

## CELEBRATION of the 24th IN THE SETTLEMENTS.

WEST WEBER, WEBER CO.,  
U. T., July 24, 1868.

*Editor Deseret News:*—Dear Sir.—I take the opportunity of dropping you a few lines concerning our doings to-day. The brethren were aroused at daybreak by the sound of musketry. At ten a. m. the school children marched in procession, under their respective teachers, to the Bowery, which was erected nearly opposite President A. McFarland's. The brethren and sisters also assembled there. After singing and prayer an oration was delivered by James Jorden, Orator of the day. After a song from the choir, a spirited address was delivered by E. Ellsworth, Esq., on the calling of the Pioneers and the appearance of this country when they entered it. The afternoon was spent in horse racing and foot racing, and was closed by a dance for the juveniles. At eight o'clock in the evening the brethren and sisters commenced to dance and enjoyed themselves until an early hour next morning. The proceedings were conducted by Brother John Hooper, sen., Marshal of the day, and the committee of arrangements, James Jorden, Ammon Green, Jefferson Wilson and Robert McFarland. Peace and good feeling prevailed during the day's amusements. We have recently had another attack of the grasshoppers, they have done considerable damage to the crops.

Yours respectfully,  
HENRY HAMILTON, Reporter.

OGDEN CITY, WEBER CO.,  
July 25, 1868.

*Editor Deseret Evening News:*—The 21st anniversary of the entrance of the "Pioneers" into these valleys was celebrated, yesterday, with more than usual interest, "Utah being of Age," or 21 years old. The day was very fine and beautiful.

At sunrise the stars and stripes were unfurled by Col. D. Gamble, and proudly floated in the early morning breeze; a salute of three guns was fired from Capt. Wadsworth's artillery in honor of the First Presidency. Capt. Pugh's brass band and Capt. Payne's martial band, paraded the principal streets of the city, serenading the inhabitants and cheering them by their soul-stirring strains of music. Salutes of artillery of smaller calibre, and also musketry continued at intervals for some hours, in honor of the day we celebrated.

At an early hour the people from the adjacent settlements began to pour into this city. All were arrayed in their holiday attire, all seemed cheerful and happy, and apparently determined that nothing should mar their peace on the occasion. The locusts in untold myriads might fill the air, whirl through space like clouds of dust, or commit sad ravages—which they did—upon the gardens and orchards in this and other places; still, it all seemed as nothing on this day, compared with the object for which the people had assembled themselves together, viz: to celebrate the birth-day of Israel's deliverance and "Utah's Majority."

By 12 o'clock, under the direction of Col. W. N. Fife, Marshal of the day, an immense concourse of people were comfortably seated in a large and spacious Bowery, in front of the residence of Gen. C. W. West. The Bowery was erected for the occasion, and is about 100 feet square. It is well covered, well seated, and has a good floor.

Twelve guns were now fired from Wadsworth's artillery, in honor of the Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of L. D. S., and was followed by cheers from the brass band. After singing and prayer, an eloquent oration was delivered by Bishop West, in which he spoke of the persecutions of the people of God in all ages—the mental darkness, the decrease of intelligence, the decline and fall of empires and nations, and the cause of ignorance, superstition, bigotry and religious intolerance which obtained throughout the world. He also spoke at some length of the many changes which had taken place since the days of Jesus Christ, and which had socially, politically and religiously revolutionized the world, and prepared the honest in heart for the revelation of God's will in relation to the setting up of the kingdom in the last days.

He contrasted our condition to-day with that of the "Pioneers" when they first entered this valley, 21 years ago to-day. Then it was a barren waste—now it is filled with fruitful fields and gardens; then we were fleeing from persecution and priestly intolerance—now we enjoy quiet, peace and rest, and, undisturbed, we can prosecute our labors in

rearing up a kingdom to the Lord. We can educate and instruct the rising generation in the arts and sciences, and in the laws of life, and qualify them to fill important positions on the earth. He impressed upon his hearers the necessity of gratitude for the blessings of peace and prosperity which they enjoy, and exhorted them to a continued unity of effort to bring about the purposes for which they had been gathered to these mountain fastnesses.

The band then played "The Star-Spangled Banner," which was followed by "Utah's Majority," written by Mr. Thos. H. Dee, and sung by Wm. Pugh, Esq., "Two merry hearts," by Mrs. Pugh and Miss Pearce, and "Pot Pourrie," by the band.

Hon. John Taylor then delivered an excellent speech. He spoke in his usual happy style. He referred to the various modes and days of celebration in the different nations of the earth. With the "Fourth of July" in the United States we heartily join because it is the celebration of the birth day of Freedom and Liberty. But still we remember the day when the flag that waved for freedom over all other religious communities, waved not for us! Not in consequence of the inefficiency of the laws of our country, but through neglect or inability on the part of the administrators of those laws. We are here under the aegis of the Almighty. We are free, and God has helped us to gain our freedom. He referred to the cause of our first settlement in these valleys, and said the question then with us: was not can we raise good crops, or can we raise any crops at all? but, Can we live the religion of Jesus Christ, and serve God unmolested? All the rest would follow.

