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HISTORY

OF

BRIGHAM YOUNG.

1844.

January 16.—Attended City Council.
—20.—Met with the quorum: Heber C. Kimball and his wife Vilate received their second anointing.
—21 (Sunday).—I met in the Assembly Room with the quorum, and administered to Parley P. Pratt his second anointing.
—22.—I met with the quorum of the Twelve at my house, for prayer and conversation.
—25.—The quorum met at my house: Orson Hyde received his second anointing.
—26.—The Twelve met at my house: Orson Pratt received his second anointing.
—27.—We met at the Assembly Room: Willard Richards and his wife Jenetta were sealed and received their second anointing.
—28.—The quorum met in the Assembly Room. Wilford Woodruff and his wife Phebe W. were sealed and received their second anointing.
—30.—The quorum met at my house. John and Leonora Taylor were sealed and anointed.
—31.—I met with the quorum at my house. George A. and Bathsheba W. Smith were anointed, having been sealed on the 20th inst.
Feb 4.—I preached at bro. Chamberlains a little north of the city. My brothers Joseph, Phineas H. and Lorenzo D., and John Pack were present.
—6.—Partook of supper at bro. John Taylor's, with Joseph, Hyrum, Sidney and the Twelve and their wives. The Twelve discussed the propriety of establishing a moot Congress for the purpose of investigating and informing ourselves on the rules of national intercourse, domestic policy and political economy. Joseph advised us not to do it, lest we might excite the jealousy of our enemies.
—10.—Attended prayer meeting in the Assembly Room.
—13.—I returned from Bear Creek, where I had been preaching for a few days, and had spent a pleasant time.
—15.—Visited father Miletiab Luce.
—18.—I met in the evening in the Assembly Room. Bro. Joseph and the Twelve were present.
—20.—Met with the Presidency and Twelve, the subject of Lyman Wight's preaching to the Indians in Wisconsin was discussed; the matter was left to bro. Wight's own judgment.
—21.—I met in council. Bro. Joseph directed the Twelve to select an exploring company to go to California to select a location for the settlement of the Saints: Jonathan Dunham, David Fullmer, Phineas H. Young and David D. Yearsly volunteered to go, and Alphonzo Young, James Emmett, Geo. D. Watt and Daniel Spencer were selected to go.
—23.—I met with the Presidency and Twelve in relation to the Rocky Mountain Expedition, eight more volunteers gave in their names. Bro. Joseph gave instructions in relation to the fit out needed. It was agreed that the company should number twenty-five.
—24.—Went to Knowlton Settlement on Bear Creek and preached twice; my bro. Phineas H. accompanied me. Information was received concerning the death of Ex-Governor Joshua Duncan of Illinois; and Reynolds of Mo., who shot himself through the head; they were two of the most inveterate enemies of the Saints.
March 2.—I visited Macedonia, accompanied by my brother Lorenzo D., and preached on Sunday, 3rd.
—5.—I attended City Council.
—7.—Attended a general meeting at the stand; there was a large assembly present. Bros. Joseph and Hyrum spoke at length, and I followed them and said,
"I wish to speak upon the duty of lawyers, as they have been spoken of this morning.—They were first among the children of Israel to explain the laws of Moses to the common people.
I class myself as a lawyer in Israel. My business is to make peace among the people; and when any man who calls himself a lawyer, takes a course to break peace instead of making it, he is out of the line of his duty.—A lawyer's duty is to read the law well himself, then tell the people what it is, and let them act upon it, and keep peace; and let them receive pay like any laboring man.
It is desirable for justices of the peace, when men call for writs, to enquire into the merits of the case, and tell the parties how to settle

it; and thus put down lawsuits. To cure lawing, let us pay attention to our own business.

When we hear a story, never tell it again; and it will be a perfect cure. If your brother mistreats you, let him alone; if your enemy cheats you, let him go; cease to deal with men who abuse you; if all men had taken the straight-forward course that some have, we should not have such disorderly men in our midst.

I have no objection to any man coming here, but I will have nothing to do with men who will abuse me at midnight and at noon day.—Our difficulties and persecutions have always arisen from men right in our midst.

It is the lust of individuals to rob us of everything, and to take advantage of divisions that may arise among us to build themselves up. I feel that I want every man should stay, and lift up holy hands without dubiety, wrath, or doubting.

