

Prayer by Prest. J. M. Grant.

Our Father and our God, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we bow before thee, and thank thee that we have the privilege of coming to the tops of these mountains to worship thee, our God, and to celebrate the liberty of thy people and their entrance into these peaceful valleys and mountains.

We thank thee for these mountains, for the fountains of waters that flow from them, for the timber that grows upon them, and for all the blessings that thou hast vouchsafed to thy people in this land.

We thank thee that thou hast preserved this land from the eye of the wicked, that they have not desired it, that they have not coveted it, that thou hast kept it for thy people and hast brought them hither, through the instrumentality of thy servant Brigham, whom thou hast inspired by the Holy Ghost.

We thank thee that we here rest secure from our enemies, that we and our families enjoy peace and rest from the persecutions of those who hate thy chosen people.

We thank thee for this goodly inheritance which thou hast vouchsafed to thy people, and for the privilege of raising our banners and ensigns on these mountain tops. May our enemies never have power over us, and may we be blessed by doing right and keeping thy commandments, by living pure, and by being watchful and careful to do no evil, that we may multiply in our families, in our flocks and in our herds, in our fields and habitations.

We pray thee, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that thou wouldst bless this valley and all the adjacent valleys; and bless the streams of water that flow from the mountains. As we are at the head of Big Cottonwood Canyon we pray thee that thou wilt bless it, and the water that flows to the mills and to the land we cultivate. And may the timber, and grass and vegetation of every description, growing in this little valley in the tops of these mountains, be blessed; and we consecrate and dedicate it to thee for the benefit of thy people, for their happiness, that they may rest here and be safe. Bless all the elements that are here; may the rocks and mountains be blessed, and every thing that has life.

We pray thee, in the name of the Lord Jesus, that thou wouldst bless thy servant Brigham and those associated with him, who have taken pains to prepare the way and kindly invite us to these regions. May we feel that we are blest, and that the Lord, through the dispensation of his providence, has granted to us these favors. We ask thy choicest blessings on thy servants Brigham, Heber and the Twelve, and upon all thy faithful people in every kingdom and nation. Bless our friends, and all who speak comforting words to thy people, and defend them, and may the enemies of truth and righteousness be confounded, and not have power to injure the people of God. Bless thy servant George A. Smith, and thy servant John Taylor, and thy servant John M. Bernhisel, and bless all thy servants in every land and clime. Bless those who write and defend thy people through the press, may our prayers come up before thee in their behalf, for thou knowest we have not sinned against thee in these groves—in this canyon. We do not visit groves, as did Israel of old, to commit adultery, nor to depart from the Lord our God. But we desire to appear before thee with clean hands and hearts, to call upon thee for thy blessing and do thy will, that our inheritance may be blest and all we have, and that all the efforts we make to build up Zion and rear temples to thy name may be blest, that the people of God may flock to the mountains by tens of thousands; may the wicked be cut off, may they be taken in the snares they have spread for thy people, and fall into the pits they have dug for thy Saints, and may they not prosper on the earth.

We desire that thou wouldst fulfill the covenants made with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, with Lehi and Nephi, and with all the prophets that have lived on this land, that Zion may come down from above and Zion come up from beneath; that every band may be broken and all Israel be saved. O Lord, we ask thee to bless us in our efforts on the earth; may righteousness and peace spread as the light of the morning, may we rejoice in the natural fortresses of this land, and may we be the pioneers of truth, men who will break the crust of nations, gather Israel and send the truth to every clime. May we accomplish the great work thou didst commence through thy servant Joseph, that truth may reign on the earth and righteousness predominate among all people. May we have power over the wicked nations, that Zion may be the seat of government for the universe, the law of God be extended and the scepter of righteousness swayed over this wide world; and eventually with the redeemed may we be brought to celebrate thy praise, in thy kingdom and presence. These favors, and all we need to prepare us to live here, to dwell with thee and the sanctified hereafter, we humbly crave in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prest. Brigham Young then remarked:

I wish to tell you that I am satisfied with every individual that has come up this canyon, and I am perfectly satisfied with our day's exercises. We have been as happy, I presume, as we are capable of being; I have enjoyed myself extremely well. I will now ask my brethren and sisters whether they are all satisfied, if you are, follow my example. [He raised his right hand, and all raised theirs.] If there are any who are not satisfied, they can make it known after they leave this place.

