

## PIONEER DAY.

The Celebration Exercises Held in this City Yesterday.

OBSERVANCE OF THE FORTY FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION.

Forty-one years ago yesterday, July 24th, the company of Pioneers entered the valley of the Great Salt Lake. In commemoration of the event, the forty-first anniversary was yesterday observed in this city by a general suspension of business, and by appropriate services in the large Tabernacle. In that building the grand organ was gaily decorated with the Stars and Stripes. In the centre, and surrounded by the national colors, was a fine steel engraving of President Brigham Young. Under the portrait a banner bore the inscription, "Unity." Immediately beneath this was another banner on which were the words "Utah's Association." On the south side of the organ were the words "Pioneers '47," and on the north side "88 Welcome." The three stands were draped with national flags, and the raised dais in front of the lower stand was ornamented with flowers and plants of various kinds tastefully arranged. The gallery front was also trimmed with the national colors, and in the east end of the building hung a large banner on which was a beehive, and the words "Deseret Sunday School Union." To the festooning with which the building was already decorated, finishing touches had been given, the whole presenting a beautiful picture.

Shortly after 9 a. m. the Sunday School children and others began to assemble, and by 10 o'clock the tabernacle was well filled. The children occupied the two central tiers of seats in the auditorium. On the platform were seated the committee of arrangements, Sunday School officers, and

## SIX OF THE PIONEERS.

These latter were Patriarch Lorenzo D. Young, Sister Clara D. Young, Bishop Millen Atwood, Bishop Jacob Weiler, and Elders Charles D. Barnum and George Woodruff. On the stand were apostles John Henry Smith, Heber J. Grant and John W. Taylor. Patriarch John Smith, Pres. Seymour B. Young, Pres. Angus M. Cannon, High Councilors, Sunday School officers and others.

At a few minutes past 10 o'clock, the vast assemblage was called to order by Elder George Goddard, Assistant General Superintendent of the Deseret Sunday School Union.

The Sixth Ward Silver Band played a selection, after which the Sunday School children, under the leadership of Elder Thomas McIntyre, sang:

Our mountain home so dear,  
Where crystal waters clear  
Flow ever free,  
While through the valleys wide,  
The flowers on every side,  
Blooming in stately pride,  
Are fair to see.

The opening prayer was offered by Elder George Goddard.

A xylophone solo was rendered by Adelbert Beesley, of the Nineteenth Ward.

The following address, by

PRESIDENT WILFORD WOODRUFF,

was read by Elder B. F. Cummings, Jr.:  
To the Pioneers and Citizens, and to the Officers and Members of the Sabbath Schools:

My Dear Friends:—Forty-one years ago this day I passed through Emigration Canyon with President Brigham Young. He was taken sick on East Canyon Creek, and I made a bed for him in my carriage. When we came upon the bench I turned the side of the vehicle to the west so that he could obtain a fair view of the valley. President Young arose from his bed and took a survey of the country before him for several minutes. He then said to me, "Drive on down in the valley, this is our abiding place. I have seen it before in vision. In this valley will be built the City of the Saints and the Temple of our God." I drove down to the encampment already formed by a portion of our company, who had cut a road through the quaking asp groves of timber which were in the bed of the cañon and come in ahead of us.

We arrived in the encampment at half-past eleven of the morning of the 24th of July, 1847. The brethren had already turned out City Creek and irrigated the dry and barren soil, being the first irrigation ever performed by any one in these mountains in this age. They had also commenced to plough some ground, and that noble pioneer, William Carter, whose circumstances prevented his meeting with the pioneers today, broke the first ground and laid the first furrow. The plowshare that performed the work is on the stand today. On my arrival in camp, before I ate my dinner, I planted two bushels of potatoes in the ground broken up. President Young commenced to recover from his sickness the hour he entered the valley. On a day or two following our arrival, a remarkable incident occurred.

