

The Weekly Colonist

Friday, December 30, 1864

THE IDAHO STAGE ROBBERY

Lawrence Dulligan (alias Broeky Jack) and George Smith, the two men whose capture under the extradition treaty upon a charge of robbing the Idaho stage on the highway between Virginia and Salt Lake cities, has already been recorded, were brought up yesterday before A. F. Pemberton, Esq., stipendiary magistrate. The case awakened considerable interest, and the proceedings were listened to with marked interest by a large number of spectators.

Mr. Bishop acted for the prosecution, and Mr. Cary, instructed by Mr. Courtney, conducted the defense. At about 11 o'clock, Mr. James H. Fisk, Sheriff of Lewis and Clark Territory, was in attendance, and produced certified copies of the depositions taken before the proper authorities in Utah and Colorado. The information given is as follows:

From information I have received I have reason to believe that on the 29th day of August last past a highway robbery was committed between Virginia and Salt Lake cities, and that Broeky Jack, Geo. Smith and two other men, who are herein after described, were the perpetrators of the robbery. Property to the value of \$22,000 and upwards was stolen. I am credibly informed and believe that the robbers are in the colony of Vancouver Island and its dependencies, and pray for warrants for their arrest. Broeky Jack and George Smith are known to the police officers here. The two other men are described as having each heavy black whiskers, but short black hair, dark complexions, being between 25 and 30 years of age and medium size. I make this application by virtue of a regulation to the Governor of this colony signed by the Governor of Idaho Territory, U. S. of America, under the Extradition Treaty between England and the U. S. of America.

gaily looking man, with a forbidding expression, apparently an American, made an interjectory remark in respect to the description given of one of the robbers, "that's me, sure!" Mr. Fisk did not catch his words, and Smith said he would repeat the observation, but on being cautioned by the Bench, said he did not care about repeating it, as it was a matter of indifference to him what the depositions contained, and there was no use in his saying anything. The depositions gave the fullest and best account of the robbery he had yet seen; but it was all new to him. John Hughes, of this city, engaged to assist in the arrest, was placed in the witness box and said: "I was sworn in special constable to arrest the accused. I took Dulligan in custody on Oregon Island on Sunday morning between 9 and 10 o'clock. I found in his room the revolver professedly used by the robbers which contains cartridges, and a written document on a shell in the room."

Mr. Courtney asked Dulligan, who is a middle-aged, stoutly built Irishman, said he wished to ask witness if he ever saw him (Dulligan) at any time previous to seeing him on Vancouver Island. Witness said he did not see him until he was brought to the witness box. He said he had seen him in the colony of Vancouver, but he did not know his name. He said he had seen him in the colony of Vancouver, but he did not know his name. He said he had seen him in the colony of Vancouver, but he did not know his name.

Mr. Pemberton—You will have your property if you have been wronged. Prisoner—I can do nothing here where I am. The Government of Vancouver Island won't assist me; my sloop has been seized and they have turned out all my cargo, who I put in her, because the vessel was empty, and they have taken all the cargo. Mr. Pemberton—Let the trial proceed in its regular course, if you have any application to make to me I will hear it at the proper time. Mr. Bishop—There was a splendid attendance in the theatre last night, and they have turned out all my cargo, who I put in her, because the vessel was empty, and they have taken all the cargo.

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PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S MESSAGE

The annual message of the President of the United States is always a most important document that which contains from the Majesty on the opening of Parliament. While the latter is generally a merely formal statement, abounding in the most meagre common places—for its great object is to avoid saying anything that can by any possible means be construed into a subject for argument—the former goes minutely into the general condition of the country during the past year and places vigorously before Congress the "political wants" and exigencies of the country. In the normal condition of the United States these messages have always been more or less interesting to the world in general; but since the commencement of the present civil war their importance has become immeasurably enhanced. The present message, the principal portion of which we publish elsewhere, does not, however, possess the same amount of interest as any of its predecessors, since 1860, for the reason, perhaps, that the general policy of the Cabinet at Washington has assumed a defined and settled shape and is pretty thoroughly understood by the world at large. At the same time the message gives the details of the actual condition of the Republic is worthy of notice and must be interesting to every person who is desirous of studying contemporary history—especially of the most important events which have probably ever before taken place in the political world.

It appears that after all the drain upon the population during the past three years and half of war, there is an actual increase of citizens—of, in other words, of men liable to bear arms—of 149,751. It is not difficult, of course, to point to the principal cause of the extraordinary increase in the immense emigration from Europe; but the fact is nevertheless remarkable, and stands prominently when taking into consideration the magnitude of the war, as an isolated instance in the history of the world. It certainly is a gratifying commentary on the human resources of the Northern States, and places the issue of the present contest clearly beyond the region of doubt. The number of invalid pensioners added to the list the present year is 19,480—a large number truly, but very small when we consider the nature and number of the contests. This proves one of two things—that the wounds, generally speaking, received on the battle-field were a trifling character; or that American surgery has attained, through the extensive practice of the past three years and a half, proficiency that is truly astonishing.

The slave question forms a prominent feature in the message. The amendment to the Constitution, abolishing slavery throughout the United States, which passed the Senate last session but was not carried by the necessary two-thirds majority in the House, President again presses upon the attention of Congress. He points out to the pro-slavery members in the House of Representatives that the recent elections indicate a large increasing anti-slavery sentiment, and that the present House does not pass the amendment the next House is bound to do it through the force of the popular will. So far as himself is concerned, he declares his settled purpose of neither retracting nor modifying his emancipation proclamation, nor offering to let slavery a single person, who is free by the act of celebrated manhood. "If a free man," says Lincoln, "should by whatever mode or means make it my executive duty to retain such persons, another, and not I, must be their instrument." Brave words, and worthy the upright man who utters them. To show that his is no lip liberty nor empty to Congress the propriety of furnishing the African Republic of Liberia with a grant for the more efficient protection of the coast against the African slave trade.

The remarks of the President on the war as a whole are especially worthy of attention. The national resources, he maintains, are not exhaustible, and the public purpose to establish the union unchangeable. He rides all attempts at opening up negotiation with the Southern President on the ground that the head of the Southern Confederacy would be satisfied with nothing less than "independence." "Between him and us," says Lincoln, "the issue is distant, simple and indissoluble. It is an issue which can only be tried by war and decided by war." He unfolds the real gist of Lincoln's policy to be his war on war, until Southern submission or Northern exhaustion steps in and ends the conflict. "In insisting a single condition peace," he concludes, "I mean simply to say that the war will cease on the part of the Government whenever it shall have ceased on the part of those who began it." Of the message the present brings the best hope to the South. They are told as distinctly as words can tell them, that nothing but their submission will now satisfy the North. "The disposition which was evinced in former messages to be lenient, if not actually compromising, is not so apparent in the present one." The door of the annexation

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