



# Utah, the Pioneer Commonwealth of the Great West.



JOSEPH SMITH

Who Predicted the Settlement of the Rocky Mountains by the Latter-day Saints.

Citizens of the Beehive State Have Had Much to be Thankful For During the Year Which is Now So Rapidly Drawing to a Close—Agricultural, Mining and Manufacturing Industries all Unprecedentedly Prosperous—How Utah Was Founded.

Honor to them whose faithful toil  
Brought us the Blessings of our years;  
The fruits that gild our present's soil  
Were nurtured by their smiles and tears.



All that we know of ease, or reap  
Of comfort in our lives today  
Must like a gleaming milestone keep  
Their memory fresh upon our way.



SCENES OF EARLY-DAY UTAH.

Salt Lake the increase has probably been greater than in any other section of the State. Here hundreds of new homes have reared their shapes to give shelter and accommodation to their owners and beautify the most unique and picturesque city on the American continent.

## HISTORICAL.

Salt Lake City—"The City of the Saints." Who has not heard of it, and who having visited it has not been struck by its many unique and peculiarly distinct points of interest. Its attractions have been told in song and story so frequently that brevity must necessarily be the prevailing characteristic of this sketch.

As is well known Salt Lake City was founded by the "Mormon" Pioneers, who, led by President Brigham Young, entered the Salt Lake valley on July 24, 1847. In the original company were 143 souls, of whom three were women. The "Mormons" had been driven from Nauvoo after the assassination of the

Prophet Joseph Smith, and had their rallying point at a place called Winter Quarters, now Council Bluffs, Iowa. From here the migration westward was begun and was vigorously pushed forward until the fall of 1847, when the population had increased to about 2,000 souls. Treaties were promptly made with the various tribes of Indians and settlements were soon founded in all parts of Utah, and with the application of that thrift that has made "Mormonism" synonymous with industry the world over, an era of prosperity was inaugurated.

The difference between the site where the city now stands, contrasted with the bleak, desolate and uninviting appearance of fifty-four years ago, is about as great as can be imagined, save that its general surface was then as now, gently undulating and almost free from marked elevations or depressions. A short distance east of the Temple block the main stream of City creek divided into two branches, one of which flowed almost due west to the Jordan, nearly following the line of North Temple street. In fact the culvert on that street lies in the bed of the ancient stream much of the distance to the river. The other branch of the creek flowed in a southerly direction between what are now East Temple and State streets, and when its volume was too large to sink into the thirsty earth it overflowed the banks and emptied into the marshes to the southwest. Along the banks of these two streams were numerous clumps of scrub oak. Sloughs and marshes existed in the western and southwestern part of the city, and in that vicinity were limited areas covered with grass and rushes, but the greater part of the land now embraced within the city limits was dry and desert-like in appearance, and without vegetation except as, to a sparse covering of dwarfed sage brush, rabbit brush, salt weeds, the scrub oak referred to, and a few cottonwood trees and some willows. Its slope is general and in a southwesterly direction, while on the north and east the Wasatch mountains comprised an enclosing amphitheater.

## THE FUTURE CITY.

Grandeur of scope and environment characterized the site of the future city of the Saints in a marked degree; but its desert character and climate, destitution of useful fauna and flora, distance from civilization and seeming barrenness of natural resources would have deterred any but the "Mormon" Pioneers from an attempt at making a settlement in so forbidding a spot.

Mountains are a source of inspiration to the loftiest ideals and emotions, and the people of Utah hold in peculiar regard the majestic specimen of nature's architecture which towers over the northern part of the city, and to which the Pioneers, immediately after their arrival in the valley, gave the name of Ensign Peak. It is a striking landmark, plainly visible from every part of the city. It is surmounted by a steel flag staff 100 feet in height, from which Old Glory proudly floats on patriotic occasions. In form, height and dimensions the eminence is as majestic as its history is sacred, while the view from its summit is magnificent.

## AN INSPIRING SCENE.

Towering mountain ranges whose serried tops are tipped with caps of snow well high overhanging; a fertile valley of beautiful homes and farms and orchards redeemed from the most uninviting sterility; the world wide famous "Dead Sea of America," with its saline shores and irregular islands; the slowly winding and lazy Jordan which has its only counterpart in the Holy Land of old and the city of the Saints now set amidst a forest of beautiful shade trees, constitute the principal features of the picturesque scene that lays at the feet of the beholder.



BRIGHAM YOUNG

The Dauntless Leader Who Led His People to the "Promised Land" of the New World.

Utah, the Beehive State, the forty-fifth to enter the Union, has much to be thankful for in these closing hours of the first year of the new century. She has been blessed in basket and store. The soil, through the magic touch of irrigation, that life giving process which had its beginning in Utah, so far as its practical application in America is concerned, has yielded abundantly of the good things that

go to sustain man; the mountains have given up more of their precious millions than in any previous year; industrial conditions have been improved and extended; educational advancement has been steadily upward; no epidemic or great catastrophe has convulsed her people, who, on every hand, are marching forward to the music of a prosperity such as they never before enjoyed.

