

DAYS OF OX TEAMS.

An Old Time "Mormon" Camping Ground.

MORMON GROVE, Kansas,
June 7th 1887.

Editor Deseret News:

A letter from this prominent point of early emigration history, will doubtless be of interest to many of your readers. This was the first camping ground reached by the "Mormon" trains in the year '55. It is located about five miles north-west from Atchison, where most of the outfitting was done. When the new wagons had been put together, and the covers fastened over the bows, the work of yoking up the oxen commenced, and the train consisting of about fifty wagons, laden with supplies, bedding, and I guess all the worldly wealth of the Saints about to travel to Utah, would roll out as if to see if anything was "ship-shape," and make their first encampment on a nice, level plateau, a few hundred rods distant from an old grove of hickory timber and which was therefore called "Mormon" Grove. Here a "horseshoe" corral was formed, by driving the wagons about two feet from each other in a slanting position, with tongues inward, halting in two semi-circles, so as to furnish a convenient camp for the people, and a suitable pen into which to drive the cattle for yoking in the morning.

SOME QUEER SCENES

used to be visible in the commencement of the journey. Fancy four or five hundred people of various nationalities, customs and occupations in life, congregated together in a company, and the men of this motley throng converted into temporary teamsters! The oxen not yet accustomed to their mates or their drivers and some of them only partly "broke," or if broke used to working on the "other side," and not over anxious to work anywhere? Imagine, if you can, a Danish "driver," the same being a cabinetmaker "yout from Gopen-Lagen," who had never seen a yoke of oxen in his life, talking to a pair of unruly bulls that on their part had never seen a Scandinavian, and trying to hitch them on to a wagon, or to join them with two other "yoke" in a team!

I well remember a London barber who had charge of a team of this kind, and who never did get it through his Cockney head what color his cattle were. The only way he knew them was by tying a red string around their horns. Any ox that had a red string on, that would lead the Cockney catch on, was liable to be yoked up by him on whatever side his string designated, regardless of color or ownership. Here and there a Yankee who was used to cattle would instruct, advise and help "straighten out things," so that no mistakes might occur. He had to know every ox in the train, and what side he worked on, while the captain kept his "eye skinned" for people left behind, cattle lost and camp utensils deserted when the company moved camp.

So it was to

"MORMON GROVE"

that the train steered when the teamsters "haved" and "geed" out of Atchison in 1855. In that year the cholera struck the camps quite severely. It was very dangerous coming down the Missouri River; the dread scourge would carry off people by the hundred. Stalwart men would be seen carrying the boxes and helping to load and unload boats and trains, or to bury the dead, and in one or two hours the dark monster would have them in his grip. In that season, as many as sixteen persons were in some cases buried in one grave at this same "Mormon Grove." I myself lost four relatives here, and it was really to see if any trace of their graves could be discovered that my visit here was made. But no relic of the resting clay is now visible in this once wild cemetery. The land was entered in '57 by a man called "Jack" Martin. He added a mortgage to his other improvements placed on it by the "Mormon" campers (who, by the by, were the prior claimants), and to redeem the debt it became the property of a Mr. Osborne, who now owns the camp. It is now under a wire fence. The grove has

BEEN REMOVED.

Young timber is growing in another place. Some of the land has been plowed up, and a shanty has been built over the spring that used to furnish the drinking water to the emigrants. The spring itself still flows, and is about the only thing that lastingly marks the spot which supplied the early emigrating Saints with a stopping place on their start westward.

I was only a boy when I came here in '55, and I remember being asked by the Captain to

HOLD A MULE

close to that grove. He was not one of those old mules that hate to go, whose hair looks like it had been curled the wrong way of the grain, and with a lazy tail resembling a piece of old rope. But this mule was sleek as a new seal skin, and his candal appendage was as flowing as a young lady's back hair. He was also gifted with discernment, for he saw that the party to whom he had been entrusted, was a greenhorn, and so he soon made the best of his time and his legs, in getting by about five jumps into that

grove. When the Captain returned, I was minus one fine young mule and a new rope. He hunted the animal, but neither his patrician coating or his plebeian appendages were ever seen again by us. I looked for him again the other day, where the grove used to be, but I failed to find him. They had cut down the trees and plowed up the ground, but the mule was not discovered. It was over 30 years since I saw him, and I suppose he is now working for the government, probably as a punishment for his youthful indiscretion, unless he has been used for beef or sausages by the Atchison people—though I thought I saw him the other day on a St. Jo. street car.

