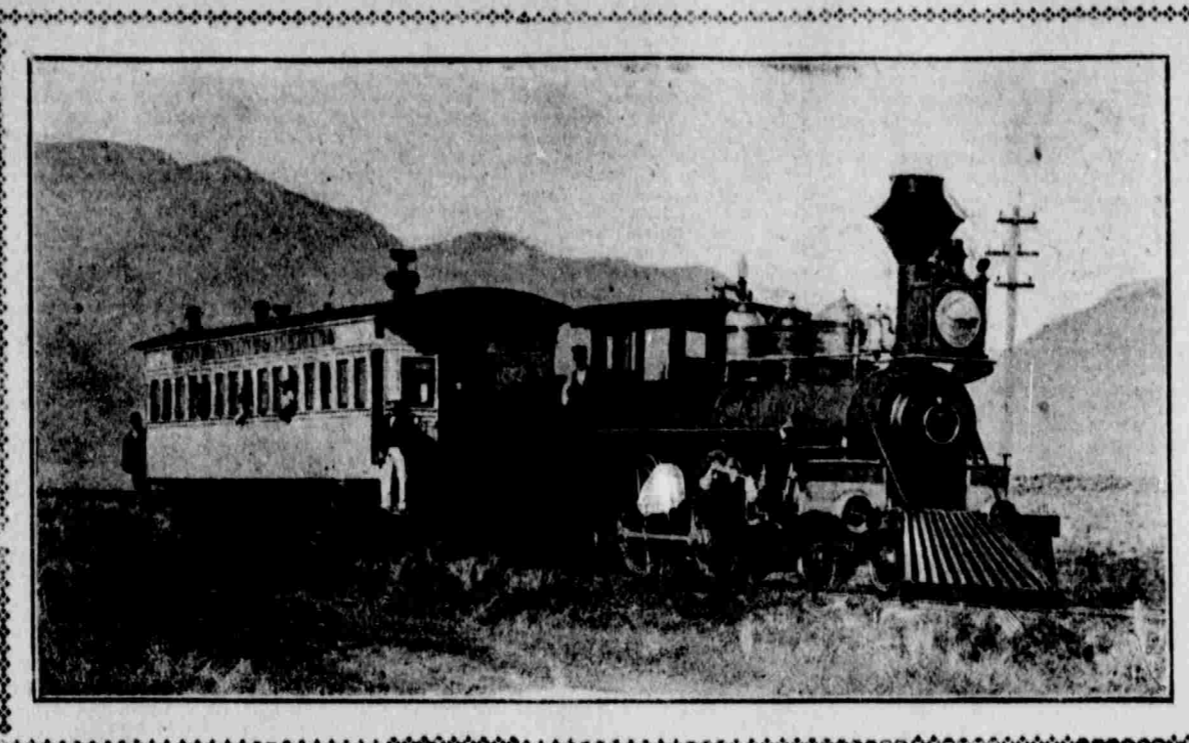


EXODUS OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
PLANNED BY JOSEPH SMITH.

Interesting Testimony of
Patriarch Samuel Richards,
At the Seventy-Sixth Semi-Annual Conference of the Church
Of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in the Tabernacle, Salt
Lake City, Sunday, October 8, 1905.

