

THIRTY-SIX YEARS AGO.

At the General Annual Conference held in April 1857, the following named Elders were called to fill what was known as the "Hand Cart Mission:"

FROM SALT LAKE CITY.

George Goddard, Joseph W. Young,
Stephen H. Goddard, Amos Taylor,
John Nelson Wakeley, Jabez Taylor,
Isaac N. Hill, George Rowley,
William Carter, Robert Logan,
William H. Smith, James Galley,
Henry L. Southworth, Frederick Gardner,
Thomas Chamberlin, William Jenkins,
Thomas Hall, George Staniforth,
John Y. Green, William J. Harris,
Seymour B. Young, Miner G. Atwood,
Henry Herriman, William H. Branch,
Enoch Reese, Samuel H. W. Ritter,
David Wilkin, George B. Smith,
Philip Margetts, Daniel Mackintosh,
Brigham H. Young, Martin Littlewood;

FROM PROVO.

David Clough, Senr., John W. Turner;

FROM FILLMORE.

Gabriel Huntsman, Ephraim Tomkinson,
Reuben McBride, William Felshaw;
James Brooks,

FROM SALT CREEK.

William B. Twitchell;

FROM STOKERVILLE.

Henry Lee;

FROM CEDAR VALLEY

Joel Terry;

FROM SOUTH MILL CREEK.

Robert Gardner;

FROM BIG COTTONWOOD.

Charles Shumway, James Andrus;
David Brinton,

FROM OGDEN CITY.

Albern Allen, William F. Bull,
Thomas Browning, John D. Maylott,
Richard Hill, Ebenezer Richardson;

FROM NORTH WILLOW CREEK.

John M. McCrary;

FROM WILLOW CREEK.

Samuel Longbottom;

FROM SOUTH COTTONWOOD.

Samuel R. Allen;

FROM SPANISH FORK.

John W. Berry;

FROM SPRINGVILLE.

Andrew J. Wheelock, William Bramall,
William J. Stewart;

FROM WEST JORDAN.

Jabez Woodard;

FROM BOX ELDER.

Martin L. Ensign, R. G. Evans,
Eli H. Pierce, William P. Thomas;
Frederick Rowlett,

FROM LEHI.

William Dallan;

FROM BINGHAM'S FORT.

John G. Pinder;

FROM SESSIONS' SETTLEMENT.

John B. Maxwell;

FROM AMERICAN FORK.

Iver M. Iverson;

FROM FARMINGTON.

John S. Gleason.

Of the above seventy Elders, three went to South Africa, eight to the United States, twenty-three to Canada and thirty-six to Europe.

On Thursday, April 23, at 8 o'clock a. m. the seventy Elders assembled on the Temple Block with their twenty-six hand carts loaded with bedding, provisions, cooking utensils, etc., and themselves fully equipped for a spring walk across the plains of 1032 miles.

Each cart required two or three to haul it. After receiving our licenses from Orson Hyde, and listening to short addresses from Orson Hyde, Lorenzo Snow, Wilford Woodruff and Jeter Clinton, the Presidency arrived and at the suggestion of President Brigham Young the company started, it being now 10 o'clock, bidding adieu to our friends who had gathered in considerable numbers to see us off, and headed by the Nauvoo band, who with some citizens accompanied us about a mile and half. We then halted, and after returning thanks, and a rousing three cheers to the band, we proceeded on our journey as far as the cold spring in Emigration canyon and there camped for the night.

The chief incidents of our first day's travel were the breaking of three axletrees and three carts turning a summer-sault. Having in our company some good mechanics all needed repairs were soon attended to. At day break the following day the company was aroused; and after breakfast a permanent traveling organization was effected as follows: Henry Herriman, president, Stephen H. Goddard and Joseph W. Young his counselors, Wm. Galley chaplain, William Branch captain of fifty; John Y. Green captain of the guards; Daniel Mackintosh clerk; George Goddard chorister and journal keeper.

The following rules were adopted for our observance while crossing the plains: Camp aroused at 4 o'clock a. m., singing and prayer night and morning; and after each hour's walk a rest of ten minutes.

