#### DESERET EVENING NEWS: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1905.

# Before Nevada Was Carved From Utah's Western Border

HE relation of Nevada to Utah has always been an intimate one, and it is a question whether Utah's neighbor on the west is

to be called most properly a sister or a daughter state. The fact that Utah once included not only Nevada, but Arizona, portions of Colorado, California, Wyoming and Oregon, entitles her to consideration as something of a mother of western states, and in this relationship Nevada was her most favorite child.

Time was when the member from Carson county sat in the Utah Legislature at Salt Lake, and justice was administered in Carson valley by the judge of the Third Judicial district of Utah. In ploneering Utah men did the first work, and descendants are living in Salt Lake today of the man who settled Carson county, of the man who built its first house, and the first house in Nevada, and of the first representative of Carson county in a territorial legisla-

The commencement of Nevada as an ture The commencement of Nevada as an independent community came with the Johnson's army trouble, and the with-drawal of the first residents at the call of Brigham Young when there was need for all "Mormons" to stand together one take at Salt Lake.

People who read the story of the People who read the story of the rocks tell of a day when the tops of the Wasatch and the tops of the Sterra Nevadas were the pinnacled walls of a great inland sea in which Utah and Nevada shared the weight of waters Novada shared the weight of waters above their valleys, and peeped at the daylight only on the summits of the highest peaks. This was the first bond of union between the two.

#### Story of the West.

There is much yet to be written in this wonderful story of the west, and when the tale is fully told such names when the tale is hind out take taken as Peter Sigen Ogden, Kit Carson Wolfskill, Nedever, Ashley, Jededlah S. Smith and Bonneville, will be rescued from a state of almost oblivion. The story of the northwest secured a hear-



#### THE GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES OF UTAH IN THE EARLY FIFTIES.

Utah in 1855 Extended From Kansas to California and From Oregon to New Mexico. In 1850, as the Provisional State of Descret, its Most Western Boundary Enclosed Several of the Counties of Southern California Including the Present Site of the City of Los Angeles. Its Extreme Southern Boundry Was the Republic of Mexico at that Time.



travel through Nevada. The instructions to early ploneers were to hugt for the Humbolt, find it and follow it to the last sink, then break for the mountains. Capt. Simpson, famous as founder of the "Simpson" route to California, in an interview with the Deseret News in tht early fifties, lo-cates his route principally by its reference to the Humbolt.

#### Ogden Discovered It.

And before leaving the work of the Humbolt, it should be known that a great wrong was done to the man who discovered the river, when it got that name. Peter Skeen Ogden discovered the stream, and in all the early days it went by the name of Ogden river, or "Mary's river," for he had married an Indian girl, whom he called Mary and after whom he named the river Afterwards when the trappers were becoming extinct as a class Fremont came along and called the river the "Humbolt" which name seemed to stick with the oncoming immigration.

#### Salt Lakers at Carson.

It was the close of the Mexican war that diverted attention to the west, and started the movement of which the settlement of Nevada is a part. The signing of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the discovery of gold right afterward, brought to Salt Lake, which had already been settled by Brigham Young, the lucrative trade with the immigrants, and as the trains pulled out to the westward, the chance to bar-ter took residents of this city along to



his connection with Carson valley. He was a guide for Capt. Simpson when the famous Simpson route was opened, and in his honor the captain named Reese river, reciprocating in a way for "Simpson springs" which were named "Simpson springs" which were named by Reese in honor of Capt, Simpson, when he discovered them. In the Smithsonian institute is a large rattle-snake which Reese found coiled on his chest one night when a cold feeling awakened him from sleep. He was once captured by the Bannocks and a fire was prepared on which to burn him to death, but Chief Jim, whom he had once hereined and who afterwards once befriended and who afterwards was a famous visitor at Washington in the days when Indian treaties were being made, arrived just in time to rescue him. His old age was spent in Salt Lake although relatives of his still

live in Carson valley, where his first permanent house is still to be seen. Founding of Carson City.