While President Young was walking with several of the Apostles on the higher ground northwest of our en-

campment, he suddenly stepped out, stuck his cane into the barren ground and sagebrush, and exclaimed, "Right here will stand the Temple of our God." We had a peg driven down and it was nearly in the middle of the Temple as it stands today, which Temple was built without any regard to the spot designated by President Young at the time.

On the 26th, we went to the top of a high point on the north of the city, which President Young named "Ensign Peak." We also visited the Hot and Warm Springs. On the 27th we drove to the West Mountains and visited the Salt Lake, President Young being the first to dip his hand into the briny water. We walked dryshod to the Black Rock and took a bath in the Lake. Afterwards preparations were made for laying out the city, and I with other brethren assisted President Young in laying out the ground and streets with chain and compass. We laid out a block of ten acres upon which to build a Temple, and city lots of one acre and a quarter, and streets eight rods wide, all of which has been published by historians.

President Young left Winter Quarters on the seventh day of April, accompanied by seven other Apostles and other men, all told 143 men and 3 women. The Apostles were Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, W. Woodruff, George A. Smith, Willard Richards, Orson Pratt, Amasa Lyman and Ezra T. Benson. Parley P. Pratt and John Taylor arrived soon after, leading companies of families. Orson Hyde remained at Kanesville. We traveled the first 500 miles without any grass. With the exception of a little grain we fed our animals, they lived entirely on the bark of cottonwood limbs and saplings, which they gnawed from the trees we would lay before them for their night's meal. This company of 143 men traveled 1030 miles, making their roads and building their bridges. In one instance we had to form a guard of a wedge shape for three days and nights to keep our company from being trampled to death by an enormous herd of buffalo that had gathered from the mountains and were migrating in a solid body to the plains below. The herd was judged to be sixty miles in length, and numbered not less than one million. They were traveling east and we were traveling west. We were three days passing through the herd, and we all prestated freer when we were clear of them. No other class of men will ever witness the same scene again upon the face of the earth. Brother Wm. C. A. Swoot, sen., got his horses loose and mixed with the herd, and it was with great difficulty that we obtained them again.

Notwithstanding our first care was to secure an abiding place, a home for the people, we did not lose sight of other important matters. President Young contemplated at that early day the building of a railroad across the continent, and we marked out the route which we thought the national road would take to unite the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Brothers Orson Pratt and Erastus Snow entered the valley two or three days before the body of the pioneers; but where are those men today, and where is President Brigham Young and the Apostles who accompanied him? All are in the spirit world mingling with the martyred Prophets where they can plead for their brethren. Not one of them living today except myself, and but few of the pioneers remain. We have buried a whole quorum of Twelve Apostles since we entered these valleys of the mountains. The remnant of Zion's Camp, Mormon Battalion and the Pioneers number but very few today. Those of us who remain will soon pass away, but our posterity live and are numbered in the Primaries, the Sabbath schools and the Mutual Improvement Associations, and are this day assembled in this great Tabernacle to celebrate the arrival of the Pioneers into this great American Desert, which today through the blessing of God and the labor of the Pioneers is blossoming as the rose.

This company of pioneers spent about a month in this valley during which period we erected what is known as the Old Fort, surrounding three sides of the ten-acre block, with an adobe wall about ten feet high on the outside, and the east side with log cabins. We also arranged for this fort to have four entrances, one on each point of the compass.

Most of the Pioneers returned to Winter Quarters where they arrived in the fall, making a journey of over two thousand miles, besides the labors performed while here in building a fort, laying out the city and exploring the adjacent valleys.

I wish to say a few words to the members of the Sabbath Schools and to all who are assembled in this Tabernacle today to celebrate the arrival of the Pioneers into this valley. It is not wisdom for me to occupy your time with a long address upon an occasion of this kind, but I have referred to a few incidents of our peculiar journey into this barren desert, that you may keep in mind the toil, the care and the hardships which your fathers endured in laying the foundation of the Zion of our God which is to be established in the mountains of Israel, in fulfillment of the blessing of the old Patriarch Jacob pronounced upon his posterity that should be fulfilled in the valleys of the everlasting hills in the latter days. And upon the heads of the rising generation of the Latter-day Saints rests the responsibility of building up the Kingdom of God upon

the foundations which their fathers have laid. And also of building up a State in which shall dwell virtue, temperance, industry, frugality and honesty; a State which will do honor to the American government, where wholesome laws shall be administered in equity and justice to all of its citizens according to the letter and spirit of the Constitution given by inspiration of Almighty God to our forefathers.