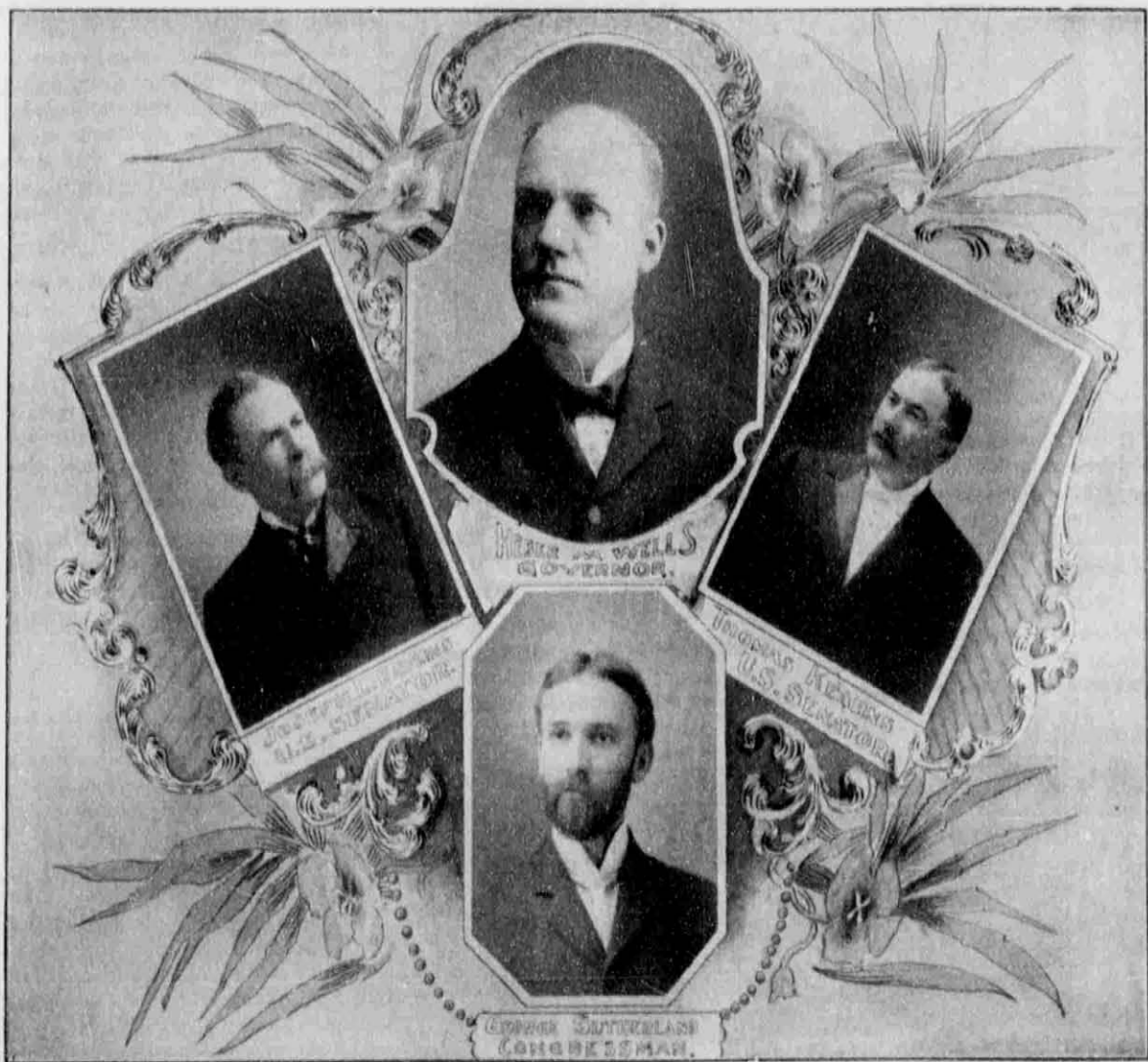
It can be conservatively estimated that the population of Utah is ten thousand more than it was last year when the Federal enumeration gave us a census showing of 276,749 souls. In

Brigham Young to the assembled Pioneers, as they were gathered for the first time on the present site of the Temple block in Salt Lake City. It was a solemn occasion. There were a few wagons, and tents and animals, the property of the Pioneer band of Israel. That band had just completed a long and wearisome journey for more than a thousand miles in a comparatively unknown country; a valley, to the human eye uninviting and in reputation among the few trappers who had visited it, inhospitable for civilized habitation, had been reached. The master spirit of the camp, in whom his people recognized an Apostle of the blessed Redeemer through whom came the voice of God to the Latter-day Israel, had declared