After the general organization, the company divided up into tens and selected a captain to every five carts. To the first five, Miner G. Atwood; second, Eli Harvey Pierce; third, Joel Terry; fourth, David Brinton; fifth, Thomas Hall.

Saturday, April 25.—We arrived on the top of the Big Mountain at 7 a. m., gave three cheers as a final adieu to the valley of Great Salt Lake, and wended our way down on the eastern slope through snow, mud and water. For miles the snow was very deep, especially on the sides of the mountain, and the way we had to travel was so rough and sideling, that it required the utmost care to prevent the carts from overturning. This was an eventful day's travel, for in addition to the above we had to cross East Canyon creek four times—from two to two and a half feet deep, and, by the way, the only means of crossing these and other streams of water was by plunging in with bare limbs and pulling our carts after us. To avoid the crossing of two other streams, we ascended a bluff of great elevation and let down each cart on the other side (with ropes) which was nearly perpendicular. Notwithstanding all the above difficulties only two axletrees were broken, which were repaired before the camp retired to rest.

Sunday, April 26.—Ice half an inch thick; waded through five more crossings of East Canyon creek, soon crossed the divide between East Canyon and Weber and by 3 p. m. reached the Weber river which we forded, although the stream was very swift, very cold and two and a half feet deep, and reaching the east bank by 3:30 p. m. we camped for the night. This was a hard day's travel, and the distance only twelve miles, yet we all deemed it a good Sabbath day's

journey. We were now forty miles from Salt Lake City. The company all felt well, though tired, but very cheerful, and after attending to our Sabbath evening's religious duties, acknowledging the kind providential watchcare of our Heavenly Father and grateful for the goodly portion of His Holy Spirit that cheered us along on our rugged path, we retired to rest.

Monday 27—Up at 4 a. m., started at twenty minutes to five, and soon reached Echo canyon, traveling through water, mud and dust for about nineteen miles. In order to resume our usual appearance of white folks, a good wash was necessary, after which the whole company were in good health and cheerful spirits.

Tuesday 28—Left camp at half past four, traveled twenty-two miles, crossed several patches of snow from two to five feet deep; up hill work all morning; crossed the divide and camped on the east side of Bear River.

Wednesday 29—Found snow on the ground from one to two inches deep; after a travel of two and a half miles, we began the ascent of a mountain several miles long, and in some places quite steep. The snow during the night now turned into mud, adhering to our feet and the wheels of our carts, and withal very slippery; these not only increased our labor, but slackened our speed. At length we reached Rocky Ridge 6,850 feet above sea level. In ascending this hill Frederick Gardner became so exhausted that we had him conveyed in a wagon that was passing at the time.

Thursday 30—Another snow storm visited us in the night—from three to six inches deep. By 8 o'clock we reached Big Muddy creek, which we forded, and the water being so intensely cold, had it not been for a few fires to run to, where some campers had been the night before, we should have suffered extremely. Another hard day's work lay before us—slippery roads up a steep hill; fording Black's Fork twice we soon reached Fort Bridger where we found our mutual friend Lewis Robison, about 2 o'clock p. m.

Here we made a stay for repairs and overhauling our carts for twenty four hours.

May 4—Henry L. Southworth was attacked with rheumatism in his leg, and after being anointed and administered to by President Herriman and others, he was immediately restored. The same day William Harris left the company to hunt game, and wending his way a little too far off, lost sight of the camp. Night came on and the company began to be alarmed for his safety. Guns and pistols were fired, and a large bonfire was made, but no response from the lost one. David Wilkin started on foot in search of him, occasionally hooting at the top of his voice. After several miles' run, his voice was heard and replied to by the wanderer. To the joy of the whole company they both arrived about 10 o'clock.

On the 6th of May we reached the summit of the South Pass, 7085 feet above sea level, crossing over snow several feet deep. At this time the entire company had run out of bread-stuffs, with the exception of one or two meals, and having deposited in Stewart's teams (a little ahead of us) some of our flour and crackers to lighten our loads, it was deemed wisdom to send