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## "THE 'STAR'S' LONG LIFE.

With the issue for December 26th, which is just to hand, the *Millennial Star*, published at 42, Islington, Liverpool, England, closes its fifty-fourth volume. In his retrospect the editor, President Brigham Young, of the European Mission, brings to mind many incidents and statistics which will be of no less interest and comfort to readers in these valleys than to those who still remain in the lands beyond the sea. As a bit of early history he presents the following:

Cotemporary with the events of crowning Queen Victoria, and laying the railroad track from Liverpool to Manchester in 1837, is chronicled the landing of Heber C. Kimball and other Elders in the city of Liverpool. These messengers from the Throne of Grace brought with them the everlasting Gospel to preach unto the British nation, in fulfillment of the prophecy that "the Gospel shall be preached in all the world." Subsequently other Elders arrived upon these Islands, and in the year 1840 the first number of this periodical was issued. An emigration office was opened, and companies of Latter-day Saints were sent to join their brethren, who were then busily engaged building the city of Nauvoo, situated in Hancock county, state of Illinois, U. S. A.

By way of statistics he continues:

Since the year 1840, 396 vessels have sailed from these shores carrying thousands of Latter-day Saints to a land where, by their sobriety and industry, they have accumulated around them the comforts of home. Nearly a quarter of a million of the seed of Ephraim and Manasse, sailing in the vast fleet of vessels, have gone from the bondage and poverty of the old world, to dwell under their own vine and fig tree in the new.

Since the year 1840, thousands of vessels have been wrecked, and vast multitudes of people have found a watery grave in the mighty deep. But no vessel carrying Latter-day Saint emigrants has met with disaster; and of the 396 vessels which have borne the chosen people of the Lord across the stormy sea, not one has failed to reach its destined port. All have safely disembarked their precious human freight.

Addressing himself to the Elders under his direction in the European mission he offers these comforting and encouraging words:

God never has, and never will, withhold His blessings from the diligent worker in His cause. I feel to congratulate all my brethren who are laborers with me in the British Isles, and on the continent. The missions are in an excellent condition, and the workers therein, energetic, God-fearing Latter-day Saints, so far as I know. The Lord in His infinite wisdom, saw fit to remove two of our brethren, Elders Cannon and Haag, from their missionary labors. 'Twas a sad

blow to their dear ones at home, and our hearts went out in sympathy to them. Elders Cannon and Haag were exemplary young men in every sense of the word, and they died while engaged in the work of the Lord. To what greater honor could they have attained? They have gained the reward for which we are all striving; they are crowned with life eternal.

And in his preface to the volume now completed he thus addresses the reader:

Over fifty-two years have elapsed since *The Latter-day Saints' Millennial Star*, Vol. I, No. 1, Manchester, May, 1840, first assisted in dispelling the darkness covering the earth. As a fixed star in the heavens to guide the buffeted and bewildered mariner struggling in the ocean of error and false doctrine in his proper course; as a repository of light and truth to illuminate the mind of man and guide his footsteps in the path of eternal life; as a reflector of rays celestial and a luminary indicating the near approach of the Sun of Righteousness, it has steadily dispensed its genial light undimmed, undaunted and undismayed by the opposition of its enemies.

That our little luminary may continue to reflect the doctrines of Christ, comfort the afflicted, bear up the oppressed, strengthen the weak, and direct the benighted traveler westward to a land of promise and a day of rest, is the wish of

THE EDITOR.

This, too, is the wish of the NEWS. May the star shine on undimmed until every light-seeking soul that lingers in darkness shall be illumined by its radiance and be brought to bask in its full glory of the revealed Gospel in the Zion of our God.

## THE DAY WE CELEBRATE.

Some few papers believe, at least they have announced, that yesterday was the anniversary of the birth of Andrew Jackson, and hence the designation "Jackson's day" and the widespread recognition of it. Not so; "Old Hickory" was born on the 15th day of March, 1767, in the state of North Carolina but so near the lower border that some claim his birthplace to have been as much in the southern as the northern Carolina. His father was a native Irishman and bore the same name as the sun. His early life was of the most obscure and humble character, and with but the rudiments of an education he started out at a youthful age to hew a pathway through this vale of tears for himself. Being possessed of great physical courage and destructiveness in sufficient quantity with the other qualities necessary to the make-up of a soldier, he was not long in distinguishing himself as a leader of the whites in the Indian wars of the time; and he was not without some bitter experiences as a lad among the British soldiery during the closing years of the Revolution. He got into a law office, studied hard, was admitted to the bar and practiced with considerable success, albeit to his dying day he could not write the English language—nor, of course, any other—correctly. His forced march to New Orleans, arriving on the 2nd of December, 1814, was not excelled in the hardihood and determination displayed by Napoleon's scaling of the Alps on his march to Italy some years previously. Knowing that Lord Pakenham, with 12,000 of his

brother-in-law's (Wellington's) choicest troops, seasoned on the field of Waterloo, was on his way to effect a landing and subsequently to accomplish it possible what had been abandoned by our English cousins thirty years before, Jackson lost no time; neither sickness nor hunger, lack of transportation facilities nor the rigors of a tramp through a trackless, howling wilderness could stay him. With a cut from a British saber inflicted many years before still ranking and spurring him on to personal vengeance, there was the additional and greater incentive of preserving America to the Americans and keeping crowned heads and their satellites forever from our shores. Jackson hastily threw up earthworks capped in places with cotton bales, and with all possible preparations made was ready for the enemy when he landed; soon after a movement was made by Pakenham's entire force of 8000 men against Jackson's position, attempting to capture it by direct assault. Although the American forces numbered but half of the enemy, the latter were repulsed with great slaughter, the gallant leader himself being among the slain and 2800 of his men left dead or wounded on the field. Jackson lost eight in killed and thirteen wounded. This, the greatest military victory of modern times, took place on the 8th of January, 1814, and it has ever since borne the name of "Jackson's day"—the day we celebrate.

General Jackson at once vaulted to the topmost round of the ladder of fame. He was almost unknown before, but the people got acquainted with the customary rapidity in such cases. He became governor of Florida, United States senator from Tennessee and President for two terms, although defeated the first time he ran for the last-named place. He was neither a protectionist nor a free trader, believing that the former system would be the means of lending government aid and recognition to private enterprises and that the latter would result in crippling our new and growing industries; doubtless, his exact position, if it could be placed in more modern phraseology, would be shown to have been similar to that of his political descendants of today—a moderate tariff adjusted to the circumstances of the government. Jackson was very self-willed, a personality remarkable for its incisiveness and power characterizing all his public acts and utterances. He was a Cromwell in a different age and in another land, and according to some accounts was once on the eve of duplicating the great Englishman's performance of dispersing Parliament; this was when the Senate antagonized him on the banking scheme; so exasperated was he at what he considered the lawmakers' corrupt tendencies and lack of patriotism that he would have gone to the chambers and driven the senators out with his walking stick had he not been restrained. It was a good thing for the country that Jackson was nearly always on the right side of every national proposition, otherwise the mischief he might have wrought is incalculable.

The day is being variously observed by our Democratic friends in Salt