## A MOMENTOUS MEETING.

This was on the evening of July 28th. It was a momentous meeting. The assemblage had voted upon the location and a plan of the first city in the new land, and in the solemn grandeur of their position as installing a new dispensation of civilization amid the everlasting hills, had spoken one voice—not a dissent or a murmur; and under the inspiration of that hour they listened to the declaration that what they had done was in obedience to the instruction of their beloved martyr-

## UTAH'S UNITED STATES SENATORS, CONGRESSMEN AND GOVERNOR.



**SENATOR RAWLINS**—Utah's senior member in the United States Senate is Joseph L. Rawlins. He has ever been an active Democrat. He was born in Salt Lake March 28th, 1850, and lived on a farm until 18 years of age. He completed a classical course in the University of Indiana and was professor in the University of Deseret in this city for two years, until 1875; was admitted to the bar in that year and practiced his profession until his election as delegate to Congress in 1882; was elected to the Fifty-third Congress and defeated for the Fifty-fourth by Hon. Frank J. Cannon, and was elected to the United States Senate in 1897; took his seat March 4, 1897. His term of service will expire March 3, 1903.

**SENATOR KEARNS**—The junior representative of Utah in the upper house of the Congress of the United States is Thomas Kearns, the well known Silver King mine owner and multi-millionaire. Mr. Kearns is one of the youngest as well as one of the wealthiest members of the Senate. He is a native of Ontario, Canada, and was born in 1862. He went to Nebraska while a young man and lived there for several years, after which he drifted to Utah and became a mining prospector. As is well known he "struck it rich." He has taken an active part in politics and served as a member of the Constitutional convention. His senatorial term runs until March, 1907. In politics he is Republican.

**CONGRESSMAN SUTHERLAND**—Up to the present time Utah has but one congressman. He is George Sutherland, a well known Salt Lake lawyer. He was elected in the preliminary Republican tidal wave that swept Utah one year ago defeating Judge William H. King, Democrat, by a small margin. Mr. Sutherland is a native of Buckinghamshire, England, and was born in 1862. He came to Utah while a boy, where he graduated from the common schools, after which he took a degree as legal student in the University of Michigan. He was a member of the first Utah state legislature.

**GOVERNOR WELLS**—Heber Manning Wells is now giving the people of Utah his second administration as their chief executive. He is the only man who has been elected to the gubernatorial chair since Utah took on the form and dignity of statehood, which was in January, 1896. Prior to that he had held numerous civil positions of trust, among them a membership of the convention which framed the organic law for the new state. He was born in Salt Lake City in 1859, his parents being "Mormon" Pioneers. In political life he is known as a "stalwart Republican."

## COLORADO'S UNITED STATES SENATORS, CONGRESSMEN AND GOVERNOR.



**SENATOR TELLER**—Henry Moore Teller is perhaps the best known of all the western senators. He has been conspicuously before the country for more than a generation. He was born in the Empire State on May 12, 1839. For a brief period he followed teaching, but soon adopted the law as his calling. He lived for a time in Illinois but made Colorado his home in 1861. From '62 to '64 he was major-general of the Colorado militia; United States senator from '76 to '82; secretary of the Interior in President Arthur's cabinet from '82 to '85; re-elected as a Republican in '91, alienated from Republican party in '96 on account of financial panic; re-elected by Democrats in '97 for term expiring March 3, 1903.

**SENATOR PATTERSON**—Thomas M. Patterson entered upon a six-year term in the Senate on the 4th of March last. He is a native of Ireland and was born in 1840. His early education was received in Indiana. He moved to Colorado while a young man and commenced the practice of law. He served the territory as delegate and was the state's first congressman in 1876; purchased Rocky Mountain News in 1891 and has owned and edited it ever since; member of most of the Democratic national conventions since 1876; an uncompromising advocate of free silver and led the movement that gave Colorado's electoral vote to Weaver for President in 1892.

**CONGRESSMAN SHAFROTH**—John F. Shafroth, Silverite and lawyer, is a native of Missouri, a student of literature, practitioner of law and 47 years of age. In 1879 he moved to Colorado and has lived there ever since. He has filled different offices for the people of his state and is now serving his fourth term as congressman.

**CONGRESSMAN BELL**—John C. Bell, Populist, now a member of the Fifty-seventh Congress, enjoys the distinction of having been elected five times in succession. He was born in Tennessee in 1831, and has been a practicing lawyer for more than twenty-five years. He has been a citizen of the Continental state for about the same period.

**GOVERNOR ORMAN**—James Bradley Orman, governor of Colorado (1891-'97) is a strong type of the self-made man. He left his native state, Iowa, in 1869, when he was twenty years of age and made his home in Colorado, where he has taken an extraordinary part in its upbuilding. He has been made up miles of railroad and canals than any other man in Colorado. He has served as consulman and mayor in different cities of his state and has also represented the latter in the legislature. Twice he refused the gubernatorial nomination and once came within three votes of being elected to the United States Senate. He is a successful man of affairs and has never taken a vacation during his busy career.