In the year 1852, Carson City was founded. A group of miners came over to try their luck in 1851, and failing to find paying diggings, took up the land where Carson stands, and erected a trading post. One of the men, Frank Hall, killed an eagle and tacked the skin on his cabin door, from which in-cident the place came to be known as 'Eagle Station" through the pioneer days.

In 1853, social life got under way at Carson valley. There was one dance held, a marriage was performed, and a divorce was granted. The dissatis-faction of being governed from far away Salt Lake grew, and in February, 1853, the California legislature was pe-titioned for any action of the second second second titioned for any second se titioned for annexation. Utah then took notice of the valley and remedied took notice of the valley and remedied the condition by the establishment of Carson county, early in 1854. It was designated the Third judicial district, and Judge Geo. P. Stiles was sent to preside over it. Orson Hyde was des-ignated by the governor as probate judge, and Jos. L. Haywood was ap-pointed U. S. marshal. The three were also named as a computation to establish also named as a commission to establish the western boundary of Carson county, and thus the long boundary dispute had its beginning. The men arrived in September, and an election was held on the 20th, at which the first full county floket was put into office. At that time, too, Enoch Reese was chosen a dele-gate to the Utah Legislature from Carson county.

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In 1856 a saw mill was set up by Orson Hyde an dothers, to become the first enterprise in the Nevada country, and a water right to run the mill was granted by the county officials.

#### The "Home-Coming."

In this year also, the colony of sev-enty families was added to the Nevada settlement, coming under instructions from the Church at Salt Lake City, The newcomers settled in the Carson, Eagle, Washoe, Jack, and Pleasant valleys,and started a number of small towns. These prospered, as prosperity is rated among the simple and home loving people who started to build up the country. They sought only plain clothes, builded for utility instead of show, and were con-tent with such inexpensive amusements as ploneer life could afford.

as pioneer life could afford. In the next year the orders came to return home to Salt Lake and to pre-pare to stand together in what appeared to be a war of extermination on the Church. Judge Hyde left first, never to return, and his people followed him in small bailds as soon as they could prepare to move. The court was sus-pended for the next three years, the offices of the county were left vacant. offices of the county were left vacant, and the population was almost entirely

As the trappers and traders gradualy took hold of the Situation, they tried again to be annexed to California, and this failing took up a long battle for separate organization as a terri-tory. This was turned down year after year in Congress, and when the troubles in Utah were finally settled, another attempt was made by the new governor, sent from Washington, to estab-lish control over Carson county. Gov. Cumings sent Judge Cradelbaugh to welcomed as the people did not want to welcomed, as he people did no wan oa remain a part of Utah, on account both of the hostility to the "Mormon" people, and the remoteness of Salt Lake.

#### Cut From Utah.

The Comestock lode was discovered while the dispute was in progress and with its discovery came the rush of new people, which caused President Buchanan to smile upon the petitions of the people for a territorial govern-ment, and on the 2nd of March, 1861, two days before retiring from office,

to affix his signature to a congessional bill, taking from Utah her western half and making out of it her sister, or more properly, her daughter territory of Ne-vada, which has ever since maintained an intimate but independent relation-ship with her neighbor on the eastern border.

First White Settler of Nevada and Builder of its First House at Carson City

ing when the Portland fair was decided them by Peter Skeen Ogden, who went upon, and the tale of the southwest over the trail with Kit Carson, so that upon, and the tale of the southwest was partially told when the Salt Lake and San Pedro railroad followed the Smith's Great Journey old pioneer trail to the coast.

The story of the west-the fighting for a passage through the Humbolt river route over to California, the struggles of the early explorers before the days of gold laid a yellow glamor over all that was done beyond the mountains, are still obscured in the minds of old residents, or lost with the passing of the men who performed the pathfinding work. Here and there in a manuscript ir an obscurely printed book of autoblography, the tale is partly told, and is walting for its hearing before the

world.