I feel to say to our children, Honor your father and your mother and your God, that your days may be long and prosperous in these valleys of the mountains which the Lord your God hath given unto you.

That God may bless you all, and enable you to fulfill the object of your creation here on the earth to the satisfaction of yourselves and your Creator, is the earnest desire of your friend and brother,

WILFORD WOODRUFF.

ELDER C. R. SAVAGE

was called to make some remarks regarding the plow with which was first turned the soil in Utah, and which has a place in the Museum. He said that Elder William Carter, one of the Pioneers who owned and used the plow, was unable to be present, being confined in the penitentiary for conscience sake. He had, however, sent the following in regard to it:

UTAH PENITENTIARY,  
July 23, 1888.

C. R. Savage, Esq., Salt Lake City:

Dear Brother:—It may interest some of our people to have a few items regarding the plow, now in the Museum, with which I broke the first soil in Utah. I had it made, new, by Brother Hoge, just before I left Nauvoo, in 1845; and when I reached Garden Grove I used it to plow the land there for two weeks. Thus it became a pioneer plow at that place; and when I moved to St. George I used this same plow to break the first land in that place. So you see it has never failed to be the pioneer plow wherever it has been taken.

Yours truly,  
WM. CARTER.

The plowshare was exhibited—a worn and rusty piece of steel—and was received with applause.

The speaker continued: "Those who are now here can look upon over 200 prosperous cities, towns and villages that have grown up since this plow turned the first sod in Utah. Here also is the first American flag ever raised in this country. This sacred banner was unfurled on Ensign Peak forty-one years ago, by President Wilford Woodruff. Other flags had been carried through this part of the country, but this is the first American flag ever firmly planted in a country which the United States did not control."

The old flag, worn and tattered in places through use and age, was held up to the view of the vast audience, and was greeted with round after round of enthusiastic applause.

Prof. Jos. J. Daynes rendered an organ solo.

By request of Brother Goddard, five of the Pioneers came forward on the platform amid a storm of applause. Sister Young was too feeble to stand up, so remained seated.

BISHOP MILLEN ATWOOD,

one of the Pioneers, then spoke as follows:

Forty-one years ago today I came into these valleys with my pioneer brethren and sisters, 143 men and 3 women. There were no boys, no girls nor babies in the valley at that time, and most of you that are present today have been born since we came here.

A great many have asked me where the first furrow was plowed. It was just below the corner of First East and Second South streets, about half way down the street.

May the Lord bless you and the Pioneers, and all the faithful. Amen.

BISHOP JACOB WEILER,

also one of that noble band, next came forward and said:

When I contrast the scene presented to our view this day with that of the 24th of July, 1847, (I with others arrived on the 22d, but we date our arrival from the 24th, which was the day President Young and company arrived,) I nor any other sane man cannot fail to see that the God of heaven has abundantly blessed and prospered this people. I acknowledge the hand of God in the preservation of the Pioneers and those who followed them, and the blessings of heaven upon this people both temporal and spiritual. I can testify that the blessings of heaven are upon the soil which, when we came here, was a barren waste, and to the natural eye looked as if no people could dwell here.

In view of the blessings we so bountifully enjoy, what manner of men and women should we be? What manner of people should the rising generation be, that are born of parents so favored and blessed? The speaker invoked the blessing of heaven upon the children of the Latter-day Saints, and hoped they would ever be true to the faith of their parents and acknowledge the hand of God in all things.

