

THE DESERET NEWS.

Truth and Liberty.

VOL. V.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1855.

NO. 22.

DESERET NEWS:

Printed every Wednesday,
DELIVERED ON THURSDAY.

Six Dollars per Annum, in Advance:

OFFICE—POST OFFICE BUILDING.

ADVERTISING.

One Square (ten lines or less) one insertion	\$1.50
Two insertions	2.00
Three "	2.50
Two Squares, three insertions	5.00

BOOK, JOB, AND CARD PRINTING executed to order.

ADVERTISEMENTS to ensure insertion in the current number, must be handed in previous to 1 o'clock, p. m., on Tuesday.

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HISTORY OF JOSEPH SMITH.

FEBRUARY, 1842.

Wednesday, 2.—Sister Laura Phelps, wife of Morris Phelps, died, aged 36 years. She was driven from Jackson county in 1833, was in the persecution of Missouri in 1838, and went from Iowa to Missouri to assist in liberating her husband, and was left in the prison yard when he made his escape, willing to suffer all the abuses a savage horde could inflict upon her, to set her companion safe from the grasp of his murderous enemies. Her rest is glorious.

I spent the day in council with Dr. Gallard and Calvin A. Warren, Esq.

Thursday, 3.—In council with Calvin A. Warren, Esq., concerning a settlement with the estate of Oliver Granger, and delivered him the necessary papers.

Elder Woodruff took the superintendence of the printing office, and Elder Taylor, the Editorial department of the Times and Seasons; who commenced by taking an inventory of the establishment this day.

Friday, 4.—Instructed that an Invoice of Gallard's scrip be made.

Closed a contract with Ebenezer Robinson for the printing office on the corner of Bain and Water Streets, also the paper, fixtures, bookbinding, and stereotype foundry, by proxy, namely Willard Richards, cost between 7 and 8000 dollars, and in the evening attended a debate. At this time debates were held weekly, and entered into by men of the first talents in the city, young and old, for the purpose of eliciting truth, acquiring knowledge, and improving in public speaking.

Saturday, 5.—Elder Daniel Wood, who had been silenced by Presidents Smith and Young, on a complaint for teaching false doctrine, came before the High Council at Nauvoo, and proved that he had not taught false doctrine, but had been complained of by those who had prejudice and hardness against him, and was restored to his former standing in the church.

This being Tithing day, upwards of \$1000 worth of property was received.

She ship Hope sailed from Liverpool for New Orleans with 270 Saints.

Sunday, 6.—Elders B. Young and H. C. Kimball went to La Harpe to hold a two days meeting.

From this time I was engaged in counselling the brethren, and attending to the common vocations of life, and my calling, reading the Book of Mormon, &c., until

Thursday, 10.—when I was sick and kept my bed.

The war continues to rage between England and China.

Friday, 11.—I was convalescent, and walked twice to the store.

Saturday, 12.—An ordinance regulating weights and measures, was passed, also an ordinance regulating auctions, by the City Council, which I attended. During the sitting of the Council, the subject of our chartered rights was discussed.

In the afternoon, plead in an action of slander before the Mayor, in behalf of the city against L. O. Littlefield, and obtained judgment of \$500 bonds to keep the peace.

Sunday, 13.—In council with the Mayor, Brother Hyrum, and Elder Willard Richards, and visited Samuel Bennett (who was sick) in company with William Law and lady.

Monday, 14.—Spent the day at my office, transacting a variety of business, and continued to do the same from day to day till the 17th.

Thursday, 17.—I attended a special session of the City Council, when an ordinance was instituted authorizing and regulating marriages in the City of Nauvoo.

Hanley, Stafford co., Eng., Feb. 17, 1842.

Prest. J. Smith:—The work in which we are engaged rolls on in this land, and in spite of all its enemies, moves onward in majesty and power; there are many who devote all their time and talent in endeavoring to overthrow it; but I discover they can "do nothing against the truth, but for it." Many tracts have been published against us, containing all manner of lies, but in the end good will be the result. He that knoweth God, heareth us. Some of the tools of Satan are doing

more in spreading the truth than we are able to do; one in particular, a Mr. Brindley, is publishing a periodical shewing the errors and blasphemies of Mormonism; and in order to do this, he publishes many of the revelations of God given to us, and through this means, the testimony is visiting the mansions of the high and mighty ones—the Reverends, Right Reverends, and all the noble champions of sectarians receive them as a precious morsel; and they are read with much interest; whereas, if we had sent them, they would have been spurned from their dwellings, and would not have been considered worth reading.

