PROVO LETTER.

Davis Found Guilty of Wife Murder.—Sensational Abduction Case.—Notes.

Special Correspondence of the News.

PROVO, Oct. 27.—All of the testimony in the Enoch Davis homicide case is in, and the arguments have been heard. The theory of the defense, the defendant being the witness to establish it, was that the deceased's wife, on the fatal night, was discovered in a very compromising position with a Dr. Butler, who has since committed suicide, and that in his anger and bitterness defendant slew the woman and attempted to kill the doctor, but failed, as his revolver was not loaded. To strengthen this view of the case, the defense sought to introduce testimony by several witnesses to the effect that the murdered wife had been considered a lewd and lascivious woman, but the court ruled all such testimony incompetent. The case was submitted to the jury at four o'clock yesterday afternoon, and in an hour and a half a verdict of murder in the first degree was returned. The defendant throughout the trial had maintained a rather stolid demeanor, but when Mr. Zane, in his closing argument to the jury, read the letter written by the murdered wife to her brother on the day before her death, the murderer broke down and sobbed. When the verdict was rendered he had regained his composure, and simply sat with downcast eyes, and rather nervously stroked his mustache. Mr. Warner, attorney for Davis, asked that sentence be suspended until November 3rd, to give counsel for defense time to file a motion for a new trial. This was granted.

Mike Russell, an Italian, was placed on trial on the charge of forging on the back of a draft of $2500, drawn by a Park City bank, the name of George Arthur Hoe & Co., Eureka bankers. The testimony showed that Russell, being unable to write himself, had secured the services of a boy to forge the check, which he has subsequently attempted to pass at the Payson bank. He had represented that he was at Payson buying horses, according to a contract which he had made with Park City people.

Albert E. Watson and Edward H. Redfern, two transient young men, have been bound over to await the action of the grand jury, by Justice McNiell, of American Fork, on the charge of abducting a girl for purposes of prostitution. The girl, a Miss Shegogel, is a resident of American Fork. She went with the two young men so far as Grand Junction, when for some reason all parties considered it advisable to return. The evidence was taken behind closed doors, but it is said to have shown that the girl left the place where she was working on the 22nd day of September and procured male attire and went to Lehi, where she took the evening train for Springville. As she only had money enough to pay her fare, and her alleged abductors did not reach Springville until the next night, she slept out by the depot in her shirt sleeves, and the next day dug potatoes in a field and roasted them for her dinner. Her male companions arriving in the evening, hanging with them a third horse, she left with them the next morning on a prospecting trip and was with them nearly three weeks, going as far as Grand river and back. On their return when they reached Pleasant Valley the girl was sent on home alone on horseback, camping out two nights on the road.

NOTES.

C. E. Loose of this city has made a wager of $1000 with George Whitmore, of Nephi, that Benjamin Harrison will win the Presidential election. Mr. Whitmore, of course, backing Cleveland. The political complexions of Idaho and of Juab county have also been made subjects of wagers to the extent of $50 each, Mr. Loose believing that they will be Republican, and Mr. Whitmore being of the opinion that they will be Democratic. John R. Twelves, of the Commercial and Savings bank, is the stakeholder, and has received $2500 in gold coin.

Axel Johnson, of Pleasant Grove, who has been running a scraper at Grand Junction, came in on Tuesday. The muscles of his leg were wrenched in an accident. Dr. Shores is attending him.

It is expected that Mr. Allen, a Denver engineer, will be in the city in a few days, representing Rhodes Brothers, to make investigations concerning the leakages of the wooden pipes of the Provo waterworks system.

The Odd Fellows have leased the main portion of the third story of the new Reed Smoot block.

The board of education held a meeting Tuesday night and considered several questions in relation to the schools of the city. The early preparation for occupancy of the new northwest school house was considered urgent. It was decided to open the building in three weeks from last Monday.

Mr. L. E. Eggerton, one of the teachers of the B. Y. Academy, has decided to forsake the ranks of bachelordom, and enter those of the Benedicts. The lady who has caused this change of heart is Miss Annie Nielsen, of Pleasant Grove. The ceremony will be performed at the Manti Temple. A reception in honor of the marriage will be given by the bride's parents in Beer's Hall, Pleasant Grove, on Friday evening next.

