Appendix of the Orson Gurney Smith Text

Emigration of Thomas X Smith and Margaret Gurney from England to Utah 1853

Maps, locations and important dates of the Wagon Train Journey to Salt Lake Valley
(Prepared by Quinton S. Harris)

Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, Appleton M. Harmon Company (1853) Records/Notes

Copies of some of Orson’s Property Deeds, Stock Certificates and Other Financial Matters

History of La Plata, Utah by Larry D. Christiansen

An Early History of Cache County by M.R. Hovey, Secretary, Logan Chamber of Commerce

History of Logan Utah, Utah History Encyclopedia, and Online Utah.Com

Congress Attempts to Curb Mormon Influence, Utah’s Struggle for Statehood
EMISSION OF THOMAS X SMITH AND MARGARET GURNEY FROM ENGLAND TO UTAH—1853

JOURNAL OF AN EMIGRATING COMPANY
BY
JAMES JACK – SECRETARY
MARCH 25, 1853 TO OCT. 16, 1853

Liverpool, Bramley Moore Dock on Board the Falcon, March 25, 1853. Friday evening ½ past 7 o’clock.

Meeting called to order by President Bagnall. Hymn Sung: “Come, Come ye Saints.”

Prayer: by President Bagnall.

The President then said that the reason this meeting was called was to get their sanction to the appointments that Bro. S. W. Richards had made, and as they all knew that it was necessary that some should be appointed to take charge of this company he would leave it with this meeting to give their approval or disapproval of Bro. Samuel’s appointments.

It was then moved by Elder James McNaughton, seconded by William Ross that Elder Cornelius Bagnall should take the presidency of this company to the Great Salt Lake Valley, carried unanimously.

President Bagnall then said that it would be necessary that they should have a clerk to take minutes of all their proceedings, and he should move that Priest James Jack should be appointed, seconded by Elder James McNaughton, carried unanimously.

President Bagnall then said, “Brethren and Sisters, I realize the high and important station to which I am called, and of myself I am weak yet by the strength of God and of my Brethren which have been appointed with me along with you, my Brethren and Sisters, being united together we shall be able to preserve order and harmony all the way and would just say to the Brethren: “Take no undue liberties with the Sisters, and you Sisters live humble and pure before God and I shall be watching over you all the time, and if I should see any indecent conduct in any of you Brethren or Sisters, I care not who they may be, I shall reprove it and that perhaps sharper than you would like. I do not wish that any iniquity should be in our midst but that the Spirit of God should be with us all the time and I shall have to make some other appointments, but as it is getting late, I shall dismiss the meeting at present, as we shall have plenty of time afterwards. Hymn was then sung, “Guide Us O thou Great Jehovah.”

Prayer by Elder James McNaughton.

Saturday, March 26th, 3 o’clock, afternoon. The Clerk was instructed to get the names of all the priesthood on board with the different offices which they held and to call a council meeting at ½ past 4 o’clock, when President Bagnall said the reason he had called this meeting was to know what number of his Brethren had the priesthood of God upon them and he was pleased to see such a number of his Brethren that had been accounted worthy to receive the Priesthood of God, that they might counsel together and devise measures for the comfort of all the Saints on board and that his great desire was to take up this people to Zion with the Spirit of God always with them, that they might be free from all iniquity and that when we reach the land of Zion we may stand before the heads of the Church blameless.
Elder Curtis E. Bolton came into the meeting at this time and being called upon to speak said that he always rejoiced in meeting with the Saints of God and that we had a first rate company on board and prophesied in the name of Israel's God that is if we lived faithful and prayerful before God we should have a very short passage and that the winds should be in our favor all the way.

President Bagnall then said that he wished to establish a time for calling upon the Lord in prayer and for public worship on the Sabbath, and he wished some of the Brethren to state their feelings on the subject. Then several of the Brethren spoke. And it was moved by President Bagnall; seconded by Elder James Caffall, that we hold Public Worship twice on Sabbath and that the hours for the present be from 11 o'clock till 1 o'clock and from 5 o'clock till 7 o'clock, when it was carried unanimously. Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder James Caffall that there be no cooking on Sabbath, but that the cook supply us twice with boiling water. Carried unanimously. Moved by Elder James McNaughton, seconded by President Bagnall, that Elder James Caffall and myself go round the berths and appoint some of the young Brethren to carry the meat from the passengers to the cook, get it cooked and carry it down to them again. Carried.

Saturday evening, March 26, 8 o'clock. Meeting called to order for prayer by President Bagnall. Hymn sung: "Come Let Us Sing," and evening hymn, etc. Prayer by President Bagnall. Elder James McNaughton then instructed them about the meetings to be held tomorrow. Baptism, Name: Arthur Thornton, Parish of Maybole, County of Ayr Scotland, Born 19 May 1838. Baptized 26th March, 1853, by Elder William Aird. Confirmed by Elders Bagnall, McNaughton, and Caffall.

Sabbath morning, March 27th, 7 o'clock. Meeting called to order for prayer by President Bagnall. Hymn sung: "Lord in the Morning Thou Shalt Hear." Prayer by Elder James Caffall. Sabbath, forenoon, 11 o'clock. Meeting called to order by Elder James McNaughton. Hymn sung: "Glorious Things of the ... Are Spoken." Prayer by Elder James McNaughton. Hymn sung: "Come All Ye Sons of God Who Have Received the Priesthood." President Bagnall then said: "Brethren and Sisters, we have met this morning under circumstances that I never met under before, and I am happy to see the spirit that prevails amongst you. We are the children of God and we have to work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. When we read the Old Testament and see what the children of Israel, in the days of old, had to go through before they could obtain salvation, how they were called to leave the land of Egypt and travel through the wilderness to the Land of Promise, and when we see them at the Red Sea encompassed by the Egyptians on the one hand and the sea on the other, how they were delivered by the power of God and they were bound to acknowledge that salvation was from the Lord, yet when we find them traveling through the wilderness, when their food was getting done, how they murmured and repined against the Lord, and how they would have slain their leader had not the Spirit of God been round about him; how that the Lord sent them manna from heaven and that they ate even Angel's food, and they were again led to acknowledge that Salvation was from the Lord, yet after all his manifestations to them, how they murmured and complained against Him. But Brethren and Sisters, we are not to be like the Israelites of old. We are called to leave the land of our Nativity and go to a land that God has set apart for the gathering of his people, that they may escape his judgments which he is to pour out upon the wicked and those who will not obey the Gospel, and if we get trials to endure let us not murmur, but let us bear them like Saints of the Most High God. We have obeyed the principles of life and salvation so far, and it is only
through suffering that we can be made perfect. But let us, Brethren and Sisters, have faith in God and He will bless us. If you see a child that has faith in his father and does all things that he is told and looks unto him and has his affections and confidence concentrated in him, will not that father bless his child? Yes, Verily, Brethren and Sisters, he will. How much more so then will our Heavenly Father bless us if we have confidence in him and live humbly before him and keep his commandments. Do not look at our trials, Brethren and Sisters, as a great mountain that we cannot get over but just look at them as we used to do when we went a courting. It did not matter whether it rained or snowed or anything else, we were prepared to go through every trial for the joy that was before us, enabled us to surmount all difficulties. So, Brethren and Sisters, let the joy and happiness which we expect to find when we reach the land of Zion bring us up above all things that we may have to pass through and the power and spirit of God shall be with us all the time, and my prayer is, Brethren and Sisters, that the Spirit of God may be continually in our midst, and that love and harmony may be with us all the time, even so. Amen.”

Elder Richard Attwood, being then called upon to speak, said that he had listened with great pleasure to the words that had flowed from the lips of his brother, their President, and he had faith and confidence in him and exhorted the Saints to listen to his instructions and counsel at all times and he would lead us in the way of life and truth, and, Brethren and Sisters, we are entering as it were into a new existence, and if we have trials let me say in the words of Elder Taylor, God sends us a double portion of them that we may be purified and made fit to inherit Celestial Glory. We are standing on the vessel that is to convey us from the shores of Babylon to the happy land of Zion and may we be enabled to endure all trials and sufferings that we have to pass through, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.”

Hymn sung: “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow.”
Prayer by Elder James Caffall.

Sabbath evening, 5 o’clock. Meeting called to order by President Bagnall. Hymn sung: “Oh Happy Home, Oh Best Abode.” Prayer by Elder Joseph Addage. Hymn again sung: “Earth is the Place Where God Shall Reign.”

Elder James McNaughton, being called upon to speak, said: “Brethren and Sisters, as I am called upon to address you, I desire that the Spirit of God may be with me and that you may extend your faith and prayers in my behalf, that I may be led to speak upon things which may be appropriate on the present occasion. I was much pleased with the remarks of our President in the forenoon and thank and praise God that we have such a man to preside over us, and Brethren and Sisters, let us uphold him not only in our faith and prayers, but also by our works. Let us, one and all, cooperate with him and give heed unto his counsels and instructions and we shall reach our desired haven in peace, and Brethren and Sisters, in order that no disease may get amongst us we will require strictly to observe the principle of cleanliness, and we trust that this principle will be strictly observed by you all, for you are all aware that the Spirit of God will not dwell in unclean Tabernacles, and we wish to retain that Spirit with us all the time, and as we have established a time for calling upon the Lord in prayer, we wish all to attend to that. The Sisters in some cases are to be excused where they have a number of children to attend to, but if the Brethren and husbands have the Spirit of God they can infuse that Spirit into their wives and children, so that all may go on in peace and harmony together, and my sincere prayer is that you may abound in all good things in the name of Jesus, Amen.”

Elder James Caffall, being called upon by our President, “I arise to address you, but if I had my own way of it, and according to my own feelings, I would rather have sat and heard
some of the rest of the Brethren address you. Yet I have learned to be obedient to those that are
over me, and not my will but theirs be done and, Brethren and Sisters, it is only through this
great principle that ever we can be exalted in the Kingdom of God. I have been 8 years in this
Church, 4 ½ years of which I have traveled and proclaimed this Gospel and exhorted the Saints
by precept to gather up to Zion. And all the time I have prayed that I might be enabled to show
them by example and the time has come, thanks and praise unto God, when I can show them
example as well as precept, and Brethren and Sisters, if we want a quick passage we must
observe cleanliness and good order in order that the Lord may bless us, and when we get to Zion
and there receive some of our privileges, we will be amply repaid for all the trials and sufferings
that we may have to wade through and if we are determined to be happy and go through
everything that may come in our way, why we will just have power to do it. We have men here
who hold the oracles of God and in a measure the Keys of Heaven, and if we live humble they
will have power to open the heavens and shower down blessings upon us, and I want that when
we read the Star in years to come, that we can read that this company went up to Zion first rate,
and exhorted the Saints not to murmur but to keep their spirits in subjection to them, and that the
husbands should look after their children, and not let them in the way of the sailors, but that all
might be peace and harmony on board, and my prayer is that you may be blest and that the winds
may be in our favor to waft us to the happy shores of Zion, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Prayer by Elder James McNaughton. Hymn: “Be It My Only Wisdom Here.”
Monday morning, March 28, 7 o’clock. Meeting called to order by President Bagnall.
Hymn sung: “The Morning Breaks, the Shadows Flee.” Prayer by President Bagnall.

Monday 1/4 past 10 o’clock we left the Bramley Moore Dock. The Saints singing: “The
Shepherds Have Raised Their Sweet Warning Voice.” “Guide Us Oh Thou Great Jehovah, and
“Come, Come Ye Saints, No Toil Nor Labor Fear.” “Behold the Mountain of the Lord.” At 2
o’clock we got out to sea when all the names of the passengers on board were called over, and
there was one of the name of Edward Gardner who was missing. He has got 2 boxes on board
the Falcon. Monday evening, ¼ to 8 o’clock. Meeting called to order for prayer by President
Bagnall. Hymn sung: “Glory To My God This Night.” Prayer by Elder James Caffall. Monday
evening ¼ past 8 o’clock married on board by Elder James McNaughton. William Lloyd, born
Carmarthen, Wales, August 9, 1823, to Ann Thomas, Monmouthshire, Wales, born 24 May
1831.

Tuesday morning, March 29, 1853, 7 o’clock. Meeting called to order for prayer by
Elder James McNaughton. Hymn sung: “Wak’d From My Bed of Slumber Sweet.” Prayer by
Elder James McNaughton.

Tuesday forenoon, 11 o’clock, married on board the Falcon by Elder James McNaughton,
William Burton, born Staffordshire, England, 30 May 1832 to Elisabeth Peat, born Worster,
England, 16th August 1832. At the same time by Elder James McNaughton, George Summers,
born Herefordshire, England, 24 May 1832 to Mary Ann Gittins, born Herefordshire, England,

Tuesday evening, ½ past 7 o’clock. Meeting called to order for prayer by President
President Bagnall then exhorted the Saints not to go on deck to make a noise after 8 o’clock as
the sailors went to bed at that time. But that the Captain was favorable and would allow them the
privilege of the deck to hold their meetings on the Sabbath and that he would do himself the
pleasure to come and hear them. He had also been speaking to him about the provisions as some
of the Saints had come to him with complaints that they had not got the quantity allowed them. And the Captain said that he thought it wisdom not to give them over flush at the beginning as they might make a long voyage of it, for anything that he knew and in that case they might come off short in the end, but that it did not matter a fig to him as he held in his possession an order from S. W. Richards to deliver up all the provisions that were over when they arrived at New Orleans to the passengers. President Bagnall also said that he wished 2 Elders to take turns of watching below all night, as they would have lamps burning all the time and that he wished them to see that the Saints kept to their beds and that decency and decorum were observed amongst them. Elders James McNaughton and James Caffall then went round the ship and appointed stewards for a certain number of berths to see that the passengers got their meat cooked regularly.

Wednesday morning, March 30, 1853. Prayers at ½ past 7 o’clock in evening. Water served out to the passengers at 7 o’clock. Nothing particular occurred today. Prayers at ½ past 7 o’clock in evening.

Thursday morning, March 31, 1853. Water served out to the passengers at 6 o’clock. At 7 o’clock meeting called to order for prayer by Elder James McNaughton. Hymn sung: “The Morning Breaks, the Shadows Flee.” Prayer by President Bagnall.
At ¾ to 6 o’clock in morning the child of William and Sarah Stewart died, aged 14 months old. Parents from Kendal Branch of the Preston Conference. The child’s name is Isabella. She was put over board near the mouth of the Irish Channel at 20 minutes to 12 o’clock same day.

Thursday evening, ½ past 7 o’clock. Meeting called to order for prayer by Elder James McNaughton. Hymn sung: “Guide Us Oh Thou Great Jehovah.” Prayer by Elder James McNaughton. About 8 o’clock a man of the name of Richard Meredith from the Herefordshire Conference fell down the hatch way of the ship and got his head severely cut and otherwise bruised. The sea has been very rough today and the wind is against us. Mostly all of the passengers sick.

Friday morning. April 1, 1853. Meeting called to order for prayer at 7 o’clock by President Bagnall. Hymn sung: “Awake My Soul and With the Sun.” Prayer by President Bagnall. Afternoon the passengers were served with oat and flour meal, rive and biscuit.

Saturday morning, April 2, 1853. Meeting called to order for prayer by President Bagnall. Hymn sung: “Glorious Things Are Sung of Zion.” Prayer by President Bagnall. Afternoon passengers were served with (each) 1 ½ lbs butter, 1 lb. cheese, ½ pint of vinegar being part of the provisions provided by S. W. Richards over and above the ships allowance.

Sabbath morning, April 3, 1853. Water served out to the passengers at 7 o’clock. At 11 o’clock forenoon, Council Meeting called by President Bagnall. Council met when President Bagnall said that he wished to make more proper arrangements about cooking the provisions that prevailed amongst some of the brethren, and that several complaints had been made to him about partiality being shown to the Scotch Brethren and he wished to get the wisdom of his Brethren upon the subject that they might devise the best measures for giving satisfaction to all. Some of
the Brethren then made complaints about not getting things cooked for their dinner in time and so forth. When Elder James McNaughton said that he was a Scotchman, but that he would feel ashamed of murmuring about such trifles and of giving a description about how his family had been used, and that they did not come here to speak about the past but to make the best arrangements for the present and future and exhorted them to cultivate the Spirit of God so that love and unity might be in our midst and that if ever a feeling of dissatisfaction came into their bosoms to quash it at once and give it no room there, that we might have power with God and that he might hear and answer our prayers, that the winds and waves might be in our favor.

After hearing the Brethren’s minds upon the subject it was moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder James Caffall, that the ship be divided into 6 wards, 3 on the one side of the vessel and 3 on the other, carried. Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder James McNaughton, that one Elder be appointed for each Ward and that he may have power to call as many more as he may think necessary to assist him. Moved by President Bagnall that Elders William Walker, William Davis and Richard Attwood be appointed presidents of the First, Second, and Third wards, and that Elders John Vest, James Muir and Hugh Priestly be appointed presidents of the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Wards, seconded by Elder James McNaughton, carried. Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by William Stewart, that the provisions be all cooked together as much as possible, that all the Saints be served with their meals about the same time, carried. President Bagnall then said that he would leave it with those who had been appointed over the different wards to arrange amongst themselves what they thought best should be cooked on the different days and exhorted them to instill into the hearts of the Saints the Spirit of God so that they might live in peace and unity one with the other.

Elder William Davis then moved that President Bagnall, with his two counselors, be exempt from all other duties but counseling together for the comfort of the Saints and that the others appointed see that all their instructions are carried into effect, seconded by Elder William Walker, carried.

The meeting was then dismissed by Prayer by Elder James Caffall. The President of the different wards then counseled together and it was agreed by them that hot water should be served out in the morning at 8 o’clock to all who wanted it every day and also in the evening, and that those who wanted oat meal cooked should get it done immediately after, and that on Monday a general dinner of rice should be cooked together and that on Tuesday oat meal should be cooked for dinner, and on Wednesday pork and potatoes, and on Thursday rice again and on Friday oat meal, and again on Saturday pork and potatoes, and that the same order should be observed on the Sabbath as before—nothing but warm water twice a day.

It was also agreed by them that all should have an equal privilege that they should begin with No. 1 Ward on Monday and No. 2 Ward on Tuesday, and so on all the week with all the cooking that should be done besides the arrangement made for dinner. It was also thought wisdom by them that all the baking that had to be fired in the ovens should be done for the one side of the vessel the one day and that the other side should get the privilege the next, that there might be general satisfaction in all the ship.

Sabbath evening, 6 o’clock. Meeting called to order by Richard Attwood. Hymn sung: “Be It My Only Wisdom Here.” Prayer by Elder Richard Attwood. President Bagnall then said: “Brethren and Sisters, I do not intend to preach to you tonight as we have no convenience and can scarcely stand with the heaving of the vessel, but only he wishes to let them know some of the arrangements they had made this forenoon for their comfort.” He then instructed them in
regard to the appointments that had been made and exhorted them to give heed unto the
instructions of those that had been placed over them, that peace and comfort might be in their
midst and that the blessings of God might rest amongst them. As yet the winds have been
against us, but are we in a state to receive blessings? Jesus Christ says ‘if ye are not one ye are
not mine.’ Well, we have not been one, but a feeling of dissatisfaction has prevailed amongst us,
but Brethren and Sisters, let us be determined from this time henceforth to be united, that the
winds may be changed in our favor and that we may be speedily wafted to our desired haven,
which is my sincere prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.”

Sabbath evening, ½ past 7 o’clock. Meeting called for prayer in three different parts of
the vessel, 2 wards joining together.

Monday morning, April 4, 1853. Meetings called to order for prayer at 7 o’clock by the
different Presidents of the wards. In the forenoon the clerk was called upon to take minutes in
regard to James McGregor who had refused to obey counsel, inasmuch as he was desired by
Elder Hugh Priestly, President of the 6th Ward of the vessel to assist in carrying out the
resolutions adopted by the council of the 3rd instance. And inasmuch as James McGregor, from
the Glasgow Conference, was appointed by the President of his ward to assist in carrying
provisions to and from the cook to the passengers, and in emptying the slop pails, refused to do
it, he was asked his reason, and the one he gave was that it was too mean and degrading for any
man to do such things. His President exhorted him if he wished to be exalted in the Kingdom of
God, he had got to be humble, but he said he would not do it, but that he would act upon his own
agency and responsibility.

Monday evening. Prayers in the different wards as usual. The sea is still very rough,
winds contrary to us, but the Saints in general are better of sea sickness.

Tuesday, April 5, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening in the different wards,
as usual. (Written across this certain page in the Journal are the following words: “James
McGregor has since repented of his folly and acted in his office.”) Nothing particular occurred
today, but a general feeling of harmony prevailed. There is more order on board and a feeling of
unity is more manifested amongst the Saints.

Wednesday, April 6, 1853. Meetings for prayer as usual, morning and evening. The
winds are more favorable today and the sea much calmer.

Thursday, April 7, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks at 9
o’clock. All the passengers were called to come on deck by the captain of the ship. Orders were
given that they might secure the hatch ways of the vessel properly, so that no smell might come
from the hold. Afterwards all the boxes were lifted by the different stewards and the place below
all properly cleaned and washed out. In the evening Richard Meredith, who got his head cut,
was quite insensible, and had to be tied to keep him in his bed. He has been very badly attended
to. The conduct of his wife and son towards him has been quite disgraceful.

Friday, April 8, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening as usual. Remarks: The
winds are still favorable to us. Provisions were served out to the passengers of oat and flour
meal, rice, biscuit, pork, sugar, tea and salt.