PATRIARCH LORENZO D. YOUNG,

of the Pioneers, then responded to the call made upon him and said:

As one of the ancients said, "I say, 'What my eyes behold affects my heart.'" The scene before me is so wonderful, I know not how to express

my feelings. My mind reverts to the time when we entered this valley, 41 years ago. And what was the nature of the scene that then confronted us? It was a valley of dry sunflowers well stocked with black mountain crickets. I want to rehearse to you a sentiment that was expressed to me by my wife Harriet, who was with me and who was one of the three pioneer women, the other two being Ellen S. Kimball and Clara D. Young, the latter of whom occupies a seat on this stand today. My wife after looking over the valley—there was no green thing for the eye to feed upon except about a half dozen old cottonwood trees which grew near where the Methodist Church now stands—turning to me she said: "Well, father, (she was in the habit of thus addressing me,) we have traveled more than twelve hundred miles to find a resting place, and as feeble as I am, I'm willing to travel a thousand miles further if we could only find a place worth looking at, for it seems to me no white people can live here." This was how the country appeared to her; but these valleys have been transformed since then into what we now see. The other day I had the pleasure and the honor of accompanying the Old Folks to Lehi. I had not been able to travel so far as that before for years. As I sat in the car and looked over the valley I felt in my heart to say, Praise the Lord! What wonderful things He is doing among the people of the Latter-day Saints! Now there are comfortable and happy homes, gardens, orchards and farms, with peace and plenty to gladden the hearts of these who occupy and own them; and the country looked to me like a garden of Eden in contrast with what it was on the arrival of the Pioneers.

God Almighty brought those few men and women here; and we came, as Brother George A. Smith used to remark when we were on the road, we came willingly because we were obliged to. Yes, truly, we came here because we were obliged to. But the God of heaven had His eyes upon us and upon this people. What do I behold today? Hundreds and thousands of children, many of them the posterity of those who settled these mountain valleys; and, as Brother Goddard said, there was no lemonade then, but there were plenty of locusts, crickets and grasshoppers, and a few Indians. But God sustained His people, and we are increasing and spreading abroad, living monuments of His mercy and goodness.

It is true some of our brethren are not permitted to join us in the exercises of today, who otherwise would be here; but they live and will live when their enemies are dead and forgotten. And Zion will arise and triumph, and she will shine in beauty and glory and be clothed with majesty and might. I would say to the children, obey your parents, honor God and respect those whom He has called to lead Israel, that you may grow up to be a mighty people, His people, a noble Priesthood to the Lord God of Sabaoth; that in days to come your children may honor and obey you, and bear with pleasure and gratitude from your lips a recital of these things; and they may become correspondingly great and numerous by the time that you shall have become aged, even as you have increased and multiplied since the arrival of the Pioneers into this Valley.

God bless you and guide your youthful footsteps in the ways of righteousness; and may God bless Brother Woodruff and the faithful Elders in Israel and all of His people, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Sister Julia A. Silverwood sang:

O Saints, have you seen, o'er yon mountain's proud height,  
The day-star of promise so brilliantly beaming?  
Its rays shall illumine the world with its light,  
And the ensign of Zion exultingly streaming.  
All nations invite to walk in its light,  
And join to maintain the proud standard of right.  
The standard of Zion! O long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Chorus by the Tabernacle Choir.

The Sunday School children sang:

Beautiful Zion, built above,  
Beautiful city that I love;  
Beautiful gates of pearl white,  
Beautiful temple—God its light.  
He who was slain on calvary  
Opens those pearl gates to me.  
Zion, Zion, lovely Zion,  
Beautiful Zion, city of our God.

Elder Goddard announced that

ELDER RICHARD BALLANTYNE,

of Ogden, who was the first superintendent of a Sunday School in Utah, in this city in 1849, had sent word that he was not well enough to respond to the invitation to speak, but had written the following, which was read by Supt. John C. Cutler:

As the celebration of today is for the purpose of properly commemorating the arrival of the Pioneers in Utah Territory, the difficulties they had to encounter and the privations they had to endure—and as part of the programme is connected with Sunday school interests, I have been requested by the management to give a brief account or statement of the origin and progress of Sunday school work in the Territory. In the first place I may say that to properly understand this matter, and especially to give our young men and young women a better appreciation of it, it may be necessary to revert to some of the circumstances that gave rise to the settlement of this then far off and desolate country.