On the west side of the regular traveled road, is to be seen the

CAMPING GROUND

of the Welsh and Scandinavians, while on the east side was the location of the English and Scotch. With their usual national shrewdness, the latter used to locate nearest to the spring I have before mentioned. They always get near to water, unless something stronger is in the vicinity to attract their attention, that is in their own country. But they quit it when they come to America.

C. W. S.

FESTIVE DEPUTIES.

Unsuccessful Raid on a Sanpete Town.

SPRING CITY, Sanpete County,
Utah, June 8th, 1887.

Editor Deseret News:

This morning a little after 6 o'clock, a raid was made by deputies Dykes and Rasmus Clawson at the house of Mr. John Frantzen, but not finding that gentleman at home they suborned his legal wife, his daughter and his hired man, to appear before U. S. Commissioner Jacob Jonsson, of this city, at 9 o'clock a. m. Being disappointed in finding the object of their search they proceeded to the house of

MOTHER FRANTZEN,

as she is commonly called, an old lady aged nearly 76 years, and here they met with the same success as at the former place, which did not seem to please these functionaries very much. The old lady was also told to appear before the commissioner at 9 a. m.

They next started for the house of Mr. James Christensen, but, no doubt to their surprise, met with the same disappointment as before. They found the nest where the bird, no doubt, had nestled shortly before, but he had disappeared. They suborned his legal wife to be at the commissioner's office at 9 a. m. They also went to a house on the lot belonging to Mr. J. Christensen, which they found locked, as nobody was at home. In order to

FORCE AN ENTRANCE,

they broke off the casing on one side of the door; otherwise the marshals were gentlemanly in their behavior. From there they went to the house of Mr. Jos. C. Wright, a son-in-law of Mr. Christensen, but with the same result as before.

The witnesses all met promptly at the Commissioner's office at the appointed time, but not having the defendant in court, the hearing was postponed till 10 a. m. on Monday, the 13th inst.

The crime that these brethren are accused of is cohabiting with their wives. The complaints in both cases were sworn to by Albert F. Ether, a defunct deputy marshal; at least it is rumored that the said Ether has been discharged.

The query here with many is: "Can deputies go and break open any house that they may find vacated and force an entrance at their pleasure?"

Fraternally yours, SANPITCH.

CALL FOR CONVENTIONS.

The Central Committee to People's Party Voters.

WORK CONNECTED WITH THE ELECTION OF THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.

HEADQUARTERS PEOPLE'S TERRITORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE,

SALT LAKE CITY,

June 15th, 1887.

Council and Representative district conventions of the People's Party of Utah are hereby called to convene at the times and places hereinafter named, for the purpose of placing in nomination candidates for members of Council and House of Representatives of the twenty-eighth session of the Legislative Assembly, to be voted for at the general election on the first Monday in August.

The Representative District Conventions will be composed of thirty delegates, selected from the several precincts of the district, according to the apportionment hereinafter named, and will meet at the places indicated, on Saturday, July 9th, at 12 m. In addition to nominating a candidate to represent the district in the House of Representatives, each convention will elect ten delegates to represent the district in the convention of the Council District to which it is attached.

The Council District Conventions will be composed of twenty delegates to be selected by the Representative District Conventions, one-half from each district, and will meet at the places hereinafter mentioned on Tuesday July 12th, at 12 m., and nominate

candidates to represent their several districts in the Council of the Legislative Assembly. Primaries for the selection of delegates to the several Representative District Conventions will be held in each precinct of the Territory at the usual place of holding elections therein on Tuesday, July 5, at 8 o'clock p. m.

It is recommended that each Council District Convention appoint a committee of not less than five members, whose duty it shall be to call all future conventions which may be held in their respective districts.

County conventions for placing in nomination candidates for county offices to be filed at the ensuing election, will be held at such time and place as the county central committees may appoint.

REPRESENTATIVE CONVENTIONS,
JULY 9TH, 1887.

Places of Meeting and Apportionment.

FIRST DISTRICT.

Convention to be held in Logan City, at the County Court House. Delegates as follows:

Rich County—Garden City precinct, 1; Lake Town, 2; Meadowville, 1; Randolph, 2; Woodruff, 1.

Cache County—Logan precinct, 12; Hyde Park, 2; Smithfield, 5; Providence, 4.