Saturday, April 9, 1853. Meeting for prayer morning and evening. Remarks: Died at 20
minutes past 5 o’clock in the morning the child of Henry and Emma Elisabeth Kendal, from the
Newburgh Branch of the Reading Conference. The child was born in May, 1850, and his name
was Richard Fredrick Kendal. Put over board at 30 minutes past 7 o’clock same morning.
Prayer at the time by Elder James McNaughton. Ship in latitude 45:4, longitude 15. Forenoon
the clerk was instructed by President to call a council meeting of all the priesthood on board at 4 o’clock. Council met at 4 o’clock, when the meeting was opened by singing the hymn: “Come All Ye Sons of God.” Prayer by Elder James Caffall.

President Bagnall then said: “Brethren, I am happy in being again privileged to meet you in counsel and I can say that we are better than we were last meeting, but still there is room for improvement. There are some little things amongst us that ought not to exist. I have heard certain complaints about things being missing. I will not take upon me to say that there are any dishonest amongst us, but this I will say that they are either lost, strayed or stolen, but as we are so confined for room, they may have been mislaid or knocked about and probably will cast up some day or other yet, but Brethren, I wish to lay before you some things that are on my mind. I thought of organizing a school for the children, and as we have got the cloth for the Tents on board, which I would like to see commenced too as soon as possible, I thought that if the school did no more good than keeping the children out of the way for 3 or 4 hours every day, it would always be so much gained.” Several of the Brethren spoke their feelings on the subject when it was moved by Elder William Davis, seconded by Elder James McNaughton, that a school be organized and that the hours be from 10 till 12 forenoon, and from 2 till 4 afternoon. Elder William Aird was then appointed to take charge of the school and Elder Henry John and Teacher John Bagnall to assist him and that they commence their labors on Monday first.

President Bagnall said that he would like to see the tents commenced too on Monday and that Elder William Ross would take the charge of them as he had received some instructions concerning them, as well as he himself, and that he would keep a book and enter down the names of all who wished to help in making them and what they had done. Some of the Brethren then made remarks about one or two of the Sisters that had been seen on deck communicating with the sailors after they should have been in bed, when President Bagnall said that if the like should occur again let the parties be noted and brought to Books and let all the Saints be told that there is no allowance for anyone to be on deck after 9 o’clock.

Elder James Caffall said that he would like to see a testimony meeting through the week as he thought it would do good and assist the Saints to keep the Spirit of God more amongst them. President Bagnall said that he would leave that to the 6 Elders that had been appointed over the different wards and also the meetings on Sabbath, that they might counsel together and arrange amongst themselves what they thought would be best for the comfort and edification of the Saints. The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was then spoken about and if it was possible to get it dispensed on Sabbath first. The meeting was then dismissed by President Bagnall. It was then agreed amongst the different Presidents of the wards that there should be meetings on Sabbath at each end of the vessel, that No 1, 5, and 6 Wards meet at one end with Elder William Walker as their President, and that No. 2, 3, and 4 Wards meet at the other, with Elder Richard Attwood as their president.

Sabbath, April 10, 1853. Meetings for prayer held morning and evening as usual. At 11 o’clock forenoon meeting was called to order by Elder William Walker. Hymn sung: “‘Twas On That Dark and Solemn Night.” Prayer by W. Walker. The Sacrament was then administered by Elder James McNaughton and James Muir. Then Elder Walker said: “Brethren and Sisters, you have again made a covenant to serve God and to love one another,” and exhorted the Saints to obedience in all things as that was one great principle whereby we should be exalted in the Kingdom of God; that wives should be obedient to their husbands and that children should be
obedient to their parents, and let us all be obedient to those that are placed over us; that peace and harmony should be in our midst and that the blessing of God may be with us.”

President Bagnall was then called upon to speak when he said: “Brethren and Sisters, I have rejoiced much in your midst this forenoon and in the remarks that have fallen from the lips of my brother. We often pray that the Kingdom of God may come and that His will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. My Brother has been teaching you some of the principles that if you put them in practice will bring about this great and happy result. As you honor God and His servants, so God will honor you, for the blessings of God come through His priesthood, which He has upon the earth, and Brethren and Sisters, let us cultivate a spirit of order. No Kingdom of God can ever exist, worlds without end, and my prayer is that the blessing of God may rest richly upon you, that you may be preserved in health and strength and that the destroyer may have no power over you. I crave this for you in connection with myself, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.” Hymn sung: “Come All Ye Sons of God.” Prayer by James Muir.

Sabbath, 4 o’clock meeting was called to order by Elder William Walker. Hymn. Prayer by James Muir. The meeting was then addressed by Elders William Walker and James McNaughton upon their duties to their God and to one another, and the Spirit of God prevailed much in our midst. The first mate of the vessel was in the meeting most of the time. Hymn sung at the close of the meeting: “How Are Thy Servants Blest.” Prayer by Elder W. Walker.

Monday, April 11, 1853. Meetings for prayer held morning and evening. Remarks. Nothing particular occurred. The winds are still in our favor and a general feeling of satisfaction prevailed on board.

Tuesday, April 12, 1853. Meetings for prayer held morning and evening. Died at 15 minutes to 10 o’clock forenoon, the child of Hendry and Emma Elisabeth Kendal from the Newburgh Branch of the Reading Conference. Born May, 1852. Put over board at 20 minutes past 11 o’clock the same day. The child’s name was Lorenzo Hendry Kendal. Prayer at the time by Elder James Caffall. Ship at the time latitude 45, longitude 25.

Wednesday, April 13, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening held. Remarks. The Saints are very busy today making the tents and covers for the wagons.

Thursday, April 14, 1853. Meetings for prayers morning and evening held. Remarks. All the passengers were called to be on deck at 9 o’clock, that the place below might be all properly cleaned and washed out, which was done by the different stewards. At the meeting for prayer in the morning it was intimated that a testimony meeting would be held at each end of the vessel, the Saints to meet the same time as on Sabbath. The Spirit of God prevailed much in our midst and many testimonies were to the work of God, which was truly soul cheering.

Friday, April 15, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. The passengers were all served with provisions of oat and flour meal, rice, pork, sugar, tea, biscuit and salt. They also got 2 ½ lbs of sugar mix. Were allowed extra by S. W. Richards over and above the ships allowance.

Saturday, April 16, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Hours altered from 7 o’clock morning and evening to 8 o’clock morning and evening. At 4 o’clock a council meeting of all the priesthood on board was called by President Bagnall. Council meeting was called to order by President Bagnall. Hymn sung: “The Morning Breaks, the Shadows Flee.” Prayer by Elder James Caffall. President Bagnall then said: “Brethren, our assembling together is to know what things are transpiring amongst us. One thing I have to speak about is the Saints being off the deck at nine o’clock. I have seen the captain this afternoon, and it is his wish that
all the children be off the deck at 8 o'clock, and that all the rest be off the deck at 9 o'clock for the present, and let the Saints be instructed in this thing by the different Presidents of the Wards as early as possible, and I would move that Elder James Caffall and Richard Attwood be appointed to go round the deck at 9 o'clock and see that no person be loitering about after that hour, seconded by Elder W. Walker. Carried. And if there be any who refuse to come down at that hour, let their names be taken and if we have not power over them, we have only to give them into the hands of the captain.

Moved by James Ristie, seconded by William Davis that we have the residue of the provisions provided by S. W. Richards over and above the ships allowance served out to us on Monday, first. Carried. A meeting to be held on deck was then spoken about and it was moved by Elder W. Walker, seconded by Elder J. McNaughton, that President Bagnall ask the captain if we can hold a meeting on deck tomorrow. Carried. The meeting was then dismissed by prayer from James McNaughton.

Sabbath, April 17, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. At 11 o'clock the meeting was called to order for public worship by Elder W. Walker. Hymn sung: "Arise My Soul, Arise." Prayer by Elder Robert Logan. President Bagnall, being called upon to speak, rose and said: "Brethren and Sisters, I rise to say a few words to you as I may be led by the influence of the Spirit of God. I feel this morning to praise the Lord with all my heart that we are just in the position we are in this morning, and when I look round upon your faces, I just wish I may behold you all in Zion. And I exhort you all to let your light shine before all men and let the Spirit of God influence all your actions, and live humble and faithful before God and those that are placed over you, and if there is a spirit in this ship, who will not do that, they will soon find that they have got into hell instead of heaven, and will find their way out amongst us the first opportunity. But Brethren and Sisters, I have your welfare at my heart and I pray that the blessing of God may be with us all in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen." The ordinance of Bread and Wine was then administered by Elders Bishop and Aird.

Elder W. Walker then bore his testimony and left the meeting in the hands of the Saints when a number of the Brethren and Sisters bore their testimony to the work they were engaged in, and a spirit of love and unity prevailed in our midst and the spirit and power of God was much amongst us. Hymn sung at the close of the meeting: "O Zion, When I Think On Thee." Prayer by Elder James Muir.

At 4 o'clock a meeting was held on deck when the Saints were addressed by Elders James McNaughton, James Caffall and President Bagnall upon the great advantages and blessings that were to be gained by gathering to the land of Zion. The Captain of the vessel, the officers and part of the crew listened very attentively all the time.

Monday, April 18, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. The butter, cheese and vinegar provided by S. W. Richards was served out to the passengers. The weather has been very warm today.

Tuesday, April 19, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. A council meeting of the 6 elders of the different wards was called when it was moved by Richard Attwood, seconded by William Davis, that William Walker preside over this meeting. Carried. Moved by Richard Attwood, seconded by W. Davis that Hendry Welsh be appointed to see that all get their water in turn and that there be no confusion.

Wednesday, April 20, 1853. Meeting for prayer morning and evening. Died of the croup, the son of John and Emma Mason from the Burslen Branch of the Staffordshire
Conference. The child's name was John Mason, born on the 28th December 1848. Died at 5 minutes to 6 o'clock in evening. Put over board at 25 minutes to 7 o'clock same evening. Ship in latitude 38, longitude 46 as given by the first mate. Vessel past us at the time latitude shown by them 50, longitude 20.

Thursday, April 21, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. All the passengers were called on deck at 9 o'clock and the place below all properly cleaned and washed out by the different stewards. At 4 o'clock the prayer meeting was called to order by Elder James McNaughton. Hymn sung: "How Are Thy Servants Blessed, O Lord?" Prayer by President Bagnall. Elder W. Walker then said that they had met this evening to bear testimony to the work of God, to pray or sing the songs of Zion as they might feel led by the good Spirit and exhorted the Saints to live humble and obedient before God that he might continue his blessings towards us. He then left the meeting in the hands of the Saints when a number of the Brethren and Sisters bore their testimony to the work they were engaged in and a spirit of obedience and unity prevailed in our midst.

Friday, April 22, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. The passengers received their allowance of oat and flour meal, rice, pork, biscuit, sugar, tea and salt. Priest William Rockhall shows symptoms of insanity. He has struck and kicked some of the Brethren, had the ordinance administered to him this evening, and was hand cuffed by the second mate.

Saturday, April 23, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Priest William Rockhall was again administered to this morning and had to be removed to the hospital to keep him from injuring the Brethren and Sisters. In the evening he is still very bad.

Sabbath, April 24, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening as usual. At 11 o'clock meeting called to order for public worship by Elder Walker. Hymn sung: "The Morning Breaks, the Shadows Flee." Prayer by Elder James Muir. The Sacrament was then administered by Elders Bishop and Aird. Then a number of the Brethren and Sisters bore their testimony and the Spirit of God was much amongst us and was manifested by speaking in tongues of which the interpretation was given by President Bagnall, which was in regard to William Rockhall, and he felt like fasting for him and wished all the Priesthood to do the same. Another Brother again spoke in tongues and was interpreted by President Bagnall, that the Lord would accept of our fasting and restore our Brother to his right mind and health and strength, and it was his mind that they should fast till 9 o'clock and then administer to him. The meeting was dismissed by prayer from Elder James McNaughton.

At 4 o'clock a meeting was held on deck when the Saints were addressed by Elders Cowdrey and Mason. After the prayer meeting at 8 o'clock a council meeting of all the Elders who had been fasting was called by President Bagnall, when he wished to know the minds of the Brethren in regard to taking the priesthood from Bro. Rockhall, but still retaining him as a member of the Church. It was his mind that the priesthood should be taken from him, but he did not wish to cut him off. Some of the Brethren expressed their feelings and it was moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Isaac Wilson, that he be suspended and that he has no power to act in his office for an unlimited time until he be restored to his right mind and be thought worthy of again holding a portion of the priesthood of God. They then prayed together and afterwards went and administered the ordinance to him and rebuked the disease in the name of the Lord.
Monday, April 25, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. William Rockhall has been much better today and has been able to be on deck part of the day.

Tuesday, April 26, 1853. Meetings for prayers morning and evening.

Wednesday, April 27, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. William Rockhall is still keeping better.

Thursday, April 28, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. At 4 o’clock the prayer meeting was called to order by Elder Walker. Hymn sung: “O Zion When I Think On Thee.” Prayer by Elder James McNaughton. Elder Walker then said that he still rejoiced in this work and exhorted the Saints to bear their testimony to the knowledge that they had received. The time was occupied by the Saints in singing and bearing testimony.

Friday, April 29, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. A supply of a week’s provisions of oat and flour meal, rice, pork, biscuit, sugar, tea and salt was served out to the passengers.

Saturday, April 30, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. All the passengers were called on deck at 9 o’clock and the place below was smoked by the sailors and afterwards washed out by the different stewards. At 10 o’clock a council meeting was called by the 6 presidents over the different wards. Council met when it was moved by Elder Attwood, seconded by Bro. Millineux, that Elder Walker preside over this meeting. The meeting was then opened by prayer from Elder James Caffall. The case of Sister Ann Aikman and Sister Mary Gordon being on deck after 9 o’clock and having refused to come down when they were told by those appointed, was talked over. Also a sister coming down at 4 o’clock in the morning and refusing to speak to watch when they spoke to her, and it was thought wisdom to summon the parties. When they appeared Elder Walker accused them of breaking a law and refusing to obey the servants of God. Sister Mary Gordon manifested a very humble spirit. She said she had done wrong and was very sorry for it, and promised to do better for the future and asked forgiveness. Sister Ann Aikman said she was not on deck last night after 9 o’clock, but confessed to being on deck after that hour on former occasions. On being asked by Elder Walker if she thought she had done wrong. She said “Yes, and that she wished to do right for the future and asked their forgiveness.” She was asked by Elder Walker if she was on deck about 4 o’clock this morning and she said, “No, it was her mother.” Sister Mary Gordon said that it was Susan Aikman that was with her on deck last evening. It was then moved by Elder Attwood, seconded by Elder Caffall, that they be forgiven. Carried. Elder Walker then exhorted them to be obedient to the priesthood as it was by obedience that they would be exalted in the Kingdom of God. Sisters Susan Aikman and Joanne Aikman were then called in and Joanne was asked if she was on deck this morning at 4 o’clock. She said she was, but that she had cause to be on deck at that hour. Sister Susan Aikman was then accused by Elder Walker for being on deck last evening after the time appointed and not coming down when she was desired by Elder Caffall. She confessed she had done wrong and said she would do better for the future and asked their forgiveness. Moved by Elder Caffall, seconded by Elder Richard Attwood, that she be forgiven. Carried.

Council meeting of all the priesthood on board called by President Bagnall at 4 o’clock. Opened by prayer from Elder James McNaughton. President Bagnall then said “That he had nothing new to bring before this meeting, but that he would sit down and give place to any of the Brethren who might have any observations to make, praying that the blessing of the Lord may be with you all in the name of Jesus, Amen.” Elder Caffall said that he had one thing to lay before
this council and that was about the extension of time in the evening as it appeared to be the
general desire of the Saints. The rest of the Brethren were quite agreeable inasmuch as the
Captain would allow us.

Then it was moved by Elder Caffall, seconded by Elder McNaughton, that President
Bagnall ask the Captain for the extension of an hour in the evening. Carried. President said that
he had seen the captain yesterday and, having a favorable opportunity, asked him about this
matter and his answer was that he would be quite agreeable to let us atop till 10 o’clock
inasmuch as we did not sing after 8 o’clock and be as quiet as possible after 9 o’clock so that the
sailors might have no reason to complain to him about being disturbed while they were in bed.

Elder McNaughton then brought before the meeting about giving the captain a note of
commendation from us as being a good and humane man and as favoring us as a company of
emigrants to the Great Salt Lake Valley. President Bagnall said he was happy that Elder
McNaughton had brought this before the meeting. When he was talking to the Captain
yesterday, he had spoken to him about this and asked him if it would be of any use to him. He
seemed quite pleased and said he would think himself highly honored by the same. He had also
spoken to him about the 2 boxes of Bro. Gardner that we had on board and had not the owner of
them. The Captain said the best way would be to open them and see that nothing in them were
spoiling as the excise officers would open them when we got to New Orleans. Moved by Elder
Walker, seconded by Elder Davis, that President Bagnall, in connection with his counselors be
appointed to open them and take the charge of them. Moved by Elder McNaughton, seconded by
Elder Attwood, that the Captain be presented with a memorial from us for his kindness in
attending the sick and other privileges. Carried.

Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder Walker, that the first and second mates
be presented with a memorial in connection with the Captain. Carried. The following were
named to form a committee for drawing up the memorial: President Bagnall, Elders
McNaughton, Caffall, Walker, Ross, Attwood, Davis, Aird and Mason. Moved by President
Bagnall, seconded by Bro. Millineux that these be appointed as a committee and that the clerk be
appointed to draw it out. Elder Walker spoke about a concert being got up some five days before
we got to New Orleans, but the sailors coming in at this time interrupted us, and the meeting was
dismissed in the name of the Lord by President Bagnall. At a meeting of the Presidents of Wards
it was moved by Elder McNaughton, seconded by Elder Davis, that President Bagnall be
presented with a memorial on the same day as the Captain. Carried unanimously.

Sabbath, May 1, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. At 11 o’clock meeting
called to order for public worship by Elder Walker. Hymn sung: "Behold the Mountain of the
Lord." Prayer by Elder Caffall. The Sacrament was then administered by Elders Bishop and
Aird, and the meeting was left in the hands of the Saints, when the time was occupied by their
bearing testimony and singing of the songs of Zion and a spirit of love and obedience prevailed
much in our midst. Meeting dismissed by prayer from Elder Walker.

At 4 o’clock a meeting was held on deck when the Saints were addressed by Elder
Attwood on the priesthood of God, also by Elder Walker, and President Bagnall who spoke on
the duty of wives to their husbands and how they should honor them and be obedient to them in
all things. Meeting dismissed by prayer from Elder McNaughton.

Monday, May 2, 1853. Prayers morning and evening as usual. Nothing particular
occurred today. The weather is fine and the wind very favorable.

Tuesday, May 3, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening.
Wednesday, May 4, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Nothing particular occurred but a general feeling of satisfaction prevailed amongst the Saints.

Thursday, May 5, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. The passengers were all called on deck at 10 o’clock and the place below smoked by the sailors, afterwards cleaned and washed out by the different stewards.

Friday, May 6, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. In the forenoon the passengers were all served with a week’s allowance of oat and flour meal, rice, biscuit, pork, tea, sugar and salt.

Saturday, May 7, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. At 4 o’clock the committee which was appointed on the 30th of April met and the clerk was called upon to read the memorials he had drawn up for the Captain and Mates. It was moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder Walker, that the memorials for the Captain and Second Mate be accepted, and that the First Mate receive an acknowledgement of our good feelings towards him for all his kindness to us verbally. Carried. Moved by Elder Attwood, seconded by Elder Davis, that President Bagnall, in connection with his counselors be appointed to present them on Tuesday, first. Carried. The meeting then separated.

Sabbath, May 8, 1853. Meetings for prayers morning and evening. At 11 o’clock meeting was called to order for public worship by Elder Walker. Hymn sung: “This Earth Was Once a Blessed Place.” Prayer by President Bagnall. The Sacrament was then administered to by Elders Bishop and Aird. The meeting was then left in the hands of the Saints when they bore testimony to the work of God and we had a time of rejoicing one with the other. Meeting dismissed by prayer from Elder Walker.

Meeting was held on deck at 4 o’clock when the Saints were addressed by President Bagnall. At the close of the meeting a vote of thanks to the Captain was moved by Elder McNaughton for the gentlemanly conduct towards us during the voyage, second by Elder Caffall, and was heartedly responded to by the Saints.

Monday, May 9, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Meeting of the committee together with the Presidents of the different Wards was again called where the motions of Elder McNaughton of the 30th April was again brought before the meeting in regard to President Bagnall memorial. Moved by Elder Attwood, seconded by Bro. Aird that Elder Walker be appointed to draw it up. Carried. Moved by Elder Walker, seconded by Bro. Attwood that Elders McNaughton and Caffall receive one likewise separate and apart from President Bagnall. Carried. Moved by Bro. Walker, seconded by Elder Vest that Bros. Attwood and Ross be appointed to draw them up. Carried. Moved by Elder Davis, seconded by Elder Muir that a meeting of all the Saints be called tomorrow at 4 o’clock to get their sanction. The meeting then separated.

Tuesday, May 10, 1853. Meetings for prayers morning and evening. The Captain and Mates were presented with their memorials this morning according to appointment, of which the following are copies.

TO ALL WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that having decided in our council that a memorial should be presented to you for your gentlemanly and praiseworthy conduct to us as a company of Latter-day Saints sailing from Liverpool to New Orleans en-route to the Great Salt Lake City, we have such pleasure in doing so.
In addition to your arduous duties as Captain you have at all times showed the Gentleman, the Father and the Friend, for you have throughout the voyage manifested much anxiety for our comfort and welfare to such a degree as has most agreeably surprised us, for it is our candid opinion that no company of emigrants were ever so happy or had so much attention shown them by a person of your station.

