

THE VALLEY TAN.

KIRK ANDERSON, Editor.

G. S. L. CITY, MAY 10, 1859.

Affairs in this Territory.

The condition of affairs in this Territory are of a most unsettled and complicated character. We unhesitatingly announce and believe that Treason exists as much this day as when Echo Canyon with its fortifications was bristling with arms and traitors against the Government of the United States.

The Mormons feel—and we do not blame them—that in this very act they overreached the Government, and while they did not dictate the terms, they merely gave a nod of the head and assented at the idea.

There are armed scouting parties sent out, cannons mounted, cañons, and when discovered subsequently hid, signal arrangements prepared upon the mountain heights to telegraph to all parts of the territory where their forces are collected and awaiting the signal, a condition of affairs treasonable in its animus and insulting to every loyal and American citizen.

They were met by Mr. Dotson, who went out with a party upon this side to assist them, and who brought the mail, which was a large one, in. The snow on the Big Mountain is deep, and yet within the last week a number of wagons have started. It is probable that in a week or ten days a passable trail will be broken.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, G. S. L. City, May 9, 1859.

WHEREAS, I have this day been informed that certain persons, who are to me unknown, have associated themselves together to a military capacity, near Goshen, and at other points in or near the mountains surrounding Great Salt Lake Valley, in this Territory.

And therefore, having reason to believe that those associations and assemblages are unlawful, and directly tending to interrupt, and jeopardize the peace and good order of this Territory.

I now, hereby order, and command that all persons so associated and assembled together, shall immediately disperse and return to their homes and usual avocations, and that all and every such persons who shall refuse immediately to obey this command, and injunction, are hereby declared disturbers of the peace of this Territory, and as such disturbers of the public peace shall be arrested and dealt with according to law in the premises.

And, I, hereby direct, authorize and empower JOHN KAY, the Marshal elected by the Legislature of the Territory of Utah, to enforce, carry out, and execute the foregoing command and injunction for the preservation of the public peace of said Territory, and that he make due return to me of the execution thereof.

Given under my hand and seal of the Territory of Utah, at Great Salt Lake City, this ninth day of May, A. D., eighteen hundred and fifty-nine.

A. CUMMING, Governor, Utah Territory.

This order in our opinion should have been directed to a Federal officer, to execute, for Gov. Cumming, with the history of this Territory before him, and especially the records of the last two months, should not fail to perceive that the thunderbolt issued from the Executive department is a greased shaft in the hands of Mormon manipulators.

In addition to the lawless proceedings already referred to, there are others which consist not only in bringing to the bar traitors, but in punishing crime, and affording assistance to Federal officers who have and are

now endeavoring to bring offenders to justice, and the encouragement afforded them, by arming a man with all the powers of a proclamation, and one too, who would execute a trust from the church rather than from the government is a flattening down to which we cannot subscribe.

We shall await the result of the proclamation with no anxiety whatever, for we have ceased to be anxious about matters here, but at the same time firmly believing, to use the Indian word, that it will prove "Ka-wol."

We present in another column a letter from Dr. Forney, Sup't. of Indian affairs, who has just returned from the South, and which is interesting. He brought with him to this city several children, whose infancy, or rather good luck saved them from massacre at the Mountain Meadows, the balance of them were sent to the Spanish Fork.

By the bye, and in this connection, we would ask, what has become of the dead head commissioners sent here to take them to the States.

The last Eastern mail came in almost four days inside of time. The mail boys had a hard time over the Big Mountain, but worked like troopers, packing heavy bags upon their own shoulders, for mules were out of the question, and plunging into snow drifts like heroes scaling battlements.

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We are informed that the California mail will hereafter leave on Wednesday of each week instead of Tuesday, under the new regulation.

The California Mail came in on telegraph time.

By some mishap we received no San Francisco papers by this mail. We are indebted however, to Langton's Express for copious files of California papers.

The weather here is chilly, and we understand that a slight white frost was visible this morning, but will do no damage to the fruit.

The Corral of the Eastern Mail Stage Company was broken into last night, and fourteen mules allowed to escape, which were fortunately afterwards retaken.