I have enjoyed this day, because of the liberty each of us has enjoyed. We have celebrated the 4th and the 24th of July ever since we first came into the valleys in the mountains, but I have never had the privilege, before this day, of freely

acting myself. Hitherto I have been placed, by the people, where I must sit, and been told to walk just so, eyes right, eyes left, eyes front, now forward, right, left, right, left, etc. To-day I have been at liberty, looking round and seeing the people enjoy themselves, without any stringent rules and regulations, and I may say that we have had perfect freedom. I told you to do anything or everything you wished to, if you would not do wrong, and enjoy yourselves in the way that would make you the most happy.

I would like to have had the whole church here, but when I select a party, on any occasion, I never know where to stop short of getting the last saint on earth enrolled in it. I have no distinction in my feelings, for I feel that we are all one family, and all brethren and sisters. The whole church could not come here, we could only invite a few; and as we have observed strict decorum since we came out, I wish it to be observed until we leave the canyon, and from that time henceforth, that when we leave we may have the pleasing reflection that no accident has occurred to mar our enjoyment.

We wish every man, woman and child to observe the strictest law of equity in the rest of our enjoyments this evening. When morning comes we will fire a salute to wake you up, when we wish the brethren and sisters to arise, eat their breakfasts, and take up the line of march, and if you see any persons in the mud, pick them up and carry them with you. We wish the company, so soon as breakfast is over, to put out their fires and vacate this ground, for I intend to tarry with the lumber company, until the rest are gone, and see that the fires are all well put out, when we shall take up our line of march and follow you.

Many times I have a feeling to bring this people under a covenant, but a doubt as to the propriety of doing so operates as a check upon that feeling. While the toasts were being read, some of the brethren wished me to make some remarks, and it was strongly in my mind to ask, will you live your religion from this time, henceforth and forever? and to bring the people under a covenant. But they are already under one, and my feelings are, I would rather they would not make covenants, than to make them and break them. Live your religion; live honestly before your God, deal justly with your own conscience and with one another, and do right from henceforth, and you shall be blessed.

I could say a great deal on this occasion, the anniversary of our emancipation from the yoke of bondage, but I should say that which I do not wish to say, were I to give free vent to my thoughts. I shall wait with patience, in anticipation of the day when the people of God will triumph over the wiles and powers of satan, and assume their place among the nations of the earth. But let me tell you that this will never be, until this people are a holy people. They have got to be sanctified; and when I can see the armies of Israel sanctified, no matter whether they are many or few, when that time comes they will go forth and maintain their rights, "conquering and to conquer," until satan is bound. But we will wait with patience, all we have to do is to live our religion and wait, for the time will come as quickly as we are prepared for it.

I will say to the brethren who have entertained us with music, you will please receive my thanks for your attendance here. I understand that you ask no pay for your services; that is right, and just as it should be.

I will now propose that we do not dissolve this meeting, if that is the feelings of those present, but adjourn it until the 23d day of July, 1857, to meet on this ground by 4 o'clock p. m., preparatory to celebrating the 24th; that virtually gives the people present an invitation, aside from those I shall invite hereafter. The brethren and sisters who are now here and those whom I shall invite, I shall be happy to see here another season; but I give no liberty to any person to invite others to come here, without my permission. I have no question but that all have friends whom they would like to bring with them, but order and decorum must be maintained in this, as in all matters pertaining to the kingdom of God. [Prest. Heber C. Kimball moved that the meeting be adjourned to the 23d of July, 1857; seconded by Prest. J. M. Grant, and passed unanimously.] I expected the vote would be unanimous.

Brethren and Sisters, may Almighty God bless you; you have my prayers and my faith continually, and I bless you, in the name of Jesus Christ, and I bless your little ones and all that pertain to you, with the whole house of Jacob, inasmuch as it is my right to bless you.

Now you can dance as long as you please, but do not wear out the musicians.

Dancing continued until 2 a. m. of the 25th. Thus ended one of the best and happiest days of our lives. It certainly was a foretaste of the day to come when the Spirit of God shall be poured out upon all flesh, and when Zion shall be freed from struggling against the powers of Satan and a wicked world.

