

blockading her ports, the difficulty of intercepting contraband commerce with Asiatic and Pacific island ports and the peril to the Pacific ports of the Union should California secede was seriously considered and quick communication for the transmission of orders and informing the loyal people of the state of the situation and successes of the Union cause presented a factor in assisting her to remain in the Union. So the pony was maintained until the telegraph lines approaching from the east and west were united, when it was withdrawn, having existed only about a year and a half. And although this time in consequence may attach to the exploits of the men who carried it, and unlike Paul Revere's he not commemorated in heroic story, they were greeted with many a cheer as they sped over mountain, dale and plain, heralding the success and misfortunes of the Union. And the life was as perilous, their devotion as constant and their exertions as essential to its cause as if they had worn the martial regalia of their country instead of the cowboy guise in which they have been depicted.

WM. P. APPLEBY.

MILLARD AND THE JUBILEE.

FILLMORE CITY, Utah, July 17, 1897.—Millard county, mainly on account of distance from Salt Lake City, may not have a distinctive or imposing display in the great Jubilee procession on the 24th of July. But her patriotism still burns with the steady glow of fifty years ago, and our venerable Pioneers will be there to bend the knee in gratitude to the Father who has kept the promise of His servant Brigham when he stuck his cane on the ground and said, "Here we will build a Temple to the Lord."

Our dear old friends who heard that brave assertion, then stood upon that spot, foot sore, ragged and houseless in the desert; far removed from the voice of friendship, and rich in nothing but their faith in God, whose voice spake to chase, producing the glories of today. Let the brave old souls pass reverentially into that sacred edifice and bow their tottering knees to prayer, while the divine halo rests upon their whitened heads and sanctifies their faithful lives.

Millard county will also be represented by some of her active, leading citizens, and a queen whose beauty and virtues are worthy of the honored name she bears.

Our county is the largest in the State in area, but modest in population, from the lack of water sufficient to bring into cultivation the many thousands of acres of excellent land, in the most even and healthful climate in the West. But this condition we hope soon to be changed by the magic of man's enterprise, for we already have in existence several great undertakings to reservoir the waters hitherto going to waste, and to apply them in the development of one great county. Among these are the Central Utah Land & Irrigation company; also the Clear Lake Land and Irrigation company. Both of these are large undertakings, with excellent prospects of success.

We also have now well under way

the greatest undertaking of the kind in America, viz. the Lake Bonneville Water and Power company the cost of this system will be immense, and will bring under cultivation 250,000 acres of excellent land, in the fertile Pabunt valley. Millard county also has upon her western limit, the Snake Valley Land and Water company's enterprise, which is the building of a reservoir with a view to the reclamation of 50,000 acres of land in a almost paradisaical valley. The enterprise is almost completed and will add greatly to the wealth of the State.

Our county is not without very encouraging mineral prospects. We have large bodies of sulphur and the greatest pumice stone mines in the country. We have gypsum, onyx, black marble, the finest quality of red mineral paint, and an excellent coal prospect near Kanosh is now being developed. Some of our citizens have hope that in the near future the bomb of the miner's blast will be heard here revealing the hidden riches in the bosom of our grand old mountains for the latest returns have given them from a very large body of quartz \$7.70 in gold.

Fillmore has two successful cheese factories and a third in contemplation. In the center of our city stands the venerable historic state house, built under adverse circumstances, and within whose walls, in 1855, in legislative council, was heard the voice of Governor Brigham Young, supported by his unfaltering coadjutors, George A. Smith and Smith and Heber C. Kimball, encouraging the people to go forth and subdue the land—no mean undertaking in those days, when the red man sought to block the way. The very stones of our streets today testify of the toil and danger of those times, as we ride upon Main street over the foundation of the old fort wall, built in those days of poverty and faith, as a protection against the hostile aborigines whose enmity often meant death.

It was in our country that by the Red Man's hand the brave Gunnison fell in the pursuit of duty, and from its borders most of his butchers have passed in ignominious death; a remnant only are left to be led by the hand of pity. They have been supplanted by thousands of happy homes, whose owners stand ready to bid a welcome to ten thousand more who will honestly bear a hand to push on the wheel of progress and redeem our land.

Yes, Millard may not be very noticeable in the Jubilee parade, but is full of faith and confidence in her future developments. GEO. CRANE.

OLDEST LIVING PIONEER.

FRANKLIN, Idaho,
July 19th, 1897.

Mrs. Sarah Meeks, wife of Dr. Fridly Meeks, who it is claimed is the oldest pioneer now living, was born December 12, 1802, at Elizabeth Town, Harden county, state of Kentucky, making her now 94 years and a little over seven months old. She joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the year 1840 and moved to the city of Nauvoo in 1842. She lived in Nauvoo about four years, was there when the Prophet Joseph was killed

and saw him after he was dead. Her husband, Dr. Meeks, after the Prophet's death, was imprisoned for the Gospel sake in Carthage jail and saw the blood of the Prophet and Patriarch as it stained the floor of the prison which never could be erased. She left Nauvoo in year 1846. Spent the following winter in preparing for the journey to the valleys of the mountain. In June, 1847, she left Council Bluffs with Jeremiah M. Grant's company and started west, and arrived in Salt Lake October 1, 1847. She remained there about four years sharing the joys and hardships of those early times, and then moved to Parowan, Iron county, arriving there during the month of May, 1851. While living at Parowan she was set apart under the hands of Apostle Geo. A. Smith to labor among the sick, which calling she appeared to be practically adapted. She made her home at Parowan about ten years, then moved to Harrisburg, Washington county, in the fall of 1861.

When President Brigham Young introduced the united order both she and her husband entered into that order with zeal and energy. They left Harrisburg and located themselves in a little town called Orderville, in Kane county, where her husband died. She is now living at Leeds with her only surviving child, Mrs. Peggy Jane Hamilton. She is the mother of six children, and as implied, five of them have passed away. She has a numerous posterity of grand and great grandchildren.

Mother Meeks, owing to her age, is now very feeble, not able to leave her bed, but she is uncommon sound in mind for a person of her age. Her memory is most excellent. She will now relate almost every important event of her life, giving days and dates, and that correctly. Much of the early Church history she will now relate and loves to talk on the subject. We are indebted to her direct from her own lips, for much that we have written, especially the dates, and much more that time and space will not permit us to write in this short sketch. She told us she wished to bear her testimony to the truth of the Gospel and have it recorded in this article. She said she knew it was true; and during all the changing scenes and trials of her long and eventful life, she never had seen one thing that caused her to disbelieve or to slacken in her faith. It is much regretted by herself, relatives and friends that she is not able to attend the Semi-centennial Jubilee now being celebrated.

The writer of this article has known her for now near fifty-five years, and is pleased of this opportunity of bearing his testimony that she is one of the Lord's noble women. Her age caused her services to slacken among the people as pertaining to her calling in sickness. The loss of her labors is keenly felt.

B. Y. MCMULLIN.

PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

MINERSVILLE, Beaver Co., Utah,
July 20, 1897.

My father, John Murdock, left Nauvoo and crossed the Mississippi river May 3, 1846, with his family, consist-