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HISTORY

OF BRIGHAM YOUNG.

1842.

August 8.—Attended City Council.

Assisted by Elders H. C. Kimball and Geo. A. Smith I spent several days laboring with Elder Orson Pratt, whose mind became so darkened by the influence and statements of his wife, that he came out in rebellion against Joseph, refusing to believe his testimony or obey his counsel; he said he would believe his wife in preference to the Prophet. Joseph told him if he did believe his wife and follow her suggestions, he would go to hell.

We reported to the Prophet that we had labored with bro. Orson diligently in a spirit of meekness, forbearance and long-suffering; he requested us to ordain bro. Amasa Lyman in bro. Orson's stead. After receiving these instructions, we met bro. Orson near my house and continued to labor with him. He said to us, there is bro. Amasa Lyman in your house, bro. Young; he has been long in the ministry, go in and ordain him in my stead.

—20.—Bro. Orson Pratt was cut off from the church, and according to the Prophet's direction bro. H. C. Kimball, Geo. A. Smith and I ordained bro. Amasa Lyman in his stead.

—26.—Met in the evening in council with the Prophet Joseph and some of the Twelve. We received much good instruction and counsel from Joseph relative to the situation of the church, and the policy to be pursued in sending many elders through the States to preach the gospel, and disabuse the public mind in relation to the false statements of Dr. J. C. Bennett.

The Prophet also directed us to call a special conference on Monday next, and nominate the elders to go on this important mission, and give them their instructions; and that we should also get the affidavits against Dr. Bennett published, so that the elders might have authentic and strong testimony to lay before the public in relation to those matters.

—27.—Engaged with brother Joseph and others, preparing affidavits for the press.

—29.—Conference convened; Presidents Joseph and Hyrum Smith addressed the Saints: 380 elders volunteered to go immediately on the contemplated mission.

September 6.—With Elders Kimball and Lyman, I called upon the Prophet to counsel concerning our mission to the branches and people in the States.

—9.—I attended City Council, and gave in my notification of absence, and started on my mission and went to Lima.

—10.—I preached in Lima: here bro. H. C. Kimball, Geo. A. Smith and Amasa Lyman overtook me. We remained over Sunday, the 11th, and preached to a large congregation at the Grove in Lima, and showed the falsity of Bennett's statements. We ordained 19 elders and baptized 12.

—17 and 18.—Elders Kimball, Smith, Lyman and myself held a conference at Quincy in the Court House. We exposed the course of Bennett and the mobocrats, and disabused the public mind, to some extent, of the prejudices recently imbibed. Governor Carlin attended one meeting.

—24 and 25.—Attended conference at Payson; Elder Kimball and myself preached.

I endeavored to get the affidavits against Dr. J. C. Bennett inserted in the Whig and Herald, at Quincy, but they refused to print them on any terms. I returned to Nauvoo, and had a number of them struck off as hand-bills for circulation.

I proceeded to Atlas, and found Elder Kimball; we preached in Col. Ross' brick house.

October 8 and 9.—Attended conference at Pittsfield; Elders Kimball, Smith, Lyman and

myself preached. We proceeded to Glasgow, and held a two days meeting. I sharply re-proved Elder Howard Smith, the presiding elder, for his indolence and folly. He attempted to instruct me how to preach, in a foolish braggadocio manner.

—15 and 16.—We attended conference at Apple Creek; Elders Kimball, Smith, Lyman and myself preached. Bro. Kimball and I staid at Esq. Walker's.

Elder Kimball and I went to Jacksonville and preached; we proceeded to Springfield and preached; from thence we returned to Jacksonville and attended a two day's meeting in the Court House, which Elders Geo. A. Smith and Amasa Lyman also attended. We went to Morgan City, and held a two day's meeting; staid with bro. Augustus Farnham. Nearly all these conferences and meetings were numerously attended. We continued preaching from place to place until

November 4, when I returned to Nauvoo with Elder Kimball.

—9.—Attended City Council, and with Elders John Taylor and Orson Spencer was appointed a committee, to draft a bill for an ordinance to regulate writs of habeas corpus, and the mode of procedure in such cases.

—10 and 12.—Attended adjourned meetings of the City Council.

—14.—Attended City Council, when an ordinance was passed regulating the procedure on writs of habeas corpus.

—21.—I met with the Twelve at Elder Kimball's; we unanimously decided that the printing of the Millennium Star and other church publications cease on the return of Elder Parley P. Pratt from England, and I wrote a letter to that effect to the editor of the Star.

