

providing for the election of general officers, he was re-elected Lieutenant General April 6, 1857. In the Indian troubles that arose in Utah County and afterwards in Sanpete County, General Wells took the field in person, routing the savages at Provo, Battle Creek and Payson, and saving the Sanpete and Sevier settlements from the disasters that subsequently threatened them.

These Indian campaigns were conducted with great military skill and success, and cost a great deal of money; men, munitions and provisions having to be largely furnished from Salt Lake City and the north. A claim for over a million dollars against the United States remains to this day unpaid, though made out in due and detailed form, in the same manner as the Oregon claim which was settled long ago.

General Wells was in command of the Echo Canyon expedition and conducted it with signal skill, under the direction of Governor Brigham Young, without shedding "one drop of blood." His fearless character, cool head and executive talent were here exhibited in a manner that won for him unfading renown among the "Mormon" people.

Hon. D. H. Wells was a member of the Legislative Council in the Territorial Assembly for many terms, and of all the conventions that framed constitutions for Utah's Statehood except the last. His clear perception of legal points and strong regard for constitutional principles rendered him a valuable adviser and able legislator.

On the 4th of January, 1857, Brother Wells was appointed Second Counselor to President Brigham Young, filling the vacancy occasioned by the death of President Jedediah M. Grant. Brother Wells had been ordained an Apostle and with Presidents Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball he visited the Saints throughout the Territory, aided in locating and organizing many settlements, and gave counsel in relation to the affairs of the Church. He was also the Superintendent of Public Works, occupying that position until 1864. In the absence of President Young he was frequently left in charge of affairs, and was looked to for advice in important matters.

On the 28th of October, 1871, President Wells was arrested on a trumped up charge of being accessory to the murder of Richard Yates at the mouth of Echo Canyon in 1857. The notorious Bill Hickman confessed to having done the deed, but was induced to implicate General Wells, alleging that the occurrence took place while he

was in charge of the Echo Canyon expedition. He was sent to Fort Douglas for safe keeping where he received the most courteous treatment from Gen. Morrow, who regarded the whole proceeding as an outrage. However, on Monday, the 31st, being brought before Judge McKean, application was made that he be admitted to bail. His attorneys advised him that such an application would be in vain, but his confidence was complete that he would be successful, and he insisted that the attempt should be made. In spite of the claim of the prosecution that this was a charge of murder in the first degree, Judge McKean took into consideration all the circumstances, including the fact that the defendant was Mayor of the city, and to the surprise of the entire community he accepted bail in the sum of \$50,000—the prosecution demanding half a million—and the prisoner was released. The whole charge, of course, fell to the ground, as there was not the slightest foundation for it in fact.

In the summer of 1876 he was placed in charge of a company to visit and encourage the newly started settlements in Arizona. While crossing the Colorado River at Lee's Ferry, the boat, containing his traveling wagon and outfit and a number of the party, was capsized and thrown into the rushing and turbulent stream. He was only an indifferent swimmer, but though weighed down with his boots and clothing he calmly struck out for the shore, reaching it without wetting his necktie. He always regarded his escape as miraculous, feeling as though unseen hands were supporting him. Bishop Roundy, who was regarded as an expert swimmer, was drowned, and the whole outfit was swept away and lost.

His position as one of the First Presidency, he occupied until the decease of President Young, August 29th, 1877. Then the Twelve Apostles succeeding to the Presidency, Brother Wells was appointed a Counselor to that Quorum, and held the place until his death. In 1864 he went on a mission to England, and with Elder Brigham Young, Jr., presided over all the branches in Europe, visiting various countries, ministering to the people and superintending the emigration. He returned to Utah in the fall of 1865, and in 1868 took charge of the Endowment House, where he ministered in the sacred ordinances for the living and the dead for many years. In February, 1868, he was elected Mayor of Salt Lake City. He was re-elected successively until 1876. The first occasion on which women exercised the elective franchise in Utah was on the 14th of February,

1870, when they cast their ballots for D. H. Wells for Mayor and for the other members of the City Council.

In 1872 he was one of the prime movers in starting the gas works in this city, in which he largely invested and which have been successful to the present day.

At the general election on August 3rd, 1874, when a Delegate to Congress was to be elected, R. N. Baskin had been nominated as the "Liberal" candidate, in opposition to Hon. George Q. Cannon, and the U. S. Marshal, General Maxwell, attempted to take control of the election. No trouble occurred except at the Fifth Precinct, the polling place for which was at the City Hall. Here a large number of armed deputy marshals with a mob of "Liberals" interfered with the police in their efforts to preserve the peace. Some arrests being made by the police, they were in turn arrested by deputy marshals, and excitement ran high. Mayor Wells was on the spot and endeavored to keep down the tumult. He was set upon by the mob, brutally struck and his coat nearly torn from his back. The police came to his rescue, the mob was forced back, and the Mayor appeared on the balcony, and amid cries of "Shoot him! shoot him!" he read the riot act and commanded the police to disperse the crowd. This was done at the expense of some broken heads, but was effectual, and the Mayor and police held their places and vindicated the law. He was, next morning, arrested and put under \$4000 bonds. The Chief of Police and several of his officers were also arrested, but the whole matter was dropped and it was everywhere acknowledged that the city officials simply did their duty, and that Mayor Wells had exhibited fearless determination, maintained the dignity of his office and prevented the serious conflict desired by those who provoked the disturbance, to be used for political purposes.

When on March 11, 1875, President Young was sent to the Penitentiary for contempt of court in not complying with an absurd order by Judge McKean, President Wells accompanied him and stayed with him until his release; his imprisonment, however, lasted but one day. Judge McKean lost his official head for this act of tyrannical folly.

In 1879 Brother Wells again saw the inside of the Penitentiary, this time being imprisoned himself for contempt of court in refusing to disclose the secret and sacred rites of the Endowment House. As a witness in the Miles polygamy case on May 2nd, he was interrogated by the Prosecuting