

and found not only not one stone left upon another, but the very foundations rooted up. Aye! but if they have pulled down the stones, we have rebuilt, ourselves, with marble.

Ere the peeled remnant had reached the main body of the Church at "Winter Quarters," the Government of the United States called upon the afflicted exiles for five hundred men to go into the Mexican war to fight the battles of the nation—that nation which had cast them out. It was, in fact, a scheme to effectually break up the community, recommended to President Polk by certain politicians, who designed our annihilation, among whom Thomas H. Benton was chief. We have the proof of this in our records. It was expected that we should resist, and designed that we should rebel. What greater proof of loyalty and undying love of country could we give than we then gave?

When the news was brought that military messengers from the Government were in pursuit of us there was great excitement in camp. They arrived, went into council with our leaders, and explained their business. There was no protest, no hesitation. "You shall have five hundred of our best men, even if it takes five hundred of our leading elders," was the prompt reply of Brigham Young. At a word from our chief, the men were enlisted, messengers sent to the other camps of the saints on the route, to supply their quota of men for the Mexican service, and, in the brief space of three days, the famous Mormon Battalion was organized, and their line of march taken up. That battalion was in fact made up of our elders—the very picked men of those capable of service; and their devoted families were left by the way on the hands of their brethren. Thus Brigham checkmated our enemies by his wisdom and energetic policy, backed by the devotion to religion and country of that heroic band. This Mormon Battalion it was that afterwards discovered the gold in California.

Early in the Spring (1847) the pioneers were organized into two grand divisions, the right division under the immediate leadership of Brigham Young, and the left under Heber C. Kimball, consisting in all of some three hundred souls. [The writer here confounds the organization of the Saints at Winter Quarters with that of the pioneers; the latter numbered 143 men; in all 147 souls.—Ed. News.] The pioneer camp started for the great basin where now stands the city of the saints. Of course the pioneer three hundred were chosen men whose wives and children, like those of the battalion, were left with the main body at Winter quarters. That journey is itself a romance in its adventures. The crossings of the Platte to find fitting fording-places were fraught with many a day's excitement and danger; the erecting of bridges by the way; establishing of roads for the rear companies; pioneering the new route; the buffalo hunts; the innumerable armies of those beasts which took sometimes whole days to pass; Indian alarms; charges of the red men upon the camp; the arrival of the pioneers in the Valley of the Great Salt Lake; all these would make a volume abounding with dramatic interest. A full account of this wonderful pioneer journey has never yet been published; but it is recorded very graphically in the private journals of Apostle Woodruff.

The pioneers arrived in the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, July 24, 1847. A few had entered the day before, under Apostle Orson Pratt, but the main body, under Brigham, who had been hindered by sickness, arrived on the 24th, which is the day annually celebrated by us. The council of the leaders met, and the Valley of the Great Basin was chosen as the new home of the saints, as, until then it was not clearly known where the final resting-place would be found. They immediately went to work, laying out farms and planting for the next harvest, though they had scarcely food for consumption till that time, much less seed grain to spare. The planting, too, was almost a hopeless experiment. Bridger offered them a thousand dollars for the first ear of corn raised in Salt Lake Valley—that valley which has since been made to blossom as the rose, by our untiring industry, aided by irrigation from the melting snow of the surrounding mountains. The seed-time past, they patiently waited the harvest, and the Pioneers meanwhile went into the cañons to cut wood for the Winter's fuel

and for building. A fort was soon erected, and the hum of civilized life was heard where scarcely till then the foot of the white man had trod. Providentially, that year there was scarcely any Winter.

Brigham, Heber and the Twelve now made a return trip to Winter quarters, and met with the advancing companies, bound for what was now called Great Salt Lake City. There were many stirring incidents by the way. Arriving at Winter quarters, the Twelve, in grand council, resolved upon filling up the quorum of the "First Presidency;" and Brigham Young was thus made the President of the church. This action was afterwards confirmed in general conference, at Great Salt Lake City, by the unanimous voice of the church.

Brigham and the leaders returned from Winter quarters the same year, bringing along the body of the church to the Great Basin, and then commenced with rapidity the growth of the Territory of Utah. The city of Great Salt Lake was laid out in the beautiful order which it shows to-day—blocks divided off to the Pioneers as their first right, on which they in turn settled their friends and relations, each having a lot of an acre and a quarter. Thus the city systematically grew into wards, over which bishops were placed.

