

The entries of Hosea Stout, brief as they are, ~~still~~ give pertinent details:

still more

Saturday, 5 Jan. 1856....

The probate Court of this County called a special session of said Court & grand jury which found a Bill of indictment vs Judge W. W. Drummond and his Negro Cato for an assault on the Body of Levi Abrams with intent to kill. & the Hon. Judge & his servant was arrested about 9 P.M. thereon....

The Judge was represented by Hosea Stout, Joseph A. Kelting, and Aurelius Miner; the Jew by Jesse C. Little, William A. Hickman, Thomas S. Williams, and Almirin Grow, though the latter was forced to withdraw. The complications lasted for three days, on the last of which "while the three Judges were wending their way thither ...was intercepted on the way by a Possee who informed him that they had orders not to suffer him to pass out of the fort....the other two Judges remonstrated. The Possee were inexorable. They would not let Judge Drummond go. So the place of meeting ~~xxx~~ of the Supreme Court was changed to Mr. Kings House & the three Judges repaired there to undergo a still worse humiliation for then the Possee would not let Drummond sit on the Bench... court adjourned until next Friday" / Stout, Diaries pp. 583-584/

But the suit was withdrawn that day, and the regular process of the law went on. According to Hickman's account, they got the Jew to withdraw the prosecution by Drummond paying the costs.

see also

/ Hickman, Brigham's Destroying Angel, 110-112/

In the meantime, the first Jewish married couple had pulled their prairie schooner into Salt Lake City with the intention of making ~~it~~ ^{there} their home. Julius Gerson Brooks and his wife Fanny had headed west in search of economic opportunity and arrived ~~xxxxxx~~ in early July, 1854. Mrs. Brooks set about energetically, so that she was named as being in business that year by the Millennial Star in England. An examination of the list will show that by now more Mormons, many of whom had carried on similar trades in Nauvoo, were set up in business:

November

The case occupied the week from Tuesday 13/to Saturday 17, with much of the time examining witnesses, and long pleas by some of the lawyers. The verdict was NOT GUILTY.²¹ A week later the grand jury issued an indictment against five local young men for the murder of the same Indian.

At the legislature on December 28 following, A. P. Rockwood ^x presented a petition praying that Levi Abram should be allowed to change his name to Abraham E. Levi. That the petition was sponsored by A.P. Rockwood gives ^{almost} a ~~rather~~ certainty that it would be granted, for as Brother Brigham's first adopted son and always his right-hand-man, Rockwood carried authority.³²

In the session of the court held in Fillmore in January of 1856, Abrams came in for some further publicity, and evidently gave cooperation to the Mormons in embarrassing Judge Drummond, whom they heartily despised.

It seemed that the Judge and Abrams were playing cards, and the judge lost so consistently that a dispute grew into a fight in which Judge Drummond's colored servant, Cato, attacked Abrams. Stout sums it up in this way:

The probate Court of this County called a special session of said Court & grand jury which found a Bill of indictment vs Judge W. W. Drummond and his Negro Cato for an assault on the body of Levi Abrams with intent to kill. & the Hon. Judge ~~xxx~~ & his servant was arrested about 9 P.M. thereon. ³³

So here was the presiding Judge a prisoner in his own court, and for the next few days subject to great embarrassment and humiliation. William A. Hickman wrote of the incident:

During the sitting of the Legislature, a Jew, by the name of Abrams, had a difficulty with him, in which Judge Drummond threatened to kill him.... So I got the Jew to swear out a writ and had him arrested. The Jew got me to prosecute the case for him.... We went into his character and general course, which we made look bad enough. After...four days, we got the Jew to withdraw the prosecution by Drummond paying the costs...³⁴

This action and Drummond's subsequent letters/^{influenced} ~~xxxxxxx~~ greatly the decision to send the army to Utah. From all these incidents, it would seem that Abrams the Jew was in good standing indeed with the leaders of Mormondom.

The case occurred the week before Sunday 13th Saturday 17th with much of the time extending witness, and long plans by some of the lawyers. The verdict was that 11.17. & week later the grand jury returned an indictment against five local young men for the murder of the same Indian.

At the instigation of December 28 following, A. P. Rockwood presented a petition praying that Levi Abram should be allowed to change his name to Abraham E. Levy. That the petition was sponsored by A. P. Rockwood & others & that it should be granted, for as Brother Brigham's first adopted son and always his right-hand man, Rockwood carried authority.

In the session of the court held in Ellsworth in January of 1856, Abram came in for some further publicity, and evidently gave cooperation to the persons in attendance. Judge Drummond, whom they heartily disliked.

It seemed that the judges and Abram were playing cards, and the judges lost so consistently that a dispute grew into a fight in which Judge Drummond's colored servant, Cato, attacked Abram. About sums it up in this way:

The probate court of this county called a special session of said court & grand jury which found a Bill of indictment vs Judge W. W. Drummond and his Negro Cato for an assault on the body of Levi Abram with intent to kill. & the Hon. Judge saw & his servant was arrested about 9 P.M. January 27.

So here was the president Judge a prisoner in his own court, and for the next few days subject to great embarrassment and humiliation. William A. McKean wrote of the incident:

During the sitting of the legislature, a few, by the name of Abram, had a difficulty with him, in which Judge Drummond threatened to kill him. No I got the law to swear out a writ and had him arrested. The law got me to prosecute the case for him. I went into his chamber and passed counsel, which we made look bad enough. After four days, we got the law to withdraw the prosecution by Drummond paying the costs. &c.

This action and Drummond's subsequent letter to McKean induced the decision to send the army to Utah. From all these incidents, it would seem that Abram the law was in good standing indeed with the leaders of Mormonism.

Note
Abraham the Jew