A people, sometimes called "Mormons," but properly Latter-day Saints, had located and built up a city with its surrounding settlements in the State of Illinois and called it Nauvoo. In the year 1846 they were violently driven out, being compelled to forsake their homes and property. They crossed the great Mississippi, on the east bank of which their city had been built, and after traveling 350 miles across the Territory of Iowa, they arrived at the Missouri River. Here, on the west bank of the Missouri, they erected temporary winter quarters. Early the following spring a company of Pioneers was organized to explore the vast Indian country that stretched to the westward, and after traveling over a thousand miles through a wilderness without roads this company finally set foot in the wild and barren valley of the Great Salt Lake, and camped on the spot where Salt Lake City now stands. The whole company of emigrants did not immediately follow, but eight hundred wagons reached the same place in the fall of that year. These Pioneers returned to the winter quarters on the Missouri the same season, and preparations were made for a large emigration including the general authorities of the Church, which took place the next year, 1848.

In the spring of 1849 but few houses had been built on the "city lots," but great progress was made that summer; and by fall several thousand were erected. The accomplishment of this labor seems almost incredible when we remember that the people were so poor that while doing the work they had to subsist on less than half rations of bread.

As no school houses were yet built, and as the educational interests of the children had necessarily been much neglected during the three years' sojourn in the wilderness; the writer of this article was moved to an effort for their improvement. While pondering on the situation the thought occurred to erect a building, and establish a Sunday school. This of course was no easy task at such a time. Help could not be had, and if it could have been, no money or other means was available to secure it. The only assistance obtainable was an ox team. With this the rock and adobies were hauled for the foundation and walls; the steepers, joists, and other lumber were taken from where they stood in the cañon, and hauled to the saw mill; and thence to the building-site, where the work of erection brought the building to completion in December of 1849, at which time the house was dedicated to the service of Almighty God.

At 8 o'clock on the Sunday morning following the dedication, the glorious privilege was afforded of meeting some forty or 50 interesting children in the first building of the kind erected in the Territory of Utah.

This was the beginning of Sunday school work in the Territory, and was purely an individual movement—no help of any kind was desired or solicited. It continued to be an individual work more or less for the next fifteen years. But notwithstanding the lack of general organization the schools multiplied in Salt Lake City and in other settlements of the Territory.

The same spirit and purpose that actuated the first movement spread widely and rapidly, till 1865, when under the patronage of the First Presidency of the Church, the Sunday School Union of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized. From this time a great impetus was given to the work. Organized effort took the place of individual labor. The masses of the young, including nearly all our young men and women, were organized into classes for religious instruction, and today, July 24, 1888, we contemplate the glorious fact that some 60,000 of our young people are connected with this mighty institution.

At first books were scarce, organization was incomplete, and aims and methods were somewhat varied. The lack of text books, music books and suitable literature for the advancement of the young was greatly felt. But since this important organization was effected, books of the proper kind and variety have been multiplied, and to music a wonderful impetus has been given.

The Sunday schools of today are a marvel of efficiency. The blessings of God have abundantly attended the labors of the faithful. The Sabbath is better respected, morality and good manners have greatly improved, and the sacred associations of our Sunday schools invite tens of thousands of the sons and daughters of Zion to those holy places every Sabbath, where they "sit at the feet of Jesus" to learn the ways of the world, to grow in faith, and to sing acceptably the songs of Zion.

Praying with all who wish well to Zion that this mighty work may go forward with increased intelligence and power, I am, as ever, your humble servant and co-worker in the Sunday school cause.

RICHARD BALLANTYNE.

"Hail Columbia" was played by the Sixth Ward Silver Band.

A. W. BEACH

was called forward and presented to the audience as the first child born in Utah. He is now a resident of American Falls, Idaho. Brother Beach was born in the Old Fort, Salt Lake City, on the 27th of October, 1847.

Elder B. F. Cummings, Jr., then read the following from the General