

THE DESERET NEWS.

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Wednesday, December 7, 1859.

Meeting of the Legislature.

Next Monday is the day for the meeting of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to the resolution passed last winter, but we have not as yet seen nor heard of any preparations being made for the holding of the session. No fuel has been provided, no seats, desks, tables or anything else, so far as our knowledge extends, have been bespoken for the proper fitting up of the rooms in the Social Hall where the session is to be held and, for aught we see, the members will have to furnish their own seats, fuel, stationery and whatever else may be necessary for their use and comfort during the forty days Congress has graciously allowed them to sit as law-makers for this extended Territory.

In every other Territory in the Union some attention has been given to the comfort and convenience of the legislators when assembled to enact laws for their respective Territories, but in Utah, any old bench is considered good enough for the members to sit on, with no conveniences for writing more than what might be found in some of the primitive school houses in new settlements on the confines of civilization, where tables and desks are made of slabs or split logs, and other things to correspond, which, to say the least, is an insult to the Legislative Assembly and a disgrace to those who have had the management of these affairs as officers of the Government.

Why the members of the last Legislature were as patient as they were under the circumstances, with no better accommodations than we have seen in an Indian wigwam, with no candlesticks, and only about one dozen inkstands for both branches of the Assembly, with no penknives, and supplied on an average with only about one cent's worth of paper each, daily, is more than some men can tell. In any other Territory, such a palpable insult would have been resented instantly by the representatives of the people; but for some cause, no notice was taken of it by those thus treated. To cap the climax, the officer whose duty it was to provide and furnish the Legislative Assembly with whatever was necessary for the comfort and convenience of the members, to enable them to perform the duties required of them faithfully and as expeditiously as possible, complained, after the close of the session, that some of the boys, who had officiated as firemen or messengers, had feloniously robbed the United States of an inkstand or two, and some other trifling articles that were left in the rooms after the adjournment, and for which assertion, one of the lads implicated by the parsimonious official would have given him a severe castigation, if he had not been dissuaded by a friend, who informed the impetuous youth that no honor could accrue to any one for whipping a person of so small caliber.

The lads may have taken care of the few things that remained after the members had vacated the Hall, not knowing what else to do with them; but if all the articles furnished for the use of the members had been taken by one person and wrongfully appropriated to his use, it would have only constituted petty larceny, the entire cost of them not exceeding ten dollars.

From present appearance there will be neither "pickings" nor "stealings" for the members nor officers of the Legislative Assembly during the coming session. There is no secretary and probably will not be any person to act in that capacity very soon, unless Gov. Cumming appoints a secretary pro tem., as Mr. Hartnett cannot possibly get back till after the close of the session, if he ever returns, of which we have some doubts. He did not reach the frontiers of Missouri till sometime in November, being forty days in crossing the plains and we have seen no intimations in the Missouri papers that he intended to return this winter, if at all. In truth very few ever expected to see him in this Territory again, when he left.

On Monday morning the 12th inst. the members elect will doubtless be seen wending their way to the Social Hall, each with a chair on his shoulder, with paper, inkstand and whatever else he may deem necessary for his use in his hand, in that respect resembling boys going to school, and perhaps some of them with an arm full of wood, if the weather should be so cold, as it will be without doubt, that

fires will be necessary to keep them from freezing while legislating for the benefit of the people whom they represent.

If the Honorable members do not take the precaution to provide themselves with chairs stationery, etc. before hand, we fear they will have to suspend operations on assembling, till they can procure the former at least, unless they resolve to stand up when in session, for we are much mistaken if there are not many of them who will not sit on such seats as were furnished last winter.

However, many things can and may be done between this and the hour of meeting and, if in "the course of human events," the rooms are properly and comfortably fitted up, and all other necessary things provided for the use and comfort of those who are to serve the public in the capacity of law-makers at the ninth session of Legislative Assembly of this Territory, in due season, it will give us pleasure to announce the fact to the public.

Hanging On.

In an arbitration case which came off a few days since in this city, wherein an amount of several thousand dollars was involved, the parties employed respectively the most able counselors that could be obtained in the Territory to conduct the matter for them and to make it appear in its true light (?) before the arbitrators, who were thorough business men and who, in addition to a competent knowledge of mercantile business and of the principles of justice and equity that should govern the actions of men, had a fair knowledge of the principles of law as understood and practiced by the profession in these days.

