

You have nothing except that the Lord God has entrusted to your care; it belongs to him; the earth and the fullness thereof are his, and we are his. There is only one principle that may be considered our own, and that is our will. You can do as you are told, or you can refuse to do it. You can seek good and do it, or you can seek evil and do it. In this you are left to be your own judge. You can show to God that you are for him, or that you are for the devil. You can become elect to do evil and be an angel of the devil, or you can become elect to do good and be a Saint of the Most High.

For your own sakes, be true to yourselves and live your religion which you profess to believe, and train up your children in the principles of righteousness which the Lord God has revealed to you, and in which the faithful so delight, and which is so great a comfort and consolation to them. Bring your children up so that they will be an honor and a credit to you in your old age, so that they will walk in your foot-steps, inasmuch as you walk in all obedience before the Lord. The Lord made great promises to Abraham. Why? "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord to do justice and judgment, etc."

You can do your duty as Abraham did, and influence your children in every possible way to work righteousness in all their days. Every person has their agency; and how grand the idea, when the strong will of man is used for the promotion of the kingdom of God, to set forth as first and foremost the principles of truth and righteousness, and thus finally lead to exaltation in the kingdom of God, with power to preserve in it to all eternity our identity, walk into the presence of God and be able to bear the scrutinizing eyes of our Father in heaven.

What an exceeding great blessing to be able to do all this if we will, and save those with whom we are associated, and go forth and become the Gods of eternity. Let us prove to God, to angels and to all holy beings that we are for the kingdom, that we are for God and his messengers. Let us put aside our contentions, and bickerings and little notions, they will not add any weight in the balance in our favor, but it will weigh against us, and will continually thwart our onward progress. You say a person has done you an injury; suppose he has, what of it; it should not affect you; overlook it and pursue steadily the upward path to righteousness and it will not hurt you a particle; but it will hurt the person that has inflicted the injury. It is better to suffer wrong than to do wrong. If a person steals anything from me, it does not make it right for me to take something that belongs to another. If a person gets angry with me, and I go about my business, and pay no attention to it, but rather take an occasion to soothe and control his feelings, and finally gain the mastery over them, and over myself in the first place, it gives me a victory, although he may have done it on purpose to injure me.

When the Almighty is blessing us with bountiful crops, how foolish it is to quarrel with our neighbors for a little water; perhaps it may be we have some reason; but, if we cannot obtain the water with good feelings and kind words, let them have the water.

Let us go forth in our daily transactions with an enlightened view of things, and feel that we will not be moved from the path of righteousness by every little thing that may cross our track. Let us go a considerable distance round anything that would annoy us, rather than make a fuss about it. Let us suffer a great deal before finding fault with our brother, or cause him to do wrong. Try and cherish courtesy and good feelings to each other, that you may attain that command over yourselves, and that elevation of sentiment and feeling that is worthy of you as Saints of the Most High. When your Bishop or President chooses to lead out in a certain direction in righteousness, follow after him and sustain him. If he is not doing right and walking in the path of his duty, let your faith be of that strength that will cause him to be removed, and a man placed there that will do right. An unfaithful President cannot stand in his place long, if the people will do right. May God bless us, and help us to do our duty, live our holy religion and build up his kingdom in his prayer in the name of Jesus Christ: Amen.

WHEN REASONING IS USELESS.—Dean Swift said, with much truth, "It is useless for us to attempt to reason a man out of a thing he has never been reasoned into."

A NEW USE FOR APPLES.—An English paper says the Manchester calico dyers and printers have discovered that apple juices supply a desideratum long wanted in making fast colors for their printed cottons.

THE PERIOD OF INNOCENCE.—Tacitus says: "In the early ages men lived a life of innocence and simplicity." Upon this a critic remarks: "When was this period of innocence? The first woman went astray. The very first man that was born in the world killed the second. When did the time of simplicity begin?"

CHARITY.—An old lady was in the habit of teaching the duty of charity to her grandchildren in this wise: "My dears, when I and your father and mother have finished our meals, when you have eaten all you conveniently can, and when you have fed the three cats and the parrot—then, my dear children, remember the poor."

Eleventh Annual Session of the Legislative Assembly.

On Monday, the 9th inst, the time prescribed by law, the members elect to the Council and House of Representatives met in their respective rooms, at the Court House in this city, at 10 a.m., and proceeded, in the usual manner, to organize preparatory to the discharge of the duties devolved upon them.

In the Council, the following, having the necessary credentials, appeared and took their seats:

From Great Salt Lake, Tooele and Shambip: Daniel H. Wells, Wilford Woodruff, Albert Carrington, Daniel Spencer, Franklin D. Richards.

From Davis: John W. Hess.

From Weber, Box Elder, Cache and Malad: Lorenzo Snow, Ezra T. Benson.

From Utah and Cedar: Leonard E. Harrington, James W. Cummings.

From Juab and Sanpete: Orson Hyde.

From Millard and Beaver: William J. Cox.

From Iron and Washington: George A. Smith.

The following were unanimously elected officers of the Council:

Hon. Daniel H. Wells, President.

