



ELIAS SMITH.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

Wednesday.....October 3, 1860.

INDIAN HOSTILITIES ON THE NORTHERN ROUTE.

After the communication of Hon. J. C. Wright, published in this number, was in type, Mr. John Hagerty, one of the emigrants who was in the company attacked and despoiled by the Indians, near City Rocks, to which occurrence the communication refers, called at our office and gave a full detail of the assault and robbery, from which it appears; that on the arrival of the company at Col. Howe's encampment, on the Portneuf, near old Fort Hall, on or about the 1st of September, the Colonel detailed an escort of ten or twelve men, under Sergeant Barry, to accompany them on their way a few days. After proceeding some sixty or seventy miles, seeing no signs of Indians, the escort returned back on the morning of the 6th, leaving the company to pursue their journey unprotected. Without molestation they proceeded to within five miles of City Rocks, near the junction with the Salt Lake road, where they encamped on the evening of the 7th, by a small stream known as Rapid creek.

At about eleven o'clock at night an attack was made on them, by a small party of Indians who, on finding the emigrants ready to give them a warm reception, drew off, after firing eight or ten guns, and came up again on the other side of their camp, where, by taking advantage of the light of the moon which had just risen, they could fire upon the company with greater accuracy, and, at the same time, be hid from the view of the emigrants and measurably secure from their fire.

After continuing the assault about one hour and a half, (during which time they fired some fifty or sixty shots and an indefinite number of arrows, many of which struck the wagons without further injury than perforating them and their contents with holes) they decamped driving off thirty head of cattle, mostly oxen that were used in the teams, which, being tired, had not strayed far from camp.

The emigrants kept up a good watch during the balance of the night, and the next morning picked up twenty-five arrows around their camp, some of which were sticking in their wagons, which had also been pierced with many balls. No Indians were seen, but a sharp look out was kept up during that day and following night, but at about the same time in the evening that the attack was made the night before, thirteen of the oxen that had been driven off returned, which convinced the party that the red skins had not gone far away, and that they were lurking about, seeking for a chance to attack them again under more favorable circumstances than at first.

On the forenoon of the 9th, the emigrants concluded to move their camp about two hundred yards to a more favorable position, but before they had detached all their teams from the wagons, after moving them, the Indians commenced another attack more fierce than the first, as they were in greater force, Mr. Hagerty being of the opinion that they were at least one hundred strong.

Seeing no chance of saving their lives only by flight, the whole party, with the exception of Hagerty, managed, by retreating into the bed of the creek among the willows, to elude the savages and to get away unobserved by passing over a mountain and taking the road back towards Fort Hall, leaving Hagerty, supposing that he had been killed. He, however, after two or three arrows were shot through his clothes, and several balls had whistled near without striking him, also escaped into the willows and hid himself, but was watched so closely by the Indians that he could not get away safely, and remained in his hiding place nearly four days, without food, excepting a few berries which he found by crawling about on his hands and knees, to keep out of the sight of the savages, who were watching for him and the rest of the party all the time, evidently supposing that

they were yet hid in the brush, and that none of them had made good their escape.

Mr. Hagerty reports that the Indians were at the wagons immediately on their being abandoned by the emigrants, and without waiting to plunder them to any great extent, with much dexterity attached some of the oxen to them and drove off, taking one nearly a mile, the others a less distance, before rifling them of their contents. He is very confident that there were white men among the Indians in disguise. He positively saw one individual with short hair, who had on a pair of fine boots, and a pair of pants, but otherwise dressed and painted like an Indian, and when the attacking party were hitching the oxen to the wagons and driving them off, they spoke to the cattle in good English. He says that he was decidedly uneasy during the time he was compelled to remain in the brush, as the Indians were about him in every direction as thick as bees, and he did not know what ultimately might be his fate, neither what had become of those who had got away.

As soon as the Indians drew off on the night of the 7th, the emigrants despatched two men, John Brock and Thomas Graham, to inform Col. Howe of their situation and solicit assistance. The messengers proceeded with all possible speed and overtook the escort under Sergeant Barry, before they reached camp, but they were short of rations and could not go to the relief of the emigrants until they could receive a supply.

On hearing of the attack, Col. Howe sent out a company of twenty-five men, under Lieut. Sanders, to the assistance of the party, who, proceeding without delay, arrived at the scene of disaster some time on the afternoon of the 12th, much to the joy of Hagerty, who was in a very perilous condition. The Indians on seeing the troops soon hid themselves and kept out of sight.

