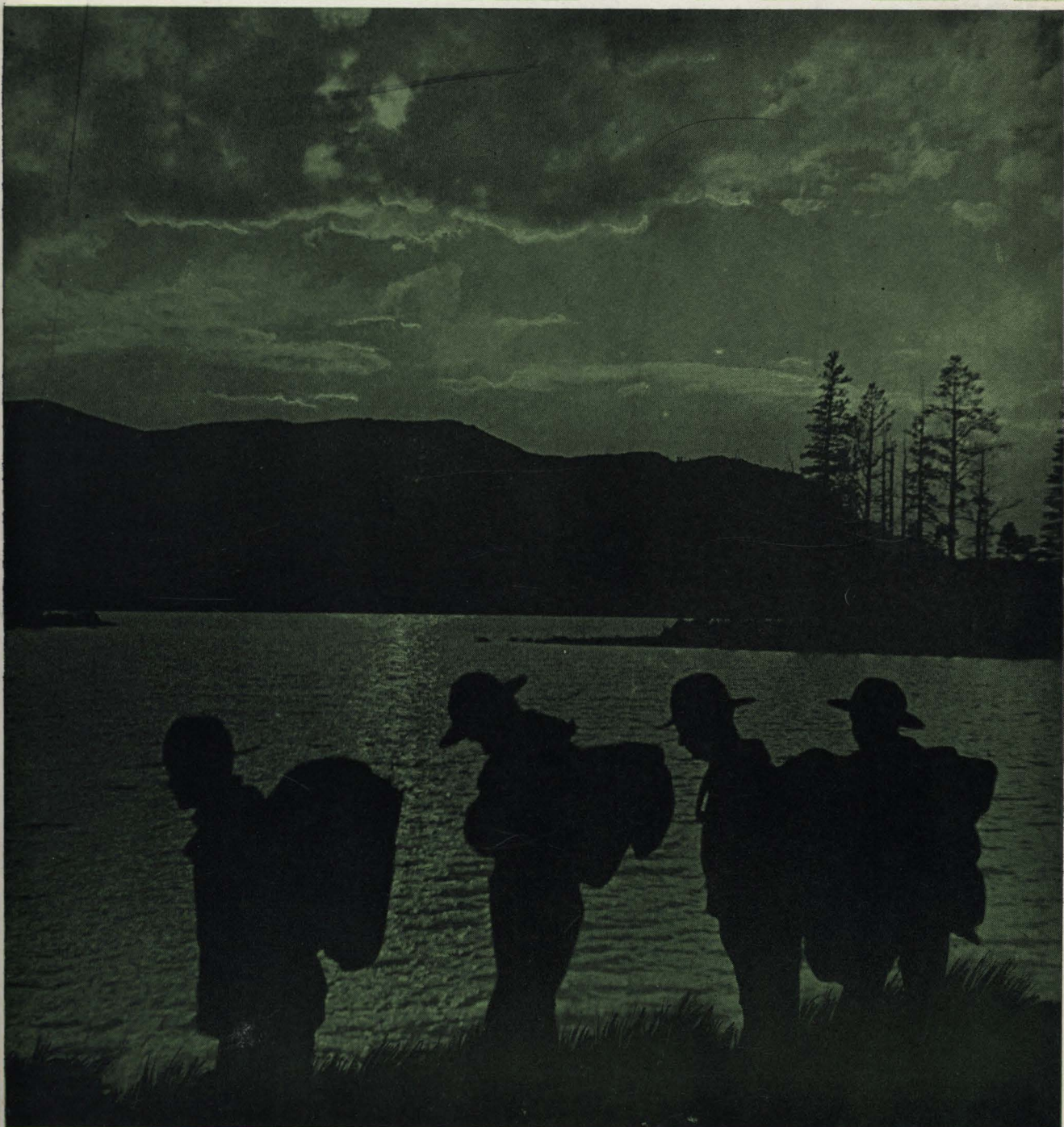


# THE IMPROVEMENT ERA

BYRON DENHALLER  
230 SO 9TH WEST  
PROVO UTAH  
1977 0002



## IN THIS ISSUE—

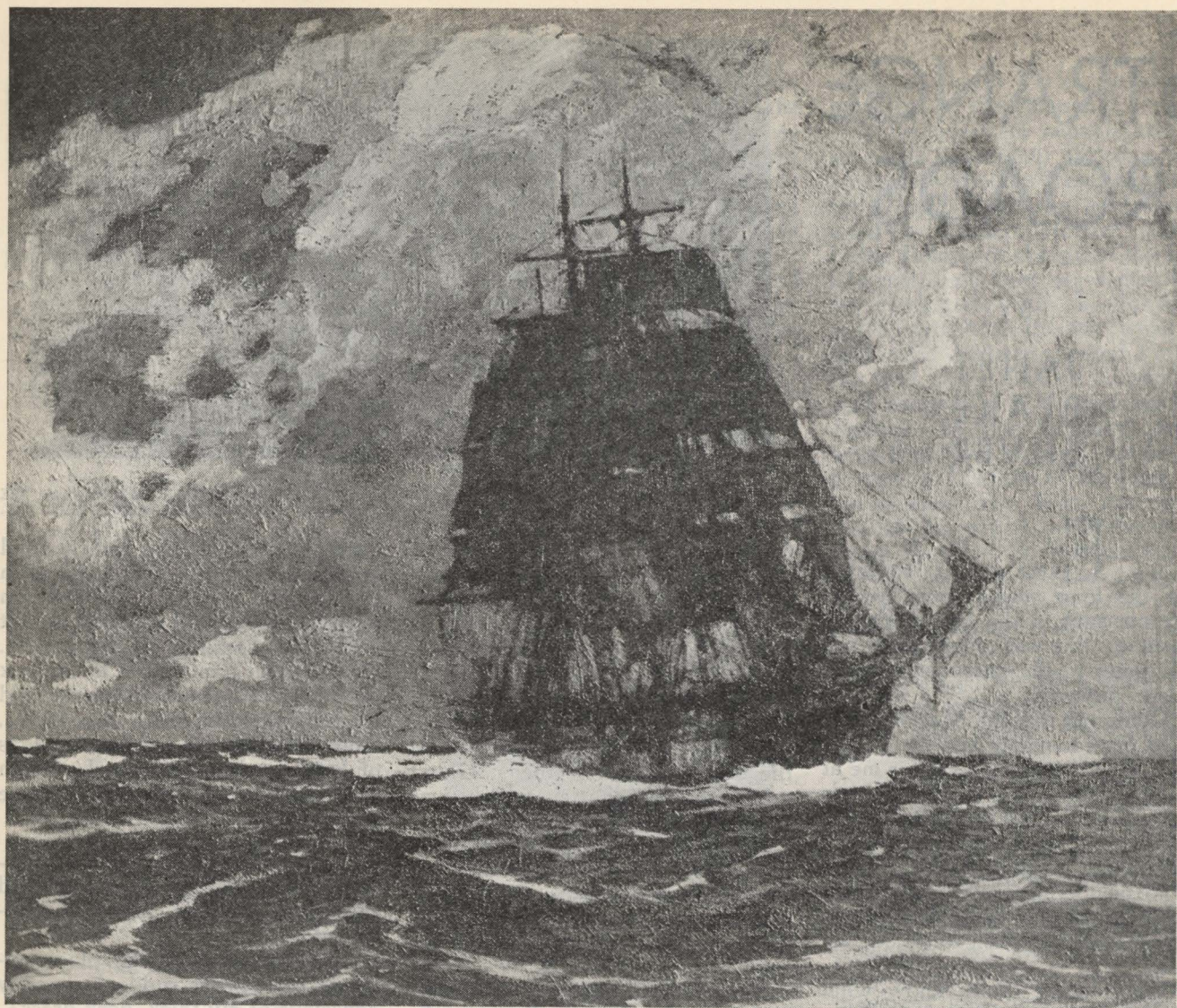
THE FIRST PRESIDENCY  
CHARLES A. CALLIS  
CARVETH WELLS

HEBER J. GRANT  
HARVEY FLETCHER  
LEAH D. WIDTSOE

AUGUST, 1936

Volume 39 Number 8  
Return Postage Guaranteed  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH





From a Painting by William Ritschel.

# THE JOURNAL of ARCHER WALTERS

**W**E HERE present the Journal of Archer Walters, age 47, English craftsman and son of a well-to-do-family, who, in 1856, brought his wife, and five children between the ages of six and eighteen years, from Sheffield, England, to Utah, by boat, rail and handcart, and who, after having fashioned untimely coffins in which to lay at rest many of his fellow travelers, himself went to an early grave a fortnight after reaching Salt Lake Valley.

Ofttimes our histories deal with broad generalities, and with the goings and comings of our leaders. But here is the hitherto unpublished story of a faithful follower whose daily account of weary miles and privations, over land and water, was recently made available to *The Improvement Era* by Mrs. J. R. Pettit

THE SELF-TOLD STORY OF A MAN WHO GAVE HIS LIFE  
FOR THE CAUSE OF TRUTH, AND WHOSE SCORES OF  
DESCENDANTS BLESS AND CHERISH HIS MEMORY.

of Los Angeles, a great-granddaughter of Archer Walters and one of the many descendants of this man who have continued faithful to the Church and to the cause of Truth for which Archer Walters gave his life.