SECOND DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at City Hall, Hyrum City. Delegates as follows:

Cache County—Benson precinct, 1; Clarkston, 2; Hyrum, 5; Lewiston, 2; Mendon, 2; Millville, 2; Newton, 1; Paradise, 2; Peterboro, 1; Richmond, 5; Trenton, 1; Wells, 5; Coveville, 1.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at the County Court House, Brigham City. Delegates as follows:

Box Elder County—Bear River precinct, 2; Box Elder, 3; Call's Fort, 2; Carlew, 1; Deweyville, 2; Grouse Creek, 1; Kelton, 1; Mahad, 1; Mantua, 2; Park Valley, 1; Plymouth, 1; Portage, 2; Promontory, 1; Willard, 3; Terrace, 1.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Ogden City. Delegates as follows:

Ogden City, 30.

FIFTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Ogden City. Delegates as follows:

Weber County—Harrisville, 3; Eden, 1; Hooper, 4; Huntsville, 4; Lynne, 2; Marriott, 1; North Ogden, 4; Platte City, 4; Riverdale, 1; Slaterville, 1; Uintah, 1; West Weber, 2; Wilson, 1; Kaneville, 1.

SIXTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Farmington, Davis County. Delegates as follows:

Morgan County—Croyden, 1; Canyon, 2; Milton, 1; Morgan, 2; Peterson, 1.

Davis County—South Bountiful, 2; East Bountiful, 3; West Bountiful, 1; Center ville, 2; Farmington, 4; Hooper, 1; Kaysville, 5; South Weber, 1.

Summit County—Henneperville, 1.

Salt Lake County—Hunter, 1; Pleasant Green, 1; North Point, 1.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Coalville. Delegates as follows:

Summit County—Coalville, 9; Echo, 2; Hoytsville, 2; Park City, 5; Kimball's, 2; Rockport, 1; Upton, 1; Wanship, 3; Grass Creek, 1.

Salt Lake County—Mountain Dell, 1; Sugar House, 3.

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Tooele City. Delegates as follows:

Tooele County—Hatesville, 1; St. John, 1; Clover, 1; Deep Creek, 1; Grantsville, 7; Quincy, 1; Lakeview, 2; Mill, 1; Ophir, 1; Stockton, 1; Tooele, 7; Vernon, 2; Bingham, 1; Tintic, 3.

NINTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at Ninth District schoolhouse, Salt Lake City. Delegates as follows:

Salt Lake County—First precinct, 20.

TENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Salt Lake City. Delegates as follows:

Salt Lake County—Second precinct, 30.

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at Eighteenth Ward schoolhouse, Salt Lake City. Delegates as follows:

Salt Lake County—Third precinct, 14; Fourth, 13; Granger, 2; Brighton, 1.

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at City Hall, Salt Lake City. Delegates as follows:

Salt Lake County—Fifth precinct, 30.

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at West Jordan ward hall, Salt Lake County. Delegates as follows:

Salt Lake County—North Jordan, 3; West Jordan, 6; South Jordan, 3; Fort Herriman, 2; Riverton, 2; Bluffdale, 1; South Cottonwood, 6; Union, 3; Sandy, 4.

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at Mill Creek ward hall. Delegates as follows:

Salt Lake County—Farmers, 2; Mill Creek, 3; East Mill Creek, 3; Big Cottonwood, 6; Butler, 2; Granite, 1; Silver, 1; Alta, 1; Draper, 6.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at the City Hall, Spanish Fork City, Utah County. Delegates as follows:

Utah County—Lehi, 5; Cedar Fort, 1; Alpine, 2; Fairfield, 1; Goshen, 2; Santaquin, 3; Spring Lake, 1; Payson, 7; Spanish Fork, 8.

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Provo City. Delegates as follows:

Utah County—American Fork, 7; Pleasant Grove, 7; Provo Bench, 2; Provo City, 12; Lake View, 1.

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at the City Hall, Springville, Utah County. Delegates as follows:

Utah County—Springville, 10; Thistle, 1; P. V. Junction, 2; Benjamin, 2; Salem, 3.

Sanpete County—Winter Quarters, 1.

Emery County—Scottsfield, 1; Castledale, 1; Ferron, 2; Huntington, 2; Moab, 1; Price, 1; Orangeville, 2; Muddy, 1.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Heber City, Wasatch County. Delegates as follows:

Utah County—Brown's Park, 2; Ashley, 4; Wasatch County—Charleston, 2; Heber, 7; Midway, 4; Wallburg, 2.

Summit County—Kamas, 5; Woodland, 1; Peoa, 3.

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Fillmore, Millard County. Delegates as follows:

Utah County—Nephi, 8; Mona, 3; Levan, 3; Juab, 1.

Millard County—Deseret, 2; Fillmore, 4; Hilder, 2; Kanosh, 2; Leamington, 1; Meadow, 1; Oak Creek, 1; Selpio, 2.