July 25.—At sunrise, six rounds from the cannon and music from the bands awakened the camp, and soon all were busily engaged in preparing to start for their less elevated homes.

During the egress from the canyon one of Prest. Kimball's wives descried a bear sitting upon a rock not far from the roadside, and apparently looking with amazement upon the strange spectacle of a long line of carriages in so wild a region. Not satisfied with a distant view, the bear approached the road and was shot by br. Charles Decker with a Sharp's rifle. Three shots were fired before bruin succumbed; the first passed through the lights, the second grazed the heart, and the third pierced the brain.

All returned without accident to man or beast, and no incident occurred to mar in the least the rich enjoyment of an anniversary in one of the Lord's secret chambers, the memory of which will ever be fondly cherished by those

who shared in the privileges so liberally and courteously extended by the Big Cottonwood Lumber Company.

About 450 persons, with 71 carriages and 201 horses and mules, participated in this ever memorable trip to the headwaters of Big Cottonwood.

GEORGE D. WATT, Reporter.

THE DESERET NEWS.

TRUTH & LIBERTY.



ALBERT CARRINGTON, EDITOR.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, WEDNESDAY, JULY 30.

The Twenty Fourth of July,

AT THE HEADWATERS OF BIG COTTONWOOD.—We have attended many celebrations, both here and in other regions, but it has never before been our fortune to participate in one so fraught with unalloyed, high wrought joy as that we were favored with in the tops of the mountains.

The blending and alternating on either hand of scenery grand, picturesque and ever varying; the gradual ascent smoothed by consummate art and untiring energy; the rushing waters; the lovely vale and lake with their placid beauties surrounded by craggy peaks; the emotions caused by the locality, the day and the company; and the reminiscences of the past contrasted with the fruition of the present, are all beyond the power of our tongue and pen.

One year ago last September, under instructions from Prest. Brigham Young, Lt. Gen. Wells, Bishop F. Kesler and a small party penetrated the fastnesses of Big Cottonwood canyon, and soon after the present valuable and extensive improvements were commenced. At first a trail was brushed out, and pack animals used for transporting provisions, mill irons and other requisite articles. From that small beginning, and in so brief a period, in a locality where experienced mountain and lumber men had pronounced a road impracticable, have arisen, as if by magic, three well finished saw mills, one of them having a large circular saw in addition to the upright, and each provided with comfortable dwellings for the laborers; and some 17 miles of road has been located and worked with a judgment and perseverance we have never seen surpassed. And so well has this been done that pleasure carriages can pass thereon, without the risk of breakage.

While the religious and political atmospheres are somewhat clear, while a voice from the mountains may be heard amid the roar of the world's tumult, and before mobocratic fury and persecution gain the ascendancy, we most candidly ask the reflecting to duly consider, ere they provoke a causeless strife with a people isolated by deserts, and surrounded by mountains amid whose fastnesses they have the skill and energy to make their homes.

Judging by our works, which is scripture rule, righteous polygamy, so far from enervating as the world represent, steels the nerves and muscles with great additional power and clears the mind's vision for seeing afar. This has been repeatedly exhibited, not only in our exodus from Nauvoo and its accompanying history and hardships, not only in subduing wastes and building cities where the wicked could not, even now, be induced to occupy, but finally in grappling with and overcoming the rugged crags and roaring waters of Big Cottonwood, and opening their rich treasures to promote the comforts of civilized life.

Then, O ye wise of the earth, cease your puling folly of ranking Gov. Young and the Saints of the Most High with those rendered effeminate by vile abominations, and learn to conciliate that man and that people who are on the path to true progression.

POSTPONEMENT.—The celebration of the 24th of July on the headwaters of Big Cottonwood, by the First Presidency and a numerous company, caused the Committee of the Literary and Musical Assembly to defer their party, designed to have been given in the Social Hall on that day, to Friday, the 1st of August, when it is expected that the members and many friends of that valuable institution will enjoy themselves as only the pure in heart know how. Doors open at 1 o'clock, p. m. A prompt attendance is requested.