The statistical and historical facts pertinent to this account are well substantiated by records found in

the Church Historian's office and by data published in the *Millennial Star* and the *Deseret News* in 1856.

Archer Walters was born July 29, 1809, at Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, England, the son of Archer Walters. According to Archer Walters Clayton, grandson, and Mrs. Lily Clayton Wolstenholme, granddaughter of Archer Walters,



among this man's family were numbered many clergymen and doctors. In accordance with the custom of families who could afford it, young Archer was taught a trade, in the pursuit of which he left Cambridge and went to Sheffield where he met and fell in love with Harriet Cross, a charming and lovable "factory-girl" whom Archer married in 1837, the same year in which the British Mission was opened.

Because of his wife's "social inferiority" Archer was disinherited by his family, and continued his residence and the pursuit of his trade in Sheffield. He was a carpenter, (joiner, as it is called in England) and in his shop window was a sign which read "From the cradle to the grave," meaning that he did all kinds of carpenter work which, in the Old Country, includes the profession of Undertaker. He had a very genial disposition and was happy and jolly. He and his wife became middle class people, living the life of an English family well-to-do but not rich.

Archer Walters (and it is presumed his family at the same time) was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints September 3, 1848, by an Elder Sylvester, and ordained a Priest April 1, 1849 by Elders Dunn, Long, and Lees.

The sheltered life in an English town did not prepare the family for the hardships of the journey across the plains, but Archer Walters said before leaving England: "If I can but reach the Valleys of the Mountains, in the land of Zion, with my family, that they may grow up under the influence of the Gospel of Christ, then I shall be satisfied, though I give my life in the effort."

THE SHIP *Enoch Train* on which he and his family embarked from Liverpool for Boston, March 22, 1856, carried 534 Saints including 415 adults (8 years and up), 98 children (1 to 8 years), and 21 infants (under 1 year), representing the following countries: England, 322; Scotland, 146; Ireland, 17; Wales, 18; and others from Denmark, America, Switzerland, Cape of Good Hope, and East India. The boat's skipper was Captain Henry P. Rich. The presidency of the company consisted of Elder James Ferguson, president, and Elders Edmund Ellsworth and Daniel D. McArthur, counselors.

This ship carried the first emigrants for Utah by the Permanent

Emigration Fund in 1856. Four hundred thirty-one were "P. E." passengers many of whom were later to cross the plains with handcarts; and one hundred three were "ordinary" passengers. The ship's company also included the following Elders who had been released from missionary labors in Great Britain: Spicer W. Crandall, John D. T. McAllister, John A. Hunt, J. Nathan, T. Porter, Edward Frost, Robert Parker, Andrew Galloway, Wm. Heaton, Walter Granger, and Samuel Hargreaves; also Truman Leonard who was returning home from the East India Mission. The ship's company also included a band from Birmingham.

The names and ages of Archer Walters's family are given as follows: Harriet (his wife), 47; Sarah, 18; Henry, 16; Harriet (daughter), 14; Martha, 12, and Lydia, 6.

This human document gives soul-inspiring insight into the kind of men and women who stood steadfastly by the Church in early days even at the cost of life itself, and who left home, country and comfort to conquer the great American Desert for the privilege of worshiping in the Lord's appointed way, and up-building the kingdom of Heaven.

And now the Journal of Archer Walters speaks the thoughts of an English carpenter, who, with his

family, left his native land and the traditions of his fathers, to travel through hardship and privation, for truth and freedom on a new frontier:

MARCH 18TH, 1856

*Left Sheffield, Yorkshire, England, by rail to Liverpool, under the charge of Elders Frost and McDonauld. A pleasant journey and under their charge all was in good order and all happy and rejoicing, numbering 31 in all. Comfortable, with my wife and five children in good health and spirits; all rejoicing in going to help the building up of the Lord's Kingdom in the Valleys of the Rocky Mountains.*

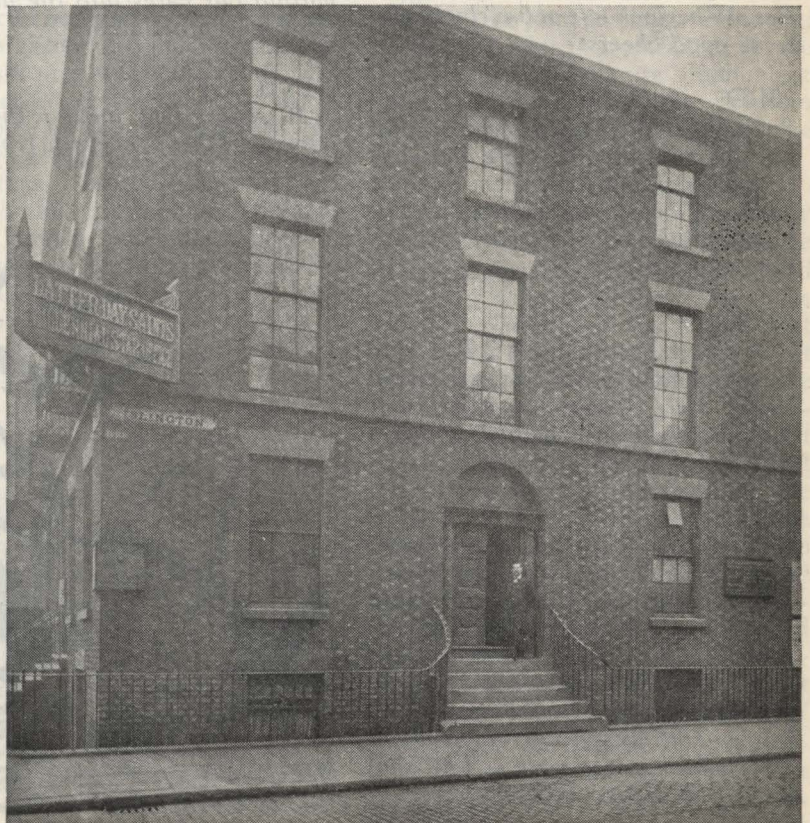
19TH

*All in good health for which I feel thankful to my Heavenly Father. All went to look at the ships lying in the Waterloo Docks. The name of the ship is "Enoch Train." Then went to the office, 42 Islington, to be booked; returned to rest quite tired.*

20TH

*Did not sleep very well, being the*

42 ISLINGTON, LIVERPOOL, HEADQUARTERS OF THE CHURCH IN EUROPE, FOR MANY DECADES. THROUGH THIS OFFICE, RICH IN CHURCH HISTORY, PASSAGE WAS ARRANGED FOR THOUSANDS OF LOYAL BRITISH AND OTHER EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH.





first night. Rose up about 6 o'clock. Rations served out on the river. All went on very well. Patience tried a little but had no place in me. The best Good Friday I ever saw in my life. A band of music on board and all merry as crickets and the sailors and captains busy at work. Sent a letter to Brother Harrison, Sheffield. Thus ends Good Friday.

## 21ST

Saturday 21st, rose about 6 o'clock. A child born during the night. Sister sleeps well. Bro. F. D. Richards came on board and the Doctor. The brethren took all the male names for watch and began to organize their wards with Bro. Ferguson Pres. wards No. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

## 22ND

Sunday 22nd, Bro. Wheelock and Dunbar came on board. Bro. F. D. Richards sent us his blessings. Bro. Wheelock gave us some good instructions. Names of families called over. Saw confusion by a man coming for his wife and children. The young folks are with us. I guess he has shut the gate, but as soon as she sees it open she will be out. This only strengthens her faith in this work. This took place about 10 or 15 miles from Liverpool. A beautiful day. 20 miles from Liverpool and the ship still tugged by the steamer. Can see no land. Bro. Wheelock left at 6 o'clock with some good cheers.

## 23RD

Trumpet blew at 6 o'clock. All got up as could. My wife and children all sick but I got them on deck and at 12 o'clock was all better. Towards night all sick more or less besides myself.

## 24TH

A good strong wind. The ship heaved and worked and nearly all sick. Very queerly myself. Got out of the Irish Channel about 6 o'clock. Got still on board.

## 26TH

Sickness not so bad. I am better and am thankful. My wife, Henry and Harriet and Lydia and Sarah still sick. Ship going at good speed; wind nearly south. Harriet very sick. Rained hard towards night. All went to bed. Could eat nothing for we had no salt nor vinegar and we could not eat pork. The ship rocked all night. Was very poorly;

no appetite. Rough breakers; sea wind blowing southeast east.

## 27TH

All better except Harriet, for which I thank my Heavenly Father. Wind blowing briskly after a wet night. Now 12 o'clock and all well and merry. Most are getting over their sea sickness. A ship in sight bound for England. Trumpet sounded for prayers and we laid down in peace, committing our souls to the care of our Heavenly Father.

## 28TH

A fine morning and many better of sea sickness and our rations served out. Salt and vinegar; beef as we have had none before. Many on deck and not many in bed. Band played on deck; all rejoicing, etc.; songs, etc.

## 29TH

Cold wet day; all busy cooking. Trumpet blew for prayers. We had a good deal of singing in the ward until late at night.

## 30TH

A fine morning. wind blowing west and the ship not making three miles an hour. We hope the wind will change. A few sick but all busy cooking and many on deck in the afternoon. Some of the Brethren spoke. We retired to rest, committing our cares into the hands of the Heavenly Father.