But the growth of a city did not complete the Mormon problem. In Brigham's great programme was the design of building up a new State in the Union, and that design he unfolded with masterly policy, drawing into it the energy, religious faith and natural ambition of the entire people. Thus, from the very entrance of the Pioneers into Great Salt Lake, the object of every member of the community, male and female, was—not the mere building of a house or the planting of a family orchard—but the building up of a great State of the Union. It was not the individual interest that was fostered, but the greatness of the people.

The Mormons have migrated to Mexican possessions; they have been cast out from the Nation; but they had the instinct of Americans, and clung to their national allegiance. On Ensign Peak the Pioneers planted the American flag, and in the name of the United States, they wrested from Mexico a vast territory, which they defined and organized into a provisional State, with a duly elected provisional State Government, with Brigham Young as Governor. The name given to the State was Deseret. It is maintained to this day, and the people are constantly knocking for its admission into the Union. The name of Deseret like that of Nauvoo was taken from the "Book of Mormon." The latter means the "beautiful," the former the "honey-bee." The bee-hive is our State emblem. Its language is, "we build ourselves upon industry and virtue; for industry is social virtue." The historian of the future and the social philosopher will be forced to acknowledge—what a Colfax and a Richardson was forced to confess—these people abound with virtues in spite of their polygamy. No better coat of arms could the Mormons have chosen than their significant bee-hive. It is their history in an emblem.

Our State Constitution was drawn up, a delegate sent to Congress to present it, and in due time the people were admitted into the Union as a Territory under the name of Utah, and Brigham Young became Governor and Indian Agent [ex-officio Superintendent of Indian Affairs]. To grapple with Indian affairs was no child's play, but Brigham's masterly and pacific policy was more efficient than troops have since been; yet the strong, high stone walls which our leader caused vigorously to be reared around the young forts in the country, and an Indian war or two, admonished the red men that they must not be hostile. The success of Brigham's Indian policy became so manifest that our enemies made this one of our crimes. The Mormons had too much influence over the Indians.

From the beginning, our State-founding programme was rapidly unfolding, under the wise and potent direction of our chief, and ever and anon pioneers were chosen, from the first settlers of the city, to sell out and go into the country to form new settlements. These were from time to time called as missionaries, who forthwith started on their religious State-founding enterprise, or, in Mormon phraseology, to build up the "Kingdom of God." These persons become the Bishops and High Councils of the new "Stakes of Zion;"

and as our emigrations poured in from the States and Europe, they were systematically directed by the President to re-enforce the settlements. As the European mechanics and manufacturers had to resort from necessity to farming and stock-raising, Brigham's policy was furthered by nature's wants. It was only such as were needed who remained in Great Salt Lake City.

Our latest statistics show that we number one hundred and five cities and settlements in Utah; and everybody who has visited it views Great Salt Lake City, under the future era of the Pacific Railroad, as the New Jerusalem of America. Who have more right than the "saints" to pursue their laudable ambition of building up a State of the Union, upon the possessions which they took from a foreign power in their country's name, by their wonderful industry, giving it to the nation, not the desert they found it, but the fruitful field they have made it? Who have more right than they to choose their own Governor, and whom should they choose but the man who, under Providence, has made them what they are?

This republican right, in Buchanan's reign, was our crime; for polygamy was not the plea of the famous Utah expedition. Brigham says he will "be Governor until the Lord says, 'Brigham, I don't want you to be Governor any longer.'" Upon this, and the groundless charge of burning some law books, an army was sent against us, before an appointed Governor had been rejected or commissioners sent to inquire into the matter. We were ready to receive fifty governors, since no one in fact would govern us but Brigham. Albert Sidney Johnson, and most of the officers of the Utah expedition, soon took up arms against their country, so as to secede from the Union; but the Mormons have constantly been knocking for admission into that Union. Thus the very rulers who were preparing for rebellion were over-anxious to quell the rebel Mormons; and they did it through an officer who became one of the chief rebels himself in American history. But Brigham was equal to the occasion, and during that exciting period of our history was perfectly calm. Confident ever is the man in his mission and the destiny of the Mormons. We were ready to make another exodus, and to follow our President again wherever he should lead. That second exodus was a conquest. A "territory put upon wheels" at a word from one man, and the people's resolution to make Utah ashes, showed the world what Brigham Young and Mormondom meant. Brigham now had the issue in his own hand. Be assured he will preserve his people in the future, as in the past, and carry us and our work along.