The state of this country is very awful, and is, according to prospects, on the eve of a mighty revolution; all confidence is gone between master and man, and men are afraid of each other; peace is fast removing from this land; in the course of the last few days, in many parts of this isle, they have been burning the effigy of the great men of this nation—poverty, distress, and starvation abound on every hand. The groans, and tears, and wretchedness of the thousands of the people is enough to rend the hearts of demons; many of the Saints are suffering much through hunger and nakedness; many with large families can scarcely get bread and water enough to hold the spirit in the tabernacle; many, very many, are out of employ, and cannot get work to do, and others that do work hard fourteen or fifteen hours per day, can scarcely earn enough to enable them to live upon the earth. Surely there is need of deliverance in Zion, and I am ready to exclaim, thanks be to thy name O Lord for remembering thy covenants! and that the "set time to favor Zion has come," and that he has chosen the west for a refuge for his people.

Wishing you all success, I remain, yours in the new and everlasting Covenant.

ALFRED CORDON.

Friday, 18.—I attended an adjourned City Council, and spoke at considerable length in Committee of the whole, on the great privileges of the Nauvoo Charter and specially on the registry of Deeds for Nauvoo, and prophesied in the name of the Lord God, that Judge Douglas and no other Judge of the Circuit Court will ever set aside a law of the City Council establishing a Registry of Deeds in the City of Nauvoo.

Saturday, 19.—I was engaged in the Recorder's Office (in the first story of the Brick Store), on the Tithings, and in council in my office with Elders Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, and others.

A severe shock of an earthquake threw down all the parapets, bastions, and guard houses constructed by Sir Robert Sale, and demolished a third part of the town of Jellalabad.

Sunday, 20.—I attended the meeting on the hill. About this time the ship "John Cummins" sailed from Liverpool for New Orleans with Saints. The "Tremont" sailed on the 12th January with 143 passengers, mostly Saints. The expense of passage from Liverpool to New Orleans averages from L.3 15s. to L.4, including provisions.

Monday, 21.—I was visiting in the city in the morning, and transacting a variety of business at the office in the afternoon and evening.

To the brethren in Nauvoo City.—Greeting: It is highly important for the forwarding of the Temple, that an equal distribution of labor should be made in relation to time; as a superabundance of hands one week, and none the next, tends to retard the progress of the work; therefore every brother is requested to be particular to labor on the day set apart for the same, in his ward; and to remember that he that sows sparingly, shall also reap sparingly, so that if the brethren want a plentiful harvest, they will do well to be at the place of labor in good season in the morning, bringing all necessary tools, according to their occupation, and those who have teams bring them also, unless otherwise advised by the Temple Committee. Should any one be detained from his labor by unavoidable circumstances on the day appointed, let him labor the next day, or the first day possible.

N.B.—The captains of the respective wards are particularly requested to be at the place of labor on their respective days, and keep an accurate account of each man's work, and be ready to exhibit a list of the same when called for.

The heart of the Trustee is daily made to rejoice in the good feelings of the brethren made manifest in their exertion to carry forward the work of the Lord, and rear his Temple; and it is hoped that neither planting, sowing or reaping will hereafter be made to interfere with the regulations hinted at above.

JOSEPH SMITH,

Trustee in Trust.

Recorder's Office.—Feb. 21, 1842.—We would also say to all the Churches that inasmuch as they want the blessings of God and Angels, as also of the Church of Jesus Christ, and wish to see it spread and prosper through the world, and Zion built up and truth and righteousness prevail, let all the different branches of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in all the world, call meetings in their respective places and tithes themselves and send up to this place to the Trustee in Trust, so that his hands may be loosed, and the Temple go on, and other works be done, such as the new translation of the Bible, and the record of Father Abraham published to the world.

Beloved brethren, we as the messengers of the Lord feel to call upon you to help roll on the mighty work, it is our duty so to do, and it is your reasonable service—and the Lord will bless you in so doing.

We subscribe ourselves your humble servants, and standard bearers to the world.

BRIGHAM YOUNG, President.

W. RICHARDS, Clerk of the Twelve.

Tuesday, 22.—Attended to a variety of business as usual.

Wednesday, 23.—Settled with and paid brother Chase, and assisted in the Counting Room in settling with Ebenezer Robinson, visiting the printing office and gave Reuben Hedlock instruction concerning the cut for the altar and Gods in the Records of Abraham, as designed for the Times and Seasons.

Thursday, 25.—Engaged in council with the brethren, attended to business at the general office. P.M. was explaining the records of Abraham to the Recorder. Sisters Marinda, Mary, and others present to hear the explanations.