To the men who own land here I would say, do not think you can sell your lands here, and then go off and spend it somewhere else in abusing the Mormons. I tell you nay; for know it, ye people, that Israel is here, and they are the head, and not the tail; and the people must learn it; all those who have gone from us, have gone from the head to the tail.

The grand object before us is to build the Temple this season.

We have heard the effects of slander, and we want a cure and balm; and I carry one with me all the while, and I want all of you to do the same. I will tell you what it is, it is to mind our own business, and let others alone; and suffer wrong rather than do wrong; if any one takes your property away, let them alone, and have nothing to do with them.

A Spirit has been manifest to divide the Saints; it was manifest in the last election: it was said if they did not look out, the Saints on the flat would beat the Saints on the hill.

Great God! how such a thing looks! that the Saints should be afraid of beating one another in the election, or being beat. I would ask who built up this city? Would steamboats have landed here, if the Saints had not come? Or could you, even the speculators, have sold your lands for anything here, if the Saints had not come? They might have sold for a few bear and wolf skins, but not for money.

If any of you wish to know how to have your bread fall butter side up, butter it on both sides, and then it will fall butter side up. Oppose this work, and it will roll over you.

When did this work ever stop since it began? Never! The only thing the Saints now want to know is, what does the Lord want of us, and we are ready to do it.

Well, then, build the Temple of the Lord—keep the law of God, ye Saints, and the hypocrite and scoundrel will flee out of your midst, and tremble, for the fire of God will be too hot for them.

I expect the Saints are so anxious to work, and so ready to do right, that God has whispered to the Prophet, 'Build the Temple, and let the Nauvoo House alone at present.' I would not sue a man if he owed me five hundred, or a thousand dollars, should he come to me and say he would not pay me."

—8.—Evening, met in council with the Presidency and the Twelve.

—9.—Attended City Council.

—11.—Joseph commenced the organization of a council for the purpose of taking into consideration the necessary steps to obtain redress for the wrongs which had been inflicted upon us by our persecutors, and also the best manner to settle our people in some distant and unoccupied territory; where we could enjoy our civil and religious rights, without being subject to constant oppression and mobocracy, under the protection of our own laws, subject to the Constitution.

The council was composed of about fifty members, several of whom were not members of the church.

We prepared several memorials to Congress for redress of grievances, and used every available means to inform ourselves of the unoccupied territory open to settlers.

We held a number of sessions, and investigated the principles upon which our national government is founded; and the true foundation and principles of all governments

Joseph Smith was appointed chairman, William Clayton, clerk, and Willard Richards, historian of the council.

—12, 13 and 14.—Attended special councils.

—17 (Sunday).—Attended prayer meeting.

—19.—I attended the Council of Fifty.

—21.—I met in council in the Assembly Room.

—22.—Attended prayer meeting with the Prophet and the Twelve in my house.

—24 (Sunday).—I attended meeting at the stand and heard Prest. Joseph Smith deliver an address concerning a conspiracy entered into by Chauncey L. Higbee, Dr. Robert D. Foster, Mr. Joseph H. Jackson, William and Wilson Law, and others for the purpose of taking his life.

—26.—Spent the day in council.

—April 4.—I attended council.

—5.—I attended the dedication of the Masonic Hall.

—6, 7, 8 and 9.—I attended a special conference in Nauvoo, the stand was occupied by the Presidency, the Twelve and others, among whom were eleven Lamanite chiefs and braves, it was estimated there were about 20,000 persons present, the conference was addressed by

Presidents Joseph, Hyrum and Sidney, myself and Elders H. C. Kimball, John Taylor and A. Lyman. The Prophet declared that all North and South America was the land of Zion. At the close of the conference 344 elders volunteered to go on missions.

—10.—I attended council with the Twelve, arranging appointments for conferences the ensuing season through the United States.

—11.—Spent the day in the council of fifty, we had an interesting time, and closed the council with shouts of hosannah.

—12.—Met with the Twelve Apostles in council.

—13.—Attended City Council.

—15.—With the Twelve prepared the appointments for the conferences throughout the States for publication.

—16.—I attended council with the Twelve.

—17.—Spent the day in council; William and Wilson Law and Robert D. Foster were cut off from the church.