It is impossible to do anything like justice to his speech in my short space. Suffice it to say, at the close of it "Old Betsy" thundered forth a loud peal in response to and in confirmation of all he had said! The choir then sang, "Banner of the Stars."

[A number of very excellent toasts were delivered, but our limited space will not permit of them being inserted.]

After intermission, the time, until 12 at night, was spent in dancing and other exercises, interspersed with good speeches, songs, and selections by the bands. "Altogether," adds our correspondent, "it was one of the best and happiest holiday seasons yet enjoyed in this place.—Ed. D. E. N.]

Committee of Arrangements:—L. J. Herrick, W. Thompson, J. Parry, W. N. Fife, R. H. White, J. A. Jost, R. E. Baird, D. Rawson, and S. Halvorson.

Yours, etc.,

SCRIPSIT.

MOUTH OF ECHO,  
July 22, 1868.

*Editor Deseret Evening News:*—The work on the entire line of railroad is progressing very satisfactorily. From this point to the mouth of Weber the camps are becoming as much alive with the busy pickers, shovellers, blasters, wheelers, carters, and bridge and culvert builders as through the gorges of Echo. Some very creditable pieces of wagon road are in process of completion, where the road of the Weber Company has been taken by the railroad. In all such cases, it is understood to be the intention of Superintendent Reed, as representative of the Railroad Company, to lay out and construct, at least as good and practicable wagon roads as those obstructed by the grading.

Some temporary interruption of travel might reasonably have been expected from the building of a railroad through our mountain passes—and especially down the Weber. Such, however, has been the promptness of the Engineers and the care of the sub-contractors and workmen under them that, so far, I am not aware that the slightest interruption has occurred, and the toll has been as uniformly collected by the gentlemanly gate-keepers of the Weber Cañon Road Company (Messrs. John Lamb, near the mouth of Echo, and Alvin West at the mouth of Weber) as though nothing so stupendous as railroad building was in progress.

The Twenty-fourth was duly commemorated at Coalville, five miles above here, by "doings" comporting with the universal interest felt in the pioneer anniversary. There was a liberal turn-out or procession in the morning, a gathering at the new and commodious stone meeting house; speeches by Bishop Cluff and others; children's party in the afternoon; grown folks' dance in the evening.

Large numbers of the Echo and Weber railroad men spent their Twenty-fourth with the good people of Coalville. The important little town of Echo City was also represented. By invitation,

James E. Bromley, Esq., and lady, and others in business here, were present.

On yesterday (Saturday) afternoon, this point was visited with a fierce rain, hail and wind storm. Boweries, or their relics, could be seen on the wings of the wind, flying in all directions. No very serious damage was done, however, that I have heard of. ANON.

BELMONT, July 22,nd 1868.

*Editor Deseret News:*—Dear Bro.—I have just returned from a trip through Wasatch, Summit and Morgan Counties, where I have been preaching to the Saints and visiting the High Priests' Quorum. I visited 14 settlements and held 17 meetings, which were well attended and a good spirit prevailed. Although circumstances are unfavorable for home improvements, yet there is quite a disposition shown to do so as soon as circumstances will permit. Notwithstanding the loss of crops and Indian difficulties which they have had to encounter, the people are doing very well. The "hoppers" have done much damage to the grain, grass and hay, yet I think there will be a fair crop of potatoes raised. If there had been more land plowed and sown more grain would have been raised. This gives a good opportunity to summer fallow the land by cross plowing in July and August, and leaving it rough to receive the sun, snow and frost,—the greatest fertilizers of the soil,—which will well repay the labor by the return of a good crop.

There is a very cool, pleasant and healthy climate in those counties, producing good wheat and vegetables, butter and cheese, plenty of wood, lumber and coal. As the railway will pass through some of those settlements the chances for the brethren gaining employment and the necessities of life will be much increased. Owing to the healthiness of the climate there is scarcely any sickness at this time among the people. Those wishing to live in such a climate can find land and location up the Weber valley.

I called on Bishop William W. Cluff. He is a worthy young man and is kind to the poor and a good counselor to the Saints; and this is generally the case with those connected with him.

President John Murdock, of Heber City, called the high priests together twice. Both meetings were well attended.

Where I found Female Relief Societies organized, and I was invited to meet with them, I did so, and gave them good instruction. Wisdom is manifested in the selection of the officers of these societies, as far as I have become acquainted, and they are progressing, and I feel fully assured that good success and the blessings of the Lord will attend them in their labors.

I found my health improved on this trip. I feel grateful to the Saints for their kindness bestowed upon me. Praying for their welfare and success in the kingdom of God, I remain your humble servant and friend.

WM. J. SMITH.

FILLMORE CITY, July 26, '68.