Our people, to an individual, feel to tender you our best and warmest acknowledgements for such a line of conduct, for when they were sick you visited them and paid unremitting attention to their comfort. These and other marks of kindness from you call forth in us deep feelings of gratitude and respect, and your name and generosity will ever have a warm place in our affections.

And we pray God our Father to bless you, and give you health and many happy days, and make you the medium of much good in your day and generation, hoping you may bring many other companies, making them as happy as you have made us and we, Sir, shall ever be your most respectfully,

On behalf of the company on board the Falcon, comprising 300 souls. May 9, 1853.

Signed by the committee

To A. T. Wade, Captain

TO ALL WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that we whose names are undersigned, forming a committee on behalf of the company of Latter-day Saints en-route to the Great Salt Lake City, feel much pleasure in presenting this testimonial of our feelings to Mr. George Robert Little, Mate of the ship Falcon for his courtesy and gentlemanly conduct to us during our passage from Liverpool to New Orleans.

We would not feel justified in parting from Mr. Little without expressing our heartfelt and grateful thanks for the many acts of kindness rendered from him to us on the passage. Indeed, we feel it a duty incumbent on us, as well to the public, as to that Gentleman to manifest our entire approbation of his unremitting attention to those of our company who were afflicted with sickness and his general praiseworthy conduct towards us.

We beg to assure Mr. Little that he will ever be remembered by our prayer which is that God may abundantly bless him together with all his interests and associations in life.

Signed by the committee

To Mr. G. R. Little
May 9, 1853

At 4 o’clock the meeting of the Saints was called to order by President Bagnall. The clerk was then called upon to read the memorials which had been given to the Captain and Second Mate, which he did. Afterwards he read an acknowledgement which had been received from the same parties of which the following are copies:

To Mr. C. Bagnall,
Dear Sir.

The certificate of thanks you have given me for what you are pleased to term my kindness has been received with deep gratitude, and although I cannot claim to have done one
iota for you as passengers more than what I consider my duty, will I am very much pleased to find that the manner of doing my duty has pleased you and tended to render you comfortable.

In return I can truly say that I have taken more pleasure with my present passengers, have been aided more by them in carrying out my wishes with regard to sundry matters, have found universal among them that kind of cheerful obedience to all rules which makes government easy and pleasant. Indeed, I have been better pleased with them on all occasions than I have been with any other that I ever brought. I feel to thank you for the pains you have taken to maintain order and cleanliness amongst your people thereby promoting in a very great degree the health we have all been blessed with during the passage thus far.

I hope the remainder of your long journey will be prosperous and that you may all be so happy as to arrive safely among your friends at Gt. Salt Lake city.

Please return my thanks to all the members of your council and committee.

Yours very truly,
Signed: A. F. Wade

9/5/1853
Ship Falcon, Bath
Sailing from Liverpool to New Orleans

Mr. Cornelius Bagnall
President of the Latter-day Saints

Sir,

You will oblige me very much by returning my heart felt thanks to your council and committee for the highly esteemed character they have presented me with this day of our Lord, May 9, 1853, and of which I feel highly gratified within my own self to think I have the good will of such righteous Gentlemen as the council and committee of Latter-day Saints are composed of and which I can cheerfully say that I have never seen a more comfortable or a more righteous or a better disciplined people than the Latter-day Saints have been on board the ship Falcon on her passage from Liverpool towards New Orleans, and furthermore people that I would exhort myself to the uttermost when I thought I could do them good.

To conclude with, I hope you will have a pleasant and comfortable passage to the Great Salt Lake and that you will want for nothing and I hope the Lord will bless you all and protect you from all danger.

Signed: Mr. George Robert Little
2nd officer of the said ship Falcon
Of the Port of Bath

A. T. Wade, Master,

It was then moved by Elder McNaughton, seconded by Elder Attwood, that President Bagnall should receive a memorial from us. Carried. Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder Cowdey, that Elders McNaughton and Caffall receive one likewise. Carried. Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder McNaughton, that the 6 presidents of the different wards receive a memorial from us, also Elder Stewart, steward for the passengers,
carried unanimous. Moved by Elder Caffall, seconded by Elder Attwood, that Bro. Jack, who has acted as clerk, receive a memorial from us. Carried. Moved by Elder McNaughton, seconded by Elder Aird, that the stewards receive a vote of thanks which was heartily responded to. Moved by Elder Walker, seconded by Elder McNaughton, that the cooks receive a vote of thanks, which was also heartily responded to. Moved by Elder Ross, seconded by Elder Muir, that President Bagnall, in connection with his counselors, be appointed to draw up these memorials. Carried. Moved by Elder Davis, seconded by Elder Caffall, that Elder Richard Attwood be appointed to organize a guard over our luggage and take the charge of them when we get to New Orleans. Carried. The meeting was then dismissed by President Bagnall.

Wednesday, May 11, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. The place below was smoked out today, afterwards washed and cleaned by the different stewards.

Thursday, May 12, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. In the evening a concert was held on deck commencing at 7 o’clock and was continued until 11 o’clock. We had a first rate meeting. Many of the songs of Zion were sung and all on board seemed pleased and satisfied with the night’s amusements.

Friday, May 13, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Remarks. The passengers were all served with a week’s allowance of oat and flour meal, rice, biscuit, pork, tea, sugar and salt.

Saturday, May 14, 1853. Prayers morning and evening as usual. Remarks. President Bagnall, and also Elders McNaughton and Caffall were presented with their testimonials today by Elder Attwood of which the following are copies:

TO ALL WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

Greeting,

We, whose names are undersigned, composing a committee on behalf of a company of Latter-day Saints in route to the Great Salt Lake City, have much pleasure in presenting this testimonial of our warmest feelings and affections to our well beloved Brother, Elder Cornelius Bagnall, late Elder of the London Conference, who was by S. W. Richards appointed President of the Saints on board the ship Falcon—sailing from Liverpool to New Orleans, which appointment he has discharged faithfully as a man of God, as an Elder and a Father to those he has had the honor to preside over for every day’s transactions on board the ship was brought him out in bold relief, showing he was, the most likely person in the company to fulfill such an important appointment and without particular rising we have great pleasure in saying that his daily walk, judicious administrations, wise teachings, issuing from him from day to day as a servant of God, has caused the hearts of the Saints to rejoice and so raised him high in the estimation of his brethren in the Priesthood, as also the Saints over whom he has had the oversight. And the voice of the entire company is that God our Heavenly Father may bless him, and his, at all times and bring them and his happy party safe to Zion in peace, without a blemish or a spot. Even so, Amen. May 13, 1853.

Signed by the Committee

TO ALL WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN

Greeting,

We whose names are undersigned composing a committee on behalf of a company of Latter-day Saints en-route to the Great Salt Lake City, have much pleasure in presenting this
Testimonial of our warmest feelings and affections to our well beloved Brother Elder James McNaughton, counselor to President Bagnall, and forming one of the presidency on board the Ship, “Falcon,” during the passage from Liverpool to New Orleans. We feel highly gratified and esteem it a privilege to express the feelings of the Saints over whom you, in connection with your Brethren in the Presidency, have so ably and wisely presided.

Dear Brother James, the fatherly care, and unremitting attention to the wants of those over whom you have had the watchcare, together with the wise and judicious teachings you have poured forth from time to time coupled with the many acts of kindness, we have experienced at your hands, cause us to pause and feel that words are inadequate to express the feelings of love and affection we entertain towards you.

Accept then, dear Brother, the warmest feelings of our grateful hearts on this occasion. May the Lord God of Joseph bless you until you are satisfied with the fullness there of crowning you with every exaltation that a faithful servant of God could wish or desire is our prayer in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, even so, Amen.

Signed by the committee, May 13, 1853

To Elder James McNaughton

The Testimonial of Elder James Caffall is the same except the name.

Sabbath, May 15, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. At 11 o’clock the meeting was called to order for public worship by Elder Walker. Hymn sung: “Lo the Gentile Chain is Broken.” Prayer by Elder Mason. The Sacrament was then administered by Elders Bishop and Aird. The Saints then bore their testimony to the great work they were engaged in and a spirit of love and obedience prevailed in our midst. At 4 o’clock a meeting was held on deck when the Saints were addressed by President Bagnall and Elders Logan, Aird and McNaughton.

Monday, May 16, 1853. Meetings for prayers morning and evening. Remarks. At 15 minutes to 3 o’clock afternoon a pilot came on board. At 30 minutes past 5 we crossed the bar being pulled by 2 steamers. The Testimonials of the 6 presidents of wards were presented to them today, also Elder Stewart and Priest James Jack’s by Elder McNaughton of which the following are copies.

To Elder William Walker, president of the 6th Ward on Board the ship “Falcon.”

Dear Brother,

We the servants of God, having been employed on board the “Falcon” in devising and providing for the comfort and well being of the Saints committed to your charge, feel, as we are about to leave her, our heart-felt gratitude for the kindness you have shown and for the promptitude you have manifested in the carrying out of those measures calculated to bless them, both temporally and spiritually.

You have on all occasions been unremitting in your attention to their needs for which the Saints feel to bless you and pray God our Father to bless you with every needful blessing for the benefit conferred. We concur with our hearty Amen.

On Board, the “Falcon,” May 16, 1853.

Signed by the First Presidency of the vessel.

The rest of the presidents are all the same except the names.
To Priest James Jack, clerk of a company of Saints on board the ship "Falcon."

We return you our sincere thanks for the laborious services you have rendered in discharging the duties of Secretary for this company of Saints in journeying this far on our way to Zion.

Your office and duty as recorder is an important one, not only to this company, but also to posterity—for they with us, will read that such a company crossed the Atlantic on board the ship “Falcon” and from the full and minute account you give in your record will it be seen the close organization of this people, the real and intense interest the Saints manifested to bless and benefit each other in all things.

We pray God the eternal Father, to bless and reward you for your work of faith and love.

Signed on behalf of this company of Saints on board the “Falcon.”

The names of the First Presidency of the ship

The Testimonial of Elder Stewart has been neglected at this time, but will be inserted afterwards.

Tuesday, May 17, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. Nothing particular occurred today, but we all felt great pleasure in sailing up the Mississippi River and in being so near the place of our destination.

Wednesday, May 18, 1853. Meeting for prayer in the morning. At 12 o’clock we arrived at New Orleans and met Elder Brown. We got such instructions from him as was necessary, and all the Saints got liberty to go on shore in the afternoon, except those who were appointed to take charge of the luggage, but were counseled not to stop late out at night, after it was dark, as they would be in great danger of getting some injury done to them.

List the regulations of the Guard as given by Captain Attwood and desired to be incited here by President Bagnall.

No 1—the guard will mount at 10 ‘o’clock a.m. daily consisting, until further orders, of 1 captain and 9 men.

No 2—The captain newly mounting will receive his instructions from the captain of the old guard.

No 3—The Sentries will be relieved by the captain personally every two hours which will leave them two hours on and four off.

No 4—The Sentries will receive orders from no person except the captain of their guard and Captain Attwood.

No 5—The captain of the guard will not receive orders from anyone except the First Presidency or Captain Attwood.

No 6—During the time the guard are not on sentry, the captain may use his discretion in permitting them to go on shore, but they must on no account leave the ship without his sanction.

No 7—Two captains will mount during the 24 hours, the first staying on from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., the second from 10 p.m. till the guard is relieved.

Thursday, May 19, 1853. In the morning the clerk was instructed by President Bagnall to make a minute in regard to William Herd from the Edinburg Conference, who had taken down a Sailor to his own berth, belonging to the ship “Falcon” of the name of Walter Bowie who had got his head cut and bruised and had refused to take him on deck when counseled by President
Bagnall. In the forenoon we got all our boxes on board the steamer St. Nicolas, afterwards the steamer moved a short distance down the river.

At 9 o’clock a man of the name of James McGregor from the Glasgow Branch of the Glasgow Conference fell over board and was drowned. Every exertion was made to save him by some of the Brethren, but of no avail as he was swept almost immediately below the vessel.

Friday, May 20, 1853. At 6 o’clock in the evening we sailed from New Orleans for St. Louis on board the steamer, St. Nicholas. Elder Brown accompanied us.

Saturday, May 21, 1853. In the forenoon all the names of the passengers belonging to the L-10 Company and Emigration Company—223 ½ full passengers, and also belonging to this company 41 who paid their own passage. The others were paid by Elder Brown. Married at 15 min. to 9 o’clock, evening, by Elder James McNaughton, George Robert Little from the State of Maine, Eastport, born 28 Jan. 1828, to Ann Aikman from the Edinburgh Branch of the Edinburgh Conference, born at Edinburgh on the 9th day of Jan., 1832.


Monday, May 23, 1853. Meeting called to order for prayer morning and evening at 8 o’clock as usual.

The following is a copy of Elder William Stewart’s Testimonial:

To Elder William Stewart,

We hereby certify that Brother William Stewart has acted as steward in a way and manner that calls forth our most unqualified approbation, and not only us, but also the entire company of Latter-day Saints on board the ship “Falcon” from Liverpool to New Orleans enroute to the Great Salt Lake.

He, by constant and diligent heed, to the interest and wants of the Saints, has merited their warmest feelings and affections. And we pray God our Father to bless him in all, his engagements and pursuits in life. On board the ship “Falcon,” May 16, 1853.

Signed in behalf of the Company by the First Presidency of the ship.

Tuesday, May 24, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening at 8 o’clock as usual.

Wednesday, May 25, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening. The remainder of the provisions which were left over while we were on board the Falcon, were served out to the passengers, also some provisions provided by Elder Brown.

Thursday, May 25, 1853. Meetings for prayer morning and evening.

Friday, May 27, 1853. At 30 minutes past 4 o’clock in the morning we arrived at St. Louis. Saw Elder Eldredge and got all our boxes on board the Packet “Dee Vernon,” and sailed for Keokuk at 4 o’clock in the afternoon. George Little and Ann Aikman got a certificate of their marriage before leaving us at St. Louis.

Saturday, May 28, 1853. At 4 o’clock in the afternoon we arrived at Keokuk and stopped in the depot all night.

Sabbath, May 29, 1853. Baptized by Elder Hugh Priestly at Keokuk, John Bullard Meredith, born at Dover Parish of St. Mary’s, County of Kent, England on the 25th day of October, 1831. Also by Elder Hugh Priestly, Archibald Meigle John, born at Glasgow Parish of
Iron County of Lanark, Scotland in the year 1815. We got all our luggage taken up to the camp. Got our tents pitched and our companies organized.

Monday, May 30, 1853. We got a week’s provisions served out to us, of 7 lbs flour and 1 ½ lbs. bacon to each individual weekly. President Bagnall gave his report to Elder Haight and delivered over the balance of the money he received from S. W. Richards to him.

Tuesday, May 31, 1853. The clerk was instructed by President Bagnall to call a meeting of the priesthood. At 2 o’clock the Council met and was opened by prayer from Elder Cowdey. Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder Cowdey, that a president be appointed for each tent, and that the persons whose names are first on the tickets they have received, be appointed for the present. Carried. Moved by Elder Bishop, seconded by Elder Ristie, that there be a president appointed over the 23 tents. Carried. Moved by Elder Cowdey, seconded by Elder Walker, that Elder Joseph Gray be appointed to take the Presidency of the first four tents. Carried. Moved by President Bagnall, seconded by Elder Aird, that Elder Walker be appointed to preside over the 3 tents of the Ten Pound Company. Carried. Moved by Elder Walker, seconded by Elder Bishop, that Elder Aird be appointed to preside over the second 4 tents. Carried. Moved by Elder Ross, seconded by Elder Cowdey, that Elder Mason be appointed to the third 4 tents. Carried. Moved by Bro. Vest, seconded by Bro. Thornton, that Elder Muir be appointed to the fifth 4 tents. Carried. Moved by Elder Muir, seconded by Bro. Bishop, that Elders Cowdey, Doxey, and Walsh be appointed to serve out the provisions to the Saints. Carried. The meeting was then dismissed by prayer from Priest James Jack. In the evening Archibald Meigle John was confirmed by Elders Walker and Muir. Afterwards John Bullard Meredith was confirmed by Elders Walker and Muir.

Wednesday through Saturday, June 1-4, 1853. Meetings held for prayer morning and evening.

Sabbath, June 5, 1853. Meetings were held for public worship at ½ past 10 forenoon, and at 4 o’clock afternoon when the Saints were addressed by Elder Harmon.

Monday & Tuesday, June 6-7, 1853. Meetings were held for prayer morning & evening.

Wednesday, June 8, 1853. Meetings held for prayer morning and evening.

Thursday through Saturday, June 9-11, 1853. We got a week’s allowance of bacon and flour served out to us.

Sabbath, June 12, 1853. Meeting was held for public worship in the forenoon at ½ past 10 when the Saints were addressed by Elder Haight. In the afternoon at 3 o’clock the Saints were addressed by Elders McNaughton and Haight. In the evening at ½ past 6 o’clock a testimony meeting was held when the Saints bore testimony to the work of God and rejoiced together.

Monday, June 13, 1853. A month’s provisions were served out to the Saints of bacon and flour, also some sugar, soap and salerates. Each wagon got a wash tub bucket, baking dish, oven, and whip. A hatchet was allowed between every 2 wagons.

Tuesday, June 14, 1853. Meetings held for prayer morning and evening.

Wednesday, June 15, 1853. In the morning we got everything packed up for starting. Got our oxen yoked and loaded the wagons and moved on at ½ past 9 o’clock. We camped in the afternoon after traveling 9 miles.

Thursday, June 16, 1853. A meeting of all the men in the camp was called and they were organized into Tens with a Captain. The names of the Captains chosen are as follows: 1st Ten. James McNaughton, 2nd Ten. William Davis, 3rd Ten. William Stewart, 4th Ten. Robert Orr, 5th

By the time the companies were organized a constable from Keokuk had come to the camp and found a pair of oxen with ours, not belonging to us, which had been driven along by mistake and President Harmon was arrested under a charge of larceny and taken before Squire Stobbs in Keokuk. He called for an adjournment until 2 p.m. the 17th, and he had to deposit 160 dollars as security for his appearance. Stopped all day.

Friday, June 17, 1853. President Harmon employed Mr. Clogget, attorney, to attend to his case. He got witnesses and came to trial. He was discharged and "not guilty" was the verdict. Stopped all day.

Saturday, June 18, 1853. We started and travelled to Sugar creek. Camped there and proceeded to brand our cows distance 12 miles.

Sabbath, 19, 1853. Moved on and travelled to within 3 miles of Farmington. Broke a wagon tongue. At our noon halt we got it repaired, and moved on to Farmington. Crossed the bridge and camped. Distance during the day—10 miles.

Monday, June 20, 1853. A constable came in the morning and took President Harmon's horse with a writ of attachment for the payment of 15 set of ox shoes made for Bro. Shurtleff. He settled it by paying 24 dollars, 95 cents and took the shoes. Moved on and travelled 3 miles. Lost 2 cows. Got one of Gates company.

Tuesday, June 21, 1853. Started and travelled on 2 miles west of Dog-town and camped. Distance 12 miles. Weather very warm. Our oxen suffered much.

Wednesday, June 22, 1853. President Harmon got off. Mr. Miller found 2 cows belonging to one of the forward company. Paid 5 dollars and afterwards found we could not drive them—too wild—so he traded them for other 2 and brought them along. In the forenoon a meeting was called by President Harmon and he laid before the Saints in a plain manner their position and the lateness of the season, also the weakness of the teams and asked them to throw away their old boxes and make a sacrifice of all they could do without, which was not worth much, saying to them it was better to do it now that carry them hundreds of miles and do it then or be late in crossing the mountains and have to wallow in the snow. They cheerfully responded to the call and threw out about a ton and a half of boxes, etc.

Thursday, June 23, 1853. Arose early and prepared for a start. One ox died during the night; got in motion by 8 a.m. and travelled 16 miles to our noon halt. Then moved on 5 miles and camped making 21 miles during the day. A man of the name of James Boyack was sent back after the 2 cows that were lost, with instructions to go till he met Bro. Brown's company and leave them in his charge and either stop with his company or make up to this one again. The day was cool. Roads good.

Friday, June 24, 1853. Lost 3 cows by the negligence of one of the Captains of Tens. Captain Gough sent 4 men with President Harmon's horse to hunt them up. Elder Haight arrived at the camp and a meeting of all the Brethren was called and addressed by Elder Haight upon their duties and responsibilities, when he moved and was carried unanimously, that Elder Harmon should be president of this company. Moved and carried that Elder McNaughton be appointed Captain of Fifty. Moved and carried that Elder Aird be appointed Captain of Ten in the place of Elder McNaughton. Moved and carried that the 2 last Tens be put together and that Captain Attwood be appointed over them. Moved on our journey at noon. Travelled 8 miles and camped.
Saturday, June 25, 1853. Started and travelled 13 miles and camped 4 miles east of Centerville.

Sabbath, June 26, 1853. Moved on in the morning. Nooned at Soap Creek and travelled on making a distance of 14 miles during the day.

Monday, June 27, 1853. President Harmon bought a pair of oxen. We drove on 17 miles and camped on. Yoked all our oxen.

Tuesday, June 28, 1853. Nooned at Shariton Point, past Shariton town 3 miles, and camped, making 20 miles during the day. Stopped at Grave Hollow.

Wednesday, June 29, 1853. A red cow broke from the herd. Several men went in pursuit of her, but could not stop her. Captain Attwood, with four men, went after her and the camp moved on with the exception of 2 wagons. Had a noon halt of one hour and camp in the afternoon. Distance during the day 15 miles.