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at City Hall, Mount Pleasant, Sanpete County. Delegates as follows:

Sanpete County—Thistle, 1; Fairview, 4; Mount Pleasant, 7; Spring City, 3; Moroni, 4; Fountain Green, 3; Ephraim, 8.

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at County Court House, Mantu, Sanpete County. Delegates as follows:

Sanpete County—Chester, 1; Wales, 1; Mantu, 5; Petty, 1; Mayfield, 1; Gunnison, 3; Fayette, 1; Freedom, 1.

Sevier County—Annabella, 1; Burrville, 1; Central, 1; Elmore, 1; Glenwood, 1; Joseph, 1; Monroe, 2; Redmond, 1; Richfield, 3; Salm, 1; Vermillion, 1; Willow Bend, 1; Gooseberry, 1.

TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at the County Court House, Beaver City, Beaver County. Delegates as follows:

Beaver County—Adamsville, 1; Beaver City, 12; Granville, 1; Greenville, 2; Minersville, 4; Star, 1.

Pinto County—Bullionville, 1; Circleville, 1; Fremont, 2; Marysville, 1; Thurber, 3; Koosharem, 1; Wilmont, 1.

TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at the City Hall, Cedar City, Iron County. Delegates as follows:

Iron County—Cedar, 6; Kanarra, 2; Parowan, 6; Panguitch, 2; Summit, 1.

Garfield County—Cannonville, 1; Escalante, 2; Hillsdale, 1; Coyote, 1; Panguitch, 4.

Washington County—New Harmony, 1.

San Juan County—Bluff City, 2; McElmo, 1.

TWENTY-FOURTH DISTRICT.

Convention to be held at the County Court House, St. George, Washington County. Delegates as follows:

Washington County—Duncan's Retreat, 1; Hebron, 1; Grafton, 1; Gunlock, 1; Leeds, 1; Pine Valley, 1; Price, 1; Pinto, 1; Rockville, 1; St. George, 4; Santa Clara, 1; Silver Reef, 1; Stonewall, 1; Springdale, 1; Toquerville, 2; Virgin, 1; Washington, 2.

Kane County—Glendale, 1; Johnson, 1; Kanab, 1; Orderville, 1; Mt. Carmel, 1; Pahrump, 1.

COUNCIL CONVENTIONS,

JULY 12, 1887.

Districts and Places of Meeting.

First Council District, composed of First and Sixth Representative districts. Convention to be held at City Hall, Kayaville, Davis County.

Second Council District, composed of Second and Third Representative districts. Convention to be held at County Court House, Brigham City, Box Elder County.

Third Council District, composed of Fourth and Fifth Representative districts. Convention to be held at County Court House, Ogden City.

Fourth Council District, composed of Seventh and Ninth Representative districts. Convention to be held at the County Court House, Coalville, Summit County.

Fifth Council District, composed of the Tenth and Twelfth Representative districts. Convention to be held at the City Hall, Salt Lake City.

Sixth Council District, composed of the Eleventh and Fourteenth Representative districts. Convention to be held at the Eighteenth Ward schoolhouse, Salt Lake City.

Seventh Council District, composed of the Eighth and Thirteenth Representative districts. Convention to be held in the West Jordan Hall, Salt Lake County.

Eighth Council District, composed of the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Representative districts. Convention to be held at County Court House, Provo City.

Ninth Council District, composed of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Representative districts. Convention to be held at the City Hall, Springville, Utah County.

Tenth Council District, composed of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Representative districts. Convention to be held at the County Court House, Nephi, Juab County.

Eleventh Council District, composed of the Twenty-first and Twenty-second Representative districts. Convention to be held at the County Court House, Richfield, Sevier County.

Twelfth Council District, composed of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Representative districts. Convention to be held at the City Hall, Cedar City, Iron County.

The County and Precinct committees are respectfully requested to take the initiative in making arrangements for the holding of primaries in the several precincts, and all members of the People's Party are urged to attend these meetings that a full attendance may be secured and representative men placed in nomination through whose efforts the rights and liberties of the whole people of the Territory may be preserved.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

By order of the People's Territorial Central Committee.

JOHN SHARP, Chairman.

ELIAS A. SMITH, Secretary.

Utah newspapers are respectfully requested to copy.

