may be required of them by the provisions of the charter; and thereafter every good citizen should aid those who may be elected, or appointed to municipal offices, in carrying into execution every wholesome rule and regulation that has been or may be provided for the good order, peace and security of the city. Let no obstruction be thrown in the way to prevent the wheels from rolling smoothly and, if any defect appears in the new dispensation, wait patiently till it can be remedied by proper legislative enactment.

Another Man Killed.

On Thursday last, late in the afternoon, a man named Martin Oats, who came to this Territory in the fall of 1858 as a teamster in one of the Government supply trains, called at the Hot Spring Brewery Hotel, near the point of the mountain, on his way to Camp Floyd, with an ox team and, as reported, commenced abusing the proprietor, Mr. Hereford, who, he said, had reported that he (Oats) was a thief; drew a knife and flourished it about, declaring that he would cut out the heart of any man that accused him of stealing.

After abusing Mr. Hereford, he turned to Mr. O. P. Rockwell, who was present—having heard his name called by some one—and accused him of stealing cattle from him or something of the kind; continuing to brandish his knife and to make threats of violence; to which Rockwell paid but little attention, merely saying that he had no acquaintance with the fellow, did not even know his name and did not wish to have any altercation with him.

Hereford having no weapons with which to defend himself against an attack that might be made upon him by the boasting and threatening desperado, went for his pistols and on his return found Oats and Rockwell clinched, the former, knife in hand, having the latter by his beard and Rockwell holding Oats off by the hair of his head.

On the appearance of Hereford, Rockwell requested him to take away the madman, as he did not wish to hurt him, upon which Hereford, taking the knife from Oats, directed two men to take him and put him on his wagon, start him off towards Camp Floyd and escort him as far as might be necessary, to get him fairly under way and thereby secure his

departure effectually, so that he would not return, which was accordingly done.

Some time after Oats had thus been started off and the two men who escorted him had returned to the hotel, Rockwell mounted his steed and started for Lehi, his place of residence; but before reaching the point where the Camp Floyd road diverges from the road to Lehi, he overtook Oats, who had not made good speed, or had been loitering along by the way for no good and, as Rockwell was passing, he sprang, seized his animal by the bit, and renewed his abuse and threats; whereupon Rockwell, after trying every expedient to make the fellow desist, and giving him proper warning of the consequence that would follow if he did not let him alone, shot the villain: the ball taking effect in the breast, produced almost instantaneous death.

Mr. Rockwell returned to the hotel and informed Mr. Hereford of what he had done, requested him to send out some men and take care of the body and of the dead man's team, and then went to Lehi and gave himself up to the civil authorities.

An investigation of the matter has since been had, and Mr. Rockwell has been honorably acquitted. The result seems to have given general satisfaction to all parties.

Fatal Accident.

On the 25th ult., about 11 a.m., Mr. John King was buried in a snow slide in Centerville canyon. He and Thomas Brannan went up the canyon after wood. Brannan ascended the mountain on one side of the canyon, and King on the other side to get down wood.

When at the bottom of the mountain and also while ascending, they heard the snow crack, but paid no particular attention to the fact. But when King had got about one hundred and fifty yards up the mountain, the snow on which he was walking gave way, and began to slide down.

Instead of making towards the edge of the slide and getting off, he bent his right foot under his body, thrust his left forward and prepared for a ride down, steadying himself with his ax. In going down, he gradually sank in the snow. When he got near to the bottom, he let the ax go and pitched forward on his face, and then disappeared.

Brannan went to Centerville for assistance. The people turned out with shovels and dug till sundown before they found the body which was ten feet below the surface of the snow, his legs were drawn back and his feet over his head, but his body was not mangled.

Deceased was born Jan. 29, 1834, in Australia, where he embraced the gospel. He emigrated to California with Augustus Farnham and company in 1856, and came to this Territory with Mr. C. C. Rich in 1857, and had lived with him most of the time since. King was a very worthy young man and a faithful Latter Day Saint.

COLD WEATHER YET.—Winter continues to hold dominion in this part of the world, with a fair prospect of retaining its supremacy some weeks longer. The weather is serene, but cold, especially in the night time.