Thursday, June 30, 1853. Captain Attwood arrived without getting the cow, she having kept to the road and travelled faster than they could. Henry Lake was sent back after with instructions to go till he met Bro. Brown’s Company and come with them. A light drizzling rain continued to fall. Travelled during the day 14 miles.

Friday, July 1, 1853. Started in the morning at ½ past 7 o’clock. Travelled to a branch of Grand River, and watered our cattle. Distance 12 miles. Moved on again, travelled 7 miles and camped on a branch of Grand River after crossing it 3 times. Distance during the day 19 miles. Forenoon showery and roads bad.

Saturday, July 2, 1853. Hitched up and started at ½ past 7, nooned after travelling 9 miles. Moved on again and camped at Notawa River, making 15 miles during the day.

Sabbath, July 3, 1853. A meeting of all the camp was called by President Harmon at 10 o’clock when he addressed the Saints upon the great privileges and blessings that were to be received by the sons and daughters of God in the valleys of the mountains and cheered them on their journey. He also wished to hear the Captains of Tens express their feelings, which they did and we rejoiced much together. Afterwards we moved on and travelled 10 miles and camped on a branch of the Notawa River.

Monday, July 4, 1853. We started and travelled 13 miles to our noon halt. Watered our cattle and moved on 6 miles and camped making 19 miles during the day. At 4 o’clock p.m. Sister Thomas Smith was delivered of a son under the care of Sister Robert Orr. Wagon stopped 4 miles from camping ground.

Tuesday, July 5, 1853. The camp moved on with the exception of 2 wagons and President Harmon, which stopped behind till Bro. Smith’s wagon should come up. We travelled 15 miles and watered our cattle. Stopped till President Harmon came up. He arrived at 4 p.m., and told us to camp. The wagons left behind came to camp in the evening.

Wednesday, July 6, 1853. We started in the morning at ½ past 7 o’clock. Watered our cattle in the forenoon, and took a noon halt of 40 minutes. Travelled on to Botanie River. Let our oxen drink. Drove through and camped 5 miles from it, making 25 miles during the day.

Thursday, July 7, 1853. Hitched up and got in motion by a ¼ to 8 a.m. Stopped at noon and watered our cattle. Moved on again till we came to the Nichanobotanie River. Got ourselves and wagons ferried across and camped, making 16 miles during the day.

Friday, July 8, 1853. In the morning we got a cow and calf belonging to Gates Company, and brought them along. Started and travelled on to Silver Creek and nooned. Moved on again, crossed Keg Creek and camped. Distance during the day 16 miles.
Saturday, July 9, 1853. We got in motion by 9 o’clock when President Harmon left us and went on to Kanesville. We arrived at Joseph Young’s camping place about 1 o’clock and stopped till President Harmon came. Afterward we went to the river side and camped beside Gates Company. Distance during the day 16 miles.

Sabbath, July 10, 1853. Thomas Doxey, son of Thomas and Hannah Doxey, born 27th March, 1829, of Derby, England, and Elisabeth Hunt, daughter of John and Mary Hunt, born 20 December 1830, of Hull, Yorkshire, England were married at Council Bluff City on 10 July 1853, by Elder Appleton M. Harmon at 5 p.m. Witnesses: James McNaughton and James Cowdey. (James Jack, clerk).

Monday, July 11, 1853. At 7 o’clock a.m. sent 11 wagons to the store for our provisions and bought them to camp in the afternoon. Divided them out amongst the company, giving to each 100 lbs. flour, 10 lbs. bacon, some tea, sugar and soap. We had left for grease to our wagons, 75 lbs. pork and 100 lbs. flour.

Tuesday, July 12, 1853. At six minutes past 7 Louisa Milleneux, wife of John Milleneux was delivered of a daughter. Camped all day.

Wednesday, July 13, 1853. In the evening President Harmon called a meeting and told us the reason he had called us together was to inform us that Bro. Wheelock’s company was all across the river and he intended to start for that ferry tomorrow morning and to be in motion by ½ past 6 a.m.

Thursday, July 14, 1853. We got in motion by 7 a.m. Broke the tongue of Capt. Attwood’s wagon in the forenoon. Capt. Cowdey’s wagon stopped to assist in getting it repaired, and the rest moved on. Had a noon halt of an hour and half, and afterwards travelled to within 4 miles of the upper ferry and camped making during the day 13 miles.

Friday, July 15, 1853. We hitched up 12 wagons with extra teams and came along to the river. Sent back the oxen for the rest of the wagons left behind. Got a number of the wagons across in the evening.

Saturday, July 16, 1853. Started early in the morning. Got the rest of the wagons across with all the oxen. By that time Bro. Smith’s wagon had come up. Also Bro. Attwood’s and Bro. Cowdey’s were taken across and we moved on 1 mile and camped. Bro. Attwood had lost a pair of oxen that President Harmon bought at Kanesville. Bro. Harmon went back after them.

Sabbath, July 17, 1853. Camped all day as Bro. Harmon had not come back. He came to camp in the evening. Found the oxen entangled by a rope in the brush wood. Left them in charge of Bro. Brown’s company.

Monday, July 18, 1853. We moved on 6 miles and camped.

Tuesday, July 19, 1853. Camped all day. Cut some wood and made charcoal. Mended some chains that had broken.

Wednesday, July 20, 1853. In the morning sent 4 men back to the river to bring up the oxen and cows that Bro. Brown had in charge belonging to us. Cut some wood for making tongues and axle trees for the wagons. Stopped all day. The men came up with the cows and oxen in the evening.

Thursday, July 21, 1853. Got in motion by ½ past 7 a.m. Broke the axle tree of Capt. McNaughton’s. At ½ past 10 stopped the 3 wagons belonging to that ten, also the wagon with the blacksmith’s tools. Put in a new axle tree which took us 7 hours. Afterwards we moved on and came to the camp at ½ past 9 p.m. Distance during the day 16 miles.
Friday, July 22, 1853. We started in the morning and travelled to the Elkhorn River—a distance of 4 miles. Got all our wagons ferried across and camped. In the evening a meeting was called by President Harmon in order to repair the organization that had been broken up by those who had left us at Kanesville, when Captian Attwood was appointed in the place of Capt. Stewart who had left us and Bro. Hayward was appointed captain of Attwood’s ten. The other wagons that were along with President Harmon were organized into a ten with Bro. Carmachael as their captain. There were 6 other wagons that wished to join our company (from Kanesville). President Harmon told them the rules of the camp and asked them if they were willing to comply with them. They said they were. President Harmon organized them into a ten and appointed Bro. Harris as their captain.

Saturday, July 23, 1853. Started in the morning at ½ past 7. Had a noon halt of an hour and a half. Watered our cattle and moved on. Camped in the afternoon after travelling 14 miles during the day.

Sabbath, July 24, 1853. We started at 9 o’clock a.m. The morning was very wet, but broke up. A good day. Water was very scarce. Got none for our oxen all day. Camped in the evening after travelling 17 miles. Found water, but no timber. In the forenoon we got 2 horses belonging to a company on their way to California who camped with us on Wednesday night. One of the men came to the camp after them and stopped all night with us.

Monday, July 25, 1853. Arose early and prepared for a start. Got in motion by ½ past 5 o’clock a.m. Drove to Shell Creek, a distance of 4 miles. Stopped and took breakfast. Milked our cows and moved on at 11 o’clock. Camped in the evening at the Platte River, making during the day 18 miles.

Tuesday, July 26, 1853. We got in motion by ½ past 7 a.m. Travelled to Loup Fork, a distance of 10 miles. Made an agreement with the ferry man to take across our wagons for one dollar each. Got 8 wagons across in the afternoon.

Wednesday, July 27, 1853. Arose early in the morning and got the rest of our wagons across the river by that time. Bro. Brown’s company had come up. We hitched up and started at ½ past 1 p.m. Drove 15 miles and camped. Got water, but no timber.

Thursday, July 28, 1853. We started at 7 a.m. Had a noon halt of an hour and a half. Watered our cattle and moved on. Camped after travelling 18 miles during the day.

Friday, July 29, 1853. Started and travelled 9 miles to our noon halt. Then moved on and travelled 6 miles and camped, making 15 miles during the day. Died at 1 o’clock p.m., Henry Evans of bowel complaint after 3 days illness. He was born in Bristol, Redcliff Parish, Sommersetshire, England on March 14, 1836. He was buried in the evening at the camping ground at 7 o’clock.

Saturday, July 30, 1853. We started at 8 a.m. Met a company of Elders coming from the Valley going to England at noon. Stopped 2 hours, watered our cattle, and drove to Prairie Creek and camped. Distance 16 miles.

Sabbath, July 31, 1853. We got in motion by ½ past 7 a.m. Nooned at Prairie Creek and moved on. Camped in the evening after travelling 13 miles during the day. Just before camping we met a company on their way home from California.

Monday, August 1, 1853. We started and travelled to a branch of Wood Creek. Watered our cattle and moved on, but had to camp as it came on a very heavy rain. Distance 7 miles.

Tuesday, August 2, 1853. We started and travelled to Wood Creek, crossed it and camped. Distance 9 miles. Cut some wood to make charcoal.
Wednesday, August 3, 1853. Cut some wood for making new tongues and axle trees for the wagons. Put in a new tongue in Bro. Gough’s wagon and a new axle-tree in Bro. Littlewood’s. Also repaired some tongues that had got split. Mended broken chains and camped all day.

Thursday, August 4, 1853. Cut a quantity of wood to make charcoal for Bro. Brown’s company, also 18 trees to assist them in making a bridge as the river had swollen so much that the old bridge could not be seen. We hitched up and started at 3 p.m. with the exception of one wagon with the blacksmith’s tools. Drove 3 miles and camped as it came on a very heavy rain. We had also a tremendous shower of large hailstones.

Friday, August 5, 1853. We got in motion by ½ past 7. Crossed a small creek at ¼ past 8. Water was 2 feet deep, but had a good hard bottom. At our noon halt the tribe of Pawnee Indians came to us, about 200 of them. We gave them a quantity of bread and flour. They did not give us any trouble, only they followed the wagons a good ways begging from us. Crossed a deep dry creek and camped 2 miles from it. Got plenty of water. Distance during the day 19 miles.

Saturday, August 6, 1853. We started at 8 a.m. Nooned at Elm Creek. Watered our cattle and drove to a part of Buffalo Creek and camped. Distance 15 miles.

Sabbath, August 7, 1853. We hitched up and moved on at 15 min. past 8 a.m. Had a noon halt of 2 hours and drove to Buffalo Creek. Crossed it and camped. It was a bad crossing, but had plenty of water and timber. Saw a number of buffalo during the day. Roads very bad. Distance 13 miles.

Monday, August 8, 1853. Camped all day. In the morning sent 5 men out to hunt buffalo. They killed one fine cow. Sent a team and wagon and brought it to camp. Put in a new tongue in Bro. Perk’s wagon, which had got broken.

Tuesday, August 9, 1853. Divided the buffalo amongst the company in the morning. Hitched up and started at ½ past 8 a.m. Nooned at a small running creek. Killed a large buffalo bull in the afternoon. Allowed every person to take what they pleased of it, and drove to Willow Creek and camped. Distance during the day 16 miles.

Wednesday, August 10, 1853. We started at 15 min. past 8 a.m. Had a noon halt of one hour and a half. Afterwards drove on. Had to go 1 mile off the road to the Platte River to get water for ourselves and cattle. Distance during the day 20 miles.

Thursday, August 11, 1853. We got in motion by ½ past 7 a.m. Drove to Skunk Creek and nooned afterwards. Moves on 9 miles to a lake south of the road and camped. Distance during the day 17 miles. Got no timber.

Friday, August 12, 1853. We hitched up and got in motion by ½ past 7 a.m. Came to a large spring of good cold water a little south of the road, 4 ½ miles from where we were camped. Passed over sandy bluff to Carrion Creek. Nooned and watered our cattle. Drove to the Platte River. Expected to get timber but found none. Camped near the Platte River after travelling 19 miles during the day.

Saturday, August 13, 1853. We started in the morning, crossed over 2 creeks. Roads bad, crossings very difficult. Broke the tongue of Bro. Gough’s wagon. Nooned at Black Mud Creek. Afterwards drove to where the road joins the river, within ½ mile of a small running creek and 4 miles from North Bluff Fork. Distance 10 miles. Died at 1 o’clock p.m. while we were stopping to our noon halt, Selina Rayson Bray, daughter of the Rev. Benjamin Rayson of Wakefield. She was born at Wakefield, Yorkshire, England on May 11, 1802. She was afflicted
for 20 years with a complicated disease being perfectly unable to do anything to help herself. They knew very little change on her up to her death.

Sabbath, August 14, 1853. At 10 o’clock Selina Bray was buried 66 yards north of the road in a grave 6 feet deep. Afterwards a meeting was called by President Harmon when the Saints were addressed by Captain McNaughton and President Harmon upon the different duties that devolved upon them and exhorted to do them cheerfully and to be united and help one another and they would get along first rate. But if they did not do them they could not say, when they got to Zion, they were not told of them. Capt. McNaughton reproofed some of the Saints for swearing. He had heard them frequently while passing along taking the name of God in vain. That was a thing he did not like to hear and hoped for the future we should have no more of it. The meeting was dismissed by prayer from President Harmon. Afterwards we moved on. Crossed the North Bluff Fork and camped 1 mile from it near the Platte River. Distance 5 miles. Put a new tongue in Bro. Gough’s wagon before we started.

Monday, August 15, 1853. We got in motion by 7 a.m. Passed over sandy bluffs. Nooned at a small lake about 1 mile from the Platte River. Moved on again, passing over Bluff Creek 4 feet wide and a foot deep and camped near a small running creek between the bluffs. Distance 17 miles.

Tuesday, August 16, 1853. We started in the morning and drove over sandy bluffs to a small creek. Watered our cattle and moved to Goose Creek and camped. Roads very bad. Our oxen suffered much. Distance during the day 5 miles.

Wednesday, August 17, 1853. Got in motion by 15 min. to 8 a.m. Passed over sandy bluffs to a small creek. Nooned at Duckweed Creek. Afterwards drove to Rattlesnake Creek and camped. Distance 10 miles.

Thursday, August 18, 1853. Hitched up and got in motion by ½ past 7 a.m. Drove 8 miles to our noon halt. Watered our cattle and travelled during the day 15 miles. Roads in general very sandy.

Friday, August 19, 1853. In the morning put in new spokes in one of the wheels of Bro. Browell’s wagon. Got in motion by ½ past 8 a.m. Crossed Wolf Creek and ascended a high sandy bluff. Had to double team all our wagons for 1½ miles. Got over all safe. Stopped and watered our cattle and let them rest till 1 p.m., when we moved on one mile and a half beyond Watch Creek and camped near the Platte River. Distance during the day 7 miles.

Saturday, August 20, 1853. Rose early and prepared for a start. Got in motion by 7 a.m. Drove 3 miles west of Castle Creek to our noon halt. Afterwards moved on. Had to go about 1 mile off the road to the Platte River to find water. Distance during the day 19 miles.

Sabbath, August 21, 1853. Camped all day. Died at 15 minutes to 2 o’clock p.m. Mary Hunt, born at Etton, Yorkshire, England, on June 5, 1802. She had been very bad with diarrhea all the way from a fortnight after she left England. She was quite insensible for 2 or 3 days before her death. We buried her in the evening at the camping ground in a grave 6 feet deep.

Monday, August 22, 1853. Prepared for an early start. Got in motion by ½ past 6 o’clock a.m. Came up to Bro. Brown’s company shortly after we started. He passed us on Sabbath afternoon while we were camped. Stopped to noon near the Platte River. Afterwards moved on. Crossed Crab Creek and camped 2 miles east of the cobble hills near the Platte River. Distance during the day 16 miles.
Tuesday, August 23, 1853. We started in the morning at 8 o’clock a.m. Travelled over sandy bluffs and passed ancient bluff ruins. Nooned where the road joins the Platte River and moved on 10 miles and camped making 18 miles during the day.

Wednesday, August 24, 1853. We started at 8 o’clock a.m. Nooned at the Platte River and moved on. Camped in evening after travelling 16 miles during the day.

Thursday, August 25, 1853. Prepared for an early start. Got in motion by 15 min. to 7 o’clock a.m. Drove 12 miles to our noon halt. Watered our cattle and moved on 8 miles and camped at the Platte, making 20 miles during the day. Roads good.

Friday, August 26, 1853. Got in motion by ½ past 7 o’clock a.m. Drove 8 miles to our noon halt where 6 Sioux Indians came to us with 4 Squaws and we moved on. Passed Spring Creek and camped 5 miles from it, near the Platte River, making 17 miles during the day. Had a cow bit with a snake at the camping ground belonging to Captain Barrus. She died during the night.

Saturday, August 27, 1853. Started at 15 min. to 8 o’clock a.m. Travelled 9 miles to our noon halt. Watered our cattle and moved on 8 miles and camped near the Platte River, making 17 miles during the day.

Sabbath, August 28, 1853. Died at 15 min. past 2 o’clock a.m., George Martin, born in Shrewsbury Town, Shropshire County, England, November 19, 1833. He had been bad with fever and bowel complaint for 2 weeks before his death. He was buried near the camping ground a few yards north of the road. Afterwards we hitched up and travelled 8 miles to our noon halt. Watered our cattle and moved on 1 mile and camped at the Platte River. At our noon halt a few Sioux Indians came to us and traded with some of the Brethren for shoes, etc. Distance during the day 9 miles.

Monday, August 29, 1853. In the forenoon we forded the Platte River. Got all our wagons safe across and moved on 3 miles to our noon halt. Afterwards travelled 6 miles and camped on the Platte River making 9 miles during the day. In the afternoon we passed a small village of Sioux Indians with a store.

Tuesday, August 30, 1853. In the morning repaired a wheel belonging to one of Bro. Brown’s company’s wagons. Started and travelled to within 1 mile of Fort Laramie. Distance 7 miles. President Harmon and another man had gone after some oxen that had strayed during the night. One wagon stopped behind. They found the oxen, yoked them into the wagon and came up to us at our noon halt. We moved on crossing the Laramie River and camped 4 miles from it on the Platte, making 11 miles during the day. At our noon halt a few Indians came to us and traded shoes for bread and flour.

Wednesday, August 31, 1853. In the morning President Harmon called a meeting of all the brethren and instructed them concerning certain duties he wished them to perform. Afterwards we moved on at 15 min to 9 o’clock a.m. Drove over sandy bluffs 6 miles to our noon halt. Watered our cattle and travelled 3 miles and camped near the Platte River, making 9 miles during the day.

Thursday, September 1, 1853. Started in the morning at 15 min. to 8 a.m. Drove to Bitter Creek, distance 10 miles. Stopped half an hour. Watered our cattle and moved on 12 miles and camped at a small creek of spring water, making 22 miles during the day. The roads have been very hilly all day. Our oxen suffered much. Just before camping the wheel of Browell’s wagon broke down. Shortly after we started from Bitter Creek, one of Bro. Barnes’
oxen dropped down. He unyoked him and tried to drive him along, but found he could not, so he left him. Bro brown tried to bring him along, but could not get him to stir.

Friday, September 2, 1853. In the morning we found a number of the oxen had strayed from the herd during the night. Sent men out in different directions to seek them, and the rest of the wagons moved on to Horse Creek and camped. Distance 2 miles. Mary Gray, wife of Joseph Gray, from the Kennington Branch of the London Conference was delivered of a son, Sept. 1st, yesterday. The men who were sent after the oxen found them all and came up to the camping ground shortly after. While we were camped, a few Cheyenne Indians came to us and wanted some bread. We gave them some provisions and they went on their journey. Put in new spokes in Bro. Browell’s wagon wheel. Took the tires off a number of the wheels and tightened them. Put shoes upon some of our oxen that were a little lame. Put tar on some of their feet and cut a quantity of wood to make tar.

Saturday, September 3, 1853. In the morning put shoes upon a few more of the oxen. Afterwards hitched up and travelled to where the road joins the river. Distance 7 miles. Watered our cattle and moved on 9 miles. Had to go about a mile in between the bluffs to get water for our cattle. Camped about 1½ miles from the Platte River. Distance during the day 16 miles. In the afternoon we passed about 60 tents of Sioux Indians.

Sabbath, September 4, 1853. Hitched up and drove to the Platte River where we forded it to the north side. Went 8 miles to our noon halt. Afterwards moved on 7 miles and camped at the Platte, making 15 miles during the day.

Monday, September 5, 1853. Started in morning at 10 o’clock a.m. and travelled to where the road joins the river. Distance 7 miles. There we forded it to the south side and nooned. Afterwards moved on 8 miles and camped at the river making 15 miles during the day.

Tuesday, September 6, 1853. Got in motion by 8 a.m. Drove to Fourcho-boise creek and nooned. Distance 9 miles. Afterwards moved on, crossed a deep dry creek and camped at the Platte River 2 miles east of Deer Creek. Distance during the day 17 miles. In the afternoon one cow died on the road.

Wednesday, September 7, 1853. Started in the morning. Crossed Deer Creek and travelled 9 miles to our noon halt. Watered our cattle and moved on 2 miles and camped at a grove of timber about 1 mile from the Platte River, making 11 miles during the day.

Thursday, September 8, 1853. Started at 10 o’clock a.m. Crossed Crooked Muddy Creek and camped. Distance 12 miles. In the afternoon found an ox that had been left behind by some of the forward companies and brought him along. During the night the wolves got in amongst the cattle and tore one cow severely, also had bitten another one.