—20.—Bro. Woodruff accompanied me to Lima; staid with Father Morley.

—21 (Sunday).—I preached in the forenoon, Elder Woodruff in the afternoon, I followed him and called for volunteers to go out in the vineyard to preach, 26 volunteered.

—22.—Rainy morning, in the afternoon we harnessed up our horses and rode on to the city plot, bro. Woodruff and I bought a lot each, and started for home but on reaching bro. William Draper's had to take shelter for the night in consequence of a tremendous storm of hail and rain.

—23.—Returned to Nauvoo and attended a political meeting.

—25.—Spent the day in general council—Elder J. M. Grant and William Smith were present.

—28.—Attended a meeting at the stand in the forenoon, Prest. Hyrum Smith preached, I followed him; afternoon I met with the Twelve and Seventies in their hall; evening, attended prayer meeting.

—29.—Attended special session of the city council.

—30.—I met with the Prophet and Hyrum Clark at my house, pertaining to the business affairs of the church in England.

May 5.—Wrote a long communication to Elder Reuben Hedlock on the subject of emigration.

—6.—Attended general council all day, br. J. M. Grant was added to the council.

—8.—I was called upon as a witness in the case of "Francis M. Higbee vs. Joseph Smith," and gave in my testimony.

12 (Sunday).—I attended meeting in the forenoon; br. Joseph preached. Three p.m.: Attended prayer meeting in the council room.

—21.—I started on my mission to the East in company with Elders H. C. Kimball and L. Wight on board the steamer Osprey; Captain Anderson. On our way to St. Louis br. Wight preached.

—22.—We arrived in St. Louis; I preached in the evening; the branch numbered about 700 members.

—23.—We left St. Louis on board the Louis Phillippe, Capt. J. J. Worman, with about two hundred passengers; many of them were from the Osprey. I was called upon to deliver a lecture on the principles of the church, which allayed some prejudice which had been manifested against the Elders on board.

—24.—William Smith preached: the passengers treated us respectfully; good captain and mate.

—26.—We reached Cincinnati; br. Kimball and I went on shore and visited the brethren, and held a meeting with the Elders on the 27th, at eight a.m. At ten a.m. proceeded on our way to Pittsburgh; br. Lyman Wight preached on board; arrived at six p.m. on the 30th.

June 1.—Brs. Kimball and Wight having proceeded to Washington, I attended conference in Pittsburgh with Elder John E. Page.

—2 (Sunday).—I preached in the morning; afternoon, partook of the sacrament; evening, Lester Brooks preached.

—3.—Went to Old Britain and preached in the evening to an attentive congregation.

—4.—I left on board the packet Erie on the Pennsylvania and Ohio canal for Kirtland, in company with brs. F. D. Richards and L. Brooks.

—5.—Arrived in Warren and took on a large company going to Akron to an abolition convention, some of whom manifested a spirit to put down every body but themselves.

—6.—Brs. F. D. Richards, L. Brooks and I found br. Salmon Gee's family in Shalorsville; they desired us to remain with them over night, which we did, and addressed the people in the town house in the evening, on Joseph Smith's views of the powers and policy of the government.

—7.—Lawyers and doctors called to converse with us, and obtain copies of General Smith's "Views" Afternoon, with br. Richards I went to Mantua, where we met br. Lorenzo Snow and others. We proceeded to Hiram and held a meeting in sight of the house where Joseph and Sidney were dragged out by the heels and tarred and feathered.

Arrived in Kirtland on the 8th; found my brother John Young and my sister Nancy Kent well.

—9 (Sabbath).—I preached in the Temple in the morning, and br. F. D. Richards in the afternoon. I lectured in the evening on the subject of the location of Nauvoo; the Saints were dead and cold to the things of God.

—10.—In company with my brother John and Franklin I went to Chester and visited sister Nancy Kent and family; had an excellent visit; spent the night at br. Butler's.

—12.—Proceeded to Fairport and took steamer for Buffalo, where we arrived on the morning of the 13th, and went by rail cars to Albany, and from thence by steamboat to New York, and proceeded to Boston, where I arrived on the morning of Sunday 16th.

—18.—I went to Salem, and saw my daughter Vilate.

—22.—Went to Lowell.

—23 (Sunday).—I preached in Lowell. Returned to Boston.

