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17th " John Henry Smith.
18th " L. D. Young.
19th " A. H. Raleigh.
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EVENING NEWS.

Tuesday, March 7, 1876.

THE MORMONS AND THEIR TEMPLE AT NAUVOO.

Seeing lately the petition of the Mormon women, brought to mind a visit once paid to Nauvoo, and the sight of the Mormons themselves on their winding way to they knew not where.

It was, I think, in the spring or early summer of 1846, that a small party, of whom I was one, chartered, at St. Louis, a small steamboat for a journey up the Upper Mississippi. The destination of the party was a prairie in the northern part of Illinois.

It was the time of the trouble between the people of that State and the Mormons. The latter, in consequence of an arrangement with the authorities of the State, were leaving it in detachments, and proceeding to the Great West.

Upon our little craft reaching Quincy, a man, his wife and two children made application for passage to Nauvoo. The man came aboard, driving a yoke of fine oxen, to purchase which, he stated in conversation, he had sold all he possessed. His object was to secure a home at Nauvoo by disposing of his animals to the Mormons. He had heard they were parting with houses and lands for beasts of burden.

He told marvelous stories of this strange people, averring there were dungeons under their great temple, used for cruel purposes, and insisted that their vast baptismal font was put to other than sacramental purposes.

The sun was declining as we came in sight of Nauvoo, which, with its broad streets and green gardens, lay in the curve of the Mississippi as though it was a sheltering arm thrown about it. Over the flat and up the hill which sloped from the river stood workshops and dwellings. High above them, overlooking all, gleamed the temple, its white front glistening and its gilt spire sparkling in the sunset.

"Wonderful!" exclaimed a gentleman; "it is but a few years since I last saw this place, then it was a dirty, insignificant village."

"Yes," remarked the pilot, for we had gathered in a knot near the pilot-house, "they are an astonishing people. I have an uncle among them. He was a sensible man, well-to do in York State, but they got hold of him, and he sold out and joined them. I thought, sure, he would quit them when Joe Smith was killed, but, bless you, he is going with them to the wilderness."

The captain informed us he had freight to put off, and some little business to attend to, and he thought we would have time to visit the temple.

We made haste to profit by this information and took our way ashore, going up the hill through the town, stopping occasionally to admire the gardens, in their early spring freshness. Soon we were before the great structure, which was the glory of Mormondom and the wonder of the rest of the world.

One of the gentlemen met an acquaintance in an official on duty in the town, and he volunteered his services to show us the building.

We were not prepared to see so grand a pile. It was built of fine white stone which resembled marble, and was lighted by four rows of elaborate arched and round windows, and compassed by thirty pillars of hewn stone. I think we were told that its length was 150 feet. Upon the front was the inscription:

The House of the Lord,
Built by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.
Holiness to the Lord.

* * * * *

The whole building was surmounted by a tower and spire. Near the top of the spire was a glittering angel with a trumpet in his hand.

* * * * *

The walls within the Temple were bare, the only ornaments being those cut in the wood or stone. In the basement was the wonderful font used for immersion. It was a white marble basin immensely deep, supported by twelve finely sculptured oxen as large as life. In a room somewhat retired from this was a deep, dark well. It was easy to imagine the interpretation which could be given to these by the ignorant and superstitious.

* * * * *

The gentleman who acted as our guide told us the conduct of the Mormons was inexplicable. After the arrangements were made for their leaving the State they turned to work as one man and completed the Temple. It cost nearly a million dollars, and every Mormon contributed either in labor or money. When finished it was profusely ornamented on the inside, and dedicated by the most solemn services; these over, it was despoiled of its ornaments and abandoned.

The river was dangerously low and our boat, a little stern-wheeled affair, not in the best of order. The next morning we were told we must stop for repairs, the wheel was broken. One of the gentlemen passengers had ascertained that a detachment of the Mormon emigrants were encamped on the opposite side of the river some little distance above, and interest was made with the captain to let us land there, that we might see them *en route*.

The grass was still wet with dew when we went ashore, but the Mormons had milked and breakfasted, and were getting ready for a start. The women were putting up their dishes, pouring the milk left from their morning meal into jugs or churns, and packing them in their wagons. The little girls watched the babies, and the boys kept the herds together, the bells on the necks of the animals keeping up a pleasant jingling in the morning air. Old men and young were busy about the teams, yoking up oxen and harnessing horses.