Friday, September 9, 1853. Got in motion by 15 min. to 10 o’clock a.m. Drove 2 miles east of where the road crossed the Platte River and camped. Distance 6 miles. Sent 2 men from every ten to cut pine wood to make tar for the oxen’s feet.

Saturday, September 10, 1853. Camped all day. A company of traders passed us belonging to Captain Barnes. Bro. Bray, who was in our company, left us and went along with him. He had one ox team and a 2 horse team, also John Doltin with one horse team.

Sabbath, September 11, 1853. Started in the morning. Drove to where the road crossed the river. Forded it to the north side and nooned. Afterwards moved on 9 miles and camped at the river, making 11 miles during the day. Afternoon very showrey. The mail from Great Salt Lake arrived. They camped beside us.
Monday, September 12, 1853. The cow that was torn by the wolves was left behind, being unable to walk. Started at 15 minutes past 8 a.m. Met a few packers shortly after we started. Travelled to Willow Spring and camped. Found no water at noon, but gave the cattle a rest for 30 minutes.

Tuesday, September 13, 1853. Put in a few new spokes in the wheel of Capt. Orr’s wagon. Got in motion by 8 o’clock a.m. Travelled to a small running creek, watered our cattle, stopped 30 minutes and moved on to Grease Wood Creek. Crossed it and camped. Distance during the day 12 miles.

Wednesday, September 14, 1853. Started in the morning at 9 o’clock a.m. Met a company of packers. Passed a store with a few Indians tents and camped at the Sweet Water River, ¼ of a mile west of Independence Rock. Distance 9 ½ miles. Roads very sandy all day.

Thursday, September 15, 1853. In the morning President Harmon called a meeting and made some new arrangements in regard to the day guard and exhorted the men to be punctual to the call when it was made, for to do any duty. Afterwards we moved on at 15 minutes to 9 a.m. Drove to the Devil’s Gate and nooned on the Sweet Water River beside a trading post. President Harmon disposed of one wagon as some of the oxen were like to give up. Got the parties accommodated in some of the rest of the wagons and moved on. Camped near the Sweet Water River after travelling 10 miles during the day. In the evening President Harmon came up, having bought a pair of oxen.

Friday, September 16, 1853. Got in motion by 15 minutes past 9 a.m. Drove to where the road joins the river and nooned. Distance 6 miles. Watered our cattle and moved on 6 miles and camped near Sweet Water River, making 12 miles during the day. At 7 o’clock p.m. Emma Mason, from the Barslen Barnch of the Herefordshire Conference was delivered of a daughter.

Saturday, September 17, 1853. In the morning a Mr. Babbit passed us. Before we started Bro. Littlewood and Bro. Birch, who had one wagon with 3 yoke of oxen between them separated and put their luggage in different wagons and gave them the assistance of their oxen. Left their wagon which was taken down to the river and deposited there. Got in motion by 15 minutes past 9 a.m. Nooned at a bend of Sweet Water River and moved on to where the road crossed the river and camped on the other side in between the mountains. Distance 12 miles.

Sabbath, September 18, 1853. Started at 9 o’clock a.m. Crossed the Sweet Water twice about 2 miles from where we started. Drove another 3 miles and camped at the Sweet Water River, making 5 miles during the day. In the afternoon a meeting was called of all the camp in connection with Bro. Brown’s company, when the Saints were addressed for a short time by Bro. Clayton, also Bro. Richards, Captain Brown and Capt. Harmon. Meeting was dismissed by Capt. James McNaughton. After the meeting was dismissed John Mason’s child was blessed by Elders Harmon & Brown and received her name, which is Phebe Louisa Mason. Also Joseph Gray’s child was blessed by Elders Harmon & Brown and received his name, which is Joseph Gray.

Lenard Bessey, born State of New York, U.S.A., 1st May 1820 was baptized by Captain Harmon.

Monday, September 19, 1853. In the morning left one cow behind that was unable to walk. Started at 15 min. to 9 a.m. Passed 3 wagons with Elders from the Valley on missions to the States and England. In the forenoon travelled 4 miles and nooned at the Sweet Water River. Afterwards drove 9 miles and camped, making 13 miles during the day. In the afternoon we met 4 wagons with Elders from the Valley, that belong to the same company we met in the forenoon. One ox that Capt. Davis had in his team, dropped down and died in the course of an hour.

Tuesday, September 20, 1853. Started in the morning at 8 o’clock. Drove to where the road
crossed the river. Forded it and nooned, afterwards moved on. Crossed the river twice and  
camped. Distance 13 miles. Mason’s child died at 30 minutes past 3 o’clock p.m., aged 3 days.

Wednesday, September 21, 1853. Camped all day. Put shoes upon a few oxen and cows.  
John Mason’s child was buried 30 yards north of the road, and a little west of No. 8 crossing of  
Sweet Water River. A few men went out to hunt for game for the camp, but returned in the  
evening unsuccessful.

Thursday, September 22, 1853. Got in motion by 30 min. past 8 a.m. Drove to where the  
road leaves the river, distance 4 miles. Watered our cattle and ascended high bluffs for about 3  
miles. Gave our cattle a rest for 20 minutes, then moved on to Strawberry Creek, and camped.  
Distance during the day 12 ½ miles.

Friday, September 23, 1853. Started at 8 a.m. Travelled to the crossing of Strawberry  
Creek. Watered our cattle and drove to Sweet Water River and camped. Distance 10 miles. In  
the afternoon the mail passed us for the Valley.

Saturday, September 24, 1853. Got in motion by 30 minutes past 8 a.m. Crossed the  
Sweet Water River in the forenoon. Gave our cattle a rest for 30 minutes at noon, but found no  
water afterwards. Travelled to Sweet Water River and camped. Had to go about 2 miles off the  
road to get to the river. Distance 13 miles. One ox that Capt. Bagnall had in his team dropped  
down and died in about an hour and a half. Left one old cow behind. Elias B. Stockton lost one  
cow that went back after her calf that was left behind.

Sabbath, September 25, 1853. Started at ½ past 9 o’clock a.m. Drove to Pacific Creek  
and nooned. While Bro Mecone’s wagon was crossing it got upset, but no injury was done.  
Distance to the creek 7 miles. Afterwards we drove on to dry Sandy and camped. Distance  
during the day 16 miles.

Monday, September 26, 1853. Started in the morning at 30 min. past 8 a.m. Found no  
water at noon, but gave our cattle a rest for 15 minutes. Afterwards moved on to Little Sandy  
and camped. Distance 13 miles. In the afternoon we had a heavy shower of rain. One ox was  
left behind that Captain Attwood had in his team.

Tuesday, September 27, 1853. Started in the morning. Forded Little Sandy and drove to  
Big Sandy, crossed it and camped. Distance 9 miles. Afternoon very showrey.

Wednesday, September 28, 1853. Got in motion by 10 o’clock a.m. Drove 8 miles and  
gave our cattle a rest for 20 minutes, but found no water. Afterwards moved on to Big Sandy  
and camped. Distance 15 miles. One ox and one cow died during the day.

Thursday, September 29, 1853. Got in motion by 15 minutes to 10 a.m. Drove 6 miles  
and gave our cattle a rest for 10 minutes. Afterwards moved on to Green River. Forded it and  
camped. Distance during the day 12 miles. In the evening President Harmon called a meeting of  
all the Brethren in the camp and told us he wanted 8 volunteers to start on to the Valley, to be  
there in time for the conference. 17 volunteered. Then following President Harmon selected to  
go--James Boyack, James Lethem, Thos. Doxey, Robert Till, John Reed, William Thompson,  
William Davis, Martin Littlewood.

Friday, September 30, 1853. At 9 o’clock a.m. the volunteers started for the Valley. Bro.  
Davis was appointed Captain of the company. Bro. Hughes was appointed Captain of the Ten  
instead of Davis. Got in motion by 10 o’clock a.m. Nooned where the road leaves the river.  
Distance 5 miles. Afterwards drove 3 ½ miles and camped on the prairie about 2 miles from  
Green River, making 8 ½ miles during the day. In the evening Lenard Bessey was confirmed by  
President Harmon and Capt. McNaughton.
Saturday, October 1, 1853. Started at 15 min. past 11 a.m. Drove to Ham’s Fork and camped. Distance 12 miles. Met 3 men with 125 pounds of flour from Fort Bridger to be sold at 12 cents a pound to the company. President Harmon divided it out amongst those that had none.

Sabbath, October 2, 1853. Started in the morning. Crossed Ham’s Fork, also Black’s Fork, the first time and camped. Distance 5 miles. Met 2 wagons from the Valley to meet their friends. They brought with them for the company some flour, but brought no instructions about selling it. President Harmon divided it out amongst the company.

Monday, October 3, 1853. Started in the morning. Drove to the 2nd crossing of Black’s Fork. Forded it and camped. Distance 12 miles.

Tuesday, October 4, 1853. Started in the morning. Forded the 3rd and 4th crossing of Black Fork River. Drove to the 5th crossing and camped. Distance 10 miles. Met 5 wagons with flour to be sold to the company at 15 cents per pound.

Wednesday, October 5, 1853. Started in the morning. Drove to Fort Bridger and camped. Distance 8 miles.

Thursday, October 6, 1853. Started from Fort Bridger in the forenoon. Drove to a small running creek and camped. Distance 11 miles.

Friday, October 7, 1853. Got in motion by 30 minutes past 8 a.m. Crossed Muddy Creek 2 miles from where we started. We gave our cattle a rest for 30 minutes at noon. Afterwards drove to springs of water, about a mile south of the road and camped. Distance during the day 13 miles.

Saturday, October 8, 1853. While we were hitching up our cattle 3 wagons with ox teams passed us for Fort Bridger. We got in motion by 9 o’clock a.m. Met other 5 wagons in the forenoon. Gave our cattle a rest for 10 minutes at noon. Afterwards drove to Bear River and camped. Distance 9 miles. Met 1 horse team, also 1 ox team shortly after noon.

Sabbath, October 9, 1853. Started at 10 o’clock a.m. Travelled to a small creek and nooned. Afterwards drove to the second crossing of Yellow Creek and camped. Distance 10 miles. Met one ox team and wagon at the camping ground to meet their friends.

Monday, October 10, 1853. Got in motion by 30 minutes past 8 a.m. Drove to Cache Cave at the head of Echo Creek and nooned. Afterwards moved on crossing Echo Creek a number of times and camped at it. Distance during the day 12 miles. One ox that Captain Cowdey had in his team was found dead in the morning amongst the rest of the cattle. One cow was left behind in the afternoon, being unable to come along. Met 2 wagons from the Valley with ox teams, also 7 yoke of loose cattle. Captain Davis came back with them.

Tuesday, October 11, 1853. Got in motion by 9 a.m. Crossed Echo Creek a number of times and stopped at noon for 20 minutes. Watered our cattle and moved on to a bend of Echo Creek and camped. Distance 10 miles. One of Capt. Barrus’s cows was left behind.

Wednesday, October 12, 1853. Got in motion by 15 min. to 10 a.m. Drove to Red Fork and nooned. Afterwards moved on 2 miles west of the crossing of Weber River and camped. Distance during the day 12 miles. Bro. Mason’s wagon was upset in the forenoon and Capt. Cowdey’s in the afternoon. One ox of Capt. Harmon’s was left behind.

Thursday, October 13, 1853. Started in the morning and drove to a small creek and nooned. Afterwards moved on to the 5th crossing of Canyon Creek and camped. Distance 10 miles. In the morning President Harmon went back after his ox, but did not find him.
Friday, October 14, 1853. Started in the morning and drove to the foot of the Big Mountain and nooned. Afterwards crossed the mountain and camped at Brown’s Creek. Distance 10 miles. One cow of Elias B. Stockton was left behind. One of Barrus’s young cattle, one ox that Captain McNaughton had in his team, one ox that McNaughton and Hodge brought, one ox that Cowdey and Barnes had, one ox that Perks had in his team, one ox that McNaughton, Hodgetts and Barnes had were also left behind.

Saturday, October 15, 1853. Sent a number of men back after the cattle that were left behind. Started and travelled over the Little Mountain and camped at the last creek. Distance 9 miles. The men sent back after the cattle came up in the evening, but were not able to bring the cattle. They left a few of them in charge of 3 wagons coming from Bridger who promised to try and bring them along with their loose stock.

Sabbath, October 16, 1853. Started in the morning. Nooned at the mouth of the canyon. Afterwards drove to Great Salt Lake City and camped in the public square. Drove our cattle to the Church yard. Distance 7 miles.
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Appleton M. Harmon Company (1853)

Sources


Boren, Lucina Mecham, History of Lucina Mecham Boren. (Trail excerpt transcribed from "Pioneer History Collection" available at Pioneer Memorial Museum [Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum], Salt Lake City, Utah. Some restrictions apply.) Trail Excerpt

Brown, John, and A. M. Harmon to Brigham Young, 12 Oct. 1853, in Brigham Young, Office Files 1832-1878, reel 32, box 22, fd. 21. Trail Excerpt

Brown, John, and A. M. Harmon to Brigham Young, 17 Sept. 1853, in Brigham Young, Office Files 1832-1878, reel 32, box 22, fd. 21. Trail Excerpt

Chamberlain, John Marvin, Reminiscences [c. 1925], [2-5]. Trail Excerpt


Livingston, James Campbell, Autobiographical sketch, 1. Trail Excerpt

McNaughton, James, Journal, 1851-1858. Trail Excerpt

Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

(The number shown in parentheses next to each name is the age of the pioneer at the time of the journey.)

**Alphabetical Company List**

**Appleton M. Harmon Company (1853)**

- **Able, Elijah** (42)
- **Able, Enoch** (infant)
- **Able, Mary Ann Adams** (23)
- **Able, Moroni** (5)
- **Able, Rebecca Ann** (infant)
- **Aird, Elizabeth** (31)
- **Aird, William** (32)

**Chronological Company List**

- **Alexander, John** (18)
- **Attwood, Esther [or Esther] Morris** (22)
- **Attwood, Richard Harrison** (27)
- **Bagnall, Cornelius** (49)
- **Bagnall, Cornelius** (11)
- **Bagnall, Elizabeth** (12)
- **Bagnall, Elizabeth Sarah Whitear** (39)
- **Bagnall, James** (10)
- **Bagnall, John** (23)
- **Bagnall, Joseph** (3)
- **Bagnall, Samuel** (2)
- **Bagnall, Stephen** (8)
- **Bagnall, Susannah** (infant)
- **Bailey, Elizabeth Young** (20)
- **Bailey, George Brown** (20)
- **Barlow, Catherine Nightingale** (26)
- **Barlow, James** (3)
- **Barnes, Ann** (10)
- **Barnes, Charles** (5)
- **Barnes, Elizabeth Jeffries** (57)
- **Barnes, Emily Shelton** (18)
- **Barnes, Frances Fitzjohn Chapman** (35)
- **Barnes, John James** (infant)
- **Barnes, John Richard** (19)
- **Barnes, Lorenzo** (2)
- **Barnes, William** (9)
- **Barnes, William** (60)
- **Barnes, William Jeffries** (32)
- **Barrus, Benjamin Franklin** (15)
- **Barrus, Emery** (44)
- **Barrus, Emery Alexander** (5)
Barrus, Huldah Abigail Nickerson (37)
Barrus, Mary Hulda (10)
Barrus, Orrin Eleazar (7)
Barrus, Ruel Michael (2)
Bessey, Lenard (33)
Birch, Ellen Harris (32)
Birch, Ellen [or Helen] (1)
Birch, Richard (29)
Bishop, James (21)
Boaz, Elizabeth Hicks (21)
Bowler, Elizabeth (27)
Boyack, James Jr. (24)
Bray, Francis J. (60)
Bray, Selina Rayson (51)
Brownell, Jeremiah (26)
Brownell, Mary (25)
Brownell, Mary Jane (Infant)
Burton, Elizabeth (21)
Burton, William (21)
Cardy, Margaret Craig (45)
Carmichael, John (30)
Caton, Helen (38)
Chamberlain, Elizabeth Jackson (45)
Chamberlain, John Marvin (9)
Chamberlain, Richard (13)
Chamberlain, Thomas Taylor (43)
Chamberlain, William Henry (15)
Condey, Elizabeth (25)
Condey, James (25)
Cowdy, Agnes E. (Infant)
Curtis, Jane Maria (17)
Curtis, Sarah Wright (41)
Davis, Jane (33)
Davis, William (33)
DeHart, John (24)
DeHart, Lydia Nickerson Barrus (19)
DeHart or Hartl, John (24)
Derby, Mary (72)
Dolton or Dalton, John (Unknown)
Doxey, Ann Elizabeth Hunt (22)
Doxey, Thomas (24)
Evans, Henry (17)
Gardner, Alfred (10)
Gardner, Emma (5)
Gardner, Henry (13)
Gardner, John (47)
Gardner, Mary Ann Goodship (47)
Gillespie, Jannet (37)
Golightly, Elizabeth (12)
Golightly, Isabella (16)
Golightly, Isabella Richardson (45)
Golightly, Jane (14)
Golightly, John (5)
Golightly, Thomas (8)
Goodwin, Jesse (47)
Gordon, Elizabeth (28)
Gordon, Mary (30)
Gough, Harriet Meredith (31)
Gough, John (7)
Gough, Josiah (4)
Gough, William (31)
Gray, Franklin Thomas (1)
Gray, Joseph Edney (infant)
Gray, Joseph Reeves (29)
Gray, Mary Franklin (23)
Harmon, Appleton Milo (33)
Hayward, Hannah (14)
Hayward, Ruth (39)
Hayward, William (36)
Hodgetts, Joseph (30)
Hodgetts, Mary Jones (24)
Holden, Abigail Olmstead (35)
Holden, Caroline (4)
Holden, Catherine Irene (4)
Holden, John (Infant)
Holden, Martha Elizabeth (6)
Hughes, Ann Howells (34)
Hughes, Henry (1)
Hughes, Henry (27)
Hunt, Ann Elizabeth (22)
Hunt, Mary Ann (18)
Hunt, Mary Danby (57)
Hunting, Benjamin (18)
Hunting, Elizabeth Kings (50)
Hunting, Nathan Charles (14)
Hunting, William James (61)
Hunting, William James (14)
Jack, James (23)
Jack, Jemima Elizabeth Innes (24)
Jackson, William (20)
John, Archibald Meigh (38)
Kimball, Hulda Barnes (46)
Leatham, James (22)
Leigh, Ann (48)
Leigh, Joseph (18)
Leigh, Mary (12)
Littlewood, Ann (30)
Littlewood, Martin (32)
Livingston, James Campbell (19)
Luke, Ann Beaver (26)
Luke, Charles Oliver (24)
Luke, Henry (17)
Luke, William (18)
Martin, George (19)
Mashar, James (26)
Mason, Alfred (7)
Mason, Emma (33)
Mason, Ephraim (10)
Mason, John (35)
Mason, Phoebe Louisa (infant)
McIntyre, Agnes (1)
McIntyre, Catherine (12)
McIntyre, Daniel [or Donald] (8)
McIntyre, Henry [or Harry] (6)
McIntyre, John (32)
McIntyre, John (8)
McIntyre, Mary (32)
McIntyre, Mary (31)
McIsaac, Elizabeth (22)
McNaughton, Elizabeth Barnes (28)
McNaughton, Elizabeth Shaw (5)
McNaughton, James (33)
McNaughton, Lorenzo (infant)
McNaughton, Thompson Virgles Kirkwood (1)
Mecham, America (15)
Mecham, Celestia Ann (4)
Mecham, Donna Maria (1)
Mecham, Elvira Derby (41)
Mecham, Elvira Jane (10)
Mecham, Emily (19)
Mecham, John Derby (3)
Mecham, Lucina (12)
Mecham, Martha (14)
Mecham, Moses (49)
Mecham, Moses Moroni (7)
Mecham, Polly (20)
Mecham, Samuel (22)
Mecham, Sarah (23)
Meredith, Richard (61)
Meredith, Samuel (18)
Meredith, Sarah Hall (56)
Molynieux, John (26)
Molynieux, Louisa Buck (28)
Molynieux, Martha (infant)
Molynieux, William (4)
Morris, Gomer (1)
Morris, Hyrum (4)
Morris, Joseph Smith (7)
Morris, Margaret (13)
Morris, Mary Margaret Rees (32)
Muir, Isabella (15)
Muir, James (60)
Muir, John (23)
Muir, Mary Murray (61)
Oldred, Archibald Todd (9)
Oldred, Catherine Mary Meikeljohn (30)
Orr, Annie (9)
Orr, Elizabeth (18)
Orr, Elizabeth McQueen (47)
Orr, James Copeland (23)
Orr, John (7)
Orr, Matthew (16)
Orr, Robert (50)
Orr, Robert (18)
Perks, Jane (53)
Perks, Nancy (8)
Perks, William (20)
Reed, John (22)
Reed, Sarah Adams (17)
Reid, Euphemia Blakey (55)
Reid, George (57)
Reid, Grace (21)
Reid, James Grieg (13)
Reid, John Grieg (15)
Riste, James (53)
Robinson, George (53)
Robinson, Mercy Hodson (21)
Robinson, Thomas (51)
Robinson, William Henry (21)
Rockhill, Isabella Wood (32)
Rockhill, John Wood (5)
Rockhill, William Wood (7)
Rockhill, William Wood (32)
Rose, Robert (14)
Roskelley, Samuel (16)
Ross, Eliza (45)
Ross, Louisa (9)
Ross, William (43)
Savin, [Mr.] (Unknown)
Shields, George (24)
Shields, George, Jr. (Infant)
Shields, James Craig (5)
Shields, Jane Carly (25)
Smith, Adam Browning (22)
Smith, Adam Willey (55)
Smith, George Browning (9)
Smith, Marian (16)
Smith, Martha (11)
Smith, Martha Browning (52)

Smith, Minnie

Stayner, Arthur (18)

Stayner, Thomas John (25)

Stewart, William Cameron (24)

Stockton, Elias B. (23)

Summers, George (22)

Summers, Mary Ann Gittens (19)

Taylor, George (23)

Teasdale, Elizabeth (18)

Thompson, William (22)

Thornton, Alexander Kennedy (6)

Thornton, Arthur (15)

Thornton, Hugh (16)

Thornton, Margaret Eccles (9)

Thornton, Mary Kennedy (45)

Thornton, Samuel (18)

Thornton, Thomas Gilbert (12)

Thornton, William (47)

Till, Charlotte Bowring (20)

Till, Robert (26)

Tyrrell, Joseph (22)

Tyrrell, Priscilla (27)

Vest, Hannah (14)

Vest, John (54)

Vest, Mary Ann Potter (53)

Wallace, Andrew (19)

Wallace, Hannah (17)

Wallace, James (9)

Wallace, Mary Wvatt (48)

Wallace, Thomas Loggan (48)

Walsh, Ellen Ashton (24)

Walsh, Henry (25)

Walsh, Mary Ann (1)

Weed, Joshua (11)

Widdison, Agnes (21)

Widdison, Hannah (15)

Widdison, James Gourley (infant)

Widdison, Jannett Russell (41)

Widdison, Robert Russell (9)

Widdison, Thomas (47)

Widdison, William Livingston (6)

Willes, Ann Kibbey (47)

Willes, Ann Sarah (10)

Willes, Frederick George (14)

Willes, Harriet Ann (11)

Willes, John Kibbey (5)

Wilson, Isaac (29)

Woolley, Ann (22)
Woolley, Jane (60)
Woolley, William (62)
Wright, William (22)
Young, Aaron (8)
Young, Ann (17)
Young, Caroline (8)
Young, Hannah [or Anna] Davis (43)
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:

Read Trail Excerpt:
During the westward journey we traveled in Appleton Harmon's company and he was a faithful Captain.