At March creek, on his way to the relief of the party, Lieut. Sanders met the refugees, who were in a suffering condition, being without food and not having a sufficiency of clothing. Administering to their necessities as far as in his power, under the circumstances, he left part of his command for their protection, and proceeded on with the remainder, but recovered none of the emigrant's property, excepting one yoke of oxen, the balance having been destroyed or taken away.

On the morning of the 13th, the troops returned but, after starting, a party of some five or six, wishing to take an excursion to see if they could not find some of the Indians and gain a little renown by fighting them, had leave to do so, and got into a bigger fight than they wanted, with a few of the rascals who were lying in ambush, upon whom they came unexpectedly, and Hagerty reports that there were some splendid feats of horsemanship performed before they overtook or rejoined the balance of the command.

Lieut. Sanders took the entire party back to Col. Howe's camp, and from thence they came in with the troops returning to Camp Floyd and arrived here yesterday.

The names of the persons composing the emigrant company, as given by Mr. Hagerty, were William, John and ——— Brock, John Green and a German, name unknown, from DeWitt county, Ill.; Herbert Thomas, wife and three children, his wife's mother—Mrs. Chambers and Thomas Graham, from La Fayette county, Wis.; ———Pierce, wife and two children, from Carroll county, Ill.; John Hagerty, from McGregor's Landing, Clayton county, Iowa, and John Christianson of California, with three wagons and about one hundred and fifty head of cattle and a few horses.

How many more small straggling companies of emigrants, passing over that route late in the season, will be used up before it becomes generally known that they cannot travel safely in that manner, is not known. In this instance, it was fortunate indeed that all the persons escaped unhurt.

Return of the Troops from Fort Hall.

Yesterday morning, between 9 and 10 o'clock, companies E and H of the second Dragoons, under the command of Lieut. Norris, passed through the city en route for Camp Floyd. They numbered 86 men and 4 officers, with 18 mule wagons. They left Portneuf on the 24th of Sept., and will reach Camp tomorrow. Accompanying them are about 20 men, women and children, of the emigrant company alluded to elsewhere in this issue.

That Fire Engine.

Some time since, our City Fathers, who often have many good things in prospective, made vigorous exertions to raise means for the procurement of a Fire Engine, believing unquestionably, that it would be needed, ere long, for the extinguishment of fires, which might occur in the city when it should become more densely populated, and house be joined to house, to an indefinite extent, which would render them more liable to be destroyed by that agency than in their then scattered condition.

How much money was subscribed for the purchase or the making of an engine, we do not know, neither were we ever informed, whether the subscriptions were all collected or not, but according to the best of our recollection, it was reported soon after the question was agitated and subscriptions solicited, that an engine was being built by some of our ingenious mechanics, which would shortly be finished and ready for use. A company of Firemen was certainly organized, with an unusual number of officers, an engine house built, and other preparations made for effective operations with the extinguisher as soon as completed, if needed. There the matter ended; and if the engine was finished it has never been exhibited at the Fairs, nor used at any fire that has occurred since the excitement passed away.

Now, the engine may have been finished and housed up as anticipated; but whether it has or has not, is a question of little or no importance so far as its legitimate use is concerned. The money raised, if any, was unquestionably, judiciously and economically expended, and will be accounted for in due time, if it has not been before this, to the satisfaction of all concerned. However, it has occurred to us of late, that if the engine was ready for use, and the Fire Company had not been disbanded, some little exercise might be profitably taken occasionally, in the extinguishment of the internal spontaneous fires, so often occurring in the streets on the egress of a certain class of bipeds from the saloons and grog shops which are a curse to community, and have been for some time past. A few hydropathic applications in such cases, if scientifically administered, could not fail to be beneficial, and would have a greater tendency to improve the finances of the city, than the mineral practice so long in vogue, that those who have nothing with which to pay the practitioner, prefer to any other.

Bring out the engine and make the experiment, and see if the "water cure" is not what it has been represented to be, a sovereign remedy in chronic affections of that kind. It would make a little sport in these dull times, if nothing more.

Departure of Missionaries and others.

The Elders destined for various parts of the Old and New world on missions, with many others going to the States on business, commenced leaving on Wednesday evening and continued to depart on Thursday and Friday, and some few did not get started till Saturday. Their place of rendezvous was at Kimball's ranch, from whence, when all were ready, they were to take up their line of march across the plains to the Missouri river.