The gate of the Corral was lifted from its hinges, and a labor taken with it that shows a most contemptible malice.

We learn from Dr. Forney, that on his late trip he made considerable inquiry about the stock, and other property known to have been in possession of the murdered emigrant party at Mountain Meadows, but could learn nothing.

It is not "laying around so loose," but what it may be ferreted out yet—quite safe.

When the grand illumination and pyrotechnic display of rockets on the mountains takes place, it is to be hoped that there will be no grabbing for the sticks.

Did any body ever experience a personal earthquake, otherwise the ague, it's some? and if they are threatened with it again, we refer them to the following recipe of "Uncle Billy," everybody's "Uncle Billy," who is so well known as a trump at the office of the California Mail Company, and and the stables "circumadjacent thereto." He says it knocks a "shake" into the limberest kind of a rag.

The indefinite quantity of "fifteen cents' worth" must be counteracted by the private judgement of the patient with a full knowledge of how much things are worth in this latitude, and then let him measure accordingly. Here, however, is the prescription:

RECIPE FOR THE CURE OF AGUE.—Get fifteen cents' worth of Salomoniac, make nine powders, take three a day; and one pint of Alcohol, and bathe your breast well on going to bed.

G. S. L. CITY, May 5, 1859.

KIRK ANDERSON, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—I returned yesterday from a laborious trip, through the extreme southern portion of the Territory, at the same time interesting however.

The purpose of my visit was, to see and learn the condition, locality and character of the Pi-ute tribe of Indians, and to bring certain children to this city.

The Pi-ute Indians, living in the southern part of the Territory, are divided into ten bands, each band numbering from 60 to 150, which live and roam on and adjacent to the Southern California road, from Bearer to the California line, and along the Santa Clara, Los Vegas, and Rio Virgin rivers. There is one principal chief, whom all the bands recognize as such: each band has one or more sub-chiefs.

I saw all the chiefs, and many of the Indians, during my recent visit. The Pi-ute Indians are not an exception to the other Indians in the Territory in regard to poverty; these are, if any thing, the most destitute. There is less game in the country claimed by the Pi-ute Indians than in any other part of the Territory; everything growing with a life sustaining principle; roots, seeds (grass, &c.), and a peculiar plant called umea. All these are collected with great care.

A few bands cultivate small patches of land; already, however, most of the land, which is advantageously located for irrigation, is occupied. Begging among the whites, and all sorts of shiftings, these Indians merely sustain life; and I very much fear that necessity has compelled them heretofore to steal cattle, horses and mules, and to commit the crimes too fresh in our memory. I will render them such assistance in future as will be in my power.

There was during last winter, and is still, considerable travel on the Southern California road; most of the travel consisted in trains, with goods from California for Utah Territory. This was during the season of the year when the Indians are most destitute; indeed many in a starving condition. I am informed that some of these trains were severely taxed by the Indians.

You are well aware that, owing to the entangled condition of affairs here, I could do but little officially until last June; since then I have been constantly engaged among the Indians, endeavoring to ameliorate their condition in different parts of the Territory. It was my desire to have visited the Pi-utes much sooner; this was impossible. The awful Mountain Meadows tragedy was perpetrated in the Pi-ute country. More of this by and bye.

I found much of the road on my way south exceedingly bad, in consequence of snow, mud, tremendous hills, and innumerable rocks and stones. One wheel of each wagon and my carriage "smashed flat," besides minor accidents, and occasionally the mules straying away; and always at a place from 10 to 20 miles from any place. Patience being the only help under such circumstances, never having had much to spare, necessity and circumstances, however, have furnished me with some.

After I got south of Fillmore I found it difficult on my way south to procure a sufficiency of grain for my stock; for what reason I cannot tell. We, however, got to Santa Clara finally.

I neglected mentioning that Mr. Rogers accompanied and rendered me valuable assistance. I reached the memorable Mountain Meadows valley 300 miles South of this City, Wednesday April 14th, and nooned at the Spring in the south end of the valley, and where the unfortunate emigrant party was camped from five to eight days.