If it continues cold much longer, and that provision of the new city charter, contained in the 33d section, is enforced, the expense that will accrue to those interested will not be inconsiderable, and will have a decided tendency to promote bankruptcy at this particular time, when business is so very dull.

A COMET.—Prof. Phelps, Superintendent of Meteorological Observations, on the evening of the 25th ult., while gazing at the stars, discovered a small comet a little east of Pollux, in the constellation of Cancer. He has promised us further particulars concerning it as soon as he gets his instruments properly adjusted.

—The ex-King of Oude is said to have accepted a pension of £120,000 and relinquished all claims on Oude.

—A letter from Rome states that the Tiber had overflowed its banks. The Pantheon was completely surrounded by water.

—French papers relate that the nephew of the late Sir Robert Peel, Sir Edward Egerton, is at Cannes, in France, trying to engage divers to search for a will which went down in a steamer wrecked a few months ago. The document will put him in possession of £32,000,000 sterling (!) the property of a lately deceased relative, and he offers a reward of £20,000 for its recovery.

—The Republican Convention will be held at Chicago, June 12th next.

TABERNACLE.

On Sunday, Jan. 29, at 11 a.m., Elder Orson Pratt preached from the text:

"Thy watchmen shall lift up their voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion." Isaiah, 52 Chap., 8 verse.

He reasoned to show that a time will come when all difference of sentiments and all disunion will be done away, and the will of God be done on earth with the same precision and exactness that it is in heaven; but he was constrained to say that a great change would have to take place before this happy time could arrive; argued that the great standard of truth is that of revelation by the power of Holy Ghost through the holy priesthood.—Read part of a revelation given to Joseph, the Seer, Jan. 2, 1831, showing that if the members of the church of Christ were not one, they were not the Lord's; also quoted a revelation given April 6, 1830, calling upon and requiring the Church to hearken to the living oracles; said that no man had any business to set himself up as a guide and thereby make a division in the church of the living God.

Elder Ezra T. Benson bore testimony to the truthfulness of br. Pratt's discourse, and alluded to the saying—"An open confession is good for the soul." He rejoiced in the power and spirit of the gospel, and was ever ready to testify to its truth; advised the brethren to be wise and to follow the counsel of the Presidency of the church in all things, for in so doing, they would be blest and prospered.

THE LATEST NEWS.

By an express which arrived in this city on Monday last, bringing some old mail matter, which should have arrived here long ago, we received a copy of the *Missouri Republican*, of Jan. 6th, from which we glean a few items later than our last dispatches.

The latest dates from Washington are to Jan. 4th, up to which time the House of Representatives had not succeeded in electing a Speaker.

The twenty fourth ballot was taken on the 29th of Dec., with the following result. Whole number of votes 210; necessary to a choice 106; Sherman received 102; Scott 83; Gilmer 14; Scattering, 11.

On the 30th, Mr. Montgomery, of Pa., asked leave to introduce a resolution declaring Mr. Corwin, Speaker, for 24 hours, at the expiration of which time his power was to cease and the House proceed to the election of a permanent Speaker, and that the rules of the late House should be adopted for the government of this House, except that no member should speak longer than five minutes, and that said temporary Speaker should not appoint the business committees of this House, amid calls of order and objections on the Republican side.

Mr. Montgomery stated that his object in offering his resolution, was to procure the passage of the deficiency bill, to pay the suffering mail contractors, and the other agents, officers and employees of the government, to whom we are indebted, and who should be paid, and that the bill could be passed in that length of time; then if this contest for Speaker must proceed they could carry it on without gross wrong to the public creditors. Without any action the House then adjourned until Tuesday, Jan. 3d.

The whole of the day of Jan. 3d. was spent in wrangling, during which Mr. Hickman of Pennsylvania said, that if the Southern States in any period of time shall determine on the dissolution of the Union for any causes which now exist, the North are resolved to prevent it, and if war should be the consequence of the North's determination to preserve the Union and the South to destroy it, the responsibility will rest on the South.

On Jan. 4th, after several fiery speeches had been delivered, Mr. Scott declined the longer use of his name for Speaker.

Mr. Craig of Missouri, nominated Mr. Davis of Indiana.

Mr. English nominated Mr. McClernand.