## APRIL 1ST

A sister died during the night named Esther Deveruth from Her-

fordshire Conference, aged 60 years. A rough day. Ships rolled and boxes rattled. Bottles upset. Bedsteads broke down and cooking did not please all for the saucepans upset in the jelly. Some scolded and some fell and hurt themselves. A thing to try the patience of some. Went to bed, ship rocked and rolled about; did not sleep well but all night the President and Captains of the different wards do their best for all and all good saints feel well.

## 2ND

The dead sister's body committed to the deep. It was the first I ever saw buried in the sea and I never want to see another. A rough day all day.

## 3RD

A fine morning; almost all on deck. Some few below sick. My family all well for which I am thankful. The band from Birmingham is playing and merrily, the ship rocking now and then sends them sprawling and makes them laugh, if one fell on top of another or 4 or 5 together. 11 o'clock and then we are out of a day's water and no extra water for cooking at all, but all night we are happy. Several songs during the afternoon by Messers McAllison, Frost, Walters, etc. Band playing and dancing until dark when all went below. Trumpet sounded for prayers. Slept well. Sister Leasly fell and hurt herself during the night but is better this morning.

## 4TH

All well. Some good boiled rice for breakfast but . . . cried for gruel and mother did not like it and Sarah grumbled, but if they grumble now what will they do before they get to the Valley. Nearly 12 o'clock. The wind blowing nearly west and not going very fast. Waves keep splashing on deck. Wind blowing against us. 4 o'clock going at a good speed. Harriet crying because there is no sugar, and Sarah not well pleased and mother scolding. Henry got some preserves given to him. He went to bed but was very sick. Songs up and down stairs. Bugle sounded for prayers. We went to bed committing our souls to the care of our Heavenly Father and bid each other good night.

(To be Continued)





# The IMPROVEMENT ERA

BYRON DEN  
230 SO 9TH W  
PROVO UTAH  
10/36 3493



## IN THIS ISSUE—

HEBER J. GRANT  
JOHN A. WIDTSOE  
WILLIAM R. PALMER

STEPHEN L. RICHARDS  
RACHEL GRANT TAYLOR  
ESTELLE WEBB THOMAS

SEPTEMBER, 1936

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



## EMIGRATION FROM EUROPE IN 1856

IN THE Thirteenth General Epistle of the First Presidency dated Salt Lake City, October 29, 1855, the following instructions were given:

"Let all the Saints who can, gather up for Zion, and come while the way is open before them; let the poor also come, whether they receive aid or not from the (Perpetual Emigration) Fund; let them come on foot, with hand-carts, or wheel-barrows; let them gird up their loins and walk through, and nothing shall hinder or stay them.

"In regard to the foreign emigration another year, let them pursue the northern route from Boston, New York or Philadelphia, and land at Iowa City or the then terminus of the railroad; there let them be provided with hand-carts on which to draw their provisions and clothing; then walk and draw them, thereby saving the immense expense every year for teams and outfits for crossing the plains.

"We are sanguine that such a train will out-travel any ox-team that can be started. They should have a few good cows to furnish milk, and a few beef cattle to drive and butcher as they may need. In this way the expense, risk, loss and perplexity of teams will be obviated and the Saints will more effectually escape the scenes of distress, anguish and death which have often laid so many of our brethren and sisters in the dust.

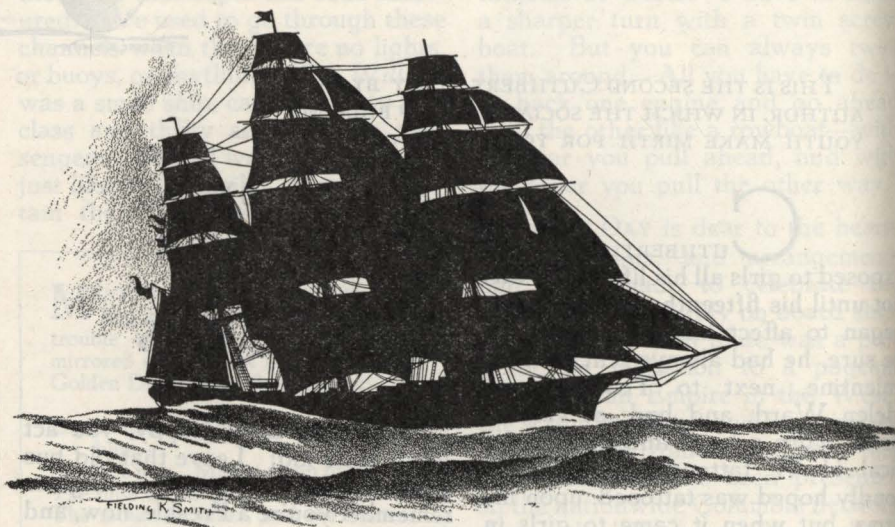
"We purpose sending men of faith and experience with some suitable instructions to some proper outfitting point, to carry into effect the above suggestions; let the Saints, therefore, who intend to emigrate the ensuing year, understand that they are expected to walk and draw their luggage across the plains, and that they will be assisted by the Fund in no other way." (*"Millennial Star,"* Vol. XVIII, p. 54.)

In the *"Millennial Star"* of February 23, 1856, was published a lengthy circular about the emigration of 1856. "The P. E. Fund emigrants," said the circular, "will use hand-carts in crossing the plains in which they will convey their provisions, tent, and necessary luggage. . . . There will of course be means provided for the conveyance of the aged, infirm and those unable from any cause to walk. . . . The Saints may all rest satisfied that their interest and comfort will be consulted in the best possible manner by those men who will be charged with instructions directly from our beloved Prophet, Brother Brigham. . . .

"The first two hundred miles of the journey from Iowa City will be through a settled, grain-growing country, where it is expected that supplies of provisions can be obtained without the labor of hauling them any considerable distance. By traveling this distance with the carts lightly loaded, the Saints will have an excellent opportunity of becoming accustomed to camp life, and walking, and thereby be better prepared for starting out on the plains." (*"Millennial Star,"* Vol. XVIII, p. 122.)

# THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS

## PART II



WE CONTINUE herewith the self-told story of a man, who, with his devoted wife and five children, left home and country and comfort to cast his lot with those who were conquering the Great American Desert for the privilege of worshipping in the Lord's appointed way.

The August installment of the Journal of Archer Walters, hitherto unpublished, followed this forty-seven year-old English craftsman and his family from their comfortable living in Sheffield, to Liverpool and onto the uncertain high seas, on the sailing vessel *Enoch Train*, through hardship and privation, to a point somewhere far from any shore, in mid-Atlantic waters:

APRIL 5TH, 1856

All arose at 6 o'clock. A beautiful morning. Many on deck with cheerful countenances. Henry better. Some potatoes for breakfast and gruel. Double working tomorrow being the 6th of April. Rations served out, both beef and pork. Henry well. Saw two ships sailing slowly. The finest we have had since we left Liverpool. All the sick on deck. Band playing, dancing and singing until a late hour. Cooking until 12 o'clock at night, tomorrow being the anniversary of the 6th of April.

6TH

A beautiful morning. No cooking, only tea kettles boiled. Most all up 7 o'clock washing and preparing for a good time today. All my family are well and I thank my Heavenly Father for it; I do not

know how to feel thankful enough. If I was a Methodist as I was once professed to be, I should shout glory and Hallelujah. Two porpoises were seen but they were thought to be whales. Soon a whale made its appearance and threw the water into the air at a great height, all eyes looking at it and my children all astonished and asking a thousand and one questions which I could not answer. The sea is very calm and the ship almost standing still and the sun shines with a beautiful clear sky. Water served out to the different wards. Two more fine whales seen rolling about on the top of the water. Meeting called to order by Pres. Ferguson and he said we might as well hold it as a conference as it is the 6th of April, as it is held this day in Zion. The authorities were then presented and carried by their uplifted hands



and we all said "aye" at the same time. Bro. McAllison opened by prayer. Band played "God Save The King" then Bro. McArthur spoke on the Kingdom of God and of being one law in all ages and His people one in all things and a song by the congregation then Bro. Ellsworth spoke upon cleanliness. Song. Prayer. The children blessed that had been born on board. The first named David; The second named Enoch Train; The other a girl Rebecca Enoch. Conference adjourned until the 6th of ..... next in Utah. A beautiful day. All retired to rest cheerful and happy. Trumpet sounded for prayers.

#### 7TH

Wind blowing contrary. Rather cold and windy. Saw no ships. Quite dull and wet at times. Much grumbling about cooking. One man said if he had his money and could get to Liverpool, he would go to Hell if he would not, but it takes very little to prove some; the spirits soon show what they are. Went on watch from 8 o'clock to 11.

#### 8TH

Rather wet morning, wind ahead and has been for a week past. Still some grumbling about cooking. 10 gallons of water for every 100 persons but none did we get. My family dissatisfied about the victuals; expect they will get better as they get used to it. Some could eat one thing and some another; could not please all. But a biscuit and water with health is a blessing for which I feel thankful. Dancing at night on deck.

#### 9TH

Wet morning; not gaining much; wind ahead all day.