My brethren, sisters and friends,
Quite unexpected to me prior to coming
to this meeting, I have been requested
to say a few words to you on some
matters touching my history and ex-
periences with the Prophet Joseph
Smith. I am thankful that I can say I
was quite intimate with him while he
was living upon the earth. There is a
little experience I had with him that
I would like to share with you today.
In the winter of 1843-4, about
six months prior to the death of the
Prophet Joseph Smith, a messenger
came from Nauvoo to ask me
to go to explore the Rocky Mountains
and find a place for the Church to
settle. At that time I thought it
strange that I should be called
upon for a mission of this kind. I
was but a young man, in my teens, and
I thought that I was in my power
to do anything that the Prophet Joseph
wants me to do. Consequently I gave my
name to be one of a company of twenty-
four young men, who were selected to
travel and explore the Rocky Moun-
tains and find a place for the Church
to settle. The persecution was get-
ting so strong then in Nauvoo that the
Prophet Joseph foresaw that the
Church would have to leave from the
civilized world, and go into the
mountains. This was then a wild coun-
try. I am reminded that when I was in
Europe, in the early fifties, it was re-
ported to the British government that
I was emigrating many people from
Great Britain into a wild country,
where they were liable to perish, and it
was thought that this emigration ought
to be stopped. Because of this I was
ordered to appear in London and give
an account of what I was doing. I
was then presiding over the British
mission, and emigrated many people to
this country. I responded to this
call, and spent about five hours before
a committee of 16 members of Parlia-
ment, telling them what I was doing,
and how I had been to the mountains
and knew what it was. I told them
that I was sending people to a country
where they could own a farm and be as
independent in their living as the lords
and peers were there. I satisfied them,
and they all shook hands with me at
the end of our interview and wished me
well, and I was invited by a number
of them to come again to London
and spend some time with them. I
speak of this to show that the feeling
of the people at that time was that
this was a wild country, and we were
coming here to perish.
It was the purpose of the Prophet
Joseph to come here and locate with
his people. He organized this company
and held weekly meetings with them
for several weeks in Nauvoo, and when
he was finally instructed, as he
thought, to properly understand
the character of the mountains and
mission and fit-out, he went across
the river and made a start to go toward
the mountains. It was his intention to
go to the mountains with us, as a com-
pany of pioneers. But he was follow-
ed by those that did not like the idea of
his leaving, and while they were plead-
ing with him to return, he told them,
"If I go back, I will be slain by the
slaughter." Nevertheless, they deter-
mined he should return, and he went
back to Nauvoo. From there he went
to Carthage, and we all know the his-
tory that followed.
I attended four meetings
of this company, and at one of
them, and in charge of Hyrum
Smith, and three or four of the twelve
others, he said that he was glad
Joseph the Prophet had remarked that
he wanted young men for that mission
who could go upon the mountains and
talk with God face to face, as Moses
did upon Mount Sinai. When I heard
that statement, I felt in my soul that
I was not the one to go, and just be-
fore the meeting closed I got up out
of my seat for the purpose of going to
Brother Hyrum Smith and telling him



THE FIRST TRAIN TO ENTER SALT LAKE CITY.

The accompanying picture, taken of the first train to enter Salt Lake is a copy of what is claimed to be the only photograph in existence. This picture was taken at 11:15 a. m. on January 10, 1870, after the train had left Ogden and was nearing Farmington. The original is in the possession of H. S. Bell, who is a cook in a lunch room, 137 West Second South, and who was one of the party to make the initial trip. At the time this was taken, the Oregon Short Line had not even been thought of, and the road was known as the Utah Central. This in due season was absorbed by the Union Pacific and Short Line interests and the old right-of-way is now part of the main line between Salt Lake and Ogden.
An effort was made to obtain a roster of the party on board, but with meager success. However, the engineer who is posing as the guide, is Robert Bolt, who retired years ago, and is now believed to be residing at Idaho Falls. The gentleman standing on the front steps of the car is John Reeve, for a long time agent of the Utah Central at Ogden, and who also now resides in the Gem State. The negative of the picture was accidentally smashed years ago. Mr. Bell says he would not take \$25 for the original picture.

possible, with proper methods of culti-
vation to produce as high as 35 bush-
els of wheat every other year with an
annual rainfall of about 14 inches.
Keeping in mind this crop-producing
power of the natural precipitation, it
is certainly proper to assert that the
first consideration of the irrigation
farmer should be the conservation of
the rain and snowfall on his farm.
With six to 12 acre inches of water
in the soil in the spring the irriga-
tion farmer does not need very much
water to mature any ordinary crop. On
such a soil irrigation should be ap-
plied only at the critical periods in mid
and late summer. In short, irrigation
should be supplemental only to the
natural precipitation. Where the rainfall
is high the duty of water should be
consequently high; where it is low,
the duty of water should likewise be
low.
The failure to appreciate this prin-
ciple has led to much disaster on the
irrigated farms. In the interest of
economical, rational irrigation, every
farmer should be taught that the ir-
rigation stream is only supplemental
to rain and snowfall.
HOW TO CONSERVE THE NATURAL
PRECIPITATION.
To conserve the natural precipitation
the western farmer must practise fall
plowing, and in the spring the top soil
must be carefully stirred and smoothed
to prevent the evaporation of soil water.
Moreover, since land is plentiful and
water is scarce, it would be well to let
a portion of land lie fallow every year,
for the purpose of gathering two
years' precipitation for the use of one
crop. Were the annual crops of the
west planted on fall plowed fallow soils,
there would be general need of irri-
gation water only at the late critical peri-
ods. The arguments against fallow-
ing, urged in the east, do not hold in
the west. In the east soils are fallow-
ed for fertility; in the west for water.
FALL AND SPRING IRRIGATION.
The best water reservoir yet found

