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The Personal  
Journals of

James William Nixon

1/17/1836 -2/19/1882

An Autobiography with added  
pictures, notes and comments by

Loretta D. Nixon, June 2021



## Preface

This has been a work untaken more than fifty years ago. I have tried to enlarge the autobiography that James William Nixon I left to his posterity. My husband and I have traveled extensively and researched the history of Southern Utah to obtain an understanding of what it was like to live there. Not only have we traveled to this area, but have traveled to England, Wales, Minnesota, and California, gathering information on the Nixon family. We were fortunate to locate descendants of James' brother William (Billy), his sisters, Catherine, Matilda and Jenny as well as his half siblings, Agnes, Mary, Clarence, Frederick and Harry.

In the 1960s when we were living in Boise, Idaho, my husband came home from a church meeting, and I suggested we try to find Mary Nixon Johnson, who once lived in Crossville, Tennessee. I located her from correspondence, Ernest Whitehead had with her in the 1930s. Of course she was deceased, but her son's widow, Cratie Johnson was still living in Crossville. We contacted her by telephone, and through this contact, we were able to obtain, the Bible that William A. Nixon had given his wife, Mary Perrine, when they were married. We also fell heir to the photo album of Mary Nixon Johnson.

On our trip to Minnesota, we located Dorothy Drake, a granddaughter of Billy Nixon. On this same trip, we found descendants of Agnes Nixon Rathburn who still live in Minnesota. We also were successful in locating Rhee Howell, a descendant of Jenny Nixon as well as Leslie Rogers, Jr., who is now deceased, a descendant of Matilda. Both Rhee and Leslie were living in California.

My husband, Richard and I have received many blessings from researching the Nixon family. I hope that you will enjoy learning about your heritage as much as we have enjoyed discovering it for the family.

The Nixon's were merchants. One of Catherine Nixon Stuart's descendants began work at the Bon Marche in Seattle, Washington. He learned the business from the ground up and rose to be one of the Vice-Presidents of the company. One of Matilda Nixon Gregory's descendants by marriage, rose to be one of the Vice-Presidents of the Chevrolet Division of General Motors. A descendant of James W. Nixon I is a successful owner and merchant of an Import Trading Company. Many of James W. Nixon's posterity are successful businessmen.

## **Acknowledgement**

I want to express my appreciation to my husband, Richard Smoot Nixon for his never-ending support in my research. He has been my strength and my greatest cheer leader in helping me research our family history for over sixty years. Much of my success, I owe to him.

The greatest decision I ever made was to accept his proposal sixty-eight years ago. Aunt Nina Nixon Bowman, on the way to our marriage in the Salt Lake Temple, turned to me from the front seat of her car and said, "Loretta, you are a Nixon now." I felt a little intimidated at that moment, but through these many years, I have come to know and appreciate this great and remarkable family. I have been very honored these many years to carry the name of Nixon.

I am especially appreciative, of Jack Nixon and his grandson-in-law, Blake Gailey who have encouraged me in this project.

Loretta Dalbey Nixon

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## **AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF JAMES. WILLIAM NIXON THE FIRST** **Early Years, Parents and Siblings**

I was born on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February 1836 in Liverpool, England. My parents William Abraham and Bridget Degnan <sup>1</sup> were born in Ireland. My mother was born in Longford, Ireland in 18???. <sup>2</sup> My father was born in Dublin, Ireland in 1816.<sup>3</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> Marriage record and birth of children gives her name as Dagnal.

<sup>2</sup> The divorce complaint filed by William A. Nixon gives her birth as 1804.

<sup>3</sup> On the back of a G. E. Anderson photograph of William A. Nixon in possession of Richard S. Nixon, his birth is given as 24 March 1817.

Note: Abraham Nixon and Bridget Dagnal were married 2 March 1835, in St. Peters Church, Liverpool, England. William Smith and Ann Dagnal were witnesses to the marriage. The picture of Bridget Degnan (Dagnal) Nixon holding a small boy is in the Mary Louise Nixon Johnson photo album. The picture of Bridget standing alone is in the possession of Dorothy Green, a great-granddaughter of Jennie Marie Nixon Cavender. The photo album is in the possession of Richard S. Nixon The little boy is probably Billy Nixon. Billy Nixon has the same hair line as the little boy. It was probably taken just before William and Bridget immigrated to America or was taken after they arrived. According to the church records, Billy was born in 1843. The picture of Billy Nixon was taken when he was about sixteen years old. In the picture with his mother, Billy looks to be about three years old.

