

have never had any predecessor in the office since the organization of the Territory. As to this being the "first instance" in which I have recognized the Governor of this Territory as the Commander-in-Chief, Governor Shaffer is either strangely ignorant or wilfully misrepresents, for during the first eight years after the organization of the Territory His Excellency Brigham Young was the Governor of the Territory, and I presume that no one will dispute that he was recognized as the Commander-in-Chief. During the next four years, while His Excellency Alfred Cumming was Governor of the Territory, and also during the administrations of his successors up to the present time—with the exception of Governor Dawson, who only remained in the Territory about thirty days—I have abundant documentary evidence to show that I recognized them as Governors and Commanders-in-Chief of the Militia of the Territory, and have in return been recognized by them as Lieutenant-General, Commanding Militia of Utah Territory. Besides being recognized as Lieutenant-General by the predecessors of Governor Shaffer, I have in every instance been acknowledged as such in all official correspondence with officers of the regular army, Superintendents of Indian affairs and other "Federal officials" both here and out of the Territory. His Excellency, Governor Shaffer therefore stands distinguished as the first "Federal officer," who in reply to a respectful communication, has so far forgotten what is due from a man holding his position as to ignore the common courtesies always extended between gentlemen.

Before ending my reference to this point permit me, if it does not trespass too much on your space, to give you copies of one or two communications which I have received from predecessors of Governor Shaffer:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
Great Salt Lake City,  
June 11, 1862.

TO GEN. D. H. WELLS,  
Commanding Militia of Utah Territory:

Sir:—A requisition has been made upon me this day, by Henry W. Lawrence, Esq., Territorial Marshal for the Territory of Utah, through his Deputies, R. T. Burton, Esq., and Theodore McKean, Esq., for a military force to act as a *posse comitatus* in the service of certain writs issued from the Third Judicial District Court of said Territory, for the arrest of Joseph Morris and others residing in the northern part of Davis county, in said District.

It appears that said Joseph Morris and his associates have organized themselves into an armed force to resist the execution of said writs, and are setting at defiance the law and its officers.

I therefore require you to furnish the said Henry W. Lawrence, Esq., or his Deputies aforesaid, a sufficient military force for the arrest of the offenders, the vindication of justice and the enforcement of law.

FRANK FULLER,  
Acting Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, U. T.,  
Great Salt Lake City,  
November 26, 1862.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL D. H. WELLS,  
Commanding Nauvoo Legion:

Sir:—I herewith enclose a communication directed to the Governor of this Territory, from the War Department at Washington, in relation to arms, etc., furnished by the several States, since the 4th of March, 1861. If you have any information on the subject applicable to this Territory, I will be glad if you will report the same to me immediately.

I remain, respectfully yours, etc.,  
ST. S. HARDING,  
Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Territory of Utah.

P. S.—You will please return the communication from the War Department with your report.  
ST. S. H.

As to Governor Shaffer's next paragraph I fail to see the point as stated. As has been the usage in the Territory for years past, and in accordance with the laws thereof, orders were issued for the holding of the regular Fall muster of the Militia of the Territory in their respective districts. These orders were dated August 16th, 1870. Some thirty days afterwards Governor Shaffer issued his proclamation, prohibiting the holding of musters, drills, &c. In my communication to him I simply asked him to suspend the operation of that proclamation until the 20th of November, that the Fall musters might be completed—they having already been held in some of the Districts—in order that I might comply with the request of the Department made through the Adjutant-General's Office, for Washington city, asking for the Annual Return of the militia of Utah Territory, in accordance with the provisions of the act

of Congress (SEC. 1) approved March 2nd, 1863. How this can be construed into an attempt to "nullify" the laws of Congress escapes my penetration, but, on the contrary, it appears to me that the proclamation of Governor Shaffer is calculated to produce that result. As to there being any conflict between the laws of the Territory and the laws of Congress, that is mere assertion incapable of proof.

As to his allusion respecting what has been said at public meetings I have to say that public officers, "Federal officials" included, are supposed to be public property so far as their official acts are concerned, and subject to the scrutiny of the people. Every man under our Government has the right to free speech and to express his opinions concerning the action of Government officers—a right, moreover, which is generally indulged in by all parties. I am not aware that President Brigham Young has "denounced the Federal officials of this Territory with bitter vehemence," or that if he has, I am responsible therefor, or that I should be held responsible for the opinion of any other gentleman in regard to the power of Congress to organize a Territorial Government.