A LIGHTNING TRIP ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.—A dispatch dated New York, June 6, says: The Umbria, which left Liverpool at 2 p. m. on May 28th, and passed out of Queenstown harbor at 1:04 o'clock on May 29th, anchored off the bar of Sandy Hook at 12:43 p. m., thus making the run from Queenstown in 6 days, 4 hours and 12 minutes—the fastest on record. The weather was unusually favorable. Previously the Etruria's time of 6 days, 5 hours and 36 minutes had been the quickest.

—More earthquakes have occurred in Southern France.

THE KIMBALL RE-UNION.

A Notable Day at Fuller's Hill Gardens.

Tuesday, June 14, 1887, is a day long to be remembered by the family and friends of the late President Heber C. Kimball, several hundred of whom assembled at Fuller's Hill Gardens to celebrate in a fitting manner the 86th anniversary of his birth. The gathering was from various parts of the Territory, the members of the family and their connections being called together by a committee of the Kimball boys, to participate in this the first re-union of President Kimball's relatives held since his death.

The cool and spacious grounds commenced filling up early in the forenoon, held's hand, which had been engaged or the day, discouraging spirited strains while the buggies, hacks, excursion wagons and other vehicles were arriving and depositing their loads of passengers at the gates leading to the gardens. By eleven o'clock, a large assembly was snugly seated in the hall or bowery, waiting for the exercises advertised on the card of invitation to begin.

On the stand were seated nineteen of the twenty-five living sons of President Kimball; his eldest daughter, Helen Mar Whitney; his grandson, Bishop O. F. Whitney, and friends of the family. Adorning the walls above the stand were portraits of President Kimball, his wives Vilate Murray and Anna Gheen, his sons David P., Heber P., Brigham W., Jeremiah H. and Charles S., (all but the last one deceased) his grandson Murray, and also a portrait of President Brigham Young. Many a tender tear started to the eye at the reminiscences called up by these silent witnesses of the day's proceedings, who seemed also to be present in their spirits to take part in the exercises. A solemn and holy feeling pervaded the assembly and every heart was filled to overflowing with peace and quiet joy.

The meeting was called to order by Master of Ceremonies Wm. H. Kimball, the eldest son, and the band played "Auld Lang Syne" with thrilling effect. Prayer was offered by David Candiane, the oldest adopted son of President Kimball. "O Ye Mountains High" was feelingly rendered by the choir and congregation, Horace G. Whitney directing, and Prof. Evan Stephens at the organ. Some very touching and appropriate introductory remarks were then made by Bishop Joseph Kimball, after which a male quartette was finely sung by several of the Kimball boys, accompanied on the organ by Evan Stephens.

Bishop O. F. Whitney then took the stand and read a sketch, written by himself, of the life of President Heber C. Kimball. It occupied about an hour, and was listened to with absorbing attention. The main incidents in the life of the great man whose memory was being honored were set forth in language at once eloquent and forcible. It was much enjoyed, and was voted one of the writer's best literary efforts. It will be published in the Contributor for June, and will form the basis of the life of Heber C. Kimball, a work much larger, on which Bishop Whitney is now engaged.

The choir and congregation sang "Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah," and the meeting was dismissed with benediction by Elder William B. Barton.

Luncheon and refreshments were now spread under the trees, whose foliage afforded a delightful shade, and the entire company sat down to partake of the bounties and delicacies provided. Games and amusements of various kinds followed. Everybody was sociable and happy.

Later on the party again assembled in the bowery and another programme was carried out. Helen K. Bourne and Florence Whitney sang a duet, Miss Viola Pratt gave a song, and Andrew Kimball a recitation. Some appropriate and eloquent remarks were made by President Angus M. Cannon. The hall was then cleared of benches and chairs and dancing held away until five o'clock, when the multitude began to disperse.

During the exercises of the afternoon, by request, the eldest son and daughter of President Kimball stood up on the stand and were introduced to those assembled. Their names and ages are as follows: William H. Kimball, 61 years; Helen Mar Whitney, 58; Leonard L. Kimball, 32; and Abbie Kimball, 19. Seven of President Kimball's wives were present, six of his daughters, nineteen sons and a host of grand-children and great grand-children. Six sons and five daughters were absent. His living sons and daughters, all told, number thirty-six. Those present were taken in groups by Ralph Savage, photographer, during the afternoon.

The occasion commemorated was one never to be forgotten, and will bear indefinite repetitions. Such gatherings are productive of great good in the promotion of unity and kindly feeling, and are especially beneficial in a large family dwelling in different localities, like that of our revered and honored brother, President Kimball. The occasions on which they come together to exchange affectionate greetings with each other, and do honor to the memory of their illustrious head, are such as the heavens love to smile upon.