William Abraham Nixon



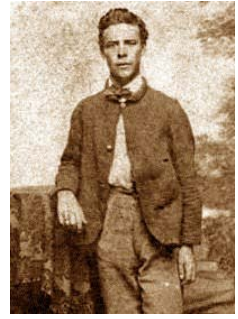
Bridget, probably Billy



Bridget.



Billy



Tanrault St. by Ken Long



Caernarvon Castle



When I was two years old my parents moved to Bangor in Wales where we lived until 1850 when we moved to America, first to New York State, then to Ohio and from there to Minnesota, where they still reside. I have one brother and three sisters, namely: William Nixon, Catherine Stewart<sup>4</sup>, Mathilda Gregory and Marie Nixon<sup>5</sup>

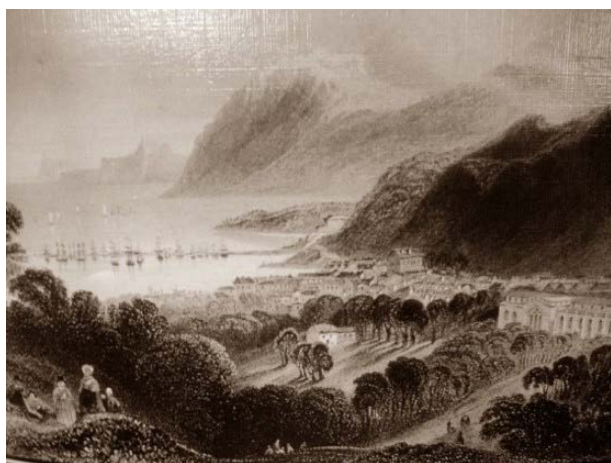
<sup>4</sup> Catherine married, 1. Edward Hoff, 2. Isaac Stuart.

<sup>5</sup> She went by Jennie. She married Charles Cavender. There were two other siblings, Edward and Ann Nixon who died in Wales.



Note: Clair Nixon, a second great-grandson, found a picture of Tanrallt Street in an old book in one of the libraries in Wales. Loretta Nixon's cousin, Ken Long, painted the above picture from the picture in the book. Today Tanrallt Street is a busy boulevard in Caernarvon.. The 1841 English Census shows William Abraham Nixon and Bridget living on Tanrallt Street in Caernarvon, Wales. William age 20, Bridget age 30, James age 5 and Catherine age 2. Catherine was found in the Catholic Church records in Liverpool, born 13 Feb 1838, baptized 25 March 1838. Two more children were located in the Caernarvon public records, Edward and Ann. Edward was born in Caernarvon, 28 Feb 1840 and died 8 Aug 1840. Ann was born 27 September 1841. No death record has been found of Ann, but she must have died before the family immigrated to America. Matilda was born 15 April 1843, probably in Bangor, Wales. This may be off a year or two. No birth record has been found . She died 14 Dec 1946, in Compton, California. According to the baptism records, Billy was born 13 Oct 1843 in Liverpool. This conflicts with Matilda's birth of 1843. His death and tombstone gives his birth as 14 March 1846. He died 26 Dec 1915, in Farmington, Minnesota. Billy is found in the Catholic Records of Liverpool, England. Jennie Marie was born 25 May 1848, probably in Bangor, Wales. She died 16 Feb 1935, in Tacoma, Washington. Bangor, Wales is about nine miles from Caernarvon. No official record has been located that places the family in Bangor. All that is known of their move to Bangor is from the autobiography of James William Nixon. See the history of Billy Nixon in the Appendix. He served honorably in the Civil War.

It appears that the family moved back to Liverpool or perhaps they just had Catherine and Billy baptized there but still lived in Bangor, Wales.



Bangor, Wales about 1841

Early Liverpool, England



## Immigration and Life in Minnesota



*The New World*



James William



Billy



Jennie



Marie Nixon

Bridget Nixon age 45 along with children John age 12, Matilda age 8 and Marie age 2 immigrate to America in 1850 on the ship *The New World*. John may be Catherine. The ages fit to be Bridget and her three daughters. There are several questions concerning this entry. Why is one of the children named John, who would correspond to Catherine's age. When did William, James William and Billy immigrate? Is it possible that Bridget returned to England or Wales after the family immigrated and she then returned in 1850? This doesn't seem too probable. In 1852, William was selling apples out of an apple cart in St. Paul. Is it possible that William and his two sons were left off the list or immigrated before Bridget and the daughters. It is Richard Smoot Nixon's opinion that Catherine was disguised as a boy due to the danger of a girl her age traveling on a ship without a male escort. No pictures have been found of Catherine or Matilda Nixon.