Thomas W. Ellerbick, Secretary.

Patrick Lynch, Assistant Secretary.

John Smith, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Samuel L. Sprague, Messenger.

Robert Perce, Foreman.

Elder Joseph Young, sen., Chaplain.

Messrs. Richards and Hess were then appointed by the President a committee to inform the House of the organization of the Council, and also Messrs. Harrington and Benson, in connection with a like committee from the House, to wait on his Excellency the Governor, and inform him that the Legislative Assembly was fully organized.

The freedom of the Council Chamber was extended to His Excellency Governor Dawson, the Hon. Secretary Fuller, the Judges and other Federal officers of the Territory; also to Ex-Governor Young, the Ex-President of the Council, and ex-members of the Legislative Assembly, the Hon. Wm. H. Hooper, the members of the County court of Great Salt Lake county and its officers; and also to the Hon. the Mayor and the members of the City Council of G. S. L. City.

The President appointed the following standing committees:

On Judiciary: Albert Carrington, Leonard E. Harrington, George A. Smith, Orson Hyde.

On Claims on Appropriations: James W. Cummings, Wilford Woodruff, Lorenzo Snow.

On Petitions and Memorials: George A. Smith, Franklin D. Richards, Orson Hyde, Ezra T. Benson.

On Revenue: Wilford Woodruff, Leonard E. Harrington, John W. Hess, Daniel Spencer.

On Elections: Ezra T. Benson, William J. Cox, Lorenzo Snow.

On Counties: Franklin D. Richards, John W. Hess, James W. Cummings, Albert Carrington.

On Roads, Bridges, Ferries and Kanyons: Orson Hyde, George A. Smith, Daniel Spencer, Leonard E. Harrington.

On Education: Lorenzo Snow, Orson Hyde, Franklin D. Richards, Albert Carrington.

On Engrossing: Orson Hyde, Albert Carrington, James W. Cummings.

On Printing: Wilford Woodruff, Ezra T. Benson, Leonard E. Harrington.

On Agriculture, Trade and Manufactures: Wilford Woodruff, Leonard E. Harrington, Daniel Spencer, John W. Hess.

On Militia: Franklin D. Richards, Orson Hyde, William J. Cox.

On Incorporations: Lorenzo Snow, James W. Cummings, George A. Smith.

On Library: Ezra T. Benson, Wilford Woodruff.

On Public Domain and School Lands: Albert Carrington, Lorenzo Snow, James W. Cummings, William J. Cox.

On Penitentiary: Ezra T. Benson, Daniel Spencer, Leonard E. Harrington.

In the House, the following appeared and claimed seats, none of which have been contested:

From Great Salt Lake: John Taylor, Hiram B. Clawson, Hosea Stout, Edwin D. Woolley, Joseph A. Young, Albert P. Rockwood, John V. Long, John M. Moody, Horace S. Eldredge.

From Davis: Joseph Holbrook, Thomas Grover.

From Weber, Box Elder, and Malad: Chauncey W. West, Aaron F. Farr.

From Cache: Peter Maughan.

From Tooele and Shambip: John Rowberry.

From Utah and Cedar: Albert K. Thurber, Benjamin F. Johnson, Lorenzo H. Hatch.

From Juab: Jonathan Midgley.

From Sanpete: Bernard Snow.

From Millard: Thomas Callister.

From Beaver: Edward W. Thompson.

From Iron and Washington: Silas S. Smith, William Crosby.

From Summit and Green River: Thomas Rhoads.

The following were, without a dissenting vote, elected officers of the House:

Hon. John Taylor, Speaker.

William Clayton, Chief Clerk.

Robert L. Campbell, Assistant-Clerk.

James F. Allred, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Heber John Richards, Messenger.

Francis Kirby, Foreman.

Wm. W. Phelps, Chaplain.

The Speaker appointed Messrs. Woolley and Young a committee to inform the Council of the organization of the House, and Messrs. Clawson and Eldredge a committee in connection with the Council committee to inform the Governor and Secretary that both branches of the Assembly were organized and ready to receive any communication they might be pleased to make.

On motion of Mr. Stout, Ex-Governor Young, the ex-members of the Legislative Assembly, His Excellency Governor Dawson, Hon. Secretary Fuller, the Judges of the Supreme court, Hon. W. H. Hooper, late delegate to Congress, the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, the Surveyor-General, the Probate Judge of Great Salt Lake county, and the Mayor of Great Salt Lake City, were admitted to seats within the bar of this House during the session.

The committee appointed to wait on the Governor reported that he would be pleased to communicate to the Assembly in joint session the next day, Tuesdays at eleven o'clock.

The preliminary arrangements for a joint session, agreeable to the Governor's wish, were made, and both houses adjourned.

On the 10th, the Assembly met in joint session in the Representatives' Hall. At about eleven o'clock Governor Dawson was introduced, by the President of the Council, and read his message to the Assembly, a thousand copies of which were ordered to be printed. Elias Smith was elected public printer; some orders were made relative to printing the daily minutes, the Auditor's and Treasurer's reports and other documents, when the joint session was dissolved.