#### 10TH

Windy, and wind more favorable. Grumblers about cooking. Lost my Tomilimer hat. Henry very poorly and he says that he will never come on the sea again. Feel not very well myself but am thankful. All things will work right and will be for our good. The wind still in the west. Ship rolling and the sea rough; a deal of tacking about which makes plenty of work for the sailors.

#### 11TH

Windy cold morning. Wind still in the west. Felt better this morning, thank God. Henry very sick all night; my head ached after breakfast; went to bed until 4; still no better; was a deal better after prayers and the Presidents addressed on cleanliness, cooking, etc. Went on watch 11 until 2. Ship rocked until morning. Henry better; all better this 12th day of April.

#### 12TH

Provisions served out today, the change of diet is worse for all of us than the sickness of the sea. Henry almost sick if you mention rice. Little Lydia the best amongst us all. A calm day up to 3 o'clock. The children glad to have some sugar. No sooner than we get our pork than Harriet wanted the frying pan. Busy on deck making and sewing tents; dancing commenced at 6 o'clock, prayers at 8 o'clock and then it being a moonlight night another half was given on deck; drop handkerchief; songs; and went to bed. Ship sailed fast all night.

#### 13TH

Wet windy. Ship going ahead. Wet all day. All well and in first rate spirits. A ship in sight some hours going the same way and all looking at it and all has something to say or ask. A very great many porpoises. The water seems all alive with them. I saw many round with small heads, round bodies. A little instructions from Bro. Hunt, McAll., Ferguson, etc. Trumpet sounded for prayers. Sleep well. Henry seems a deal better of his sickness.

#### 14TH

Ship ran well all night and is going well this morning. Rather a dull day. We hope to be in Boston next Monday if all's well. The Bros. want me to shave. I do not know what to do my top lip is so tender and I have not shaved myself for this 16 years passed and I have determined in my own mind long since as soon as I got aboard a ship I never would shave again until I reached the Valley, and not then until I was told. Band played; trumpet for prayers. The moon shined and the lads and lasses were playing on deck until nearly 11 o'clock.

#### 15TH

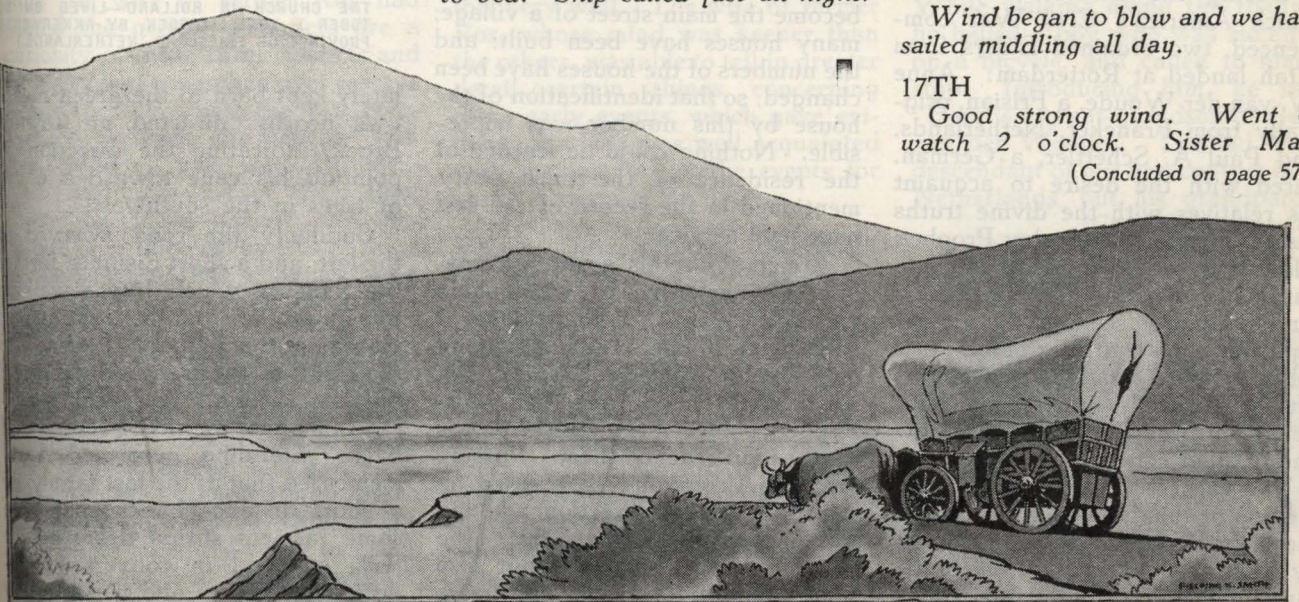
Ship rocked all night. Quite a calm. Some grumbling by a brother. Many spirits. The body of a man seen floating past the ship. A many very poorly, principally old folks. Some council and instruction given about tobacco smoking, obedience, etc.

#### 16TH

Wind began to blow and we have sailed middling all day.

#### 17TH

Good strong wind. Went on watch 2 o'clock. Sister Mary  
(Concluded on page 574)





## THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS

(Concluded from page 545)

Sheem from Herefordshire Conference was confined  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4 o'clock this morning of a son. My wife very poorly and we all feel no great shakes, the diet being so different and cooking so badly managed, having only the ship allowance,—no preserves, butter, cheese, ham, as a many have, but thank God we shall by His blessing get through.

18TH

Sailing slowly. Rations served out. A better allowance of sugar. All very well this morning for which I am thankful. From 1200 to 1300 miles from Boston. The ship has rocked since 1 o'clock this morning—upset water bottles—and is still rocking up to 12 o'clock. A beautiful fine day; wind blowing east. Have seen no ships for some days. Have as much bone as beef today. Hope to be in Boston next week at this time. Meeting below deck and some council and instruction by the Elders. Ship sailing very fast.

19TH

Sleep well all night. The ship still sailing very fast. Wind changed about 10 o'clock and not sailing so fast. Some hard feeling with Sister Parker and my wife about the children. Better suffer wrong is my council to my wife. We are all well and I feel truly thankful to my Heavenly Father.

SUNDAY 20TH

Beautiful morning. Ship going slowly. Sister Leasly was talking and I asked her if she was not restored to health by the power of God and she said she was for she went on deck very sick and fell back on her head and was brought to her bed but was soon better after the Elders had laid their hands on her. About 950 miles from Boston 12 o'clock. The saints are more united and a better spirit is amongst the whole of us. My wife quite well. Had to sing "cuckoo" and my song at the request of the Captain last night. Meeting held on deck. Bro. Galaway spoke on obedience to the Gospel. Bro. Leonard gave us a brief history of his mission and Pres. Ferguson spoke upon cleanliness and a committee appointed called the "louse committee." Singing until 11 o'clock by Mrs. McAllison Co. Ship sailing fast.

21ST

Cloudy morn. All out of bed

soon and our clothing all looked to if clean. . . . A ship. The pilot wanted to go back to Liverpool. It could not take him. 798 miles from Boston. 12 o'clock.

22ND

Wet day. Sewing and making tents. My wife and Sarah sewing. Ship rocked. The sailors all cleaning the ship. Expect to be in on Saturday.

23RD

Wet morning. Ship sailing about 6 knots. Sarah not very willing to rise. Singing, shouting and laughing until nearly 12 o'clock.

24TH

Last night went on watch  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7 until 11 o'clock. Very cold night and the coldest day that has been since on board the ship.

25TH

Very cold morning. A child died at 4 o'clock the son of Sister ..... from ..... Conference. 12 o'clock the ship still. Quite a calm. The little boy committed to the deep. Bro. Ferguson spoke before the plank was drawn. Quite a solemn time to the children and parents as well; indeed all sailors looked straight down their noses.

26TH

Wind blowing north and we have been going fast since 11 o'clock last night.

27TH

Ship still sailing well. Provisions served out. Expect to see land tomorrow.  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a lb. of pork each no rice nor peas. A very cold day indeed.

28TH

Quite a calm morning. Very cold. Wind got up and continued to blow until night. General meeting below in middle hatchway. Some good instructions. A brother wanted to sell his passage and to stop at Boston. Good council how to act when we landed at Boston and no blessing to any that disregarded that council. A vote of thanks to the Captain for his kindness towards us for he had been very kind to all and made us as comfortable as he could; and also a vote of thanks to our Pres. Bro. Ferguson, Councilors and Pres. of wards, and all who took any active part. Signed our bonds to Boston. Went on watch  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7 until 11

o'clock. Harriet was sick and very poorly time of meeting.

29TH

Harriet much better. Quite a calm morning and a deal warmer. They say about 50 miles from Boston. All look cheerful and happy. Some few sick but hope all will be able to go forward when we land.

30TH

A very fine morning and the Captain and crew rather troubled about a buoy being in a place they never saw before and he hoists a flag for a pilot. Spoke to a fisherman and found plenty of water and only 15 miles from Boston. A pilot soon came on board. We soon anchored on quarantine, 9 o'clock in the evening, 3 or 4 miles from Boston. A general meeting below deck and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for His protecting care over us while many perish on the sea at the same time.

MAY 1ST

Landed at Boston Constitution Wharf. Ladies came to visit us and sent oranges for the children, New Testament to all heads of families and many little cards and books to the children.

2ND

Band played, songs, etc. Left Boston for New York and arrived at New York May 2nd. Went to see George Mayland and he was very kind to us.