#### A Mythical River.

In the first generation there was lit-e distinction between the Utah and and country. Trappers came into Bear river, or from the south at Utah lake, and then trailed on down the Humboldt, seeking beavers, and inci-dentally a mythical river known as the Buoney and the the more another to be Buenaventura, that was supposed to run directly west from Great Salt lake to the Pacific coast. It was a long time before men were finally convinced that the Great Salt lake had no outlet. that the Great Salt lake had no outlet, and once so famous an explorer as Cap-tain Fremont traveled across the east base of the Sierra Nevadas seeking this mythical river, and finally allowed his heart to swell with joy as he en-countered the Truckee, and thought he had at last found a way to the Pacific out of the great basin. In those days there was a curious conclusion of the kreater trapper, Jim Bridger, that fig-ured in the explorations. It was that for backwars even lived on a stream that to beavers ever lived on a stream that and not lead to the ocean, and therefore when rivers were found without beaver turns on them, he rested sure that the rivers were inland and not ocean going.

Founding of Ogden.

The trappers had their day in the west from 1826 to 1845. In 1826 William A Ashley built Fort Ashley on Utab take, and operated a company of 120 trappers from that point. Afterwards Peter Skeen Ogden built a fort in Ogon, and thus took from the 'settlers the credit of making en canyon, the first human habitations here. An-

Ther trapper, Jedediah S. Smith, in this year also became the real Euro-pean discoverer of the southwest trail to Los Angeles, through Las Vegas in southern Nevada. When that story tame to Le written the credit seemed at first to belong to the party of "trail blazers," as rallroad literature describes them when the found the party of "trail blazers," as rallroad literature describes them, who went to found San Bernardino tolony under Elders Lyman and Rich. Then came John Hunt's story of a trip M 1847 over this trall, with a party of a "Mormons" sent by the Church to puy seeds and milk cows. John Hunt n his narrative to the "News," said is party had a map of the route given

Smith's Great Journey. Now it appears that neither Carson nor Ogden ever wont over the trail, but both secured their map of it from Smith, whose heroic venture made him the first white man to enter Nevada, and more than that, the first white man to cross the Sierra Nevada mountains. Curious-ly enough, this range of mountain walls was crossed from the west to the east, and not in the usual course of empire going westward.

going westward. In August, 1826, it was that Jedediah S. Smith commenced the great journey that made him the first Nevada resi-dent. He started out from the shores of Great Salt lake, and traveled south-ward past Utah lake with a party of 15 men, and then turned southwest until he encountered on old Spania travel he encountered an old Spanish trail leading to Los Angeles. When he com-menced to return, he traveled north along the western base of the Sierras. along the western base of the Sterras, until he reached a point west of Great Salt lake, and then started to cross. He climbed what he calls "Mt. Joseph," in the land of the Mokelumne Indians, on May 27, 1827, and for eight days fought his way through the snows into Nevada, with but two companions out of the original 15. Twenty days of of the original 15. Twenty days of marching found him exhausted and starving at the southwest corner of Great Salt lake, but with the teat of crossing Nevada and the Sierras ac-complished for the first time.

#### The Old Spanish Mines.

One people who engaged in early exploration have left but slight traces of their work, and these were the Span-lards, who, settling at Santa Fe, sent excursions out all over the western excursions out all over the western country. Father Escalante is remem-bered as one who pushed into Utah valley, and described Utah lake. A few mining tunnels going by the name of "Spanish Mines." a burro trail here and there, as the southwest trail to California, seem to be all that remain, except the names and ruins of a few missions. Yet Nevada owes something to these men at least in its nonenato these men, at least in its nomena-clature. "Sierra Nevada" means "Mov tains Covered with Snow," and "Ne-vada," snow crested, remained to be the name of the state, and to share honors with names left by the carly military men, the trappers, the explorers, and

#### settlers. Follow the Hambolt.

the "Mormon"