Wherein is Brigham's power over us? In our love and not our fear. The power of despotism could not rule an Anglo-Saxon people from the dominant nations of America and England. We Mormon Elders love our chief, and dare say to his face we do not fear his power, though most of us would give life for his smile. He is our people's father, and as such we look upon him.

Two hundred thousand souls daily pray for Brigham Young that Heaven may spare him to us many a year to come, and when their lips utter it not, their hearts utter it. Brigham realizes that his people's prayers daily ascend in his behalf. Were his own heart not right, this consciousness would be as coals of fire heaped upon his head. But as it is it makes him strong and satisfied with life. He has no desire to die, and we are grateful that heaven spares him still to lead us.

E. W. TULLIDGE.

PRESIDENT B. YOUNG'S TRIP NORTH.

G.S.L CITY, Sept. 21st, 1867.

EDITOR DESERET NEWS:

In my report of this trip of the President and his friends to the northern settlements, I have more particularly confined myself to jottings embracing important counsel and advice which may be read with interest and profit by our people in this Territory, by our people scattered abroad, and by generations yet unborn. I have not noticed particularly incidents of travel on this trip, which have been essentially the same as on previous trips, and which I have already given through your columns in minute detail.

The President's discourses I have written in full, which will be carefully

transcribed, and will doubtless appear in the future. His remarks were texts to the various speakers on the trip, and in the synopsis of discourses which I have given is embraced the chief points of teaching and doctrine contained in the President's remarks. The President and Twelve were a fountain of light to the people, and the people had eyes to see, ears to ear and hearts to understand the things which the Holy Ghost gave to them through the living oracles. The Word of Wisdom seems to be almost universally observed, resulting in greater health and consequently greater happiness to the people. Generally speaking, the question with the Saints north seems to be, not how shall I enrich myself, but how shall I, in the best possible manner, do that which I am told, and build up and establish the Kingdom of God. The disposition to save grain is increasing among them; they begin to see the great wisdom and propriety of the advice of President Young and the Twelve to rather sell stock for necessities they must have, and keep their grain in good and substantial bins for a day of famine and want.

There will be an ingathering of the Saints from foreign climes for some time to come, and it has been wisely advised on this trip, that bread should be kept in the country to feed and employ our brethren, and if need be the stranger, and thus make the productions of our fields build up our cities and improve and develop our country. The subject of education commands attention more and more, and not only day schools, but Sunday schools are established in the settlements north, and the study and practice of music claims a liberal share of the attention of the people; in this branch of education we notice a visible improvement since our last visit.

The President and Twelve earnestly recommended the introduction into our schools of a phonetic system of reading, advising the fathers of the people to take steps to have this beautiful system of representing the English language placed within the reach of all both old and young in their settlements. Instead of reading works of fiction which divert the tender minds of the young from a legitimate course of useful study, warping the minds of the middle aged and the aged from the direction in which true and substantial information may be found, it was recommended that the works of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints be carefully read, that the history of this people be thoroughly known by old and young, and that the attainment of knowledge in the arts and sciences and in natural philosophy be everywhere encouraged.

A few words on Bear Lake Valley and I will close this report. I understand that Bear Lake Valley is elevated over one mile above the level of the sea. It has long winters, and short summers. The air is rarefied and bracing; its soil deep and rich, its waters clear, abundant, cool and refreshing; its cañons close to the settlements, and filled with poles, saw-logs of superior quality, and firewood inexhaustible; its rock for building purposes near by and of the best quality; its hay lands near by, and of the best quality and extremely abundant; its grazing facilities remarkable; the extent of its capabilities for the production of the cereals, and all root crops and other vegetables which grow in temperate climates is unknown; and fruits of the harder classes can be produced there in perfection and in great abundance. Beef, hides, tallow, dried meat, kippered fish, wool, flax, hemp, silk, butter, cheese, fruit and many other productions of commercial worth will doubtless in the future become articles of exchange returning a rich revenue of labor and other available and profitable returns. It is expected that the Pacific railway will pass somewhere in the vicinity of this valley; if this should be the case, an effective opening will exist for transportation. By good management, and a wise and proper improvement of the facilities offered to the wants and necessities of humanity, I think I am safe in saying that the people occupying those regions can accumulate the comforts of life in abundance, and increase in material wealth as easily and as expeditiously in that valley as in any of the valleys of the mountains.

G. D. WATT.

ENOUGH.—Messrs Ransohoff & Co. inform the public that they have had a sufficiency of hay. See their notice. Their fall stock of goods is now received and ready for inspection.