(To be Continued)

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# The IMPROVEMENT ERA



IN THIS ISSUE—

BEGINNING "THE OUTLAW OF NAVAJO MOUNTAIN"  
BY ALBERT R. LYMAN—A NEW WESTERN NOVEL

"THE RETURNED MISSIONARY," BY PRESIDENT RUDGER  
CLAWSON—A SURVEY SUMMARY.

OCTOBER, 1936

Volume 39    Number 10

Return Postage Guaranteed  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



# THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS

## PART III

MAY 3RD, 1856

All of us went to dinner with George and left New York 5 o'clock for Iowa. Traveled by rails and was very short of bread for children and they cried for something to eat from May 4th until Friday 9th of May, and then my wife went into the town and she had 2 cents and 2 slices of bread and meat, and bread was plentiful and Bro. Frost gave us 15 cents. Left Chicago 11 o'clock at night; arrived at Rock Island 9 o'clock morning May 10th.

10TH

Had more bread allowed us and got some rice from our box that we left from our ship allowance and the children were more satisfied. Slept in a storehouse Saturday night and Sunday night went on watch 8 o'clock until 12. Crossed the river Missouri 8 o'clock Monday 12 of May; arrived Iowa at 3 o'clock. Dragged our luggage about 2 miles to camp ground. Fixed some tents that was made aboard ship. It rained and it was cold. My wife and daughters got into a tent. Henry and me slept in a tent but was very cold and should of been worse if Bro. Webb had not covered us up.

13TH

Got up. Very cold, still raining and very uncomfortable.

14TH

A fine day. Helped Bro. Webb splice some tent poles. Slept in tent with Bro. Lee. His children down with fever.

15TH

Went to same tent. A fine day. Still slept with the children that had the fever and could not be removed and I thought it hard but took it patiently.

16TH

Went to Iowa to seek work. The bosses were short of lumber and got no work. Came back to camp. Tent was down and we were moved to another tent. The children bad with fever still with us and another family of healthy put with us.

17TH

Bro. Goodsall was sent to look



CONTINUING the self-told story of a man who with his wife and five minor children, left home and country and comfort to cast his lot with those who, in the mid-nineteenth century were sacrificing all material considerations and even life itself for their testimonies of Gospel truth.

at the children bad with fever and he agreed with me that we ought to be separated, and I still loved Bro. Lee the same and we were separated. Bro. Lee made a tent to himself and it was better for both of us and all was right.

18TH

Beautiful morning. Very warm. Camp meeting  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10. Open by singing. Prayer by Bro. Ellsworth. Bro. Van Cott introduced Bro. Spencer. He spoke short. Elder Ferguson was called to address the meeting. He spoke at some length. . . . Bro. McAllister sang a song "The Good Honest Heart," singing by the saints, "Upper California." Benediction by Elder Goodsall, Adjourned until  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 1 o'clock. Very attentive. Bro. Bunker addressed the meeting.

19TH

Went into the city of Iowa. Short

of lumber. Saw a chapel or church burnt down. They say they were preaching against us yesterday but perhaps they will learn better by this purifying by fire. . . . Got to camp about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 8 o'clock.

20TH

Went to work to make hand carts. Was not very well. Worked 10 hours. Harriet very poorly.

21ST

Went to work. Harriet not so well. Very hot. All very well considering the heat and change of diet.

22ND

Harriet worse with what we are told is the American Fever. Sometimes like the ague. Sarah went to Linley's farm to work and sent poor Harriet some milk and crust of bread.

(Continued on page 635)



# The Journal of Archer Walters

(Continued from page 612)

23RD

Harriet still very ill, I went to work. Still very hot to me. All the rest very well and I thank my Heavenly Father.

24TH

Harriet still very ill. Still at work at the carts. Rations served out and got more sugar.

25TH

Morning meeting. Bro. Goodsall from Birmingham addressed the meeting. Meeting  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2. Bro. Webb spoke and some one had been speaking against us. He roared out like a lion and would of slain them with a look of his eyes and if any were honest in heart and had been guilty they must have trembled for he spared none.

26TH

Went to work. Harriet still very bad. Lightened very bad; began about 8 o'clock until 11 o'clock. Never saw it so in my life and it rained hard and our beds began to swim. I was wet on my side as I laid until I found it out.

27TH

Went to work at hand carts. Shift tent on a hill and was scolded for it.

28TH

At work.

29TH

Thursday at work. Harriet still very bad.

30TH

A child born in our tent  $\frac{1}{2}$  past one A. M.

31ST

Martha began to be ill. Still at work at the hand carts. A meeting at night and we are to prepare for off.

JUNE 1ST

Meeting at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10, Bro. .... spoke and Bro. Webb. Sarah still at the farm. Mr. Linley's. Henry went on watch to the cattle. The band played several tunes after the meeting. Meeting  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 2; many people here.

2ND

Harriet very ill; still working at the hand carts.

(Continued on page 636)

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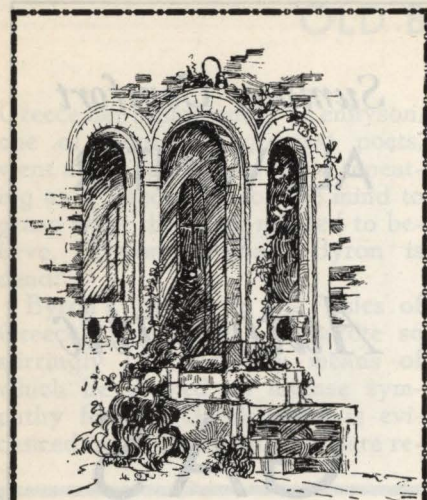
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## The Journal of Archer Walters

(Continued from page 635)

3RD

*All well but Harriet.*

4TH

*Martha poorly. Made a coffin for a child dead in camp.*

5TH

*All expect to go with our hand carts. I was liberated from working and my tools to go with us to do repairs on the road.*

6TH

*Made another child's coffin and a rough table for the Elders to eat upon. Bro. Spencer said as I had been working my extra luggage could go through.*

7TH

*Started about 60 yards. Camped for the night and remained Sunday. June the 8th and meetings held as usual. Harriet dreamed about eating fish and Henry went and caught one and she ate it all. I rode Harriet in the hand cart around the camp. Very bad night owing to camping so late, the dew being on the grass.*

(To be Continued)

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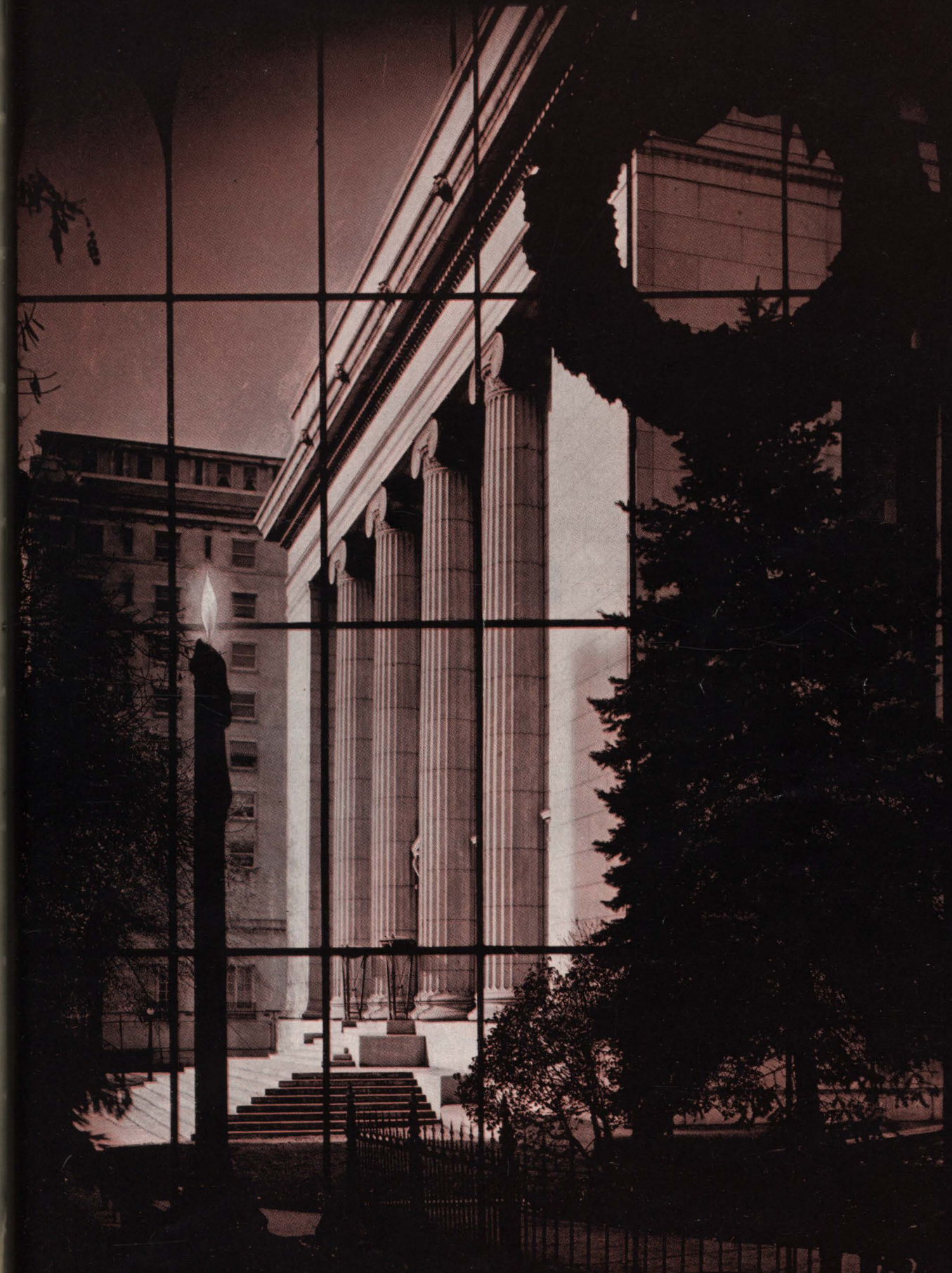


## WELCOME CONFERENCE VISITORS

M. H. THOMPSON, Mgr.



# The Improbement Era



DECEMBER, 1936

Volume 39 Number 12

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH





A BULLETIN OF THE PLAINS.

# THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS

JUNE 8TH, 1856

Meetings as usual. Went to bid Mr. Linley good-bye. We journeyed 3 miles. Lost the cattle at night. Camped amongst bush and did not sleep well. Harriet very ill. Found cattle Tuesday night at the old camp ground.

11TH

Journeyed 7 miles. Very dusty. All tired and smothered with dust and camped in the dust or where the dust blowed. Was captain over my tent of 18 in number but they were a family of Welsh and our spirits were not united. Had a tent but Bro. Ellsworth would not let me use it and had to leave my tent poles behind me.

12TH

Journeyed 12 miles. Went very fast with our hand carts. Harriet still very ill.

13TH

Journeyed 7 miles. A pleasant road but journeyed so fast.

14TH

Journeyed 7 miles. Pleasant.

15TH

Got up about 4 o'clock to make a coffin for my brother John Lee's son named William Lee, aged 12 years. Meetings as usual and at the same time had to make another coffin for Sister Prator's child. Was tired with repairing handcarts the last week. Went and buried them by moonlight at Bear Creek.

16TH

Harriet very ill. Traveled 19 miles and after pitching tent mended carts.

17TH

Traveled about 17 miles; pitched tent. Made a little coffin for Bro. Job Welling's son and mended a handcart wheel.

18TH

Rose before sunrise; traveled about 10 miles. Very hot, and camped for the day. Harriet still very ill but hope she will soon be better if it please my Heavenly Father.

764

PART IV

CONTINUING the self-told story of a man who with his wife and five minor children, left home and country and comfort to cast his lot with those who, in the mid-nineteenth century were sacrificing all material considerations and even life itself for their testimonies of Gospel truth.

19TH

Traveled about 13 miles. Camped Bear Creek.

20TH

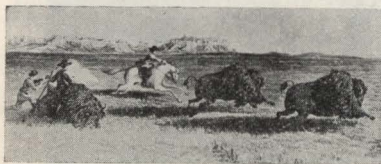
Traveled about 14 miles.

21ST

Traveled about 13 miles. Camped at Indian Creek. Bro. Bower died about 6 o'clock; from Birmingham Conference. Went to buy some wood to make the coffin but the kind farmer gave me the wood and nails. It had been a very hot day and I was never more tired, but God has said as my day my strength shall be. For this I rejoice that I have good health and strength according to my day. Indian Camp Creek.

22ND

Got up at break of day and made the coffin for Bro. James Bowers by 9 o'clock and he was buried at 11 o'clock. Aged 44 years 5 months 2 days. His relatives cried very much after I lifted him in the coffin and waited to screw him down. 11 o'clock washed in the creek and felt very much refreshed. Meeting 2 o'clock until 7. Bro. McCarter spoke about being driven and he did walk into the Gentiles first rate and told them that they did not mean to be driven again and not to be excited about the priests to come against us as a people again for they would find them a terrible people.



A BUFFALO HUNT.



23RD

Rose early and traveled 10 miles; then repaired the handcarts. Harriet a little better.

24TH

Traveled 18 miles. Very hot. Bro. Ellsworth being always with a family from Birmingham named Brown and always that tent going first and walking so fast and some fainted by the way. Bro. Frost worn out by going so fast and not resting and many more.

25TH

Traveled about 13 miles. Sold some files to a carpenter, repaired some handcarts.

26TH

Traveled about 1 mile. Very faint from lack of food. We are only allowed about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a lb. of flour a head each day and about 3 oz. of sugar each week. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a lb. of bacon each a week; which makes those that have no money very weak. Made a child's coffin for Sister Sheen—Emma Sheen aged  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years.

27TH

Got up before sunrise. Cut a tomb stone on wood and bury the child before starting from camp.

(To be Continued)



# The Improvement Era



JANUARY, 1937

Volume 40

Number 1

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH





ON THE TRAIL

# THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS

## PART V

JUNE 28TH, 1856

We think Harriet a little better. Rose soon after 4 o'clock. Started with high wind. Short of water and I was never more tired. Rested a bit after we camped then came on a thunder storm, and rain, blowed our tent down. Split the canvas and wet our clothes and we had to lay on the wet clothes and ground. I thought of going through needful tribulation but it made me cross. I took poor Harriet into a tent and fixed the tent up again as well as I could at Bear Creek Station.

29TH

Rather stiff in joints when we rose and thought, as thy day thy strength shall be, was fulfilled upon us for which I feel thankful to my Heavenly Father. Busy all day. My wife and Sarah mending. Short of provisions. Children crying for their dinner. Got the tent up and slept comfortable.

30TH

Rose in good health, except Harriet, and started with our handcarts with but little breakfast as only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of flour was served out over night, but never traveled 17 miles more easily. Got 5 lbs. of flour and bacon about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  lb.,  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. rice, sugar  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb., and was refreshed, after satisfying nature. Sleep very well after prayers in tent.

JULY 1ST

Rose soon. It looked very cloudy and began to rain. Traveled about

CONTINUING the self-told story of a man who with his wife and five minor children, left home and country and comfort to cast his lot with those who, in the mid-nineteenth century were sacrificing all material considerations and even life itself for their testimonies of Gospel truth.

15 miles. Walked very fast,—nearly 4 miles an hour. Bro. Brown's family and some young sisters with Bro. Ellsworth always going first which causes many of the brothers to have hard feelings. I have heard them call them and Bro. Ellsworth as well, as he always walks with them and looks after them, being in the same tent.  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of flour each; 2 oz. of rice; which is very little and my children cry with hunger and it grieves me and makes me cross. I can live upon green herbs or anything and do go nearly all day without any and am strengthened with a morsel. Repaired handcarts. A storm came on about 11 o'clock, and lasted 1 hour  $\frac{1}{2}$ . Split the tent and not a dry thread on us.

2ND

Rose about 5 o'clock after sleeping in wet clothes, and made a coffin for Bro. Card belonging to the Independent Company but travels with us, for his daughter named ..... Card, aged ..... 5 miles from Indian town. Bro. Parker's boy from Preston, England, aged 6 years lost. 2 miles, gone after him which makes us stop today and we hope the brothers will find him.

Not found. Traveled about 14 or 15 miles.

3RD

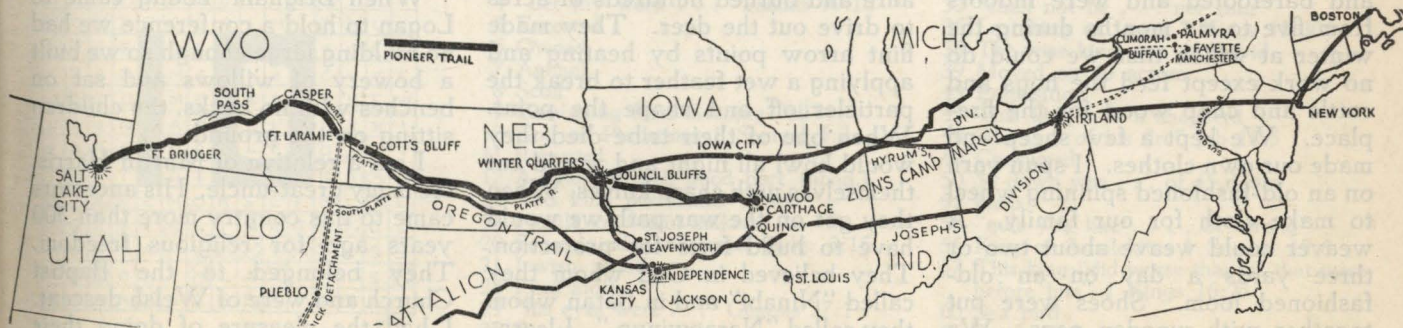
Ever to be remembered. Bro. Card gave me  $\frac{1}{2}$  dollar for making his daughter's coffin. Start with my cart before the camp as others had done but was told not to and had to suffer for it. Went the wrong way; about 30 of the brothers and sisters, and went  $10\frac{1}{2}$  miles the wrong way. We put our three handcarts together and made beds with all the clothes we had and laid down about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 o'clock. 11 o'clock Brother Butler who had charge of the mule teams came with the mules and wagon to fetch us. Got to camp when they were getting up. Laid down about an hour and started with the camp.