ARRIVALS.—Elder John Pack arrived in this city on the 22nd inst., 19 days from Carson county. The migration all reached there before the 4th inst., all well and in good spirits. Their cattle looked well, and they probably lost a smaller proportion of stock than any company

that ever crossed the desert at the sink of Mary's river. The prospect of harvest in Carson valley is very poor, in consequence of cold and drouth.

—Nelson Higgins, John D. Chase, Madison D. Hambleton, Joseph Murdock, Simon Baker, Albert Baker, Nelson Merkley and James Wilson with their families, and Daniel Stuart, William Duncan, Joseph Kirby, Edward Miles, Thomas Anson and George Casper reached Washaw valley, Carson co., June 26, all in good health. Sister John D. Chase gave birth to a daughter on the journey.

CARSON.—Elder Hyde writes from Wassan Valley, Carson co., July 2, that the people were generally well, and most of the new settlers had arrived. Flour was selling at from 15 to 20 cents a pound, and the present crop would be rather below par, on account of drouth. Elder Hyde was very busily engaged in erecting a saw-mill.

MANTI.—Bishop Warren S. Snow writes, July 18, that it was then raining in San Pete valley. Wheat harvest had commenced, but the grain was considerably injured by smut, and worms were damaging the potatoes. The people were enjoying good health.

APRICOTS.—Through the courtesy of Mr. Wm. C. Staines we had the pleasure, on the 26th inst., of eating some good sized, fine flavored, juicy apricots raised in the 'City Gardens.'

Mr. Staines informed us that his apricots commenced ripening about the 20th; that neither the severity of the past winter nor the spring frosts injured the fruit buds and blossoms. This being the case, the lots that are too frosty for peaches will probably answer well for apricots, and there are many young peach trees that can be budded with that hardy, early and choice variety of fruit.

THE CALIFORNIA MAIL arrived on the 29th inst., at half past 5 p. m.; too late for use in this number.

WATERMELONS were selling in the streets, on the 26th inst.

THIRST QUENCHED WITHOUT DRINKING.—Water, even salt water, imbibed through the skin, appeases thirst almost as well as fresh water taken inwardly. In a Narrative of Capt. Kennedy's losing his vessel, and his distresses afterwards—the Annual Register for 1769—the Captain says:—

'I cannot conclude without making mention of the great advantage I received from soaking my clothes twice a day in salt water, and putting them on without wringing. To this discovery I may with justice attribute the preservation of my own life and six other persons, who must have perished if it had not been put in use. The water absorbed through the pores of the skin produced in every respect the same effect as would have resulted from the moderate drinking of any liquid. The saline particles, however, which remained in our clothes, became encrusted with the heat of the sun and that of our bodies, lacerated our skins, and being otherwise inconvenient; but we found, by washing out these particles, and frequently wetting our clothes, without wringing, twice in the course of a day, the skin became well in a short time.

After these operations we uniformly found that the drought went off, and the parched tongue was cured in a few minutes, after bathing and washing our clothes; and, at the same time we found ourselves as much refreshed as if we had received some actual nourishment. Four persons in the boat, who drank salt water, went delirious and died; but those who avoided this, and followed the above practice, experienced no such symptoms.'

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—English justice, when applied to big rogues, we must think far superior to our own. The case of Sir John Paul, Strahan and Bates, the defaulting bankers of London, is known to our readers. The disclosures on their late failures showed that they had disposed of securities placed on deposit in their hands, and applied the money to their own wants. They were arrested, tried, and have been sentenced to fourteen years transportation.

The head of the house, Sir John Paul, was a baronet, a magistrate, and a member of the church, &c.—and his partners held a high position, yet English justice awarded them no respect because of their position and relations. Shall we ever see this righteous example imitated on this side the Atlantic?—[Ex.]

USE OF THE NOSE.—We always thought that the nose was meant for higher purposes than mere sneezing, and now the secret is out. So says an eastern exchange paper:—IMPROVANT TO NURSES.—We have been much amused by beholding one of the readiest modes of silencing squalling children, we remember to have either read or heard of. So desirable a piece of knowledge is worthy of being universally known, and we therefore give it publicity. Take a child in its cross fits, and press your finger gently across the cartilage of the nose, and in less than a minute it will be asleep.