Some of the women seemed sullen, and much less inclined to talk than the men. The latter answered our questions courteously.

This was the largest detachment that had yet left, they told us, and numbered some fifteen hundred. The pioneers had gone ahead to make the rough places smooth for the faithful who followed. They did not know their destination. The Lord would lead his Israel.

As they finished their preparations, wagon after wagon fell into line and moved slowly off. Many old men, women, and children walked beside the wagons, easily keeping up with the oxen, that moved with patient stubbornness as though they knew the way was long and weary.

Among their possessions were numbers of cows and sheep which they intended to pasture on the prairies, and there were some few horses. Some families seemed to be well fitted out for the journey, while it appeared hardly possible that the vehicles of others could proceed any distance at all. The bearing of all was characterized by stubborn determination, and their speech by blind faith. They made no complaints.

The wheel was repaired, and called aboard, we were soon steaming up the river again. Standing upon the upper deck we look back upon the encampment; not one of us but thought they would be lost or destroyed, or scattered in the wilderness before we would see them again. As far as our eyes could reach were to be seen the wagons that had started earliest that morning, laboring on in line, two or three perhaps keeping close together, a gap, and several straggling ones, another gap, followed by a long line dragging forward.

Every few minutes another would be added to the procession, the dog and children bringing up the rear.

Now as I read of Salt Lake City and of the wealth of the desert they have made blossom, I wonder and call to mind that bright morning, and the picture they presented as they went on their way, lead by neither pillar nor cloud. The faces of several of them are photographed in my mind, as seemingly, with steady premeditation, they passed into the wilderness without a look behind.

M. M. T.

Cincinnati Times.

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(OFFICIAL.)

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Local — Ogden, Echo City, Wasatch and Morgan County, daily,	7 45 p m
Summit and Wasatch counties, Tuesday and Thursday,	7 40 p m
Alta, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday,	10 10 p m
West—Through mail, daily,	10 10 a m
Local—West Jordan and Herriman, Thursday,	7 10 p m
Ophir, Tooele City, daily, except Sunday,	8 00 p m
Grantsville, Saturday,	8 00 p m
Bingham, daily, except Sunday,	10 10 a m
North—Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington Ter. daily,	10 10 a m
Local—Davis and Box Elder counties, daily,	10 10 a m
Cache county, Thursday and Saturday,	10 10 a m
Rich county, Monday and Thursday,	7 40 p m
South—To Pioche, daily,	7 10 p m
St. George and Arizona, alternate days,	7 10 p m
Sanpete and Sevier counties,	7 10 p m
Fairfield and Cedar Valley, alternate days,	7 10 p m

CLOSING.

East—Express mail, daily,	9 00 p m
Local—Ogden, Morgan county, Echo City and Wasatch, daily,	9 00 p m
Summit and Wasatch counties, Monday and Wednesday,	9 00
Alta, Monday, Wednesday and Friday,	5 30 a m
West—California, Nevada and Ogden, (through mail) daily,	1 30 p m
Local—West Jordan and Herriman, Thursday,	5 30 a m
Ophir, Tooele, Stockton and Grantsville, daily, except Sunday,	6 30 a m
Bingham, daily, except Sunday,	5 30 a m
North—Idaho, Montana, Washington and Oregon, daily,	1 30 p m
Local—Davis and Weber counties, daily,	9 00 p m
Box Elder county, daily,	1 30 p m
Cache county, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday,	1 30 p m
Rich county, Tuesday and Thursday, via Evanston,	9 00 p m
South—Pioche, etc., daily,	5 30 a m
St. George and Arizona, alternate days,	5 30 a m
Sanpete county, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday,	5 30 p m
Fairfield and Cedar Valley, Wednesday,	5 30 a m

OFFICE HOURS.

General delivery open from 8 a m to 6 p m, Sunday, 2 30 to 1 30 p m.
Money Order and Registry Department open from 9 a m to 4 p m.
Outside door open from 6 a m to 9 p m.

E. M. MOORE, *Postmaster.*

WHY US?
I'll see WHY we can make it for your interest to buy of us. Because we have been longest in business, and have the largest trade; because we have the largest stock; because we have the best facilities for manufacturing; because we have the best reputation for fair dealing; because we have been longest in business