4TH

About 20 miles. Tired out. Tied my cart behind the wagon and we got in, after three nights. 1st night, thunder, lightning and rain and our tents splitting and blowing over. All wet to the skin. 2nd night: wind blowing, had hard work to hold the tent up, and this last night no sleep. Went to bed; sleep never better and rose refreshed.

(To be Continued)

PIONEER TRAILS ACROSS A NATION.





# The Improvement Era



FEBRUARY, 1937  
Volume 40 Number 2  
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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH





HARRIET CROSS WALTERS, WIFE OF ARCHER WALTERS, WHO SHARED ALL THESE EXPERIENCES WITH HER HUSBAND.

# THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS

## PART VI

CONTINUING the self-told story of a man who with his wife and five minor children, left home and country and comfort to cast his lot with those who, in the mid-nineteenth century were sacrificing all material considerations and even life itself for their testimonies of Gospel truth.

JULY 5TH, 1856

A deer or elk served out to camp. Brother Parker brings into camp his little boy that had been lost. Great joy right through the camp. The mother's joy I can not describe. Expect we are going to rest. Washing, etc., today. Jordan Creek. Made a pair of sashes for the old farmer. Indian meal; no flour. Slept well.

6TH

Made 2 doors for the farmer,—3 dollars and boarded with farmer.

7TH

Harriet better. Lydia poorly. Traveled about 20 miles.

8TH

Traveled a round about road 20 miles. Crossed the river Missouri and camped at the city of Florence. Very tired; glad to rest. Slept well. Lydia better and Harriet. All in good spirits. Expect to stop some time. Old Winter Quarters.

9TH

Rested. Florence City.

10TH

Repairing handcarts. Could have got 3 or 4 dollars per day had I not engaged with Bro. Spencer to repair the carts. Harriet better.

112

Traveled about 12 miles. Thunder.

11TH

Repairing carts.

12TH

Ditto.

13TH

Wrote to England and rested.

14TH

Worked all day at carts.

15TH

Ditto. Harriet still very ill.

16TH

Ditto.

17TH

Left Florence City and traveled about 3 miles. Went to ..... to seek work to buy a pair of shoes for Sarah but got no work for want of tools. Stopped there all night; slept in a stable. Came back to camp Friday morning, 17th.

18TH

Harriet very ill. Bought her some little niceties, but she could not eat the pickles. Had a piece of buffalo beef given to me.

19TH

Repairing carts all day.

20TH

Preparing to start. Traveled about 7 miles.

21ST

Traveled about 18 miles. Harriet better.

22ND

Passed off the ferry at Elk Horn. Storm.

23RD

Very hot day. Traveled about 14 miles. Harriet much better.

24TH

Very hot. Went about 18 miles. Harriet still better.

25TH

Traveled about 18½ miles.

26TH

Passed over the ferry—Luke Fort. Traveled about 6 miles. As soon as we crossed it looked very heavy and black. We had not got far and it began to lightning and soon the thunder roared and about the middle of the train of handcarts the lightning struck a brother and he fell to rise no more in that body. By the name of Henry Walker, from Carlisle Conference, aged 58 years. Left a wife and children. One boy burned a little named James Stoddard; we thought he would die but he recovered and was able to walk, and Brother Wm. Stoddard, father of the boy was knocked to the ground and a sister, Betsy Taylor, was terribly shook but recovered. All wet through. This happened about 2 miles from the ferry and we then went 2 miles to camp. I put the body with the help of others, on the handcart and pulled him to camp and buried him without a coffin for there were no boards to be had.

(To be Continued)



# The Improbement Era



MARCH, 1937

Volume 40      Number 3

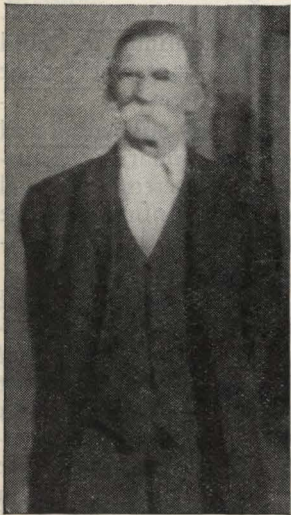
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# THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS

## PART VII

THE self-told story of a man who with his wife and five minor children, left home and country and comfort to cast his lot with those who, in the mid-nineteenth century were sacrificing all material considerations and even life itself for their testimonies of Gospel truth.



HENRY A. WALTERS, SON OF  
ARCHER WALTERS.

27TH

The next morning, Sunday 27th, 1856, four miles west of Luke Fort Ferry. Rose about 4 o'clock. Put a new axle tree to a cart that was broke yesterday. Traveled about 2 miles to a better camping ground.

28TH

Traveled about 18 miles. Harriet much better; for such we feel thankful.

29TH

Traveled about 15 miles. Met a company coming from California. A child born in camp. Sister Doney. My birthday.

30TH

Traveled 22 miles.

31ST

Traveled 18 miles. Heavy thunderstorm.

AUGUST, 1856

1ST

Traveled 16 miles and camped at Prairie Creek.

2ND

Crossed over two creeks,—forded them. Stopped dinner. Camped by Wood River. We saw many buffalo. Traveled about 18 miles.

3RD

Rested but mended handcars. Got shell fish out of the creek for we was very hungry. Only  $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. of flour;  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of sugar; a few apples.

4TH

Traveled 18 miles. Camped by Platte River.

HARRIET WALTERS, DAUGHTER OF  
ARCHER WALTERS.



SARAH ANN WALTERS CLAYTON,  
DAUGHTER OF ARCHER WALTERS.

5TH

Traveled 16 miles.

6TH

Saw thousands of buffalo. Four was killed. So thick together that they covered four miles at once. Camped by Buffalo Creek. Traveled 10 miles.

7TH

Thousands of buffalo. Traveled 25 miles. Camped late at night. Had to dig for water and it was very thick. Our hungry appetites satisfied by the buffalo. Got up soon to repair handcars.

8TH

Rose soon to repair carts. Traveled about 15 miles. Camped by the side of Platte River. Repaired handcars. Harriet getting around nicely and I feel thankful. My wife very ill-tempered at times. An old brother lost named Sanderson. Many went in all directions but could not find him.

9TH

Found the old Brother Sanderson on a hill about 6 o'clock. Brought him into camp on a mule. Traveled about 15 miles after repairing handcars until 12 o'clock.

10TH

Traveled 14 miles. All or most of the people bad with the diarrhea or purging,—whether it was the buffalo or the muddy river water.

11TH

Traveled about 17 miles. Four men sent to shoot buffalo. Harriet much better; very weak myself. I expect it is the short rations; three-





fours lb. of flour per day. It is but little but it is as much as the oxen teams that we have could draw from Florence. Forded over two creeks. Met a man coming from California by himself; going to the states. One of our cows died. Buffalo killed.

12TH

Rested while some of the brethren with Captain Ellsworth went and shot two more buffalo and we dried the meat.

13TH

Traveled 12 miles. Forded a large creek.

14TH

Traveled 18 miles; crossed three creeks. Last herd of buffalo seen.

15TH

Forded over five creeks; camped at Snake Creek. Traveled 19 miles; from Florence 352 miles. Harriet much better and walked all the way.

16TH

Forded over 5 or 6 creeks. Traveled 17 miles. Camped by Wolf Creek.

17TH

Crossed over some creeks. Camped over the Platte River. Traveled 12 miles. Brother Missel Rossin, Italian, found dead by the side of the road.

18TH

Traveled 20 miles. Camped by the Platte River.

## MY MOTHER AT THE GATE

By VICTORIA  
CLAYTON  
McCUNE

I KNEW she would be there waiting  
For me as I came home each day,  
She stood with her hand on the picket  
Her face lovingly turned my way.

I knew she would give me a greeting  
As my footsteps nearer home drew,  
Her smile was already there for me  
Such a smile only Mother love knew.

Her gentle blue eyes were upon me  
"Oh here you are" she would say.  
Could I but hear that dear greeting  
Once more I'd be happy for aye.

Not yet; but some day she'll be  
standing  
By a gate much fairer to see,  
With her hand on the golden picket  
She'll be waiting, yes, waiting for me.

19TH

Traveled 19 miles. Camped by the Platte River. A nice camping ground. Buffalo chips to burn.

20TH

Traveled 19 miles. Camped by River Platte.

21ST

Traveled 18 miles. Camped 4 miles past Chimney Rock, Platte River. Sandy road the last 3 or 4 days.

THE PIONEER HOME OF WILLIAM CLAYTON AND SARAH WALTERS CLAYTON. IN THE DOORWAY, VICKIE, LUCY, AND MOTHER SARAH W. CLAYTON. THE ORIGINAL PICKET FENCE AND LILAC BUSHES ARE NOW GONE, BUT THE HOME REMAINS AT 144 WEST NORTH TEMPLE STREET.

22ND

Good road. Traveled 24 miles. Camped by Platte River.

23RD

Traveled 16 miles. Camped by Platte River. Harriet getting well, thank God, and not been in the wagons to ride. Our allowance of flour tonight was 1 lb. a head. For this I was thankful for I never was so hungry in my life. Captain Ellsworth shot a cow. Very thankfully received.