He appointed my father as hunter for the company. Father would go ahead of the wagon train and when he could find buffalo close to the road, he would shoot one down and wait for the wagon train to divide it up.

The Cholera was in the wagon train in front of us, and the one behind us, and the Captain advised that we use as little meat as possible.
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:
Boren, Lucina Mecham, History of Lucina Mecham Boren. (Trail excerpt transcribed from "Pioneer History Collection" available at Pioneer Memorial Museum [Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum], Salt Lake City, Utah. Some restrictions apply.)

Read Trail Excerpt:
There was a hotel across the street. They needed a girl to wait on the tables, and Mrs. Robinson recommended me. I got a dollar and a half a week. When we were leaving for Utah, the proprietor said if I would stay with them he would furnish me with everything I wanted and on my eighteenth birthday he would give me one thousand dollars, but Mother would not let me stay. We left for Utah in 1853. The water was very high and we went quite a distance on a raft.

We crossed the Missouri River on a ferry boat. Stayed there for several days waiting for a company to start. We started with two wagons, one yoke of oxen, two yoke of unbroken steers and four cows. There were thirteen of us and we had only one tent. John Brown was Captain of fifty. Father was Captain of ten independent wagons. The forty were called the perpetual fund.

The Indians were on the war path. Once we were stopped by them. It seemed to me there were a thousand of them. They could easily have killed us, but the men gave them provisions, robbing themselves, and we all suffered through dividing with them. There were seven deaths in our company.

The buffalo were so numerous we had to stop for them to pass. There was no going till they crossed the road. We children had to walk most of the way. One night the wagons passed us. My oldest sister stopped and sat down on a rock and said she was not going any farther. She tried to get me to go on, said she would rather be eaten by the wolves than go any farther. I cried and prayed and would not leave her. At last she said, "I cannot let the wolves kill you." Before we got to camp, we could hear the wolves coming close behind. When we got to camp we were so tired we could not eat or undress. Next day we had a short drive and stopped to wash. We stopped every week to wash and brighten our tin dishes.

One incident—a man in our company lost his wife, and after she died he wandered off and was lost. The company stayed days searching for him but never found him. The provisions were very low by this time. We were almost on the point of starvation, when my cousin, Daniel Mecham met us with a load of provisions—flour, meat, and vegetables. The next day we took turns riding the horses. The next day, Allen J. Stewart, an old friend of ours, met us with more provisions. Then we all rode the rest of the way to Salt Lake.

No one but those who crossed the plains can even imagine the trials we had to pass through. We arrived in Salt Lake on the 16th day of October 1853.
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:
Brown, John, and A. M. Harmon to Brigham Young, 12 Oct. 1853, in Brigham Young, Office Files 1832-1878, reel 32, box 22, fd. 21.

Read Trail Excerpt:
Echo Kenion [Canyon] 10 miles from Webber [Weber] River

October 12th 1853[,] 7 o'clock A.M.
Prest. B. Young and Council

Dear Brethren

We write to inform you that we have arrived at this point under quite as comfortable circumstances as could be expected. Since we last wrote to you we have received the assistance of about 4000 lbs. flour and Shall require about 800 more to make us aney whare near comfortable. We have received 7 pair of oxen and hope to receive more to assist us over the mountains. We antisapate—Reaching the City about monday the 17th if all goes well.

Hopeing you all quite well. We remain yours in our Redeemers Cause,

John Brown
A. M. Harmon
G.S.L. City
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:
Brown, John, and A. M. Harmon to Brigham Young, 17 Sept. 1853, in Brigham Young, Office Files 1832-1878, reel 32, box 22, fd. 21.

Read Trail Excerpt:
Sage Creek Sweetwater River September 17, 1853

Prest. Young & Council

Dearly beloved Brethren

As Bro. A.W. Babbit is on his way to the City with good speed, and will probably arrive some days before the mail we gladly embrace the opportunity to send you a short sketch of our situation, as the season is getting far advanced and our teams getting pretty much wore down.

The two companies of the Emigrating Fund brethren together with others are travelling together making some 55 waggons. We have had some sickness, and have buried five. There are yet several very unwell, in other respects the brethren are comfortable as can be expected under the circumstances. Within the past week, our teams have failed considerable, so much so that we have already had to leave two waggons, and shall probably soon have to leave one or two others. In our present situation we can average from 10 to 12 miles per day but our strength of team is not sufficient to exceed that.

In regard to provisions for the companies, we have now on hand 23 days rations, not to exceed that. Some are already short but by dividing we can get along comfortable for that length of time. There are about 400 adult persons in the two companies, three fourths of whom are coming by the P [perpetual]. E[migrating]. Fund teams; but in respect to provisions the whole are about in the same situation. In regard to means for self defence in case of trouble by the Utahs, we can muster about 40 guns nearly all of which are the common English fowling pieces, our ammunition with few exceptions powder and small shot, very few Rifles and not many balls. No lead to make balls, and in fact we are poorly prepared for war, in case of difficulty. However we shall keep those we have got in good order, both guns and ammunition, and you may be assured in case of difficulty we shall do the best we can.

There is a good spirit generally amongst the saints here, and we travel along pretty comfortable. All are anxious to reach the valley, before the snow falls if possible, if not we shall endeavor to bear all that comes with patience. Bro. Babbit is in a great hurry and we must conclude with our best wishes and kind regard to all.

Yours truly in the bonds of the gospel

John Brown
A.M. Harmon

Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:
Chamberlain, John Marvin, Reminiscences [c. 1925], [2-5].

Read Trail Excerpt:

At Keokouck [Keokuk], it was certainly grand to feel land under our feet again, even though our journey was to be filled with hardships. We immediately made ready for our six months' journey to Utah. We had considerable difficulty in managing the cattle. They would turn the yokes every way. When we did get them accustomed to the yoke and hitched to the wagon they would try to run away and soon the chains would become tangled. When we felt we could drive them safely, the supplies were packed. Every available space was used in the wagons. Fourteen persons were assigned to our wagon, a Mr. [James] McNaughton [McNaughtan] and his family and our family. After the provisions were placed, the bedding packed in the wagon, there was little or no room for much else: it looked as though father [Thomas Chamberlain] must leave his heavy tools behind. Captain Appleton Harmon [Harmon] turned to father and said, "Brother Chamberlain, you cannon [can not] take those carpenter tools with you." Father sat down on his tool-chest, deliberated for a few moments and then said sternly, "Then I stay here with my tools! A man might as well be without hands as to be without tools in a strange frontier country." "You are a very useful, handy man in our wagon train,—all right, tools go and you, too, " came the favorable answer. With so many in our wagon, there was no room for me, and so I chose to walk. It was in May and the prairies were covered with grass and flowers. There were many creeks to ford, some of them one or two feet deep. I used to cross them on the big white ox, and such fun it was. One morning when I was helping my two brothers, William and Richard, yoke up the oxen, one ox stepped on my foot. It hurt so painfully that I cried. Mother [Elizabeth Jackson Chamberlain] fixed it as best she could and I tried [tried] to take my usual place in front of the train, but I could not walk. So mother sat down with me on a large rock to wait for the Captain. When he learned what had happened he helped me on his horse and we rode to his wagon, where I remained for the rest of the day. With that only exception, I walked all the way to Salt Lake City.

We made good time the first one hundred miles, covering from fifteen to twenty-five miles a day.

When we came to the Indian country, the Captain warned us that we could not be too careful and cautioned us not to go far from the train or camp at any time. We traveled up the Platte River, where I first saw wild Indians, the Potterwotamau tribe. One day about noon we saw four or five hundred very wild-looking Indians running across the prairie toward us. They came to a halt in front of our wagon, threw spears and tomahawks, drew their bows, threatening to shoot if we did not stop. They presented a dreadful sight, painted red and black, and their warwhoops were shreikingly fearful. They demanded the oxen, ten sacks of flour and five sacks of sugar to let us pass, but our Captain made signs on his fingers denoting one ox, one sack of sugar and one sack of flour. They finally consented. I will never forget how savage and wild they looked as we passed through their ranks. We had no further trouble with the Indians until we reached the
Sioux country, where we had to make a second donation. But our Captain said that President Brigham Young told him it was better to feed the Indians than to fight them.

Now we traveled along the bank of the Platte River and passed many Indian camps. In one camp I saw a white girl about twelve years of age. She was dressed well, but could not speak English. No doubt she had been taken captive from some wagon train they had burned and destroyed and from people whom they had massacred.

We passed many lonely graves by the roadside with Buffalo heads as markers, the inscription having been made with black paint on the white skull. This was a source of grief and pity to me. There was a man by the name of Savin with the company. He had a light wagon and a pair of horses and could, and did, travel miles ahead of the wagon train. Mr. Savin was a geologist and liked to pick up curious specimen of rock which he would find along the roadside. He seemed not to sense the danger but one day, sad to relate, we found him lying by the road, scalped and with a half dozen arrows in his body. He was dead, his horse was gone and his wagon had been burned. I shall never forget that sight.

We crossed the Platte River in quite a number of places, sometimes fording and other times by ferryboat. The oxen did not like to plunge into the cold water, so two or three young men would ride oxen ahead of the herd and then gradually crowd them into the river. Once in, they would always swim across. It was a strange sight to see only cattle horns and noses above the water.

My father [Thomas Chamberlain] was an expert hunter, and used to kill many ducks, rabbits and prairie chickens. He would then distribute them throughout the camp. When we reached the buffalo country he often took me with him in the early mornings ahead of the train to hunt them. This was exciting fun for me. We would creep up close to a big buffalo herd and then father would shoot at the buffalo closest to the road, cut it up and when the wagons came by would give a portion to each group. I remember having seen buffalo so plentiful that they almost covered the prairie like a black cloud as far as the naked eye could reach.

In the course of this trip my brother William caught the mountain fever. Mother got herb remedies from an old Indian Medicine Man which seemed to do him good, for he was soon well again.

We eventually came to Sweetwater Pass, so named because a wagon-load of sugar had accidentally been overturned in the stream, which made the water sweet for many days. It was so pure and good, and we had been using alkiline water. There were many mountain trout and other fish in the stream. Here my brother William was the big fellow. He would often let me go with him to hunt grasshoppers and to help him carry the fish back to camp.

Another thing of interest on our trip was Chimney rock, which we could now see not many miles away. This rock, resembling a chimney, was 250 feet high and its surface on the top almost level. Here a pair of eagles made their home. The only way it could be climbed was by first throwing a lasso-rope until it caught securely on a projection, and then using it to pull oneself up. In the evening after we had left Chimney Rock, while following a creek near camp, my brother William and I came upon a very old Medicine Man of the Sioux tribe. He had been left there by members of his tribe to die. This seems so very cruel, but it was then the custom of that particular tribe that, when a man or woman could not walk and travel with the rest of them in going from place to place, they be left by the side of the creek with some provisions to last a
number of days before they died; when the wolves would then do the rest. This old fellow told us a romantic story about Chimney Rock in words similar to the following: "Many moons ago, our Sioux Chief had a daughter, Latuna (Dancing Waters) by name, who he wished to marry to one of his best warrier chiefs, Big Bear. Latuna refused because her heart belonged to another, a Blackfoot Chief by name of Night Hawk. So the Chief had his daughter placed on top of Chimney Rock with water and food and the threat that she was to stay there until she consented to his wish to marry Big Bear. Latuna, somehow, got word to her lover, Night Hawk, who planned carefully to rescue her from this fate and then to carry her to his own tribe. Fate is unkind at times to lovers, and the old Sioux Chief was secretly warned of Night Hawk’s intention. He remained awake to watch for Night Hawk. As soon as the first faint ray of light disclosed to Latuna the torture of her lover who lay dying with arrows almost through his body, she cast herself from the rock in despair."["""] Almost side by side they died together. Sad, was it not?

Another place of importance was Green River, close to Fort Bridger. This Fort was named for Jim Bridger, trapper and mountaineer, who lived there, and the river was so called because of the greenish tint of its waters. Jim Bridger was on good terms with the Shoshone tribe, for he had married one of their squaws. We replenished our food supply with groceries purchased at his store. A few days later we were met by a wagon from Salt Lake City filled with good things to eat—potatoes, onions and other vegetables, which the folks there had sent to us. And my, how good they did taste! The man handed me a carrot and it was more delicious than any candy I had tasted before, or since.

We came down Echo Canyon, crossed the Weber River and came part way up East Canyon to the Big Mountain, from the top of which I first saw Salt Lake Valley, the waters of its big inland sea shining in the rays of the setting sun—truly a grand picture! We camped at the foot of Little Mountain. Next morning we crossed it and came down Emigration Canyon.

Glorious day! We arrived in Salt Lake City on the 17th day of October, 1853. Our long journey was at last ended and we were all so happy and thankful.
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:
Livingston, James Campbell, Autobiographical sketch, 1.

Read Trail Excerpt:
We went up the Mississippi River to Keokuk a few miles below Nauvoo, the outfitting place for the emigration across the plains. We stopped at this place several weeks, breaking cattle and organizing companies for the great journey to the rocky Mountains. At this place I was detailed to guard and herd cattle as they were brought from the outfitting trains. While herding stock nearly opposite Nauvoo on the Iowa side of the river in company with R.W. Attwood, I had the pleasure of visiting the Mansion House at Nauvoo and spent the night there with Emma Smith and her children by Major Biddaman the man to whom she was married after the death of the Prophet. Our stay there was made a very pleasant one through the kindness of Major Biddaman who took us in his carriage to view the home of Brigham Young, and several of the twelve apostles including the home of Joseph Smith. The Temple had been burned but part of the walls were standing, and we were much interested even in the ruins.

I arrived in Salt Lake City October 16, 1853 having been seven months on the journey in Captain Appilton [Appleton] Harmon’s Ox Team Company. I traveled from the Mississippi River and drove an ox team the entire distance walking and fording rivers and streams. The Lord blessed me by sea and by land for which I was very thankful especially for the good health I enjoyed.
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:
McNaughton, James, Journal, 1851-1858.

Read Trail Excerpt:

Sabbath June 5th 1853. Meetings were held for public worship at the [Keokuk, Iowa] camp ground, at ½ past 10. A.M. & at 4. P.M. The Saints were addressed by Elders [Appleton Milo] Harmon, & [James] McNaughtan [McNaughton]

Sabbath June 12th 1853. Meetings were held on the ground at ½ past 10 A. M. Addressed by Bro: Haight in the afternoon by Elders Haight & McNaughtan[,] In the Evening a Testimony Meeting was held where many of the Saints bore Testimony. These were good times, on both Sabbaths. The Lord truly blessed us.

Monday June 13th 1853. A Months Provisions were served out. Flour, Bacon, Sugar, Soap & Salaratus. each waggon a Wash Tub, Bucket, Bpan, Baking Kettle, a whip, & a Hatchet between 2 Wagons.

Wednesday June 15th 1853. In the Mo: got everything packed up, our oxen yoked Hitched on & Moved off at ½ past 9. o’clock A.M. Camped in the afternoon after travelling 9 Miles, Elder Harmon leading the Company.

Thursday Mor: June 16th 1853. A Meeting of all the Men in the Camp was called by Bro: Harmon, & Organized into Tens. Captains names are as follows:[] 1st James McNaughtan, 2nd William David [Davis,] 3rd Wm Stewart, 4 Robert Orr, 5th Cornelians [Cornelius] Bagnall, 6th James Cowdy, 7 Wm Gouff[,] 8th Richard Attwood.

Thursday June 16th 1853. Continued. By the time the Companies were organized a Constable from Keokuk came to the Camp & found one yoke of Oxen with ours, not belonging to us, but which had been drove along by Mistake. For this President Harmon was arrested under a charge Lassing & taken before Squire Stoke, Keokuk. President Harmon called for an adjournment until 2 P.M. & he had to deposit 160 dollars for security for his appearance

Friday 17th June 1853. President Harmon, employed Mr. Cloget Attorney to attend his case, got witness & came to trial, was discharged, “Not guilty[”] was the verdict—during the time of Bro: Harmon’s absence from the Camp I was left in charge of the Camp.

Saturday June 18th 1853[.] we started & traveled to Sugar Creek. Camped there, & Branded our cattle—distance 12 Miles.

Friday 24 June 1853. Elder Haight after seeing the last of the Saints leave Keokuk for this season came right on & made up to us[.] He arrived early in the Mor: a Meeting was held at which time Bro: Haight nominated that Elder Appleton Harmon be our president & lead this Company right
through to the Valley[,] received with uplifted hands. Haight Then Moved that I be appointed Captain of Fifty. received & that Wm Aird, be appointed Captain of Ten, in The place of McNaughtan. President Haight addressed the Brethren on their duties & responsibilities & that if Men would not do their duty & fulfill that committed to their trust—that we should “cut the damned rascal’s throat than be Humbugged with them” & showed “That they were not called to allow unrighteousness to be practised & infringe upon the patience & good works of the faithfull”

Saturday 9th July 1853. President Harmon left us & went on to Kanesville leaving me in Charing [charge] of the company. We got along very well considering the absence of our President[.] We arrived at Kanesville or close by where we found Joseph Young’s Company. We halted near to his Camp a few hours, when our Captain came to us, & we moved on to the Ferry where are Jacob Gates’ Company where we halted. The Danish Company had just got over[,] I saw Bro: John Forsgreen

Thursday July 14th 1853. Having got our provisions to serve untill we got to the Valley & finding that Bro Gates’s Company had not all got over The Ferry By the counsel of Bros; Haight, & Harmon we removed to another Ferry passing through The Town of Kanesville—distance to the Ferrey 17 Miles. The roads being bad Many of the Waggons stuck in the Mud—Bro: Bagnall’s & some others stuck all Night! So we Camped 5 Miles from the Ferry.

Friday Mor[ning]: July 15th 1853. By order of our Captain we put on 4 Yoke of oxen to a Waggon leaving Me with the remainder of the Waggons untill the return of the Oxen. Many got ferried accross the Missouria [Missouri] River on Friday evening, begining with My Waggon No. 1

Saturday Mor: July 16th 1853. Captain Harmon returned to Kanesville on business, leaving me to Mannage the remainder of the Waggons & cattle in being ferried over, which was all done by 3. o’clock P.M. at 5. P.M. I gave orders for all the Cattle to be taken down & to see that every Man’s Cattle was present, then moved off 1 Mile & ½ to a better Camping ground & better feed for the Cattle—This place is near to Winter Quarters, where Many of the Saints were interred. Here we spent Sunday July 17th which was a day of rest to all.