I am of the opinion that the people of the Territory, according to the Constitution, have the right to bear arms—that the Legislative Assembly had the right to organize the Militia—that Congress had the right to declare that the general officers should be elected by the people in such manner as the respective Legislatures of the States and Territories may provide by law—that the Governors of the States and Territories are Commanders-in-Chief of the militia, the same as the President of the United States is Commander-in-Chief of the armies and navies of the United States, with Generals and Admirals under him, commanding,—that the military organization of our Territory follows that of the Federal Government more closely, perhaps, than that of any other Territory or State in the Union,—and that Governors and Commanders-in-Chief are as much the creatures of law as any other officers, and while they exercise a higher jurisdiction they are as amenable to law as the humblest officer or citizen.

I will not take up your valuable space, neither will I condescend to make reference to the concluding paragraphs of his letter. They are false, abusive and ungentlemanly. My only object has been to vindicate the Legislative Assembly, myself and the people as to our rights under the law so unwarrantably assailed in the communication of Governor Shaffer.

Respectfully,  
DANIEL H. WELLS.

#### THE SURRENDER OF METZ.

THE surrender of Metz, with one hundred and thirty thousand men in fighting condition, and twenty thousand sick and wounded, is the news from France this morning. This is certainly one of the strangest events of the war, and one of the most important for the Prussians. For months Bazaine with this enormous force has been shut up within the walls of Metz, and nothing noteworthy has been done during that time by either the besieged or the besiegers; it has been more like a mere game at soldiers than real warfare. The surrender of a very large force like this, which it might have been imagined, with determined effort, could have cut their way through the enemy's lines, has certainly a very suspicious appearance. Cowardice can not be attributed to Bazaine, his reputation as a skillful and brave military leader, is too well established. It looks much more like playing false to the Republic, and as having been done with a design to overthrow it. It has been frequently said that he ignored the present government of France, and remained true to the Imperial cause, and this surrender seems strongly corroborative of such rumors.

At the outset of the war King William took pains to spread the idea that he fought not against the French people, but against the Napoleon dynasty only. The course of events since the surrender at Sedan has shown how much these professions were worth, for he has steadily pursued his march on the French capital, which is now invested on every side with his legions, and it now appears that if he were able to do so he would wage war to the destruction of the French people rather than suffer Republicanism to triumph on their soil. His antipathy to Napoleon and his dynasty may be very great; but it seems as if he would rather reinstate him on his lost throne than

suffer the triumph of popular liberty. The popular cause triumphant in France and the heaven of liberty might extend to Prussia and other portions of Europe; hence the indifference of the powers of Europe to the reverses of the French armies and the sufferings of the French people; and the disposition of the King of Prussia to wage war to the bitter end.

This surrender, viewed in the light of recent negotiations between Bismarck and the representatives of the late Emperor and Empress, looks vastly like collusion between Bazaine, Napoleon and King William; and if that is ever proved, it should render the name of General Bazaine detestable to every Frenchman, cover him with ineffaceable disgrace, and obliterate every vestige of honor and fame he has ever acquired.

If the French forces so long shut up in Metz had fought their way out, and with Bazaine at their head, had declared for the Republic, they undoubtedly could have done much in deciding the contest, but save in its moral effect we cannot see that it can be at all prejudicial now. Supposing that collusion, for the restoration of Napoleon, is proven, the voice of the French people will yet have to be heard in relation to the project; and, whether it is or not, the entire nation having declared so emphatically in favor of the Republic, they will likely struggle until they are reduced to still greater extremities, rather than be compelled to have Imperialism re-established in their midst by the plottings and machinations of conspirators against their liberties, even if they be such lofty and important personages as General Bazaine and those two master jobbers in kingcraft, William of Prussia and Louis Napoleon.

#### DEATH OF GOVERNOR SHAFFER.

OUR readers will perceive, by a notice in another column, that his Excellency, J. Wilson Shaffer, Governor of this Territory, died at his residence in this city, at five o'clock this morning.

The tenure of office of Mr. Shaffer, as Governor of Utah Territory, has been very brief, he only having arrived here last March. Since his sojourn in our midst he has kept himself aloof, almost entirely, from the people, he being seldom seen in public on any occasion. This has been owing, no doubt, to a seriously impaired state of health, from which we believe he was suffering when he arrived here. The illness and death of Mrs. Shaffer and the journey of the Governor to the East on that account, probably, increased his infirmities.

Utah has been, seemingly, a rather unfavorable place for governors; although our climate, is considered very healthy and salubrious. It is not very long since Governor Doty died here, very much respected and esteemed by the citizens of the Territory; and that very amiable gentleman, the late Governor Durkee, after a protracted residence in our midst, was so far weakened in constitution that he died at Omaha while en route to his very pleasant home at Kenosha, in Wisconsin on the borders of Lake Michigan.