Mr. Etheridge made a few humorous remarks, and voted for Horace F. Clark, and characterized him as an anti-Lecompton and Ishmaelite Democrat.

The House voted for Speaker, with the following result: Whole number of votes cast, 207; necessary to a choice, 104; Mr. Sherman, 101; McClernand, 53; Gilmer, 14; Davis of Ind., 9; Vallandigham, 12; and the remainder scattering.

A dispatch from Washington, of the same date, says:

The Delegate from Utah will, after the organization of the House, present the application of that Territory for admission into the Union. They adopted a constitution several years ago, and he represents that Utah has a population of 100,000, and that if the Mormons were allowed to elect their officers they would be almost as well satisfied with a Territorial as a State organization, and probably be willing to pay the expenses of their Government besides.

Messrs. Sickles and Reynolds were the only absent members of the House who had not paired off. Out of a spirit of accommodation, Mr. Taylor to-day paired off with Mr. Sickles. The absence of Mr. Reynolds without a pair accounts for the change in the relative vote for Sherman, who lacked three votes of an election.

Chief Justice Taney and Associate Justice Daniels, are still detained from the Supreme Court, by sickness.

The Court of Claims has been adjourned until next week, owing to the sickness of Judges Blackford and Scarborough.

A fire broke out in No. 53 Beckham street, New York city, about 4 p.m., on the 29th Dec., destroying property to the amount of half a million of dollars. The firemen were on the spot immediately, but it was so extremely cold, the thermometer being 7 degrees below zero, and every thing frozen up, they could obtain no water until fires were built around the hydrants, during which time the fire spread rapidly, extending to Fulton and Ann streets before it could be extinguished.

A fire occurred in Westport, Missouri, on Christmas morning, destroying \$30,000 worth of property.

The office of the *Free Press*, at St. Paul's, Minnesota, the largest establishment in the State, was destroyed by fire on the 21st Dec.

The Touro Cotton Mill, at Newport, Rhode Island, was totally destroyed by fire on the 31st Dec. Loss \$60,000.

About eleven o'clock p.m., on Monday, Dec. 26th, a negro revolt took place in Bolivar, Missouri. The negroes attacked some white men with rocks and clubs, and the alarm collected a number of citizens on the spot, who drove the negroes into the woods. Guns and pistols were freely used on both sides. The blacks threatened to burn the town before morning. One negro was dangerously wounded, also the owner of some of the slaves.—Great excitement prevailed, and every man was armed and prepared for a more serious outbreak.

CLIPPINGS.

—The ship *Milwaukie*, lately arrived in San Francisco, brought a remarkable Australian curiosity—nothing less than an Australian laughing jackass. The animal belongs to the feathered tribe, has feathers, wings and a long beak, and is about the size of an eagle hawk, and is found nowhere else but on the Australian continent. It laughs like an old woman, and in the Australian forests at night it has led many a wayfarer in search of an old lady in such a lonely condition. This animal and the flying squirrel have many conflicts together, in which the jackass is generally victorious. On the same ship there are some of the peculiar ringtailed doves of the country.

—A dispatch to a Cincinnati paper announces the death of Hon. Linn Boyd, Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky. He had been in feeble health for twelve months, and had become so exhausted by suffering, that his life, on several occasions, was despaired of. He was chosen Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky, last summer, on the ticket with Beriah Magoffin. Previously he had served twelve consecutive years as a member of Congress from Kentucky, and for two years of the time was Speaker of that body.

—There were two suicides at the St. Charles Hotel, New Orleans, on Friday of last week. W.B. Hopkins shot himself through the heart. A few moments after his body was discovered in his room, John E. Musgrove, of St. Louis, Mo., threw himself from the portico of the hotel, and was instantly killed. It is thought that the latter threw himself from the portico from an unconquerable impulse proceeding from the effects of the tragical end of Hopkins, of which he had just heard.

—Five men and one girl were buried in the ruins of the store No. 54 Broad street, which fell down in New York city, on the evening of Dec. 20. Three men and the girl were taken out alive, and only slightly injured. Policeman Steward was next taken out, but had received terrible and fatal injuries. The firemen continued the labor of removing the ruins for several hours, and finally came upon the horribly mangled body of Mr. Ely, a wine merchant, who must have been instantly killed.