Monday Mor: July 18th 1853. Our Captain Appleton M. Harmon returned & at 10. o’clock we moved on 8 Miles to this ground, where we went to work & cut down some trees[,] built a round tire[,] set fire in order to Make Charcoal[.] Next Mor: it was good Charcoal—

Tuesday July 19th[.] This day our Black Smiths & our Captains not the least buisy!—for the good of the Company. Rains heavy this afternoon whilst it suits the Camp while resting, hinders our Craftsmen from mending, & our Industrious & well disposed women from Washing. Its all right, because we dont seek to alter it

October 16th 1853. Our Train & also Cap: Brown’s got into Great Salt Lake City—it being Sunday the Meeting was conveened in the Tabernacle notwithstanding we were Met by Many of the Natives & old acquaintances.
Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel, 1847–1868

Source of Trail Excerpt:

Read Trail Excerpt:

Our company being organized--Appleton M. Harmon was appointed Captain and we set out to cross the state of Iowa, but no pen can describe the starting. Thirteen or fourteen of the teams were composed of young wild steers with perhaps one yoke of partly broke cattle to each wagon. Teamsters composed of men fresh from cotton factories and work shops many of whom had never seen two animals with a yoke on their necks before arriving at the camp ground at Keokuk. They knew as much about Gee and Haw as the unbroken steers in the team. In using a whip, such teamsters would as frequently strike themselves as the animal they were aiming at. Plank roads were frequent and sometimes of considerable length, bridging large and deep sloughs and ponds of stagnant water. While passing over these roads, herders would be placed each side of the teams. This in many instances would do more to frighten than keep the team straight consequently, many of the teams made a wild run for the sloughs to gain freedom, running over their herders and into water and mud half day [way] up their sides, tipping over wagons, breaking bows, boxes, tongues and ruining the contents of the wagons with mud and water while the united yelling of woah from the teamsters and herders frightened the cattle until they would get so badly tangled up with turned yokes and the chains around their legs and horns that an axe in the hand of an experienced man would have to be used to cut the bows and free the cattle from death by drowning. Then acusations from teamsters or herders or both, would follow in quick succession and while wading from knee deep to half way up to the armpits in mud and sluch would be forgotten for the time being and war of words unbecoming Saints indulged in. Thus on our road to Zion we had the privilege of learning the art of self government if we would improve it. As night came on, Camp was formed on as dry place as could be found near a creek and the cattle unchained from each other, would be turned out to feed after a colored string of some sort had been tied around the horses or the yoke by the green teamsters so he might know his cattle when driven up in the morning. Wood and water brought to Camp and the skill of a green factory girl as also the English house wife would be tested in frying bacon and slapjacks for the mess. (usually of 10 persons) Burnt fingers, scorched hair, tired limbs and more tired throats of the men who lay around the fire stretched upon the ground to get a little ease for their aching limbs or drying their clothes after wading through the sloughs and mud, closed the days labors after prayer and the setting of the guard for the night. Mattes improved day by day as the teamsters and cattle knew each other better.

Becomes Teamster in Stewarts Freight Company
Arriving at Council Bluffs 4 July 1853, we crossed the Mississippi river in a ferry boat and wended our way toward the setting sun. Nothing of particular interest occurred with me until a little over 2 weeks before arriving at Fort Laramie. Our train overtook a Freight train of goods under Captain Andrew Jackson Stewart, of Springville, Utah. He was crippled for lack of teamsters and asked our captain for help, promising liberal wages to those who would then engage to drive
teams for him to Utah. A few were selected—myself among the number to help drive these teams. Captain Harmon's train passed forward leaving Captain Stewart to follow. I remained with his train until it passed Fort Laramie. When looking in my satchel I discovered to my dismay that the best of my clothing was gone. I supposed by some of the teamsters who left the train at Laramie because of the abuse from Captain Stewart. The train becoming short handed through these teamsters leaving the train at Laramie, greater burdens were placed upon those remaining until it became almost unbearable and I hold [told] the Captain I could not stand it. He answered I'd have to stand it or leave the train, which latter alternative he thought I had not the courage to do. But waiting until morning I put a little bread in my pockets, my carpet sack in my blankets and told him I wanted something for my services rendered. He was (non plussed). He thought to dissuade me from leaving his train and said he could not pay me till he got to Utah. But I had made up my mind that I might as well die in an attempt to overtake Captain Harmon's Company as to be killed by overwork and buried, [k]e a dog, by Captain Stewart and his train hands. Being an Englishman, those claiming American birth, took every opportunity to impose upon me and I was tired of it.

*Alone On the Vast Plains*

I had on idea of the road or how far Captain Harmon's train was in advance of me but had idea I could probably reach it in about a days forced travel. I set out with my pack over my shoulder as best I could with a light heart as I considered I was exchanging oppression for freedom. As the sun became warmer I began to walk slower, for my pack became heavier each mile I traveled. The train behind me was soon lost sight of and my lonliness aided my anxiety to reach the train I desired. Crossing a stream of water or coming to the bank of the Platte river I would sit down on my pack, wish it was lighter, soak my hard bread in the water, kneel down and ask the Father to guide my footsteps aright, then with tired limbs press forward on my journey. I watched the sun in its decline in the West, eagerly straining every nerve of my eyes to discover, if possible, the curling smoke of a camp fire or some signs of life on those vast plains, but my efforts were fruitless. Occassionally on the road I had picked up a buffalo skull or shoulder blade that the beating storms of years had bleached white, with something like the following written upon it in pencil. "Captain H.C. Wheelock's company passed here at ......o'clock A.M. on the ...day of August 1853". "All well." "Captain Appleton Harmon's company camped three miles East of this point last night and buried 2 emigrants...day of August, 1853." But these sign boards were of little value to me as I did not know the day of the month. For in the train I had been with, Sunday was unknown. I scarcely knew for certain what day of the week it was.

*Alone-Night and the Howling Wolves*

Night drew nigh apace, I was tired, very tired, footsore and my poor shoulders ached beyond measure carrying my pack. What should I do? Travel as long as I could drag a foot, or lie down and take a rest till the morning? Prudence suggested that I rest somewhere—I looked around. All seemed cheerless. I saw about 1/2 mile distant, a ledge of rocks on a little rising bluff, and resolved to get there if possible, which I accomplished just as it became dark. I found a projecting ledge of rock and mechanically unrolled my bundle and laid [down]. not knowing whether I should ever rise again. Entirely alone—many miles from any human being that I knew of. I queried to myself, is this what I left parents, kindred and friends for to die alone on these almost trackless plains—and be eaten by wolves and wild beasts who may gather around my carcass and fight over the possession of a fragment of my remains? This thought was intensified by hearing the howling wolves not far from me. The picture of my once pleasant home and its inmates around the festive board gave my almost famished stomach and gnawing vitals but little comfort. The recollection of most of the acts of my life came before me in quick succession and I seemingly was in the presence of God. The last I knew I was praying to be preserved that I
might go to Zion and live with the Saints of God. I must have slept an hour or two and when I 
awoke I felt much refreshed although my bed was a ledge of rock and not as comfortable as 
some beds. I turned over many times before morning--my cogitations and peculiar situation kept 
me awake but I had the satisfaction of hearing the howling of the wolves farther away than when 
I lay down to rest. I resolved to proceed on my journey as soon as I could see my way in the 
morning, for I felt that the Lord would grant me my desires and the desires of the Elders before 
leaving England would be realized--Viz: "I should go to the land of Zion."

**Sundown-Sights Capt. Harmon's Co.**
I arose with the dawn of day and gathered up my bundle and hobbled along as best I could, 
wondering what would be the results of the coming day. When I came to the water I sat down, 
soaked my remaining crust, ate thankfully--washed my feet and proceeded on my way, praying 
and hoping that deliverance would come and give me the opportunity of again mingling with 
Saints and friends. When near sun-down, with hopes and fears comingled after a long and 
tiresome days' travel. With blistered feet and aching limbs, I came upon the camp nestled on the 
bank of the Platte River. My friends were surprised to see me and asked many questions, which I 
postponed answering until I got something to eat, which was forthcoming. The Captain, learning 
I was in camp, came to see me and asked me how I got along with Captain Stewart and why I 
came back to his camp? I told him how I had been treated during my stay and of my adventure in 
returning to his camp and what I had passed through coming from one camp to the other, afoot 
and alone. He seemed pleased I had courage enough to do as I had done, and told me he was 
glad I had got back again--but the strain, physically and mentally had been too much for me. I 
had overdone myself and had sown the germs of sickness in my system, for when I went to my 
quarters to rest, I seemed on fire throughout my entire system and the fever seemed to be eating 
me up.

Next morning I started with the camp, assisting in whatever I was called upon to do by the 
Captain of 10, but it seemed the trail traveled too fast for it halted at noon and the cattle were 
turned out to graze before I caught up with it. But as I staggered into the camp it happened I sat 
down or rather fell down on the tongue of Captain Harmon's wagon and there fainted from 
nervous prostration. Sister Hulda Barnes (Captain Harmon's sister) came to me with others and 
applied such restoratives as were at hand but I was too sick to realize much. She however nursed 
me tenderly as a son and after a few days I was able to be around again, feeling very thankful for 
the kindness I had received at the hands of so good a woman--for she seemed to spare me no 
pains to give me every comfort in her power.

As we got into Black Hills the weather became cooler and my health better. The scenery along 
the road became more varied the farther west we traveled and consequently the more pleasure I 
took. I have neglected to mention Bro. George Taylor from Nottingham Conference, England 
whom I first met in the Bachelors Hall on board ship. A friendship grew up between us of a 
lasting character. We spent many hours on the ship and crossing the plains, walking, singing and 
discouraging together, and whenever we could be--were bed fellows.

**Short Rations**
After leaving the sweetwater river, our provisions got short and we were put on short allowance 
until we met some teams with provisions from Utah and the nearer we approached the Valleys, 
the more teams they were expecting to meet in the emigrant trains. With what pleasure I have 
looked upon seeing the reunion of husbands, wives and children and bosom friends, meeting 
each other on those dreary plains after having been absent from each other in many cases for 
years--but under those sun burned faces and necks--those ragged clothes--those rough exteriors,

beat hearts that had courage to forsake father and mother, house and lands, husbands, wives, children and friends for the gospel sake and surmount trials of the most severe character to build up a Zion under the direction of a living priesthood, guided by Him who shapes the destinies of all who trust in Him. Green River, Fort Bridger past, all were getting anxious to see the far famed valleys of Utah and many were the speculations indulged in relation to the future.

*Bird's Eye View of Salt Lake Valley*

The summits of the big and little mountains reached, the "bird's eye view" of the Western side of Salt Lake Valley looked lovely beyond description. The captain told us we might get into the city the next day if no accidents occurred.

*Arrived in Zion Sunday October 16, 1853*

In crossing the bench from the mouth of Emigration canyon to the Bluff east of the city, our eyes were feasted with the sublime sight we had desired so long to see and we caught a view of the City the throbbing of our hearts increased and our anticipations were realized-the promise of the Elders at Devonpart fulfilled--"I had come to Zion." We camped on the 16th ward square Salt Lake City--Sunday, 16 October, 1853, a little west of the place where now stands the Deseret University. Friends met friends and took them from the camp ground to their homes. By night over half the company was gone.
MORTGAGE.

Orson Smith

TO

David Eccles

DATED Nov 6th, 1885

RECORDED AT THE REQUEST OF

Filed for record Nov 10th

A.D. 1885

At 80 Min. Past 7 A.M., in Book B

Of Mortgages, Page 120

John a. Clark
Recorder for Cache County.

Deputy.

J. T. Hammond, Bookseller & Stationer, Logan City, Utah.
Logan, Utah, Feb. 20th 1889

Thirty days after date, for value received, I promise to pay to the order of Orson Smith, DOLLARS, negotiable and payable to the Bank of Thatcher Bros. & Co. of Logan, Utah, in U.S. Gold Coin, with interest at the rate of two percent per month from maturity until paid, both before and after judgment.

__24.55 Due Mch 22 1889__

__Milton D. Hammond and Cherste Hammond his wife, by their attorney in fact James T. Hammond.__

TO __Orson Smith__

Quit Claim Deed
Dated Oct. 26th, 1892
Filed for Record Oct. 26th, 1892
Consideration $2.00

---One witness, Acknowledged October 26th, 1892 before Zeph Thomas a Notary Public for Cache County, Utah Territory and his Notarials seal attached.---

**DESCRIPTION.**

---All of Lot Seven (7) in Block Eleven (11) in Plat "D" Logan City Survey, being a part of Lot five (5) in Plat "C" Logan Island Survey, and Situated in Section three (3) in Twp. 11 North, Range one East of Salt Lake Meridian."
David Eccles

To

Orson Smith

Quitclaim Deed.

Dated Nov. 30th, 1889

Recorded at the Request of

Filed for Record --- Dec. 2nd --- 1889
at ______ min. past 5 o'clock.

P. M. in Records of Deeds, page 1

46-7, Records of the

County of

John D. Bowie, Jr.
County Recorder.

By _______ Deputy

Recorder's Fees, $1.25

No. 3875

To

Mayor of Logan City

Orson Smith

Dated January 11, 1891

Filed for record January 23

A. D. 1891 --- 12 o'clock

W. C. and Recorded in Dept. W

D. D.

N. D. Sharp

[Signature]

[Stamp] 50 1/2-

[Stamp] 5-

[Stamp] 14-

[Stamp] 10-

[Stamp] 2-

[Stamp] 12-

[Stamp] 12-

[Stamp] 3-

[Stamp] 0
Ogden Abstract Co.

Abstracts of Title
To all Lands in Weber County.

Ogden, Utah, Oct. 28, 1890.

Orson Smith, Esq.,
Logan, Utah.

Dear Sir:--

Enclosed herewith I send you a certificate of yourself, as President, and myself, as Secretary, of The Ogden and Cache Valley Railway Company, said resolution being adopted at a special meeting of the stockholders of said Company held yesterday, after due notice published in The Standard.

The road, as originally planned, was intended to be narrow gauge, but as it was subsequently decided to make it broad gauge it became necessary to increase the capital stock.

Kindly sign enclosed certificate on the blank reserved for your signature, and return same to me, that it may be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Territory, and consummate the change in the Articles of Incorporation.

Very Truly Yours,

[Signature]

Secretary.
WARRANTY DEED.

William J. Kerr and his wife Leonora
The Kerr.
grantor of Logan City, Cache Co., Utah, hereby convey and warrant to
Orest Smith.
grantee of the same place for the sum of
Eighteen Hundred DOLLARS
the following described tract of land in Logan City, Cache County, Territory of
Utah: Beginning at the point six (6) feet East from the North East corner of Lot 26
Block 22 of Plat "H" Logan City Survey,
then running South eight (8) rods; thence
West six (6) rods; thence North eight (8)
rods; thence East six (6) rods to the place
of beginning, containing forty eight (48) square
rods.

WITNESS the hand of said grantors this 11th day of April A.D. 1892

Signed in the presence of

William J. Kerr

Leonora H. Kerr

J. Golden Kirkland
CONTINUATION OF ABSTRACT COPIED ON PAGE 256-45 and 584-6

ORSON SMITH AND CARRIE M. SMITH HIS WIFE

TO

THOMAS W. JENNINGS, trustee for the Loan and Savings Company, a Corporation

Signature are sealed

Acknowledged November 4th, 1892 before Zeph Thomas a Notary Public within and for Cache County, Utah Territory and his Notarial seal attached.

DESCRIPTIO

All of Lot Seven (7) in Block 11 Plat "D" Logan City Survey, and part of Lot Six (6) in Block 11 Plat "D" Logan City Survey described as follows to wit:—

— Commencing at the North-east Corner of Lot Six (6) in Block 11 Plat "D" Logan City Survey, and running thence west 6 1/2 rods, thence south 8 rods, thence east 8 1/2 rods, thence north 8 rods to the place of beginning.

This Mortgage is given to Secure the payment of a note of even date for $2700.00 payable to the Western Loan and Savings Company a Corporation, with 9% per annum interest payable monthly according to the terms of 81 Coupons attached to said note.

ORSON SMITH AND CARRIE M. SMITH HIS WIFE

TO

THOMAS W. JENNINGS, trustee for the Western Loan and Savings Company a Corporation

Signature are sealed

Acknowledged November 4th, 1892 before Zeph Thomas a Notary Public within and for Cache County, Utah Territory and his Notarial seal attached.

PREMIUM TRUST DEED

Dated October 14th, 1892
Filed for Record November 4th, 1892 at Number 7286.
Consideration $1350.00

One witness.
Union Mercantile Company.

LIMIT OF CAPITAL STOCK $50,000

THIS CERTIFIES THAT Orson Smith is the owner of Twenty Shares of Five Dollars each of the Capital Stock of

UNION MERCANTILE COMPANY,

transferable only on the Books of the Company in person or by Attorney or by surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed.

Witneses the Seal of the said Company and the Signatures of the President and Secretary at the Office of said Corporation in Logan City, Utah, this Thirty-first day of May, A.D. 1894

E. D. Davenport
Secretary.

Jed. Howell
President.
Mayor Anthon Anderson urged citizens on Arbor Day to plant trees. He had procured a number of Ash and Elm trees which he offered free to those people promising to promptly sink them into the ground. Mayor Anderson also proclaimed April 14th as children's day in the city. Schools closed and the children took possession of the town. A program at the opera house featured talks by school officials, recitations, drills, and a rousing "hurrah for Utah."

After a woman riding a bicycle on Main Street struck a baby carriage, injuring the baby, she rode away without offering assistance. In response city officials passed an ordinance that "bicyclists could not travel faster than 4 miles per hour in the city."

The council also appropriated $50.00 to assist in repairing the Logan River bank one half a mile below the Main Street Bridge, and promoted and financed the planting of Black Bass in the Logan River. Property owners also received city approval to dig trenches for their water mains, which allowed them to work off their water tax. Each of the Mormon wards were assigned a policeman by city leaders in an effort to curb crime in Logan.

Just before the November election, the city council met and "gave themselves raises." The mayor's pay increased from $150 to $200 a year. The treasurer received a $25 a year raise, the attorney's salary was raised $50, as was that of the justice of the peace. Logan's highest paid public official was the auditor-recorder whose salary reached $720 a year. Citizens, prior to the election praised the city council for improving the banks of the Little Logan River, improving roads and bridges, protecting property owners in the 6th and 7th Wards from high water and reducing the interest paid on borrowed money from 8% to 6%.

Even though the 1899 election involved only local candidates it was not free from controversy. The Democratic paper, The Journal, printed a story about Republican candidates visiting a saloon and Mayor Cole's having taken a gallon of alcohol to the residence of John Archibald. The Nation, the Republican newspaper, declared that both stories were absolutely false. However, on election day, four Democrats were elected to office, including Mayor Anderson, and only two Republicans, Marshal Tarbet and Recorder Ormsby received more votes that their opponents. Citizens noted, too, that Logan's women tended not to vote for female candidates.

Moses Thatcher, Jr., who was elected to the city council, integrated some humor into the voting process. On election-day morning "he drove his team and buggy to the home of a good Republican family" and offered them a ride to the polls. He said he hoped they would vote for him. They said, "we are strong Republicans." He replied "good, that's the kind of votes I need."

Just before the election, a Logan man who held a high position in the Mormon Church, received his release. Cache Stake President Orson Smith resigned from office. He told the Latter-day Saints gathered in the Tabernacle at a session of quarterly conference, that he had suffered

177 The Journal, April 6, 1899.
178 The Journal, October 7, 1899.
179 The Journal, October 3, 1899.
180 The Journal, October 21, 1899.
181 The Journal, November 7, 9, 1899.
182 The Journal, November 9, 1899.
some severe financial losses and, not wanting to cheat anyone, had gone to Alaska hoping to pan enough gold to pay off his debts.\textsuperscript{183} However, he had been unsuccessful and as both he and the audience wept he promised “to pay back all his debts.” Then church President Lorenzo Snow released him and called Logan Temple President and Apostle Marriner W. Merrill as the new stake president. The Latter-day Saints in Logan rallied around former President Smith, contributing to a fund to assist him in paying his obligations. AC president, W. J. Kerr, contributed $387.00, Charles W Niblley donated 10 acres of good hay land, S. A. Langton gave $100.00, and two weeks into November more than $1000.00 had been collected. Smith must have been both surprised and pleased with the good will of Logan’s Mormons.\textsuperscript{184}

Even though almost a decade had passed since Mormon church leaders announced that plural marriage would no longer be authorized in the United States, there remained polygamous families in Cache Valley. Logan attorney, Charles M. Owens, publically announced that he intended to file complaints against 50 citizens, including Marriner W. Merrill, O. C. Ormsby, Isaac Smith, Orson Smith, J. M. Tanner, W. B. Parkinson, H. J. Nielsen, Jens Johansen and C. C. Amussen, who he declared were all living with more wives than one.\textsuperscript{185} Logan residents were not all pleased with Owens’ determination and some threatened to file charges.

In other local business news Thatcher Brothers bank improved the crossing from the bank corner to the Ricks Block Company. Pedestrians now crossed “the street dry shod.”\textsuperscript{186} People also looked with favor on a decision of the city council’s granting the request of the Cardon Jewelry Company to install an electric clock in front of their Main Street store. Residents could not have known that this timepiece would become a city landmark.\textsuperscript{187} At the same meeting, permission was granted for the city physician to “attend to a person who had venereal disease.” This, it appears, was the first mention of this illness in the city newspaper.\textsuperscript{188}

Baseball, more and more, drew participants and spectators in the city. Players talked of renovating the Reese Opera House on Main Street and converting it into a gym where two baseball teams could practice all winter long.\textsuperscript{189} Football, thought by many to be a very dangerous sport as they noted that 11 players in America had suffered death playing the game, was not at first accepted in the city with the same enthusiasm as was baseball.\textsuperscript{190} However, early in the 1899 October, the Brigham Young College announced that it had two teams practicing, and the AC, in spite of faculty opposition intended to have a team.\textsuperscript{191}

\begin{flushright}
183 \textit{The Journal}, October 31, 1899.
184 \textit{The Journal}, November 14, 1899.
185 \textit{The Journal}, November 1, 1899.
186 \textit{The Journal}, November 18, 1899.
187 \textit{The Journal}, November 18, 1899.
188 \textit{The Journal}, November 18, 1899.
189 \textit{The Journal}, October 26, 1899.
190 \textit{The Journal}, November 21, 1899.
191 \textit{The Journal}, October 7, 1899.
\end{flushright}

110
MINING DEED

FROM
Orson Smith

TO
Millard W. Mayhew

Dated April 3rd, 1900
Filed for record April 16th, A.D.
1900 at 12:30 o'clock P.M. and recorded
in book No. of Deeds, at page 4496, 447
Abstracted in book No. page 350

Indeared

Recorder for Cache County, Utah.