is a deep, uniform soil, such as occurs
over a large portion of the west. In
many places much of the fall water
is lost to waste. It should always be
stored in soils that are to be cropped
the following year. The early spring
waters should, likewise, be run into the
soils and made to do duty in producing
crops. As before remarked, soils well
stocked with water in the spring usually
are able to carry crops through the
season without much irrigation. The ir-
rigation of such fields is valuable chiefly
in increasing the yield and making the
plant safe during the critical heated
periods.
It does not matter so much when the
water enters the soil. The chief thing
is to get sufficient moisture into it. If
the wasted waters of fall and spring
were used on the fields, the duty of
the irrigation stream would again be
materially increased.
It is a crime against the interests of
the arid west to let either fall or
spring water run to waste.
AN EXPERIMENT ON THE VALUE
OF THE NATURAL PRE-
CIPITATION.
On a typical great basin soil, classed
as a medium loam, observations have
been made for the purpose
of determining how much of the
natural precipitation may be re-
tained in the soil. In the fall,
about the middle of August, after
the wheat harvest, the soil was found
to contain 3 per cent of moisture to a
depth of eight feet. It is an interest-
ing fact that, on similar soils, it ap-
pears that wheat can not reduce the
soil moisture below 9 per cent. On
May 4 of the following spring the soil
was again examined and found to
contain an average of 17 per cent of
moisture to a depth of eight feet. Even-
ing the wheat harvest, the soil contains
15.6 per cent of water in nearly equiv-
alent to 29 acre inches of water. De-
duct from this depth 10.5 acre inches,
the equivalent of the water found in
the soil in the fall, and there remain
15.1 inches, which must have been added
to the soil as rain and snow. During

THE SUPPLEMENTAL
VALUE OF IRRIGATION.

By Dr. John A. Widtsoer, Director Department of Agriculture, B. Y. University,
Provo, Utah.
THERE are two distinct phases
to the work of reclaiming our
desert lands by irrigation. The
impounding and distribution of
the waters by mighty dams and canals
form the first; and the proper and
economical use of the water on the
farms, the second. The former of nec-
essity precedes the latter, but when
the labor expended on the vast irrigat-
ed areas, and the possible resulting
crops, are stated in dollars and cents, it
can not be denied that the proper
use of the irrigation water is, finan-
cially, superior to the money invested
in the construction of dams and canals.
The accumulated effects of errors in
the use of water, in one year, may re-
sult equal a large preparation of the
total cost of the works under which the
lands lie.
At the present time much is said
about the reservoirs and canals to be
built; unfortunately, much less is said



CAPT. MARK CASTO, HERO.

Captain Mark Casto and his little crew who rescued the passengers
and crew of the Clyde liner Cherokee in one of the worst gales in years
of Atlantic City last week, are being showered with honors on all sides.
The Jersey legislature passed a resolution providing for the presentation
of medals to Capt. Casto and his crew in recognition of their courage and
heroism.
A subscription fund had been started which it is expected will amount
to the thousands. Casto will be recommended for a Carnegie hero medal,
and it is said that the Atlantic City council will order that special medals
be struck for the captain and his crew. Mayor Stoy sent an official letter
to the captain thanking him in the name of the city for the heroism he and
his men had displayed. William W. Handley, United States Consul in Puerto
Plata, who was one of the Cherokee's passengers went to Washington with
the statement that he would not rest until the government had officially
recognized the bravery of Casto and the men who manned the little rescu-
ing schooner Alberta.

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and will not perform their duties unless
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