After the members of the Council retired, the House resumed its session and the Speaker announced the standing committees as follows:

On Judiciary: Hosea Stout, Chauncey W. West, Aaron F. Farr.

On Claims and Appropriations: Hiram B. Clawson, Edwin D. Woolley, Albert P. Rockwood.

On Petitions and Memorials: Joseph A. Young, John V. Long, Albert K. Thurber.

On Revenue: Chauncey W. West, Hosea Stout, Horace S. Eldredge, John M. Moody.

On Elections: Aaron F. Farr, Silas S. Smith, Thomas Rhoads.

On Counties: Silas S. Smith, Benjamin F. Johnson, Peter Maughan.

On Roads, Bridges, Ferries and Kanyons: Bernard Snow, Thomas Grover, John Rowberry, Thomas Rhoads.

On Education: Albert K. Thurber, Benjamin F. Johnson, Bernard Snow.

On Engrossing: John V. Long, Joseph A. Young, Lorenzo H. Hatch.

On Printing: Hiram B. Clawson, Thomas Callister, Jonathan Midgley.

On Agriculture, Trade and Manufactures: Edwin D. Woolley, William Crosby, Peter Maughan, Thomas Grover.

On Militia: Albert P. Rockwood, Chauncey W. West, Thomas Callister, Edward W. Thompson.

On Incorporations: Joseph Holbrook, Edward W. Thompson, John Rowberry.

On Library: Lorenzo H. Hatch, Edward W. Thompson, Aaron F. Farr, John V. Long.

On Public Domain and School Lands: Horace S. Eldredge, Jonathan Midgley, John M. Moody, Joseph Holbrook, William Crosby.

On Penitentiary: Albert P. Rockwood, Edwin D. Woolley, Lorenzo H. Hatch.

There was not much business done either

in the Council or House during the first week; and how much will be acted upon or performed during the session we are not able to predict. Some very important matters, connected with the growth and prosperity of the Territory and the interests of the citizens, will doubtless be presented for the consideration and action of the Legislature, and, although we honestly differ with the well known opinions of some of the members in relation to the enactment of laws for the observance of the people, and the establishment of rules for the guidance of officers in the discharge of their duties, no doubt is entertained that each and every member will honestly and faithfully represent his constituents, and act upon all matters that may be presented for his consideration as he may deem for the best good of the citizens of the Territory, and the development of its resources. In the event the enactments of the eleventh Legislative Assembly shall correspond with our views we shall be pleased, if not we do not expect to secede.

From Nevada Territory.

From the reports published in the Carson Valley and California papers, it appears that they have had some interesting scenes in Carson City and other places in Nevada Territory, within the last month, that is, they appear to be interesting to the people dwelling there, some of whom, particularly members of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory, express great fears that the moral and enlightened dwellers or sojourners in that part of North America, will become contaminated by the institutions of their neighbors, who have an aversion to the modern civilities of murdering, shooting, stabbing, fighting, gambling and other refinements of the age, as practised there, unless legislative action be taken to prevent the dreaded demoralization.

On the evening of November 16th, there was a fight between two of the members of the Legislature, doubtless to show to the world that the law-makers of that infant Territory were not behind members of Congress and of other legislative bodies in the North American States and Territories, claiming to be civilized and enlightened, in refinement as understood and practised in this fast age.—John D. Winters, member of the House, assaulted Van Bokkelen, President of the Council, in one of the hotels, knocked him down with a billet of wood and pounded and kicked him afterward till taken away by some of the by-standers. Van Bokkelen was badly bruised and was taken to his lodgings in a state of insensibility. Two physicians were called, who succeeded after a long time in restoring animation, which added much to their reputation as professional men.

On the evening of November 18th, John L. Blackburn, Sheriff of Carson county, was killed in a saloon, by a noted gambler and blackleg named Mayfield, who stabbed him with a knife, inflicting three or four wounds, causing instant death. The murderer made his escape after effecting his purpose, notwithstanding there were at the time twenty or thirty men in the saloon, most of them armed as alleged.

After Mayfield had escaped there was a great stir made, and a large number of men were out searching for him all night to no purpose. He was, however, subsequently found stowed away in some hay in a stable, arrested, ironed and hurried off to jail, which was strongly guarded to prevent his being rescued by his comrades who hovered around in such numbers that it was deemed inexpedient to arrest those of the gang who aided Mayfield in the killing of Blackburn and concealed him afterward, and Governor Nye sent to Fort Churchill for a detachment of troops to guard the jail and preserve the peace.

The St. Nicholas saloon, where Blackburn was killed, according to the Silver Age, has been the scene of many fatal and sanguinary affrays during the past year, said to have averaged at least one a week, with a greater number of minor fights. So common have these incidents been that they have ceased, it is said, to excite any surprise, and since the murder of Blackburn, the drawing of knives, and the flourishing of pistols have continued to be matters of nightly occurrence at the St. Nicholas.

Such, according to report, is life in Nevada; and it is not at all marvelous that the people there consider themselves in the front ranks of civil progression, and rejoice that they are no longer to be governed by the laws of Utah.