Thatcher Milling & Elevator Company
LOGAN, UTAH. Nov. 1st, 1932.

Received from Orson Smith Twenty Five Dollars for one year's lease on Sundown & LaPlatta Mining property in compliance with terms of said lease.

Sun Down & La Platta Mining Co.
By

Secretary
Pres. Orson Smith,
Logan, Utah.

Dear Brother:-

I regret that you are not able to go west, as we have arrangements made for an examination of the property near the first of the month by an expert, on behalf of Snyder. I feel that we are going to be able to accomplish something that will release us, but do not desire you to permit our necessities to interfere with your present calculations, as we may be able to get Langford to accommodate us, and if not, we will get some one else.

We have settled the Roeder judgments which McDowell held, also the notes. They have accepted Angus J. Cannon's offer of $700.00. I do not desire to record the assignment, as we are working on other claims, unless it becomes necessary for your convenience, in which event, if you will let me know, we will have the matter satisfied immediately. Whenever you have an opportunity and are down here, I would like to see you and have a talk regarding the amounts that you have been compelled to pay out on the Roeder claim, as we hope, if Snyder does as he has promised, to see you reimbursed before a very great while.

Trusting you are well, and wishing you success, I remain

Yours very truly,

John M. Cannon
Mr. Orson Smith  
Logan, Utah  

Dear Mr. Smith:

I am enclosing herewith stock certificate No. 353, for 250 shares stock in the Jenson Coal Products Co., with my compliments.

The par value of this stock is only 10¢ but it was kept purposely low for incorporating purposes and does not represent its value. What stock has been sold has been sold at $1.00 per share but we figure that it is worth at least $3.00 per share. This company owns 3 patents issued, one about to issue and 3 pending, the value of which at this time is not less than $3,000,000.00 and as soon as our plant gets into operation at Murray, we expect to see them worth between $5,000,000.00 or $6,000,000.00 or not less than $5.00 per share. We are hoping to have the plant into operation before winter altho we have been seriously delayed by Winn and Robbins who wrecked the Devonian Co. by taking out too much promotion stock and defrauding the stockholders who have now brought suit to have their money returned. I also called for return of my patents and as a result we have organized two splendid companies neither one of which has a single share of promittance or free stock. The Jenson Coal Products Co. is the holding company which will license and own the patents and the Utah Cokoal Co. is the operating company which will own and operate the plant at Murray. We hope to have a number of subsidiaries under way before next year is out. If you can get one or two signatures to the enclosed blanks which are for the purpose of securing our permit from the Securities Commission and will have them come back by return mail if possible, it will be fully appreciated.

With all good wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
HISTORY OF LA PLATA, UTAH

A HISTORY OF LA PLATA by Larry D. Christiansen

Mining developed late in Utah primarily due to President Brigham Young’s strong pronouncements against the pursuit of quick riches in the search for precious metals. Then in the 1860s, with the arrival of the California Volunteers, prospecting and mining for silver and gold began and was stimulated by the arrival of the railroad in 1869. The mountains, valleys and even Fremont Island were searched for precious metals and copper, also lead and other metals of value. The vast majority of the successful mines were within a 35 mile radius of Salt Lake City, and by 1890 mining became big time in Utah. But northern Utah had not produced any substantial mining properties north of Salt Lake City. In Cache County the nearby Wasatch Mountains and its canyons had been probed and explored for valuable minerals, and then they were prospected again. There were always “finds” with some excitement and mining districts and companies were organized. But until 1891 it was mostly talk and excitement with very little valuable ore located. Then came the most important silver and lead mines associated with Cache County in the rugged mountains at the southern tip of the county. The resultant find quickly produced a boom of some magnitude accompanied by a fast collapse to the bust phase.

In the summer of 1891 a sheepherder by the name of P. O. Johnson, while tending his flock, picked up a rock and placed it in his pocket. Apparently he guessed it was valuable enough to save and check out. He showed the find to his boss, W. H. Nye, who confirmed Johnson’s belief that the find was valuable. Nye quickly talked Johnson into a partnership upon the condition that the sheepherder show him the location of the discovery. Johnson agreed and took Nye back to the site of the find southeast of Paradise at the head of Bear Gulch. Johnson and Nye made some surface explorations looking for signs of ore, and then with their only tool, a broken shovel, dug a trench. All signs indicated to them that they had discovered a rich strike of silver ore. They returned to the sheep camp where another sheepherder oversaw the flock, and then the two men proceeded to the county seat of Logan to stake their claim. The claim was recorded by H. C. Jackson in the Paradise Mining District with the founding date of July 20, 1891, with the original finder as “Jno. O. Johnson.” On July 22nd the Logan newspaper acknowledged the find, and told how the two finders had brought to the county seat for display a “specimen of galena ore that was almost pure.” Although Johnson and Nye refused to pinpoint the location of their find, the whereabouts of the find either leaked out or was guessed close enough to produce a rush to the area. In a short time the usually quiet mountain valley became the attraction of hundreds of prospectors and miners searching over a fine-mile area for the signs of glittering silver ore. They quickly homed in on the primary area of the ore find. News along with inflated rumors of the rich strike spread beyond the immediate areas of Cache and Weber counties.
By early August of 1891 H. C. Jackson, the recorder for the Paradise Mining District, had relocated his residence and official recording office from Logan to the small mountain valley of the site. He was joined by at least eight miners living in the area which became the mining camp. On August 13, 1891, the miners in the new camp formally named the place “La Plata”—Spanish for silver with the feminine definite article as a preface—after the name of the original claim. At this point the camp consisted of tents, dugouts and a couple of log cabins scattered up and down the small mountain valley. In the latter part of August attempts were made to organize the camp and establish some sort of order. A definite center of the camp was established and here was erected a “Liberty pole” where camp residents could inscribe their names if they so chose. Informal camp meetings were held to decide issues and the rules for the camp as it turned itself into a town. To facilitate the desired settlement pattern several streets were laid off, named (Harrison Avenue after Tom Harrison of Ogden who was important in the mining in the area, Logan Avenue, La Plata Street and Washington) and then graded to turn them into streets in fact. In the process of grading one of the streets a vein of ore was uncovered causing the Logan newspaper to proclaim about the silver in the strike area that “the whole country is full of it.” Soon lots in the new townsite were sold. The tents, dugouts and cabins moved in and around the La Plata designated townsite. At the same time businesses were established to provide the goods and services the miners wanted. Among these were sawmills, stores, saloon and lodging places.

By October the number in the new mining camp was roughly estimated to range from 400 to over 1,000. In mid-October the Ogden newspaper reported that La Plata consisted of 28 log cabins and the same number of tents. By January 1st when the cold weather and deep snow forced most of the inhabitants to move out the place, it was reported to contain 70 buildings with an established population of 150 including 19 women and 13 children. During the early boom period it was estimated, probably wildly, that between 1,200 and 1,5400 people visited La Plata daily either seeking to see if they could find a place for themselves or just satisfying their curiosity.

Many of the people drifting in to look were from the nearby settlements, but the news of the boom brought in those that were considered by most the first arrivals as vagabonds, rascals, speculators and those loosely called “loathsome peoples.” The influx of transients disturbed some of the residents to fear for their town the fate of many boom towns that low paid foreigners would come in and dominate the work force. So early in the boom La Plata posted notices of a typical mining camp rule that “Chinamen and Dagoes” were not allowed in the new camp. On January 1, 1892, after the first short season of mining and the camp’s existence, the Logan newspaper declared that La Plata was “the most quiet and orderly mining camp ever established.” There were in fact no deaths in the place, and a cemetery was never needed or established there.

In the actual mining the first horde were the prospectors seeking to find a strike and stake a personal claim. The recorder for the Paradise Mining District was kept busy filing all the claims. But no matter how rich their strike it took capital to turn the ore into a form of silver and lead that was truly valuable. Almost as fast as the individual prospectors came so did companies made up of investors from Logan, Ogden, Salt Lake City and
Park City along with capitalists from far afield. While these companies probably staked some claims themselves, they bought out or leased the claims of many small-time miners, and soon they were operating the larger more productive mines. From Logan, George and Moses Thatcher with their Thatcher Brothers Bank bought out the sheepherder’s original claim (one account had it for $10,000, while another placed the amount at $600) and eventually obtained the portion claimed by W. H. Ney. Soon their operation became the Sundown-La Plata Company, and they consolidated many other productive claims under its control. Their primary competitors were stock companies such as the Ogden-La Plata and the Red Jacket-La Plata. These companies had the needed investment capital required to take the ore from the mines, transport it to a crusher and smelter many miles away. They were thus able to transform the mineral potential of La Plata into a profitable operation.

One of the major obstacles was to fright the ore from its high 9,000 foot elevation to the nearest railroad access. The accesses to La Plata were mere trails, one from Logan and the other from Ogden. Once the boom began and prospectors, miners, businessmen and the curious flocked to the area, a stage line began operations running three times a week, turning the trail into a light use road. After ore was extracted there was a need for a road so it could be freighted out, and the miners appealed to the government of Cache County to establish a true road to the La Plata. The county inspected the terrain and decided to build a new road to the mining camp. While waiting for this new road, the mines operated and extracted the ore and placed it in dumps. When the road was sufficiently completed by mid-September the ore was hauled by wagon to Logan and loaded on the railroad and transported to smelters in Salt Lake, Omaha, Nebraska and beyond. Before the 1891 mining season ended some 280 tons or ore was shipped out of La Plata. Most of it went through Logan but eventually a road from Ogden took some of the loads after its completion on Oct. 30th. In fact those two towns competed fiercely for the benefits expected from the silver boom. The rivalry boiled down to the better way in and out of La Plata. The mining camp in its high canyon was just inside the Cache County line one mile from the Weber County line. The distance from La Plata to Logan was approximately the same and both over rough terrain. But the argument raged over the way with Logan claiming it was 22 to 24 miles from La Plata and for the loaded freight wagons it was “down hill all the way.” Ogden countered with its boast that its road from La Plata to Ogden was 22 to 23 miles in length and of “gradual descent.” Both sides countered the other’s view of their route’s descent with hyperbole of steep descent that scared birds to one akin to a Canadian toboggan slide. Both newspaper editors in the two towns were guilty of what one charged—“thinking with their lungs.”

The winter of 1891-92 forced most of the residents out of the mining camp when temperatures fell well below zero and the snow piled up deep. During the long cold winter the road to nearby Paradise and on to Logan was kept open while the road over to Weber County and Ogden was snowbound during winter until May. With the arrival of spring in 1892 the bustle of the previous season picked up and intensified. In July the population reached 600 citizens residing in three rows of cabins on the west side and two rows on the east side of the narrow canyon hillside at La Plata. Prior building had been of logs but now frame buildings made their appearance with even a boardwalk along the
main street. The town businesses came and went with dizzying speed but at different times there were several selling mining provisions, dry goods and grocery items. There were two or three boarding houses calling themselves hotels, along with barber shops, butcher shops, restaurants and as many as eight saloon or liquor establishments. Among the latter was the Miner’s Exchange serving the multi-purpose of an exchange office, gambling hall and drink house. The settlement had a branch of the Thatcher Brothers Bank plus a combination post office and stage line office, blacksmith and hardware shops. It also possessed a makeshift jail and perhaps a photographic studio along with several sawmills located down the valley. For a short time in late 1892 it boasted its own newspaper, the Special Courier.

No formal government organization was set up in La Plata, just a continuation of the early camping meetings where majority rule set the course. In these meetings A. B. Hayes was elected chairman of the town with Gid R. Propper as secretary. The Cache County Court did appoint a deputy marshal, C. K. Westover, and as postmaster and justice of the peace, James P. Laws, in late 1891. The last appointment did cause some dissent from the residents of the town “because he is Mormon.” Anticipating the expected summer increase in population, and probably assuming more permanent residents, La Plata petitioned for a school district to be established in the mining area. They were granted their request and became school district #221 on March 8, 1892, and the following year a five mill school tax was assessed, but no school was established as the bust came first.

While a continuing boom was expected and a July 18, 1892 quote in the Ogden newspaper appeared on target with the comment—“Everything is lovely and the goose hangs high”—it was never as good as it looked. The day of the prospector had passed, and if they had been lucky enough to have found a good claim they were forced by circumstances to have sold or leased it to the mining companies. If they remained in the area they worked for the companies and were paid #3.00 a day for work in the mines or $2.50 a day for work on the surface. While not bad it was not what most miners of the day dreamt about. Therefore, the population of La Plata was restless and transient, perhaps forced out by bad winters or lured out by news of strikes in other areas. In the spring of 1892 La Plata had a brief outflow of people when reports of a mineral strike at Porcupine reached there. Because the new find was only eight miles away and proved not as good as expected some returned to La Plata. Also the place was by nature extremely limited in its agricultural and grazing possibilities. It was high, cold, isolated and prone to be snowbound in winter. There were few residents committed to make the place a permanent settlement.

Then came La Plata’s real problems. The first wave began on June 23, 1892, when John H. White filed suit in the Ogden District Court against the Sunrise Group of Mines for trespassing and removing valuable mineral deposits from his land. White had purchased the land in question in 1887 from a D. P. Tarpey who four years earlier had purchased title to the area from the Central Pacific Railroad. The railroads had received the grants of land from Congress in twenty square mile alternating sections as incentives to build the transcontinental railroad and telegraph line with one restriction—mineral lands were
excepted. White argued that the land had been classified as agricultural-grazing when he bought them, and the subsequent discovery of minerals did not affect his title. The mine owners and miners contented that the area was obviously mineral land and they had a right to its use under federal law. The problem became more complex when Central Pacific Railroad began trying to regain the original patents on the land it once owned using the same argument as White. Therefore some of the La Plata mines brought a suit against the railroad in the Salt Lake Land Office. Because the series of suits and appeals lasted from 1892 until 1895 mining at La Plata was seriously affected. Part of the time court restraining orders closed most of the mines, and those that operated did so only by posting bonds. White finally settled his case out of court for the $5,000 bond the mines had put up to work. But the larger dispute over the classification of the land continued. In late 1892 the Salt Lake Land Office ruled in favor of the miners and upon appeal was upheld by the General Land Office in Washington, D.D., in 1894. But even then it was not until the following year that the Secretary of the Interior settled the classification matter ruling in favor of the miners.

The law suits and threats of appropriation of the land in and around La Plata created an uncertainty along with loss of jobs and faith in the place. Minor problems also arose in a series of disputes among the various mines as there were frequent crossing of claim lines and running into each other in their underground shafts and tunnels. Still, if these were the only difficulties the mining town could have persisted.

Then came an even more crushing blow as silver was dealt its hardest blow since being demonetized in 1873. In 1893 a severe depression hit the United States as many banks and railroads went down in failure along with mills, factories and mines shut down. This Panic of 1893 brought a drain on the gold reserve. The theories for the economic straits ranged from high tariffs to too much cheap money. The new president, Grover Cleveland, seized upon a simple explanation and remedy. To stabilize the economy he committed the country to the gold standard and obtained the repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890. This stopped the U.S. Treasury’s obligation to purchase 4,500,000 ounces of silver each month and to issue treasury notes redeemable in bullion. The move against silver did not alleviate the depression and by the end of the year 500 banks and 15,000 business firms went into bankruptcy plus the drain on the gold reserve worsened. But the demand for silver dropped immediately as did its price. With businesses failing the demand for products such as coal, iron, lead and silver used in many areas of industry dropped. In La Plata with its resources of silver and lead ore, these were hard times and the basis of its boom and economy were knocked out. Capitalists and local businessmen pulled out to find more stable investments for their money.

Finally, La Plata had its own weaknesses. Its geographic location created problems, especially with the long hard winters and the difficulty of shipping ore out. Transportation costs through canyon roads were too heavy to successfully compete in the declining markets. Also the veins of ore began to diminish or end in many of the smaller mines. The larger mining companies using powerful hoists and pumps kept working deeper and lower into the mountainsides but began to encounter more and more water in their shafts and the ore veins dwindled. In the end the boom times of La Plata lasted only
a couple of years and by 1893 the bust had arrived and the place was no longer a town. On July 18, 1895, the Logan newspaper, still trying to promote cheer at the prospects, sneered as in error the supposition “that the camp has been dead for the last three years.” It reported that claims had been worked periodically both during the litigation times and afterwards, but did not go on to record that little progress or, and more significantly, profits were made. The newspapers had helped spike the initial boom fever, but were powerless to revive the town—the boom had passed and so was La Plata.

Beginning in 1894 the mines were worked by small local firms and some from Iowa, New York and Boston, but none prospered as leases and ownership frequently changed hands. The discovery of copper in 1896 at the Sundown Mine raised hopes. The Logan newspaper was off again declaring that “copper...will make La Plata great.” In all, the mines yielded silver, lead, copper with some gold, zinc and quartzite, but never in profitable quantities. The last concerted effort at La Plata came in 1902 with the La Plata Consolidated Mining Company out of New York. They employed twenty men and before long were shipping $2,000 worth of ore to Ogden each month for several months. During this time Ogden finally came to monopolize the output of the mines, not because they had the best road, only the cheapest freight rates. The renewed activity caused Logan to want to get in on the increased activity. They talked of improving the road to La Plata but did nothing more. During this time the Logan newspaper had to take one more crack at restoring La Plata with words as it reported: “There are prospects, and good ones too, of La Plata becoming a big mining camp....” While the big and good were overstatements, the La Plata Consolidated Mining Company continued in its small ways. In 1906 they re-leased the mine it worked for two more years at twenty per cent of the profits. Just before or after the resigning the company discovered a high-grade vein of galena ore, but it ran out quickly. After 1907 only a few individual prospectors worked the area. It has been estimated that the mines of La Plata produced some $3,000,000 worth of ore.

La Plata’s brief heyday brought no lasting mining economic importance in the county, and its historical significance was minor. After two or three years it was close to ghost-town status. Today even the remains of its physical existence are almost gone; only a few obscure shacks and pieces of mining equipment, and here and there piles of tailings indicating the location of the mine shafts openings. The abandoned place lies on private property obscured from the sight of all but a few who travel with permission the extra mile to see the old mining camp-ghost town. Nevertheless an echo from the past from local newspapers perhaps has more truth and perception now than the exaggeration of when first published. The Ogden Examiner avowed on September 6, 1891—“The truth about la plata is quite as strange as any fiction that the ordinary scribbler can invent.”

While The Journal of Logan on January 1, 1892, recorded in verse form the yearnings of the eternal seeker:

“We know not why nor
where he went,
But on one place he
Seemed intent;
He lashed his team and
Drove pell mell,
And now and then would
Loudly yell
La Plata!

He may have reached his
promised land,
And may have wealth
Within his hand;
He may have long since
Ceased to shout,
But still this echo rings
About:
La Plata!”

Sources:
*Ogden Examiner* (Ogden, Ut.), Sept 6, 1891.
And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers.—Malachi 4:6.

Smith Surname Association

Organized
7th day of October, 1921

Certificate of Life Membership

The greatest responsibility God has laid upon us is to seek after our dead—Joseph Smith

This Certifies That

Brian Smith

of
172 East 2 South St
Logan, Utah

is a life member
of the Smith Surname Association.

Date, Dept. 20, 1926 Salt Lake City, Utah

No. 2

Ereunet Hallinan
Secretary.

Joseph Fielding Smith
President.
This certifies that I, [Name], am a Life Member of the Geological Society of Utah since 31 Aug. 1993.
THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

September 12, 1928

Dear Mr. Smith:

I thank you sincerely for your congratulatory note concerning my appointment as Undersecretary of State.

I note your observations regarding our recent political adventure in Utah. I have little disappointment and less regret over losing the nomination itself. I have, however, a feeling of profound sorrow that Tammany methods can operate so successfully in our party in Utah.

With every personal good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

[Signature]

Orson Smith, Esquire,
Logan, Utah.
Early Churches, Schools and Dramatics

In the early settlement of the Valley there were few incorporated towns, however, practically every settlement was as completely organized as thought it had a mayor and city council. This was brought about through the ecclesiastical organization of the Mormon Church. Especially in the agriculture sections counties grew up as Stakes of Zion or grand bishoprics. Over every settlement a bishop was appointed with his counselors and over the whole a president of a stake. The stake organization also included the ecclesiastical councils of the various wards, high priests' quorums, seventies' quorums elders, teachers, etc. and the high council of the stake.

On the 14th day of November, 1859, when the Logan Ward was organized by Apostles Orsen Hyde, Ezra T. Benson and Peter Maughan, William B. Preston was appointed as bishop of Logan, Peter Maughan the presiding bishop of Cache Valley and George L. Farrell, secretary. In March 1860, Apostle Ezra T. Benson moved to Logan as he had been appointed to preside over the Cache Valley Stake of Zion.

April 14th, 1861, Logan City was divided into four Wards with Benjamin Lewis, Bishop of the First Ward; Henry Ballard, Bishop of the Second Ward; John B. Thatcher, Bishop of the Third Ward; and Thomas X. Smith, Bishop of the Fourth Ward.

Later, just before the death of President Brigham Young, he personally reorganized the Cache Valley Stake, with Moses Thatcher, president, William B. Preston, first counselor and Milton D. Hammond, second counselor. The high council of the stake were: C. W. Card, Hans Anderson, Alvin Crockett, James A. Leishman, George T. Benson, Ezra D. Carpenter, Charles B. Robbins, George W. Thatcher, Sr., H. K. Cranney, Charles C. Hurst, Niels Hanson and Anthon L. Skanchy.