The W. S. A. of Utah county held a convention in the Provo meeting house on Friday next, at 10 a. m., for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year.

A bright, pleasing musicale was given on Monday evening by Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Bee, in honor of Miss Edith Bee, who will travel abroad.

Bex Elder Stake Conference.

The quarterly conference of Box Elder Stake of Zion convened in the Brigham City Tabernacle Sunday, October 23, 1892, at 10 a.m.

There were present on the stand President Lorenzo Snow, President George Reynolds of the Seventies, the Stake Presidency, members of the High Council, Bishops of the various wards and Bishop Hiram B. Clawson of Salt Lake City.

The time at the morning session was occupied principally by Bishops A. Valentine and Wm. H. Mecham who reported their wards in a good condition. President Rodger Clawson reported that several of the wards have new, elegant and comfortable meeting houses erected for the people to meet in and others have substantial houses in course of erection. The Lord desired that the Saints should not only build up their wards and immediate surroundings but should also help to support the Stake in which they live and the Church in general. He advised the Saints to manifest a greater interest for the education of their children by sending them to the Church schools.

Patriarch Samuel Smith made some earnest and interesting remarks, advising the people to become acquainted with the principles of the Gospel and live by its precepts.

2 p.m.—A. H. Snow gave a report from the committee appointed at the previous conference to labor in the interest of the Stake academy. They had divided the Stake into districts and visited every ward with satisfactory results.

Bishop Hiram B. Clawson, President Lorenzo Snow and Apostle Franklin D. Richards occupied the remainder of the time. Their instructions were spirited and timely. The people were advised to set aside all strife and ill-feeling and purify themselves so that nothing shall divide them. They advised the people to prepare themselves for the dedication of the Salt Lake Temple.

Monday, Oct. 24.—Two interesting meetings were held. The Church and Stake authorities were presented and sustained by unanimous vote of the conference and the statistical report for the six months ending September 15, 1892, was read.

The time was occupied by Elder George Reynolds, W. L. Watkins, Crowell Dutfin, Apostle F. D. Richards and President Lorenzo Snow, whose fatherly advice and instruction were listened to with unusual interest. The speakers advised the Saints to take a course that will be an example to our children and to the whole world. At 4 p.m. closed one of the largest and most interesting conferences ever held in this Stake. NELS JENSON,

Clerk.

BRIGHAM CITY, Oct. 25, 1892.

The Trials of Columbus' Voyage.

The expedition early in September left the Canaries behind, and plunged into the abyss of ocean. It was growing urgent that Columbus should do this, for in the eyes of his companions the most ordinary phenomena became celestial warnings. In the clear, half Andalusian, half tropical nights of the Canaries rose the deep furrowed violet cone of the volcano of Teneriffe, in summer eruption, like a new sun springing into birth, shooting its fiery tinted flames through clouds of smoky ashes, with torrents of stony fragments like falling meteors, or glowing like an incandescent milky way—all this filled them with dread, for they deemed the flaring mountain some vast Cyclops, imprisoned there by the divine hand at the uppermost portals of the known earth, to bar the pathway to the unknown world.

Columbus showed them the error of their superstition, and how the self same phenomena were repeated on the familiar shores of Etruria, Italy, Sicily and Greece. But although their dread was speedily tranquilized by his marvelous eloquence, any ill-foreseen and fortuitous occurrence threatened to revive their fears and to wreck the plan through uncontrollable panic. At length a favoring easterly breeze sprang up, and the ships sped arrowlike on their course. The land soon sank from view, and the explorers found themselves alone with sea and sky.—Emilio Castelar in Century.

He Was a Big Party Himself.

A story is told of a gentleman prominently connected with one of the big foundries in Pittsburg. The gentleman in question is an unusually large man, very tall and far around. Finding himself caught in a little town about twenty-five miles from Pittsburg one night, with no train going to the city and being very anxious to reach there at 11 o'clock, he wired to an express down the track to stop for him.

"We stop for officials only," came the answer.

Quick as a flash went the second telegram.

"Will you stop for a large party?"

"Yes," was the reply, and the long express slowed up and stopped when it reached the little town, and the gentleman complacently stepped aboard.

"Where is the large party?" inquired the conductor, with wide open, astonished eyes as he gazed about the empty depot.