We have not been favored with a report of their exact number, but they are sufficiently strong and well armed and prepared for any emergency that may arise.

Among the missionaries were Elders O. Pratt, E. Snow and G. Q. Cannon—the two former going to the States and the latter to England to take the editorial conduct of the *Millennial Star*. Elder J. McKnight—long the foreman, and Elder Joseph Bull, who for years has been employed in the *News* office, were also of the number.

For Washington.

Hon. W. H. Hooper, Delegate to Congress from Utah, left on his return to Washington, on Saturday last, to attend to the duties devolving upon him during the short session, which if he performs as well and as much to the satisfaction of his constituents, as he has done thus far, he will secure for himself a large share of popular favor.

Mrs. Hooper accompanies him, and will spend the winter in Washington after visiting friends in Illinois and elsewhere.

We wish them a pleasant trip and all who constitute the party with which they expect to travel across the plains.

Utah County Fair.

The parent Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society appointed Hon. George A. Smith, and Mr. John Nebeker, one of the directors, a delegation to attend the UTAH BRANCH FAIR, which was held on Friday last. From them we learn that the articles presented for competition gave general satisfaction to those who visited the exhibition.

The fair was held in one of the tithing buildings, which is about 90 feet long by 18 wide, and we understand that it was beautifully decorated with every variety of produce, that is raised in the country, and articles of "home manufacture" in general. The fruits exhibited, consisted of apples, peaches, plums, grapes, &c. There was one stalk of tomatoes on exhibition which weighed 13lbs. just as it was plucked from the vine. The vases of flowers gave a pleasing variety to the appearance of the hall.

Leather, Boots and shoes, from the several manufactories in the county were of excellent quality; and the specimens of furniture, especially those made by Mr. P. R. Johnson, exhibited striking proofs of good workmanship. Botter's, cooper's, and carver's ware, were there in great abundance. Fourteen kinds of wheat were brought to the fair by one competitor. The best acre of corn yielded 106 bushels. Oats weighed from 40 to 43lbs. to the bushel.

The show of stock was good, consisting of horses, mares, colts, cows, sheep, &c.

Prof. Graves' penmanship was original in design and very creditable in its execution.

In the ladies' department the productions of their industry showed a gratifying improvement on last year's exhibition, both in style, variety, and taste. Coverlets, diaper, shawls and embroidery were of superior quality. Though many specimens of carpeting were on exhibition, there was an evident lack of taste in the getting up, or selection of patterns, which we hope will be improved upon hereafter.

Three pic-nic parties were got up by the directors on Friday evening, all of which went off well, with the exception of an attempt made by Archibald Williams and two or three other rowdies, to break up the party at Mr. Bullock's, by bursting open the kitchen door, and entering the house with drawn revolvers. They were quickly put out of the house. An official report is expected next week.

The Elders' Pic-Nic Party.

On Tuesday evening last, the elders who were on the eve of departing on missions to various parts of the earth, and several others who were going east on business, with a number of invited guests, held a pic-nic party at the Social Hall at which were present, the First Presidency, several of the Twelve, Capt. Hooper, Gen. Eldredge and other distinguished citizens, with their ladies, all of whom without specialty, enjoyed themselves as well, if not better, than any other assemblage of saints with whom we ever associated on a like occasion. There was no jar, no discordant nor schismatic sentiment manifested, and nought but love and the kindest feelings was seen, heard or expressed. In truth it was one of those social entertainments which those who witness, do not soon forget.

We were present only a part of the evening, and from indisposition did not exert our physical powers very extensively, but others did to their entire satisfaction.

It will probably be a long time before some of those who were present, will have the privilege of meeting together again and enjoying themselves in the social dance with those they esteem most dear on earth.

EXPLANATION. — The notice of Surveyor General Stambaugh inserted in this number was not published according to announcement in consequence of the manuscript having been withdrawn for some correction or emendation.

The matter referred to is unquestionably of vast importance to those (if any there be) in this Territory whom it concerns; but we trust, all know the course pursued by Government in surveying the public domain after the possessory title of Shem has been extinguished.

The Fair.

Do not forget to attend the Fair at the "Deseret Store" to-day and to-morrow. You will be more than paid for the time thus appropriated.