—26.—I was suddenly attacked with a slight fit of apoplexy. Next morning I felt quite comfortable, but in the evening, at the same hour that I had the fit the day before, I was attacked with the most violent fever I ever experienced. The Prophet Joseph and Elder Willard Richards visited and administered unto me; the Prophet prophesied that I should live and recover from my sickness. He sat by me for six hours, and directed my attendants what to do for me. In about thirty hours from the time of my being attacked by the fever, the skin began to peel from my body, and I was skinned all over. I desired to be baptized in the river, but it was not until the 14th day that bro. Joseph would give his consent for me to be showered with cold water, when my fever began to break, and it left me on the 18th day: I laid upon my back, and was not turned upon my side for 18 days.

I laid in a log house which was rather open; it was so very cold during my sickness that bro. Isaac Decker, my attendant, froze his fingers and toes while fanning me, with boots, greatcoat and mittens on, and with a fire in the house, from which I was shielded by a blanket.

When the fever left me on the 18th day, I was bolstered up in my chair, but was so near gone that I could not close my eyes, which were set in my head, my chin dropped down, and my breath stopped. My wife seeing my situation threw some cold water in my face; that having no effect, she dashed a handful of strong camphor into my face and eyes, which I did not feel in the least, neither did I move a muscle. She then held my nostrils between her thumb and finger, and placing her mouth directly over mine, blew into my lungs until she filled them with air; this set my lungs in motion, and I again began to breathe. While this was going on I was perfectly conscious of all that was passing around me; my spirit was as vivid as it ever was in my life, but I had no feeling in my body.

January 11, 1843.—The quorum of the Twelve wrote a proclamation to the Saints, to observe the 17th inst., as a day of humiliation, fasting, prayer and thanksgiving for the great blessings which our Heavenly Father has conferred on us in the deliverance of our beloved President Joseph Smith, who has been honorably discharged from his arrest under the Missouri writ by the U. S. District Court of Illinois; Judge Pope presiding.

—18.—I had the pleasure of attending a feast, to which bro. Joseph had invited his friends, as a memento of his release from the

Missouri writ by the U. S. District Court of Illinois. This was the first time that I had been out of my house since my sickness.

—20.—I attended council with the Prophet and the Twelve at my house, in regard to Orson Pratt, who had confessed his sins and manifested deep repentance, which resulted in his baptism and re-ordination by the Prophet to his forming standing in the quorum of the Twelve: bro. Joseph Smith said that he would find another place for bro. Amasa Lyman.

February 6.—I was re-elected a member of the City Council.

—7.—There was a council of the Twelve at my house. Bro. Joseph Smith attended and gave us instructions.

—10.—Met with the Twelve and the Prophet at his house.

—18.—Wrote a letter to the branch of the church at La Harpe.

—24.—Spent the day with the Prophet on business.

March 1.—Wrote a letter to the branch of the church at Ramus, instructing them in relation to their privileges and duties in sustaining the Prophet of God, while he was bringing forth revelations to the church, translating, and attending to history.

—2.—Bro. O. Hyde and I spent the day at Elder Kimball's, with our wives.

—5 (Sunday).—Attended meeting at father Alley's: Elder Kimball preached.

—11.—I started at 9 a.m., in company with the Prophet Joseph, for Ramus.

—12 (Sunday).—Joseph preached in the morning, and I in the afternoon.

—13.—Attended a church meeting. Staid at bro. B. F. Johnson's.

—14.—Returned home in a severe snow storm.

—28.—I visited Elder George A. Smith, who was sick.

April 1.—Elder Taylor and I went to La Harpe, preached four times, and returned on the 3rd.

—6, 7 and 8.—Attended the annual conference of the church, and was appointed, with my brethren of the Twelve, to collect funds for the Temple and Nauvoo House. We were required to give bonds that we would pay over all the funds we received for that purpose.

—10, 11 and 12.—Attended special conference, when 115 elders were sent on missions throughout the States, and appointed their several fields of labor. Twenty-two brethren were ordained elders. I instructed the missionaries at length on the duties required at their hands, and was followed by several of the Twelve.

—18 and 19.—Met in council with the quorum of the Twelve at Joseph's office, when Joseph gave us much instruction pertaining to our labors the ensuing summer, and also gave us directions to wake up the people in relation to the importance of building the Nauvoo House, as there was a prejudice against it, in favor of the Temple.

—23 (Sunday).—Attended meeting at the stand; most of the Twelve were present. I preached in the forenoon, and Elder Parley P. Pratt in the afternoon.

—24.—Attended council with the Twelve at bro. Joseph's office, on the affairs of the Nauvoo House.

—29.—I, in company with Elders Kimball, Woodruff, Geo. A. Smith and Joseph Young rode to Augusta, and held a meeting on Sunday, 30th; about 200 Saints were present. We preached on the subject of the building of the Nauvoo House; many promised us assistance in building it; had a good time.