After spending one day without making any progress, the attorneys were so remarkably successful in the development of their peculiar gifts for mystifying whatever was presented for consideration, and for delaying the progress of the suit to the detriment and expense of the respective parties, the learned gentlemen were dismissed by their clients who wisely concluded that their services were not needed and that the case would not progress very fast nor be fairly investigated while they were in attendance.

However, there was not much progress made, after the services of the attorneys were dispensed with, before an adjournment was taken for some cause, and on meeting again a counsellor for one of the parties was present and insisted, as the story goes, that his client should have the benefit of his services, valuable or otherwise, and as there was seemingly no way to avoid it, his client having concluded that he could not do without him, the other party sent for his attorney, when the case proceeded and the arbitrators were doomed to listen to the forensic disputations of these limbs of the law, till their propensity for garrulity was somewhat satisfied, the earnest and fervent prayer of those who were sitting in judgment to be relieved from the disagreeable necessity of hearing their noise to the contrary notwithstanding.

The case was naturally very inflammable, the principal, if not the only question involved, being a quantity of wine, brandy or some alcoholic mixture, a great incentive to loquacity.

Both parties virtually lost the case.

The Weather.

On Thursday and Friday of last week the weather was beautiful for the season; the sun shining brightly, made a great contrast with the dull, cloudy, stormy season experienced for many weeks previously, which all seemed to enjoy.

During Saturday the sky was somewhat overcast with clouds foreshadowing a storm, which commenced sometime in the night and the next morning there was about six inches of snow on the ground.

It cleared off during the forenoon of Sunday and all things without looked pleasing, but in the evening there was a snow squall—the wind blowing severely—during which there were two alarms of fire in the city, which, however, proceeded from burning chimneys and soon became extinct.

On Monday morning we found two inches of snow added to the former number with the thermometer down 5 degrees below zero.

On Tuesday morning, the weather clerk informs us that the thermometer was 22 degrees below zero at daylight, with a barometrical range of 26.250 inches. This is by 5 or 6 degrees the coldest weather known in Great Salt Lake Valley since its first settlement. We have certainly strong symptoms of a real Kamtschatkaian winter with Russian habits.

News by Last Eastern Mail.

In looking over our exchanges we find that the affair at Harper's Ferry, on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of October, occasioned much excitement throughout the country. It seems that there were only five or six men killed by the insurgents under "Ossawatimie Brown," including the mayor of the town. The tumult occasioned by the unexpected occurrence in the States of Virginia and Maryland was great—the people not knowing the extent of the concern, which from all accounts was much more limited than was at first anticipated by the frightened inhabitants.

The military turned out in almost countless numbers—enough, one might suppose who was not acquainted with military affairs, to have taken the place in five minutes; but they had neither the courage nor fortitude to dislodge the insurrectionists till the arrival of the marines, who ended the matter in quick time.

Brown and Coppe were tried and sentenced to be hung on the 2d inst. Cooke, the second in command, made his escape but was afterwards arrested, but he had not been tried at latest dates.

The papers are filled with column after column of the proceedings of the trial and editorial comments in relation to the mysterious affair and the English vocabulary has been extensively searched for adjectives and qualifying adverbs to express the ideas of the various parties implicated, interested or likely to be effected by the protentious occurrence.

Another circumstance, which has furnished much food for gossip and next to the *emete* at Harper's Ferry in point of importance, judging from the many notices that had been made of it, was the "Diamond Wedding," or marriage of Don Estaban Santa Cruz de Oviedo, of Cuba, aged 55, to Miss Bartlett, daughter of Lieut. Bartlett, of New York, aged 17, which occurred in New York on October 10th. The bridegroom, a somewhat "colored" individual, is said to be worth five millions—the bride poor but handsome, and married him for his money. The affair was very exstastic, not only in Gotham but elsewhere.

A meeting of the National Democratic Committee, appointed at the Cincinnati Convention in 1856, has been called by the Chairman, Hon. David H. Smalley, of Vermont, to meet in the city of Washington, December 7, (to-day), to appoint the time for holding the Charleston Convention in 1860.

A break in one of the main pipes supplying the city with Croton water caused considerable excitement in New York City, on the 25th of October. All the steam engines were required to be stopped immediately to prevent explosions which caused the printing establishments no little annoyance. The breach was of such a nature that it took some little time to repair it.

The grand jury at the October term of court in New York, complain in a presentment of the abominable administration of justice by the criminal courts in that city and recommend the appointing of the justices, constituting those courts, instead of their being elected by the people; the latter course operating prejudicially to the strict administration of the laws; the incumbents of elective offices not being as vigilant in the discharge of their duties, for fear of giving offence, as those who hold their offices by appointment.