Of the days in Nevada since the general westward movement began, there is much that is definite on record. In the first place the Humbolt river must be credited with being the father of ter took residents of this city along to establish trading posts. The first of these was built in Carson valley, un-der the direction of H. S. Beatie wil-left a party of 80 Salt Lakers bound for the mines, to go into business in the Carson valley. At that time Carson was part of the old state of Deseret, which included Utah, Arizona, portions of Colorado, Wyoming, Oregon and San Diego county, California, in addition to parts of several other California counparts of several other California coun-ties,

#### Beatie Built First House.

Beatie settled upon the site of the present town of Genos, and the house he built there was fashioned after the houses on the Missouri frontier with which he was familiar before he came to Utah in 1849. It had no root, and was what was known as a "double log house," that is a long house with two house," that is a long house with two compartments connected by a covered passage way. Near it was a corrall built for horses and cattle, and this establishment remained for a whole summer as the only buildings in Ne-vada. With Mr. Beatle in the venture were DeMont, Abner Blackburn, and brother, Kimball and Carter, men whose first names were not given in the manuscript left by Mr. Beatle, of this first expedition into Nevada. Bea-

this first expedition into Nevada. Bea-tle did not remain long at Carson val-ley. At the end of the summer he sold ley. At the end of the summer he sold his first house to a man named Moore and came back to Salt Lake to make his home. He lived here afterwards un-til his death some years ago, and is the father of Bishop Walter J. Beatle of the Seventeenth ward and of H. S. Beatle of Z. C. M. L. In 154 the trading husiness had pros-In 1551 the trading business had pros-pered until about 20 trading posts were

established along the route through Carson valley, most of them owned by miners from California who had given up the quest of gold.

Discase Claimed Many. The business was a thrifty one, but

retarded by a disease similar to chol-era which killed many of the immigrants and traders, whose shacks were made of willows, and were only tem-porary affairs, porary affairs. In 1852, however, the first substantial trading post and station was built, and it was on the site of the Beatle house, erected by John Reese, a broth-er of Enoch Reese. The Reese boys had come to Utah in 1849, and had been in business at Salt Lake as the firm of E. and J. Reese. After leaving Ne-vada they returned to Utah and a number of their descendants are living in Salt Lake now.

in Sait Lake now

### "Mormon" Station.

Reese's station was famous during the fifties, and was known on the old route maps as "Mormon Station," 50

But of the carly attempts at gov-ernment in Carson valley there is still something to be told. The tale is of attempts to get annexed to California, then of annexation to Utab, and finally of a long and dis-putations quarrel with California over In 1852 the territorial legislature of Utah reached over into Carson county and rescued the little body from gov-ernmental isolation. The act affecting the valuey was that creating counties for Utab, and those on the western border ran clear across Nevada, Weber, Descret, and Tooele teok in northern Nevada, while Juab and Millard in-cluded all of the Carsen valley settle-ments. George Bradley and Anson Call were appointed judges over these counties to serve for a term of four start it he hauled from Salt Lake 10 the western boundary line, which at the



NEVADA'S FIRST PFEMANENT HOUSE

#### JOHN REESE.

Salt Lake Man Who Built the First Permanent House in Nevada Which is Still Standing.

zens to provide rules for government. This first meeting, which was held on the evening of Nov. 12, pathford Con-gress to establish a territorial govern-

Utah Reaches Over.

valley was that creating countle

counties, to serve for a term of four

years. Under this new jurisdiction the first land claim to be filed was that of John Reese, who took the land about his trading house "south to a lone tree

trading house "south to a lone tree including all between the river and the west mountains. South of the Reese claims, five were taken up on the Genon townsite, they being those of E. L. Bartuard, S. A. Kinsey, James C. Fain, J. Brown, and William Decrees

This year was a fortunate one for the

This year was a fortunate one for the valley, as a large number of immigrant trains passed through, all being well provided with cash and big appetites. The first Nevada gardens began to give forth their yield and Reese got a dollar a bunch for his turnips, while water-melons, potates and corn brought equally extravegant prices.