From the book *Pen Pictures of St. Paul, Minnesota, Biographical Sketches of Old Settlers*, by T. M. Newson, Vol 1, St. Paul Minnesota, 1886 we find the following about William A. Nixon:

*William Nixon- On Bridge Square, before there was any bridge, was a peanut and apple stand presided over by William Nixon. He did well in his business and finally opened a large hardware store on West Third street. He was an industrious money-making man, who must have come here in 1854-5. Domestic trouble induced him to leave the city and settle in St. Cloud, where he ran a large store for several years, and then sold out and removed to a farm below St. Paul, but is now back again in St. Cloud. He was an Irishman by birth and had the faculty of making money better than any man I ever met. Like many other old settlers of over a quarter of a century ago, he is now stepping down the ladder of life, not unmindful of the fact that the world does move.*<sup>6</sup>

William A. Nixon went into business with his son James William Nixon I in St. Paul. An advertisement was found concerning what seemed to be a very prosperous business. It was located across the street from the American House. However, in 1856, tragically the store burned.

American House located across the street from the Nixon Store in St. Paul



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<sup>6</sup> Note: He would have been in St. Paul before 1854-5. Unless he went into business or moved to Farmington, Dakota County, Minnesota, with his son Billy, the reference to him removing to farm below St. Paul, probably refers to his son William A. Nixon, who went by the name of Billy. He had a mercantile store in Farmington, Minnesota and also was the editor of a newspaper there.

**EVERYTHING YOU WANT FOR  
Housekeeping.**

AT THE  
NORTH WESTERN GENERAL  
HOUSE FURNISHING DEPOT

**WILLIAM NIXON & SON,**

Have just opened the Largest and most Complete  
Stock of

**House-Furnishing Goods,**

Ever seen in the Territory, which they will sell at

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FOR CASH.

At prices that will

**DEFY COMPETITION.**

Our stock consists in part as follows:—

**\$10,000 Worth of Queenware, Glass Ware,**

And Stone Ware of every description.

**\$15,000 WORTH OF STOVES**

Consisting of 50 different patterns of the best style and  
finish.

**\$10,000 Worth of Hardware,**

Farming Implements, Wooden and Willow Ware,  
Looking Glasses, Water Coolers, Ice Cream Freezers,  
Cutlery, Britannia and Silver Plated Ware, Shower,  
Plunge and Hip Baths, Glass Lamps, Lanterns, Brushes,  
Baskets, Mats, Refrigerators, Safes, &c. Also the largest  
and best assortment of House Furniture in Saint Paul,  
consisting in part as follows:

**200 DOZEN CHAIRS,**

45 different patterns and kinds.

12 doz. Centre, Side, Card and Dining Tables.

12 DOZ. WASH STANDS, DIFFERENT STYLES.

2 doz. Sofas from \$12 to \$50 Each.

1 DOZ. SPRING-SEAT ROCKING CHAIRS.

200 SETTS OF BEDSTEADS.

Also, a large and complete stock of

MATRASSES, PILLOWS, COMFORTS, &c.,

And in fact, everything in the

**HOUSE-FURNISHING LINE.**

Also, Manufacturers and Dealers in every description of  
Copper, Tin and Sheet Iron Ware. Roofing done on  
short notice, and warranted. Hydraulic Rams put up  
and warranted. Give us a call, as it is no trouble to  
show Goods.

All kinds of Sheet Iron and Copper Work for Steamboats  
and Mills, such as Smoke Pipes, Breeching and Copper  
Pipes of every description, and at greatly reduced prices.  
Our facilities for doing such work are unsurpassed.

**All Work Warranted.**

WM. NIXON & SON,

St. Anthony street, St. Paul, M. T.

je13-4f

24

ALL KINDS OF

**WM. NIXON,**

DEALER IN

**FRUIT,**

**NUTS, CONFECTIONERY,**

**TOBACCO, CIGARS, POCKET CUTLERY**

**PORTE MONNAIES, PERFUMERY,**

AND ALL KINDS OF FANCY GOODS.

Saint Anthony Street, opposite American House,

**SAINTE PAUL, MINNESOTA.**

**ST. PAUL FRUIT DEPOT,**

THIRD STREET,

**SAINTE PAUL, MINNESOTA.**

ALL KINDS OF

**FRUIT, NUTS**

**TOBACCO, CIGARS & FANCY CONFECTIONERY.**

**J. W. FOREMAN.**

**WM. NIXON & SON,**

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

**CHINA, CROCKERY,**

GLASSWARE, LOOKING GLASSES,

CUTLERY,

BRITANNIA AND SILVER PLATED WARE,

and  
General House Furnishing Goods.

Also a complete assortment of Tinware of every description,  
constantly on hand.