We don't suppose that either of these cases were caused by any climatic influence that could be injurious to the lives of the deceased gentlemen; but their deaths may rather be attributed to impaired constitutions acquired previous to coming here, or to the common course of nature. This has been most emphatically the case with Mr. Shaffer, who has been in a deplorable state of health since his arrival, which may have been induced by his excessive labor, fatigue and exposure during the late war.

We are not in possession of accurate data, and are not sufficiently acquainted with his antecedents to give an autobiography of His Excellency; we shall therefore be under the necessity of leaving anything of that nature until a future time.

His death will no doubt be severely felt by his friends, although the very precarious state of his health for a long time past, has probably prepared them to hear of his demise.

#### THE TWO DAYS' MEETINGS.

THE people, who have attended the meetings held, during the past two days, in the Tabernacles in this city, will be ready to admit that they have had a feast of good things in the remarks of the speakers. These are the first special meetings of the kind that have ever been held here, but we think we echo the general sentiment of those who attended them when we say, we

hope they will not be the last. The idea has seemed to be that as the General Conference is held in Salt Lake City twice a year, and that there are preaching and teaching by the Presidency or some of the leading elders every week, there has not been the same necessity for special meetings like these in this city as in the settlements, where the authorities of the Church are seldom seen. But, as Elder F. D. Richards remarked, on Saturday, this city is made the rendezvous by many transients and others, whose practices and designs are in opposition to the practices and designs of the Saints, and their influence is diffused more or less through the city; hence there is probably no place in the Territory, where the special teachings and ministrations of the servants of God are so much needed.

The meeting on Saturday morning was well attended, considering the amount of business generally done on that day. The Old Tabernacle was well filled, there being quite a number of people from several of the adjacent settlements. On the stand were nearly all of the members of the Quorum of the Twelve, residing in this city, Elder F. D. Richards, of Ogden, most of the city bishops, and other authorities. The teachings during the morning's meeting, were of such a character that no people, listening to and practically observing them, whether Latter-day Saints or not, could fail to improve and become better. None present it would seem can soon forget the exhortations of President Young to lead a more spiritual life,—to more faithfully carry out in all the affairs of life the spirit and precepts of the gospel which they have embraced in their faith, and so secure and enjoy a greater share of the spirit and power of God to be continually with them. His words were indeed like droppings from the sanctuary, and we have no doubt that their fruit will be seen in the improved lives of many of those who listened to them.

The remarks of President George A. Smith, were, as usual, of a highly practical character, exhorting the people to attend strictly to the education of the children, to provide them good school-rooms, the best books, and competent teachers, whose characters for integrity have stood the test of years of trial. His counsels on the subject of caring for the sheep, cattle and stock generally, and disposing of them so as to derive the greatest advantage therefrom, were well-timed, and we expect to see co-operative herding carried out on a large scale in the Territory, and to hear no more of cattle dying on the prairies in the inclement season of the year, or of parties losing them, as has been the case in years past.

On the afternoon of Saturday the speakers were Elders Franklin D. Richards and John Taylor, their remarks being of such a character that at the close of the meeting the general feeling of the audience seemed to be that of entire satisfaction and pleasure, and that the time had been well spent.

Yesterday the meetings were held in the New Tabernacle. In the morning the attendance was good, but in that enormous structure the congregation presented a slim appearance.

The first speaker was Elder Orson Pratt, who, for about an hour addressed the people in a most edifying manner. He was followed by Elders Albert Carrington and Joseph F. Smith, each of whom delivered short addresses, exhorting the Saints to lead more spiritual lives and to be more faithful to their callings.

In the afternoon the basement of the large building was well filled, there being probably not less than eight thousand persons present. President Smith was the first speaker. At the commencement of his remarks he referred to the solemn nature of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper and the grave duties and responsibility devolving upon those partaking of it. He reproved the almost general disposition of the people to gossip, and to criticize and condemn the acts of their neighbors rather than their own.

The great desire evinced by some engaged in trade and business to make good bargains often leading them to "lie a little" and in some cases to "lie a good deal" was denounced as inconsistent with the faith and calling of saints, and unless repented of and forsaken would lead to apostasy.

He also dwelt at some length on the Word of Wisdom, and declared that none called Saints could live up to their calling without observing it.

President Young closed the services of the afternoon, in a discourse replete with inspiration. Much of his time was devoted to the Word of Wisdom,