*Editor Deseret News:*—The good people of Fillmore having resolved to celebrate the twenty-first anniversary of the entrance of the Pioneers into these valleys with becoming spirit, convened on the public square, on the evening previous, and erected a very fine liberty pole about one hundred feet long, on the top of which, as the king of day illuminated the horizon on the morning of the 24th, the national colors were hoisted. Simultaneously a salute of twenty-one guns was fired in honor of the occasion by Company A infantry, Capt. J. H. Pugmire commanding. Capt. Olsen's brass band being in attendance sent forth its enlivening strains to welcome in the ever memorable day.

A procession was formed at the City Hall at half past nine o'clock, a. m., in which the ecclesiastic, civil and military were represented; also the Female Relief Society, the sweet singers of Israel, the strength of Israel and the purity and beauty of Zion. The hope of Israel was very numerously represented by our Sunday School, which presented a most pleasing picture. The banners and bannerets borne on the occasion exhibited quite a variety of appropriate mottoes.

The procession having marched to the National Hall was seated, and the house being called to order by the Marshal of the day—R. A. Mc. Bride, an oration was delivered by Andrew Henry, Esq., which was followed by music from the band, and a song. Bishop Callister then made a speech. After several songs, and

selections by the brass band, the services were concluded and the assembly dismissed by the Chaplain.

Notwithstanding the intensity of the heat, the brethren and sisters went forth in the dance both in the afternoon and evening, and seemed to enjoy it, for they continued "to trip the light, fantastic toe" until the "we sma' hours ayont the twal" and a little over.

The services of the day were both pleasing and profitable, and it is to be hoped that every return of the day will unite the hearts of the Saints more firmly together, and stimulate them to greater exertions in the cause of truth.

On the afternoon of the 25th the little ones enjoyed themselves in the dance until they were tired. So ended our holidays. May they always be as innocent in their nature.

Committee of Arrangements.—Edw. Partridge, F. M. Lyman, A. Melville, G. Huntsman, John Kelly.

Truly yours,

JOHN KELLY.

WELLSVILLE, CACHE CO.,  
July 25, 1868.

*Editor Deseret News:*—Dear Bro.—The Twenty-fourth was a day of much pleasure with us. If the prophet Isaiah had meant us in his vision, he could not have spoken more truly, when speaking of the cities of Zion in the last days, he said, "Joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody." It was a time of peace and pleasure.

The day's pleasures began with the usual raising of the national flag, firing of musketry, &c., while our brass and martial bands paraded the principal streets and serenaded the citizens.

At 9 o'clock the people were called together by the discharge of our city gun. A procession was then formed by the Marshal of the day, brother Thomas R. Leavitt. The Bishop and other distinguished persons were waited on and escorted to our City Hall.

At 10 the meeting was called to order when, after prayer, singing, and music by the bands, an oration was delivered by Elder Francis Gunnell, and speeches by Elder Richard Cranshaw and Bishop William Maughan. Then followed songs and toasts, after which the meeting was dismissed.

Bishop Maughan invited the members of the choir, the brass and martial bands and a number of others to a dinner, in a half-finished barn he is putting up. It was a sort of picnic got up by the most able of the community. In the afternoon the Public Square was all alive with mirth. The children of the settlement monopolized the City Hall for a dance in the afternoon till sundown; and after them the adults took the floor and continued until every one seemed satisfied. We did not hear an unkind word or an oath, or smell the scent of liquor the whole day.

Committee—Bishop William Maughan, Timothy Parkinson, sen., Francis Gunnell, Robert Latham, Robert Baxter.

Yours in the Gospel of peace,

THOMAS BRADSHAW, Reporter.

FOUNTAIN GREEN,  
SANPETE COUNTY, July 27th, 1868.

*Editor Deseret News:*—Last Friday, the 24th, was a great day at Fountain Green. At daylight we were roused by the discharge of musketry and the music of our martial band. According to programme, at 8 o'clock, a. m., a salute was fired, flags were hoisted and band played. At 9 a. m., a large procession was formed on the Public Square, under the management of the Marshal of the Day, James Guymon and his aid Samuel Jinks, Esqs. The procession was the largest that ever was in Fountain Green. It was composed as follows: Front guard, music, Committee of Arrangement, Bishop and Council, civil authorities, orator and chaplain, 12 young men, 12 young women, Female Relief Society, Fathers and Mothers in Israel, and Sunday and Day Schools with banners and bannerets. They marched through the principal streets past the residence of the Bishop and other prominent men, and back to the Bowery, where the congregation was called to order by the Marshal. A very interesting oration was delivered by Noah T. Guymon, Esq., appropriate speeches were also made, which, with songs, toasts and sentiments, made the time pass very agreeably.

At 2 p. m., in the Bowery, the juveniles had a dance, and late in the evening a dance in the hall concluded the festivity, in which every one seemed to enjoy himself.

Committee of Arrangements.—Peter Oldroyd, Morten Lund and Soren Chris-