The valley, usually called Mountain Meadows is about six miles long, south east and one to three wide, and almost a continuous meadow, and already excellent grass throughout the whole valley. The road leading into the valley from the east, goes through a narrow canyon, the road from the valley south, turns abruptly north-east, and passes over a considerable hill. There are two narrow out-lets from the valley, besides those already mentioned, and through which the water runs. The entire valley excepting the roads, and out-lets above alluded to, are surrounded by high hills, with several small ravines or gullies between broken and abrupt hills. From several points within the valley proper, I could have a distinct view of anything that might be transpiring in the whole valley. There is one house with corral &c., in this valley situated in the east end.

I have now traveled over much of this extensive Territory, and the Mountain Meadows valley is the most extraordinary formation west of the Rocky Mountains, probably in a higher altitude, than any other valley small or large, on the continent; yet a continuous and handsome meadow furnishing

grass for much stock, but in too high an altitude for agriculture of any kind, even if it would admit of agriculture, nature has not supplied it with sufficient water, there being but two springs in the whole valley.

In about the centre of the valley in what is called the "Rim of the Basin," or point where the water, either finds its way to the Pacific or Lakes of Utah Territory, nature always profuse in making provision for the weary traveler and his stock, has, it would seem designed this extraordinary and beautiful little valley, in so high an altitude that it can never be despoiled by the hands of the agriculturalist, for a resting place, and resuscitating the broken down stock of the anxious traveler before reaching the Deserts, that all travelers over the southern California road must encounter, before reaching the healthful and rich California climate and soil and on which deserts are now bleaching the bones of thousands of human beings, and of tens of thousands of animals.

I fear I have taken up too much space in describing the Mountain Meadows valley. But the terrible "Drama" consummated in this little valley, hardly eighteen months ago, with the cries of women and children almost sounding in one's ears, must necessarily make this peculiar valley among the clouds, a subject of concernment to the enquiring mind.

I informed my then guide and interpreter (Mr. Ira Hatch) that I was anxious to see the spot where the massacre took place, and also where the dead were buried. I saw the three places where the dead are buried.

From information received from persons in and out of the Mormon Church, and observations whilst at the place, enables me to say that the emigrant party in question, arrived and camped at the spring in the south end of the valley, Friday, Sept. 7th or 8th, 1857. The amount of property is variously from 200 to 700 head, and ten to thirty wagons. My own impression is, that they had 600 head of cattle and about 40 wagons.

It is said the firing commenced Monday, Sept. 10, before daylight, and that the firing was by the Indians fighting the said emigrant party then in camp at the spring, as already stated. The firing was continued, some say five, others say seven days. During the five or seven days of firing and fighting by the Indians, the emigrant party was corralled, that is, they made a corral and temporary fort by their wagons, and filled under the wheels and to the bed of the wagon with sand and earth dug in the centre of corral. I saw the ditch and other evidences of there having been a corral. Sept. 17th, 1857, morning, a friendly Indian, and who could talk English, came in the corral, the inmates having then been without water from five to seven days; made arrangements or treaty with said Indian. The Indians to have the property, and to spare the lives of the whites, and permit them to return to Painter Creek and Cedar City. From the spring and corral to the place where it is said they were murdered, and where I saw the graves (or imperfect holes) is at least one mile and a half.

I walked over the ground where it is supposed they were killed, the evidences of this being unmistakable from skulls, & other bones and hair laying scattered over the ground. There are there buried, as near as I can ascertain, 106 persons, men, women and children; and from one to two miles further down the valley, two or three who, in attempting to escape, were killed, partly up the hill, north side of the valley, and there buried; and three who got away entirely, but overtaken and killed at or near the Vegas or Muddy; in all 115. I made strict and diligent inquiry of the number supposed to have been killed, and 115 is probably about the correct number.

April 15th, arrived at Santa Clara this afternoon, and camped in town. Here I met Mr. Jacob Hamblin, who has been in my employ since last fall, collecting certain children, and other business among the Indians. Here (Santa Clara) myself and party were kindly treated during our stay, two days.