—27.—Spent the day in Boston with br. Woodruff, who accompanied me to the railway station as I was about to take cars for Salem. In the evening, while sitting in the depot waiting, I felt a heavy depression of spirit, and so melancholy I could not converse with any degree of pleasure. Not knowing anything concerning the tragedy enacting at this time in Carthage jail, I could not assign any reasons for my peculiar feelings.

—29 and 30.—Attended conference in Boston.

July 1.—Attended State convention with our friends *en masse* in the Melodeon, Boston, for the nomination of an electoral ticket, General Joseph Smith for President of the United States, and appointed delegates to the Baltimore national convention.

—2.—I attended conference with the Twelve and Elders in the Franklin Hall, and resolved to divide into different parts of the vineyard; each one of the Twelve was appointed to take the oversight of several conferences.

—4.—Br. Kimball and I visited a grand exhibition of fire works on the Boston common during the evening with others of the Twelve.

—6 and 7.—Attended conference in Salem; had a good time.

—8.—Attended three meetings in the hall at Salem; had a full congregation; Elders H. C. Kimball, O. Pratt, L. Wight, D. Spencer and J. L. Heywood were present.

—9.—I heard to-day, for the first time, the rumors concerning the death of Joseph and Hyrum.

—10.—Elder O. Pratt and I went to Lowell.

—11.—We proceeded to Peterboro'.

—12.—I spent the day with the brethren in Peterboro'.

—13.—Attended conference and preached to the Saints; we ordained twenty-eight to the office of Elder; the brethren were glad to see us.

—16.—While at br. Bement's house in Peterboro', I heard a letter read which br. Livingston had received from Mr. Joseph Powers, of Nauvoo, giving particulars of the murder of Joseph and Hyrum. The first thing which I thought of was, whether Joseph had taken the keys of the kingdom with him from the earth; br. Orson Pratt sat on my left; we were both leaning back on our chairs. Bringing my hand down on my knee, I said the keys of the kingdom are right here with the church.

Received a letter from br. Woodruff confirming the news of the death of the Prophets. I started for Boston; staid at Lowell all night.

—17.—Arrived in Boston; found brs. Kimball and Woodruff.

—18.—I met in council with Elders H. C. Kimball, O. Pratt and W. Woodruff, preparatory to returning to Nauvoo.

—21 (Sunday).—Elder Kimball and I attended meeting in Boston and preached to the Saints.

—23.—We attended meeting in the evening and ordained thirty-two Elders. Lyman Wight (for whom we had waited in Boston about a week) arrived.

—24.—I left Boston for Nauvoo in company with brs. Kimball and Wight, and on our arrival at Albany were joined by brs. Orson Hyde, Orson Pratt and W. Woodruff, who had just arrived from New York. We continued to journey night and day by railroad, stage and steamboat via Buffalo, Detroit, Chicago and Galena, and arrived in Nauvoo on the 6th day of August, where we were received with joy by our families and friends.

—7.—Attended meeting at the Seventies' Hall with the Twelve and High Council, where we heard Sidney Rigdon tell his story and deliver the message he said he had for us. I followed him and showed the brethren the errors and follies which br. Rigdon manifested on the occasion.

—8.—I attended a meeting of all the authorities of the church at Nauvoo, when the Twelve Apostles were sustained as the Presidency of the church, and we organized and set in order the church as far as was necessary for the furtherance and prosperity of the kingdom, as recorded in the Church History.

My wife Mary Ann has borne to me six children, viz:

	When born.	Where born.
Elizabeth Young,	Sep. 26, 1824,	Port Byron, Cayuga co. N. Y.
Vilate Young,	June 1, 1830,	Mendon, Monroe co., N. Y.
Joseph Angell Young,	Oct. 14, 1834,	Kirtland, Geauga co., Ohio.
Mary Ann Young,	Dec. 18, 1836,	Kirtland, Geauga co., Ohio.
(And died Aug. 21, 1843.)		
Brigham Young,	Dec. 18, 1836,	Kirtland, Geauga co., Ohio.
Alice Young,	Sept. 4, 1839,	Montrose, Iowa.
Luna Caroline Young,	Aug. 1, 1842,	Nauvoo, Hancock co., Illinois.
John Willard Young,	Oct. 1, 1844,	Nauvoo, Hancock co.