

arose, and sang with unbounded enthusiasm amid the effective waving of American flags, the "Star Spangled Banner." This number was followed by a stirring applause on the part of the multitude within the Tabernacle.

Chairman Richards here introduced, amidst uncontrolled applause and cheers, Hon. Joseph L. Rawlins, who read President Cleveland's proclamation and, closing the admission of Utah into the Union, as published in full in the NEWS on Saturday evening. At the conclusion of the reading of the proclamation, Mr. Rawlins turned to Mr. Wells and said: "And now I have the honor and the pleasure to present you, Hon. M. Wells, the first Governor of Utah, the pen which was used by the President of the United States, ten minutes before the hour of midnight on the 16th day of July, 1894 signing the bill under which Utah has become a State in the American Union. I present it to you, in order that it may be kept among the archives of the State of Utah."

The historic token was received with a graceful bow and wave of the hand on the part of the new Governor, after which the Danbaltor band under the direction of Prues or Anton Pedersen rendered in its usual skillful style a very appropriate selection.

One of the most thrilling incidents connected with the proceedings came when Acting Governor Richards arose and said:

"Pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of the new State and the proclamation of the President, the hour has arrived when the Federal government is to withdraw from the control of the affairs of the Territory, and to surrender it on to the people; and to the native son of Utah, who has been chosen to be the Governor of the State of Utah. It is fitting that this should be done in this public manner, and in the performance of this pleasing duty, and, as the Governor of the Territory of Utah I now surrender to your favored servant, the Executive officer, upon his taking the oath prescribed by the Constitution, which will now be administered by the Chief Justice of the new State, the Hon. Charles S. Zane."

Governor Wells took the oath as administered by Chief Justice Zane, and at a given signal the booming of artillery was heard from Capitol hill and continued as the oath was also administered by the Chief Justice to the other state officers.

The big chorus here rendered Stephens' new song, "Utah we Love Thee."

Secretary of State Hammond read a proclamation convening the Legislature in session at 3 o'clock Monday in the Joint City and County building.

Governor Wells here delivered his inaugural address as follows:

It is an important occasion that has brought us together today under the spacious roof of this historic building. We are here to join in the ceremonies attending the birth of a new state to the Union. The circumstances surrounding the birth are most happy and auspicious. It is proper, therefore, that we indulge in mutual congratulations and rejoicing.

First and foremost let us congratulate the Pioneers—that heroic band of patriots who blazed the way for west-

ern civilization—who built the bridges and killed the snakes—who turned the waters upon the burning soil and wrung from desolation the bounteous harvests which we are reaping—who planted the Stars and Stripes on yonder peak, and in the name of freedom began the work which we are consummating now. It is nearly half a century since, with tired feet, the Pioneers first entered the valley of the Great Salt Lake, and many of that illustrious hundred and forty-three, whose courage and prowess beat down the barriers in a thousand miles of trackless wilderness, overcome at last by the fatigues of added years, have lain their weary bones down to rest where sleep the brave and the just. We turn our thoughts to them today, and with hearts tureling with gratitude, we speak their names and tell anew their valorous deeds in hallowed reverence. To those of the Pioneers who have survived these early hardships and are here to participate with us in the general joy of this occasion, let us yield the place of honor, as the founders of our glorious commonwealth, and pay them the homage due their noble work.

As for those of us who followed in their wake, whether we came to Utah in the slow moving prairie schooner of frontier days, or in the lightning express train of more recent years, or whether born upon the soil, let us clasp hands upon this natal day and congratulate each other upon the happy solution of all past contentions and our succession to the full rights and privileges of citizenship in a free and sovereign State of the grandest republic the world has ever seen.

And while felicitating ourselves and our State upon her admission into the Union, let us not omit to congratulate the Union upon the acquisition of another commonwealth of magnificent proportions and superb possibilities. The grandeur of wealth with which nature has endowed her, the intelligence, industry and thrift of her people, energized by the vigor of her wonderful climate, give assurance that Utah will be a tower of strength to the national fabric supporting with sturdy might her share of the public burden and forming an element of national greatness which can but redound to the honor and glory of the republic.

So that both State and Nation have cause for exultation upon Utah's Statehood—The State, because of the great benefaction of constitutional government bestowed by a wise and generous Congress; the Nation because of the addition of a new commonwealth, pledged to the perpetuity of the Union, and possessed of infinite treasures which the State, upon her admission lays at the feet of the Nation. If I were asked to enumerate in more specific terms the riches that Utah affords the country as recompense for her Statehood, I should say she offers the gold and silver and lead and copper and iron of her mountains, the luxurious soil of her valleys, a matchless life saving climate, a most efficient public school system and the gladitude of a happy, homogeneous, patriotic people. She offers homes to settlers, investments to capitalists, work to the laborer, health to invalids, attractiveness to pleasure seekers, opportunity to fortune hunters. Utah, today stretches

forth her arms and beckons to the densely peopled districts of the East to come out and share her glories. She lifts up her voice in loyalty and love of country, and to the support and perpetuity of the Union, of which she becomes an integral part, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, her quarter of a million people pledge anew their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor.

It is usual at such a time as this, marking as it does an epoch in history, to permit the pertinent incidents of the past, leading up to the fruition of the present, to be reviewed and contemplated. The long period of Utah's probation, covering a period of nearly half a century, strewn as it is with thorns and roses, reveals her history with a charm and interest more than usually inviting, and so I shall proceed to a brief recital of those events which may be said to constitute the evolution of Utah's Statehood.

The first effort of the people to secure constitutional government was in 1849, eighteen months after the advent of the Pioneers, and one year after the signing of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, by which the soil they occupied was ceded from Mexico to the United States. A call for a convention was issued "to consider the political needs of the community." It was addressed to "all citizens of that portion of Upper California lying east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains." The convention assembled at Salt Lake City in March, and decided to petition Congress for a territorial form of government, and to organize, pending congressional action, a provisional state government. A committee appointed to draft and report a constitution for the temporary State of Deseret, consisted of Albert Carrington, Joseph L. Heywood, Wm. W. Phelps, David Fullmer, John S. Fullmer, Chas. C. Rich, John Taylor, Parley P. Pratt, John M. Bernhisel and Erastus Snow. The convention continued its deliberations on the 8th, 9th and 10th of March, and adopted the constitution reported by the committee. Its preamble was as follows:

"Whereas, A large number of citizens of the United States, before and since the treaty of peace with the Republic of Mexico, emigrated to, and settled in that portion of the territory of the United States lying west of the Rocky Mountains, and in the great interior basin of Upper California; and

Whereas, By reason of said treaty, all civil organization originating from the Republic of Mexico became abrogated; and

Whereas, The Congress of the United States has failed to provide a form of civil government for this territory so acquired, or any portion thereof; and

Whereas, Civil governments and laws are necessary for the security, peace and prosperity of society; and

Whereas, It is a fundamental principle in all republican governments that all political power is inherent in the people, and the governments instituted for their protection, security and benefit should emanate from the same.

Therefore, your committee beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following Constitution until the Congress of the United States, shall otherwise provide for the government of the territory hereinafter named and described by admitting us into the Union. We, the people, grateful to the Su-