Dupont's powder mills, on the Brandywine, Delaware, was blown up again on October 21. Seven men were killed and another wounded.

Many election riots have occurred in the States. At the municipal election in Baltimore, Oct. 12, two men were shot; the ballot box in one of the Wards was smashed in pieces, so that there was no return made, and disturbances took place and much violence occurred throughout the city during the day.

The riots, not only in Baltimore, but in other parts of the State of Maryland, on the day of the general election, were not few in number. Several men were killed and many wounded. Blood seems to flow more freely than formerly on such occasions, and before the next presidential election is fairly over, it may flow more profusely than it has since the organization of the Government of the United States.

Brownsville, Texas, was attacked by twenty-eight guerrillas, about the first of October, and five citizens killed, the jail broken open and the prisoners freed, creating some excitement.

Intelligence from the city of Mexico states that a plan had been concocted there among the leading officers of Miramon's army, for

the purpose of overthrowing Miramon, and openly recognizing the Liberal Government.—The plan was divulged by one of the officers the day before the execution of it was intended. Some twenty-five officers and others not attached to the army, have been arrested. It was thought that those who were arrested would not be punished.

The Constitutional Government of Vera Cruz were making active preparations for laying siege to Jalapa, Cordova and also the capital.

The division of Corbas was entirely routed at Oajaca on the 12th of September, by the Liberals. Corbas had three thousand men, and the Liberals only two thousand. A large number of officers were taken prisoners but were pardoned.

An expedition against the city of Teipic, which was garrisoned, ended by six hundred of the church party being taken prisoners. Morera and other officers were taken out and shot. Coronados intended joining his forces with Orjazon, of Jalisco, to march upon Juadajouco, and on to Mexico.

Mr. McLane had returned to Washington, having obtained from our government two months leave of absence.

From Bear River.

John Harvey, Frank Woodard, James Peck and Messrs. Burdick, Dallas and three others arrived in this city on Saturday, after a very tedious journey from east Bear river. They report that there was two feet of snow in Echo Canyon, and from ten to fifteen inches from Weber to this city, by the northern route. The snow was drifted in places so that it became necessary on several occasions for part of the company to travel in advance of the rest to open the roads with shovels. Four head of their oxen perished in Echo Canyon, and they would have lost more, had it not been for the timely aid rendered by Mr. William Hennefer, who sent out a load of hay to them, by which their teams were enabled to continue the journey; but so severe was the weather upon their animals that they were ten days in making the trip, with nothing but seven empty wagons to haul, and they give it as their opinion that if they had been two days later, the whole of their teams would have perished.

TABERNACLE.

On Sunday, Dec. 4, at 11 a. m., Elder John Taylor addressed the congregation on the general duties of the Saints; reasoned from the text—"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it: and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine, said the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.—Malachi, 3 chap., verses 17-18. Argued that the object of all good men and good women was to do right, and to aid in the establishment of correct principles and thus fulfill their destiny; also reasoned on the fearful consequences of persons setting a bad example before their children and said that those having received the Priesthood have duties of vast importance to perform to the church and kingdom of God; that it matters not in what capacity we act so that we perform our duties with acceptance; contended that the Priesthood is the government of God upon the earth as well as in the heavens; that no act of man can be considered legitimate or stand the trying day, which is not built upon the principles of right, truth and equity. He condemned tyranny in whatsoever shape it was or might be practised by men in authority; advised all rulers of the people to be kind to those under their jurisdiction, to govern them by mercy, and quoted the verse—"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." Then made some appropriate remarks on the proper way to settle difficulties among our friends and brethren, and concluded by saying that, in order to govern the people easily and correctly, men must have the Spirit of God within them and be dictated by it, and said, when this is the case, everybody will be right, happy and comfortable.

The Sacrament was administered, as usual. The congregation was very small, doubtless on account of the extremely cold weather.

SHARP, VERY.—An Eastern exchange says a negro who purchased his freedom went to the State of New York, and by rigid economy saved \$600, which he entrusted to an abolition lecturer to go to Delaware and buy his oldest daughter. The honest lecturer was overcome on his charitable errand by a fair daughter of the State of Delaware, whom he married and then pocketed the \$600 given him by the negro. This is about as far as the principle of an abolitionist extends—as far as it is possible to make money out of it. They impose upon the credulity of the poor ignorant negro, by professing the warmest sympathy for him, and then swindle him out of his hard earnings. Such is abolition philanthropy!—[Exchange.]