I say in the beginning of my letter, that I proposed bringing to this city certain children remaining of the Mountain Meadows massacre. These children, sixteen in number, I have now in my possession. Thirteen I got in Santa Clara, at Mr. J. Hamblin's, who collected them in pursuance to my directions, and three I got in Cedar City on our way home, left there by Mr. Hamblin. I am pleased to say that Mr. Hamblin has discharged his duty in relation to the collection and keeping of those children.

The following is all I have been able as yet to collect of the history of these unfortunate, fatherless, motherless and penniless children.

John Calvin, now 7 or 8 years old; does not remember his name; says his family

lived at Horse Head, Johnston co., Arizona.

Ambrose Mironi, about 7 years, and William Taggit, 4 1/2 years, brothers; these lived in Johnston co.

Prudence Angeline, 6 years; these two are about 3 years; these two are

Rebecca, 9 years; Louisa, 5 years; Sarah, 3 1/2 years; from Danlap.

Betsy, 6 years, and Annie, 3 years; to be sisters; these know nothing of the family or residence.

Charles Francher, 7 or 8 years, and sister Annie, 3 1/2 years.

Sophronia or Mary Huff, 6 years, and Ellaha W. Huff, 4 years.

A boy; no account of him. Those whom he lived call him William.

Francis Hawn or Korn, 4 1/2 years old; I have come to the conclusion, after different conversations with these children, that most of them come from Johnston co., Arkansas. Most of them have told me that they have grandfathers and grandmothers in the States.

Mr. Hamblin has good reasons for believing that a boy about 8 years, and belonging to the party in question, is among the Navajos Indians, at or near the Colorado river.

My communication is already too long but must ask your indulgence for a few more.

I will keep the children under my immediate supervision, until the person appointed to take them to Fort Smith arrives.

The massacre of an entire train, not remaining to speak of the "drama" but written fatherless, motherless and penniless children, supposed probably to be too young to give the affair tangibility, cannot remain long uninvestigated.

The cause or reason for the commission of a crime so terrible as that of killing at least 115 persons, must assuredly become a subject of enquiry with the proper legal authorities.

The Pi-ute tribe of Indians have been charged with the above crime. Last August, my attention was called to the Mountain Meadows affair officially. Since then I have made diligent enquiry, got the written statements of persons living in the neighborhood, and finally visited the southern country; and now, after full enquiry and examination, I deem it to be my imperative duty to say that the Indians had material assistance from whites; and in my opinion the Pi-ute Indians would not have perpetrated the terrible massacre without aid and assistance.

Mr. Jacob Hamblin and others, of Esch Clarn, expressed much anxiety to bring the guilty to justice.

I remain, very respectfully, yours, J. FORNEY

ELECTIONS.

CONNECTICUT.—The Opposition elected the four members and the whole State voted, and a majority of 20 in both Houses of the Legislature.

RHODE ISLAND.—The Blacks, assisted by the Americans, made a clean sweep in the State.

OHIO.—At the city election in Cincinnati the whole Opposition ticket was elected by an average majority of 1,000. The Council stands 10 Opposition to 6 Democrats. Cleveland, the entire Republican ticket was elected.

KENTUCKY.—At the city election in Louisville, the Opposition Mayor was elected by a 430 majority; the Council stands Opposition 18, Democrats 6.

MAINE.—The Republican candidate for Mayor, and a majority of the Council were elected last Tuesday.

ILLINOIS.—An election for Judges and Clerks of the Superior Court took place in Chicago, Wednesday, and resulted in the success of the entire Republican ticket by an average majority of 2,000. In Springfield, the Republican ticket was elected by a majority of about 150.

WISCONSIN.—At an election for Judges of the Supreme Court, April 6th, in this State, Lynde, Democrat, was elected.

NEW YORK.—At the charter election in Brooklyn, April 6th, the whole Democratic ticket was elected by a majority of 3,000.

IOWA.—An election was held in Keokuk on Wednesday last, resulting in the success of the Republican ticket.

MISSOURI.—The election for Municipal officers in St. Louis, resulted, as was expected, in the triumph of the Opposition. At an election for city officers, in Jefferson City, the Democrats elected their entire ticket.

ELECTION IN KANSAS.—Governor Medard has issued a proclamation for an election of the fourth Monday in March, in accordance