"Ain't I large enough?" chuckled the delighted new passenger.

The conductor glared and then burst into a hearty laugh as the fitness of the application burst upon him.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Growing Flax.

In European countries when at certain seasons the traveler turns his eyes over the landscape he sees dotted here and there fields of blossoming blue, which ripple in the summer sunshine like the waves of the sea. They are acres of blossoming flax, reared and cared for with surprising interest by the members of the household to which it belongs.—Garden and Forest.

A Clever Reply.

That was a bright answer which a clever society girl returned to an inquisitive admirer who had the temerity to question her concerning her age. "Sir," she said, with an air of severe piety, "in the language of the psalmist, 'Mine age is as nothing before thee.'"—New York Sun.

She Should Have Been Glad.

She had induced him to swear off on cigarettes, but one hot day he fell from grace.

"George," she said severely, as she swept her nose through the atmosphere of his surrounding, "you have been smoking."

"Of course I have," he replied, as he mopped his face, "and you ought to be thankful that I have not gone further and broken out into a regular blazing conflagration—confound this weather."—Detroit Free Press.

ADDITIONAL TELEGRAPH.

About the Militia.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 26.—General Flagler, chief of ordnance, in his annual report calls attention to the inadequacy of the general appropriation for arming and equipping the militia, which at the last session of Congress was still further reduced.

Amply vindicated.

CHICAGO, Oct. 26.—Carelessness in turning off the gas jets resulted in the death of four persons here today. Two printers, Bartley Gadnard of Terre Haute and John Glasson of St. Louis, were found dead in their rooms this morning, and in the afternoon, in another part of the city, A. B. Collins and wife, colored, were found dead from the same cause.

Still working for Mrs. Maybrick.

LONDON, Oct. 26.—Attorney Robertson today applied to Justice Hawkins for a writ of habeas corpus demanding the attorney general to show cause for the detention of Mrs. Maybrick. Justice Hawkins referred him to the home secretary.

A Steamer Lost.

HALIFAX, Oct. 25.—Much regret is felt over the reported loss of the steamer Britannia at Cape Sable today. She left Boston yesterday for this port. Particulars of the disaster are very meager so far.

Given Up for Lost.

ST. JOHNS, N. B., Oct. 25.—The fishing schooner E. B. Phillips is supposed to have sunk in a gale August last while at anchor off the Labrador. Some of her tackle has been picked up, as well as a piece of her duty. The schooner carried fourteen men, two of whom were married and leave families.

Congregationalist Mission.

DETROIT, Oct. 25.—The Congregational Woman's Board of Missions in the interior, covering the United States, met in annual session this morning. Most of the session was taken up with reports of the state branches.

Fraudulent Voters.

DETROIT, Oct. 25.—The boards of registration began their session today. There are already reports of fraudulent registration. It is stated that Lambert, chairman of the Republican committee, came from one of the registration boards this morning, carrying a basket with which he caught portraits of persons marked by detectives as either repeaters or aliens. Here says the committee has the names of over 200 intending to be fraudulent voters.

An Expert in His Line.

The late M. R.—— was one of the most experienced judges of red wine that the Department of Grande has yet produced. His opinion regarding the quality of vintage was worth that of all the other judges and wine tasters put together. His ability to distinguish the good from the bad, the superior from the indifferent was as unerring as it was unquestioned. His decisions in all cases where judgment was required were accepted as final.

He could tell the origin of a glass of wine, name the property on which it was grown and identify the year of the vintage without seeing either bottle, label, cork or capsule, and if he then made a mistake it was a rare exception. With him tasting was a science which had developed almost into a mania.

One day when riding in his Victoria the horses took fright and poor R—— was dashed violently upon the pavement. They carried him unconscious into a neighboring house, where, pending the arrival of a doctor, kind hands engaged in bathing his head with the best wine found in the cellar. A large drop of the purple liquid coursed down his cheek and trickled into the corner of his mouth. For an instant, though for an instant only, he seemed to regain consciousness. His nostrils dilated, his lips moved. One of those present bent over him to hear his last words. R—— heaved a deep sigh and murmured in an almost inaudible whisper, "Brane-Cantenac, '69." And his spirit passed away.—Exchange.

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