Recse's Varied Carcer.

Byrnes.

wagon loads of flour, butter, eggs, and other marketable articles, and took with him a company of 16 meu, all but five or six of whom continued on into California. At the eastern end of the Companyation of gov-

Carson valley he stopped for a time, and founded "Rag Town," the camping place taking this name from the debris left by the campers on moving was less than a hundred men, and less than 20 of these were bonafide settlers, John Reese called a meeting of the citiwest.

#### First Church Colony.

So far the presence of "Mormons" in Nevada had been without the direction of the church leaders, and on the initiaof the church leaders, and on the initia-tive of members, but the time came when the little colony at Genisi, which was so named by Orson Hyde, the first probate judge of the valley, in honor of the birthplace of Christopher Columbus, was augmented by a party of about 70 families, called by their Obunch to found a solar in Costor Church to found a colony in Carson county.

#### Return to Utah.

areas to establish a territorial govern-ment for the valley, selected James H. Hayes as surveyor, and placed the governing power in a committee of seven men, composed of William Byrnes, John Reese, E. L. Barnard, A. Woodward, H. H. Jameson, T. A. Hyl-ton and N. R. Haskill. The amount of iand a man could take was limited to a quarter section, and a recording offi-cer and treasurer were provided for. cer and treasurer were provided for The operations of this colony were called to a sudden and unexpected halt by the approach of Johnson's army to Utah, and in this crisis the govern-ment and suffety of residents of Carson county, fell with the departing colon-ists. Brigham Young called his people in from all the world in those un-fortunate days of '57 and '68 and among those to respond in common with the After this first beginning at govern-ment, John Reese called another meet-ing on Nov. 19, and this pioneer legis-lature required land claimants to improve their land to the extent of \$5 in value in six months after filing, limited the amount of timber land a company could take up,and authorized a compan to take up land in the name of each of it those to respond ha common with the San Bernardino and Las Vegas mis-sions, were the settlers of Carson valmembers. A third meeting was called Nov. 20, at which a justice of the peace, San Bernardino and Las Vegas mis-sions, were the settlers of Carson val-ley. How the arst start in Nevada was crushed by the approach of Johnson's army to Utah, and how the state was horn again and rose to fame on the fortunes of the mighty Comstock lode. Is quite another story that is out of place here. whose decision there was to be no ap-The Carson Government.

#### peal.



Of this man Reese, moving spirit of the squatter government, much might be written on topics apart from

BRANCH of the Church colonies that has been very little known to

the people in general, is that located in Nevada today The older settlements at Carson valley passed in to history along with the Las Vegas and San Bernardino missions, but today there are no less than six thriving Church colonies in Nevada. They are located in the southern part of the state, and are a portion of the St. George stake, of which Edward H. Snow is president, with headquarters

bers over 300 souls. Lund and Preston, named in honor of President Anthon H. Lund and Bishop W. B. Preston, were founded in 1900 on the White river, the land having been procured for the colonists through the organization of the Nevada Land & Livestock company, of which President Lund and Bishop Preston were mem-Lund and Bishop Preston were mem-bers. Both are thriving, and will soon have agricultural products in abund-ance for the Utah and Nevada markets. Bunkerville, of which Edward M. Bunker is Bishop, is located on the Virgen river, while Meaguite, Overton, and Panaca are on the Muddy. All

thriving and prosperous, and each num-

have been organized within the past de-cade, and are among the newest Church

## THE DRINK HABIT

Mormon Towns in Nevada.

#### Leads to Inevitable Disaster

"A little will not hurt me" has started thousands of men on "the downward path"-the path that leads to the destruction of all that is manly in man.

The journey is sometimes short-sometimes long -but inevitably leads to disaster.

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at St. George, Utah. The settlements are located along the Always through this story of gov-ernmental trials the name of John Reese is prominent. He seemed to have White River valley, on the Muddy river and on the Virgen river. They are all been leader and first citizen of the place. In 1850 when the population of the valley