24TH

Rested from travels but had to repair handcarts, meeting at night. Received the Sacrament. Spoke at the meeting. Brother Ellsworth spoke some time and said we had made great improvement. That last week there had been less quarreling and those that had robbed the handcars, or wagons, unless they repent their flesh would rot from their bones and go to Hell.

25TH

Traveled about 19 miles. Saw many Indians. Camped about 19 miles from Fort Laramie. Handcart axle tree broke on the road. Plenty of wood. Quite a treat after burning so many buffalo chips.

(To be continued)



# The Improvement Era



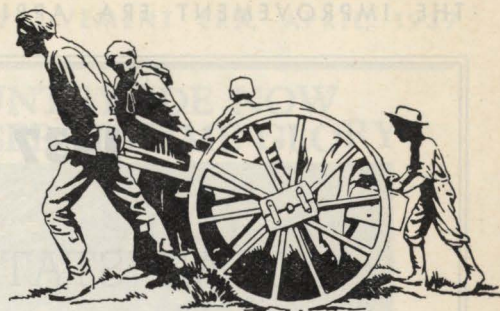
APRIL, 1937

Volume 40 Number 4

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED  
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# THE JOURNAL OF ARCHER WALTERS



## CONCLUSION

THE self-told story of a man who with his wife and five minor children, left home and country and comfort to cast his lot with those who, in the mid-nineteenth century were sacrificing all material considerations and even life itself for their testimonies of the gospel truth.

26TH

Traveled about 19 miles. Camped 3 miles from Fort Laramie. Tucked away a dagger for a piece of bacon and salt and sold one for One dollar and one-fourth. Bought bacon and meal and Henry and me began to eat it raw we were so hungry. Forded the river. Sister Watts got hurt by the wagon. My wife thinks she would have fell when half way over the river. Bro. John Lee came to her assistance.

27TH

Traveled about 18 miles. Had bacon and meal porridge for supper; the best supper for many weeks. A camp of Indians passed us.

28TH

Traveled about 15 miles. Mended handcarts good and had road hilly. Camped at a nice place called Horseshoe Creek. Mother and Sarah washed clothes.

29TH

Traveled 25 miles. Met some Californians. Camped Platte River.

30TH

Traveled 22 miles. Met some Californians and they told us that the wagons were waiting at Deer Creek for us.

31ST

Very poorly, faint and hungry. Traveled to Deer Creek, 22 miles. Brother Stoddard from Carlisle Conference, about 54 years old, died in the wagon on the road. More provisions given out.

SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1856

Rested from travels. I mended carts. Meeting about flour and paying for extra that was brought in the wagons, 18c per lb. Harriet getting quite well and walks all the way.

2ND

Platte River. Traveled 19 miles. Walter Sanderson, aged 56, died.

3RD

Met 4 wagons; Henshaw from Nottingham, John Barnes from Sheffield. Traveled 15 miles.

4TH

Traveled 10 miles.

5TH

Rested. Rained all day.

6TH

Lost cattle.

7TH

Traveled 26 miles. Bro. Nipras died. Left on the road.

8TH

11 miles. Had dinner at Devils Gate.

12TH

Sarah very poorly. Harriet quite well.

13TH

Traveled 28 miles. Camped at Paciffick Springs. Tucked a blanket with a brother from the valley who came from Rotherham, named Goldsmith, part of Bro. Banks' wagon company.

14TH

Traveled 3 miles. Camped to mend handcarts and women to wash. Sister Mayer died.

Thus ends, so far as our record is concerned, the Journal of Archer Walters, age 47, English craftsman and son of a well-to-do-family, who, in 1856, brought his wife, and five children between the ages of six and eighteen years, from Sheffield, England, to Utah, by boat, rail, and handcart, and who, after having

fashioned untimely coffins in which to lay at rest many of his fellow travelers, himself went to an early grave a fortnight after reaching Salt Lake Valley.

Archer Walters died from dysentery caused by eating corn-meal and molasses, and aggravated by his weakened condition and lowered resistance resulting from exposure, under-nourishment, and physical exhaustion during the thirteen hundred mile journey of the first handcart company of which he was a member. With today's knowledge, or with proper medical care even in that day, his life might have been spared. But who, save the Lord, is to judge what might have been best. He gave his life to the supreme cause and counted not the cost. He attained his immediate goal, which was to reach "Zion." His five children married in the Church, and from these unions more than five hundred of Archer Walter's descendants live today, most of them being faithful to the cause for which their noble progenitor gave so much. The children of Archer Walters married as follows: Sarah Ann Walters married William Clayton, and had eleven children; Henry Walters married Elizabeth McEwan, and had six children; Harriet Walters married Addison W. Skankey, and had three children; Martha Walters married Abraham Hardman, and had fourteen children; Lydia Walters married Marv. Dalton, and had three children.

Harriet Cross Walters, wife of Archer Walters, never remarried. She held her husband's memory in cherished affection until she died in Salt Lake City at the age of seventy-four. She was mild and sweet, thoughtful of others, and beloved by all who knew her. She lived with her daughters.

Considered from some standards of judgment the history of the handcart pioneers was one of sadness and tragedy. The spirit of gathering brought these noble men and women from the four corners of earth. Limited means prevented

(Concluded on page 255)



## The Journal of Archer Walters

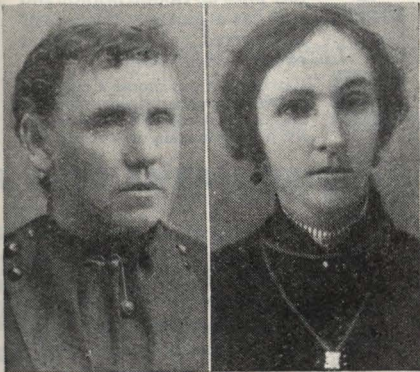
(Concluded from page 253)

more adequate modes of transportation. Seventeen pounds to a person, including food, was the limit of load in a journey which required about sixteen weeks of travel, averaging eighty-one and three-fourth miles a week, Sundays being excepted. There was not a company during the four years of handcart history (1856-1860) but which suffered hunger and hardship. But they kept on, with conviction in their hearts.

Old and young perished by the wayside, but not before they had learned that there are greater values in life than can be measured or spoken in terms of comfort and convenience.

Was such sacrifice in vain? In the case of Archer Walters none would say so who could know of the blessings which have come to his hundreds of faithful descendants; none would say so who could know of his wife's devotion to the memory of her husband, and of her full life and mellowed peaceful years before her death; none would say so who could know of the peace of Archer Walters who found eternal verities in life, and no bitterness in death.

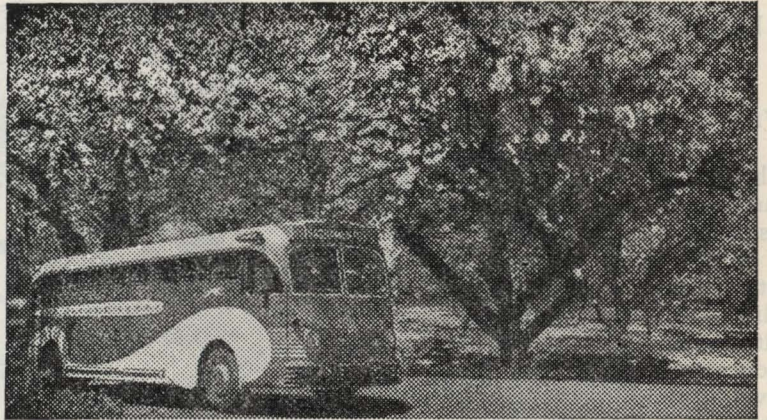
Such is the value Latter-day Saints place upon the Gospel; such is the manner of life among true men—principles before worldly convenience, and death before betraying conscience—the Lord and His word before all else!



TWO DAUGHTERS OF ARCHER WALTERS  
MARTHA WALTERS HARDMAN (LEFT) AND  
LYDIA WALTERS DALTON (RIGHT).

Note: Mrs. J. R. McDonnel, a great-granddaughter of Archer Walters, is desirous of establishing communication with all of the descendants of Archer Walters and Harriet Cross Walters. All such correspondence should be addressed to Mrs. J. R. McDonnel, 1409 East 13th South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah.

## CALIFORNIA COUNTRYSIDE NOW ARRAYED IN SPRINGTIME GLORY

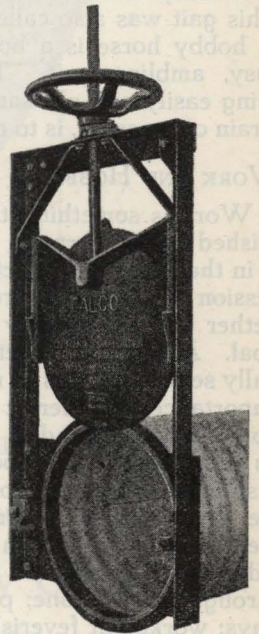


Night travel is now losing ground to daylight sightseeing trips and the reason is easy to find at this time of year, according to Greyhound officials. As pictured above, highway routes pass right through blooming orchards of apricot, peach and almond trees which are like fairylands. Going past meadows and fields the justly famous California wildflowers now transform the landscape into a veritable paradise for artists, camera fans and all lovers of beauty. California tourists are now more than ever inclined to prolong their visits.

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