

HISTORY OF UTAH

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

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Volume IV.—Biographical.

. . . Illustrated. . . .

History is philosophy teaching by examples.—*Herodotus.*

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means to obtain an outfit with which to follow the main body of his people to the Rocky Mountains.

Four years passed before he found himself able to start, but on the first day of May, 1850, he left Keokuk, with his wife and children. He had one horse team and one consisting of four yoke of oxen; also four cows, some seed grain and a year's provisions. The little company in which he started westward comprised sixteen souls, traveling in five wagons. By way of Garden Grove they reached Kaneshville, and having crossed the Missouri river by ferry, joined a company of fifty wagons led by Milo Andrus across the plains. They proceeded up the south side of the Platte, and though the cholera raged around them, decimating other companies of emigrants, the Andrus company came through in safety. From the Sweetwater to Green River, owing to a scarcity of feed, they were guided along a new way by Barney Ward, the mountaineer, who met them for that purpose. Mr. Steed arrived in Salt Lake Valley on the 28th of August. He lived here nine months, and then moved to Farmington, where he has ever since resided.

He settled on the first stream south of that place, at the mouth of a canyon still called by his name. He led a busy and a useful life, helping to make the roads, open up the canyons and otherwise develop the country. In February, 1853, he took his team and camped in the street at Salt Lake City, while assisting to get out the foundations for the Temple. Later he made several trips to the East, helping in the handcart companies and other immigration. He served in Echo Canyon in 1857, and in the move went to Mona, after making all preparations and leaving a guard behind to burn what property he could not take with him, rather than have it fall in the hands of the enemy. He has aided in building school houses, meeting houses and temples, has contributed thousands of dollars to church charities, and has always been a humble, unassuming, industrious and honest man.

As early as 1842, while yet in England, he had been ordained to the office of a Priest, and at Nauvoo, in April, 1845, had been ordained a Seventy. He became a High Priest, June 16, 1877, when he was set apart as first counselor to the president of Davis Stake, Thomas S. Smith. He was also first counselor to President Joel Parrish of that stake. He has been a Patriarch since March, 1899. From June, 1875, to March, 1877, he was absent upon a mission to Australia and New Zealand, going by way of New York and London to Melbourne, and returning by way of San Francisco, thus circumnavigating the globe. He was a Sunday school teacher for thirty-five years and a member of the Ward choir for forty years.

In a civic capacity he has served as road supervisor, water master and school trustee. He was one of the founders of the Farmington Co-operative Store, the Farmington Commercial and Manufacturing Company's store, the Davis County Bank, the State Bank and the Utah Sugar Company. He was also one the first to own stock in Z. C. M. I. and in the Co-operative Wagon and Machine Company. Thus it will be seen that he is a thrifty and substantial citizen. He is the father of ten sons and six daughters, all the children of his wife Laura Lucinda Reed, whom he married at Keokuk, Iowa, on his twentieth birthday.

JOHN COLE.

AN early convert to Mormonism in the British Isles, and one of the second company of Latter-day Saints to emigrate from that land, John Cole, now of Willard City, was born at Bishop's Froome, Herefordshire, England, July 8, 1821. His parents, William and Ann Fenner Cole, had eight children, and lived in humble circumstances upon a farm. All the schooling he received was prior to being put to work at eight years of age, following the plow and otherwise assisting his father. At ten he was apprenticed to a wheelwright, serving five years to learn the trade, and then continuing at it for wages until he left his native land. In the manufacture of wagons and agricultural implements he labored from twelve to fourteen hours a day. He was a conscientious youth, and led a sober, industrious life.

He became a latter-day Saint in 1840, and in September of that year sailed from

Liverpool on the ship "North America," in a company of Saints presided over by Elder Theodore Turley. Landing at New York, he proceeded by way of the Hudson River and the lakes to Chicago, and thence by team and flat boat to Nauvoo. In 1842 he married. He had three wives, namely, Charlotte Jenkins, Mary Ann Cordon and Helena Danielson. He and his family were in the exodus of 1846, and from Council Bluffs came to Utah in 1850. They were outfitted with a wagon, two yoke of oxen and one yoke of cows—a splendid team for the journey—and traveled in Captain Gardiner Snow's company, several of whom died of cholera on the way. The dates enclosing the journey from the Missouri River to Salt Lake Valley were the 20th of June and the 6th of October.

Mr. Cole first settled at American Fork. He took part in the Walker Indian war, fought the invading grasshoppers, and in the fall of 1856 helped the helated handcart companies into Salt Lake City. In the spring of 1859 he moved to his present home in Box Elder County. There in 1867 he was a prime mover in establishing the Willard Mercantile Association, of which he was one of the directors. He has been connected in business with Harding Brothers, E. Pettingill and others, and at the same time has carried on farming. His life in Utah has been one of peace and privacy, assuming no other titles than those of an honest man and a trustworthy citizen. He is the father of fifteen children. One of his grandsons is a graduate of West Point and an officer in the army of the United States.

ELIAS CRANE

ELIAS CRANE, of Salina, has been a settler in Utah since 1857, and has passed through many interesting experiences, especially during the Indian wars of the "sixties," regarding which he relates some thrilling incidents. He is of English origin, born at Dunton, Bassett, in Leicestershire, November 29, 1829. His parents, Joseph and Sarah Bryan Crane, were stocking weavers in humble circumstances, and Elias as a youth followed the same vocation. He disliked it, however, and at the first opportunity forsook it for other labor. He received no schooling save a little at the Protestant Sunday school. At seventeen he was employed as groom by a railroad contractor at Clifton, in Warwickshire, whose business took him to Doncaster in Yorkshire. He was thus occupied for three years. At home again he was converted to the Mormon faith, and on March 15, 1851, walked ten miles to the city of Leicester to be baptized. He followed brick-making in Staffordshire until 1856, when he started for Utah, sailing from Liverpool on the 19th of February, with barely enough money to pay his passage across the ocean.

He landed at New York without a cent, and made his way to Pittston, Pennsylvania, where he worked six months for a brickmaker, prior to going on to St. Louis. There he spent the winter, and reached Florence, Nebraska, the next spring. On June 13, 1857, he married Elizabeth Smith, an English girl from Bedfordshire, whom he had met while on the ocean, Elder A. Milton Musser officiating in the ceremony. "While at Florence," says he, "Apostle Erastus Snow received a letter informing him of the assassination of Parley P. Pratt, in Arkansas, and shortly afterwards he and Apostle John Taylor had to flee for their lives. We were camped at Wood River when they with others came and obtained their outfits for crossing the plains. They left under the protection of a cloud, which encircled them and hid them from view. Through the day parties on their track inquired of our captain concerning their whereabouts."

The same season, under the direction of Emigration Agent Musser, and the command of Captain Israel Evans, Mr. Crane started westward, pulling a handcart over a thousand miles and reaching Salt Lake City on the 9th of September. He settled in the Twentieth Ward; took part in the Echo Canyon campaign; and went in the move to Springville. Thence he removed to Manti, where he dwelt until 1864, and then with about thirty others helped to settle Sevier County, locating at Salina, his present home. Of the Indian depredations in that part during 1865-66, he thus writes:

"On April 10, 1865, the Indians in and near Salina ran off about ninety-five head of stock, and killed Barney Ward, the Indian trader, and James Anderson. The two had been hunting stock in Salina Canyon, when they were met by the redskins, killed, scalped



John Cole