Nauvoo, Feb. 24, 1842.

Beloved Brother:—Yours of the 24th ult. is received, in relation to certain tithings of your neighbourhood being transferred to your account, which you hold against the Church to the amount of \$305 including \$150 of your own.

There are no receipts issued for property received on Tithing; but an entry is made in the Book of the Law of the Lord, and parties living at a distance notified of the same.

If the parties named will pay you the sum specified in your letter, and you will endorse the same, i. e. \$305 on the obligation you hold against the Church, and give me notice accordingly with a schedule of individuals' names and payments, the same shall be entered to their credit on Tithing.

Yours, &c.,

JOSEPH SMITH.

W. RICHARDS, Scribe.

Friday, 25.—Engaged in counselling and general business.

Saturday, 26.—At the Recorder's Office engaged in the Tithing, and at a Court at the office of the Patriarch.

Sunday, 27.—Engaged in counselling the Saints.

Monday, 28.—I offered a settlement to Father Snow by Jenkin's Notes, which he declined.

choosing to take land in Ramus; paid brother Robert Pierce \$2700, the balance due him for a farm Dr. Gallard bought of Brother Pierce in Brandywine Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania for \$5000, namely a Deed for Lot 2, Block 94, \$1100, and Lot 4, Block 95, \$800, and Lot 4, Block 78, \$800. The remainder having been previously paid. The Bond was cancelled and given up, and Brother Pierce expressed his satisfaction of the whole, in the Times and Seasons, as follows:—

"President Joseph Smith:—Dear Sir, I feel anxious to express my feelings concerning the business transactions between the Church and myself; as it is well known to many, that Dr. Gallard, as Agent for the Church, purchased my farm while I was living in Brandywine Township, Chester County, Pa., and many supposed, or pretended to suppose, I would get nothing in return; but I wish to say to all my old friends and enemies in Pennsylvania through the medium of the Times and Seasons, that I have received my pay in full from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, through yourself, Sir, as their Trustee in Trust, according to the original contract; and that from my acquaintance with yourself, and those brethren who are assisting you in the great and increasing business of the Church, I have the fullest confidence in all the transactions of the Church, and I request those papers in Philadelphia, who published concerning my sale and loss, with such bitter lamentations, to publish this also.

I am, sir, your brother and well wisher,
ROBERT PIERCE."

Nauvoo, Feb. 28, 1842.

Thursday, March 1, 1842.—During the forenoon I was at my office and the printing office, correcting the first plate or cut of the records of Father Abraham, prepared by Reuben Hedlock, for the Times and Seasons, and in council in my office, in the afternoon; and in the evening with the Twelve and their wives at Elder Woodruff's, at which time I explained many important principles in relation to progressive improvement in the scale of intelligent existence.

I commenced publishing my translations of the Book of Abraham in the Times and Seasons, as follows:—

A FAC-SIMILE FROM THE BOOK OF ABRAHAM No. 1.



EXPLANATION OF THE ABOVE CUT.

- Fig. 1.—The Angel of the Lord.
- 2.—Abraham fastened upon an altar.
- 3.—The Idolatrous Priest of Elkenah attempting to offer up Abraham as a sacrifice.
- 4.—The Altar for sacrifice, by the Idolatrous Priests, standing before the Gods of Elkenah, Libnah, Mahmeckrah, Korash, and Pharaoh.
- 5.—The Idolatrous God of Elkenah.
- 6.—" " Libnah.
- 7.—" " Mahmeckrah.
- 8.—" " Korash.
- 9.—" " Pharaoh.
- 10.—Abraham in Egypt.
- 11.—Designed to represent the pillars of Heaven, as understood by the Egyptians.
- 12.—Raukeyang, signifying expanse, or the firmament over our heads; but in this case in relation to this subject, the Egyptians meant it to signify Shauman, to be high, or the heavens; answering to the Hebrew word, Shamahyeem.

A Translation of some Ancient Records that have fallen into our hands, from the Catacombs of Egypt, purporting to be the writings of Abraham, while he was in Egypt, called the Book of Abraham, written by his own hand upon papyrus.

THE BOOK OF ABRAHAM.

In the land of the Chaldeans, at the residence

of my father, I Abraham, saw that it was needful for me to obtain another place of residence, and finding there was greater happiness, and peace and rest for me, I sought for the blessings of the fathers, and the right whereunto I should be ordained to administer the same; having been myself a follower of righteousness, desiring also to be one who possessed great knowledge, and to