May 2.—We returned to Nauvoo.

—6.—I went to La Harpe, and preached on Sunday, the 7th, in the morning. Brothers Nicols and Tufts preached in the afternoon.

—11.—Met in council with the Twelve, and appointed missionaries to Great Britain, Ireland and the Pacific Isles.

—12.—Attended council with the Twelve. We decided to hold conferences in Ramus, La Harpe and Lima. I went to La Harpe and preached on Sunday, the 14th.

—16.—Attended council with the Twelve, when it was voted that John E. Page should repair to Cincinnati, and wait until the quorum arrived.

—23.—Attended council with the Twelve, when the missionaries appointed for the Isles

were instructed in their duties and set apart by the laying on of the hands of the quorum.

—26.—Met with the Prophet Joseph, the Patriarch Hyrum, bro. Kimball and Richards, Judge James Adams, and Bishop N. K. Whitney, receiving our endowments and instructions in the priesthood. The Prophet Joseph administered to us the first ordinances of endowment, and gave us instructions on the priesthood and the new and everlasting covenant.

—28 (Sunday).—I met with brothers Joseph, Hyrum, Heber, Willard, Bishop Whitney and Judge Adams, when we administered to bro. Joseph the same ordinances of endowment, and of the holy priesthood which he administered unto us.

—29.—Met at 9 a.m., with the same brethren, when Joseph instructed us further in principles pertaining to the holy priesthood.

Six p.m., attended council with the Twelve, and wrote to the Saints in Philadelphia, who were desirous of observing the counsel of God, to remove without delay to Nauvoo: also appointed a few more elders on missions.

—30.—Met in Joseph's office with the Twelve, and executed bonds for \$2,000 as an agent to sell stock for the Nauvoo House: Dr. J. M. Bernhisel was my security. I received 300 shares in stock certificates, value \$15,000.

—31.—I moved out of my log cabin into my new brick house, which was 22 feet by 16, two stories high, and a good cellar under it; and I felt thankful to God for the privilege of having a comfortable, though small habitation.

June 1.—I met with the Twelve in Joseph's office, pertaining to starting on our missions to collect funds for the Temple and Nauvoo House, and received the following letter of recommendation:—

"To all the Saints and honorable men of the earth, greeting:—

Dear Brethren and Friends:—I, Joseph Smith, a servant of the Lord, and Trustee in Trust for the Temple of the Lord at Nauvoo, do hereby certify that the bearer hereof, Brigham Young, an elder and one of the Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, has deposited with me his bond and security, to my full satisfaction, according to the resolution of the conference, held in this city on the 6th day of April last.

He, therefore, is recommended to all Saints and honorable people, as a legal agent to collect funds for the purpose of building the Nauvoo House and Temple of the Lord, confident that he will honor this high trust, as well as ardently fulfil his commission as a messenger of peace and salvation, as one of the Lord's noble men, I can fervently say, may the Lord clear his way before him, and bless him, and bless those that obey his teachings wherever there are ears to hear, and hearts to feel.

He is worthy to be received and entertained as a man of God; wherefore, brethren and friends, while you have the assurance of the integrity, fidelity, and ability of this servant of the living God, I trust that your hearts and energies will be enlivened and deeply engaged in the building of these houses, directed by revelation for the salvation of all Saints; and that you will not rest where you are, until all things are prepared before you, and you are gathered home with the rest of Israel to meet your God. I feel strong in the belief, and have a growing expectation, that you will not withhold any means in your power that can be used to accomplish this glorious work. Finally, as one that greatly desires the salvation of man, let me remind you all to strive with a godly zeal for virtue, holiness, and the commandments of the Lord. Be good, be wise, be just, be liberal, and above all be charitable, always abounding in all good works, and may health, peace, and the love of God, our Father, and the grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord, be and abide with you all, is the sincere prayer of

Your devoted brother and friend,

In the everlasting gospel,

JOSEPH SMITH.

City of Nauvoo, June 1, 1843.

—4.—Went to Bear Creek, visited the Saints, held a meeting and preached on the subject of the building of the Nauvoo House and Temple; also visited the Knowlton Settlement, and addressed the Saints on the same subject, and returned home on the 5th.

—9.—Went to Carthage, accompanied by my brother Phineas H., and from thence to my brother Lorenzo D. Young's.

—10.—Went to La Harpe and preached on the 11th, in the morning, and was followed by my brother Phineas H. In the afternoon I taught the Saints in the South School House, and stirred up the brethren on the importance of building the houses commanded us by the Lord. Staid at bro. Hampton's all night.

—12.—We returned to Nauvoo.

—13.—In company with my brothers Phineas H. and Lorenzo D., I went to bro. Decker's.