**Saint Anthony Street,  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.**

**HARVEY OFFICER,**

**Attorney & Counsellor at Law,**

OFFICE IN "BANK BLDG."

Corner of Third and Minnesota Streets

**SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA.**

**WM. NIXON & SON,**

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

**CHINA,**

**CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE,**

SAINT ANTHONY STREET,

**SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA.**

**RICHARD MARVIN,**

Importer and Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

**CHINA, GLASS AND CROCKERY,**

Plated and Britannia Ware,

TABLE CUTLERY, LOOKING GLASSES,

CLOCKS, &c.

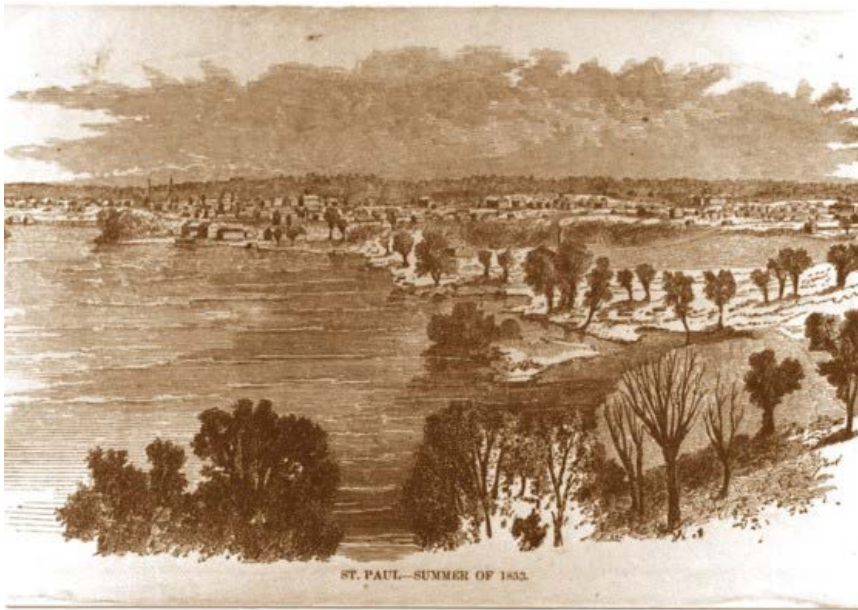
TRINKETS, BRASSWARE AND WAREHOUSE.

and the

**PIONEER CROCKERY STORE,**

BETWEEN MARSH AND BRYAN'S STREETS,

**SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA.**

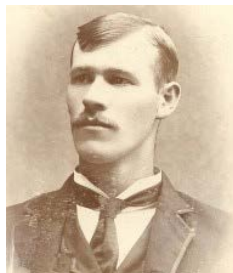


An Early Picture of St. Paul, Minnesota, 1853

I was in business [with my father] in St. Paul, Minnesota until '56 when our establishment caught fire and burned up.

My parents separated [divorced], then my father married Miss M. E. Perine by whom he had six children, five of whom are living -- two girls and three boys.

Mary Elizabeth Perine Nixon and her children by William Abraham Nixon, Agnes, Mary, Clarence, Probably Frederick and Harry. A daughter Susan died in infancy.



William Abraham Nixon's divorce complaint gives the following:

*Territory of Minn county of Ramsey, First Judicial District  
To the Honorable District court in and for the county of Ramsey,  
Territory of Minnesota.*

*The complaint of William Nixon, plaintiff in this action respectfully shows to the court that he is thirty-seven years of age and was married to Bridget Nixon, the defendant in this action, in the year A.D. 1834 in Liverpool, England-<sup>7</sup>, that the said defendant is now forty-nine years of age, and a resident of this county and Territory-that in the year A. D. 1848 the said plaintiff and defendant removed from England to the United States of America, with their family.<sup>8</sup> That there are 5 children of the said plaintiff & defendant now living, the oldest being 18 years of age, and the youngest four years of age-that for more than a year last past, to wit since the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June A. D. 1852, the said plaintiff has resided in the said county of Ramsey, Territory of Minnesota.*

### **Conversion, Baptism and Marriage**

May 1859.<sup>9</sup> I started on the plains with a Mormon ox train.<sup>10</sup> Arrived in Utah on the 2nd of September. On the 26th of November, I was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in the rear of President Young's residence in City Creek, by Elder Robert Martin and confirmed by (William C.) Dunbar and Allen in the 20th Ward. In December I received my first endowments and was enrolled in Brigham Young Juniors Regiment Cavalry called the standing army. Served two months in Echo Canyon then was disbanded and organized into John Sharps regiment of infantry and again sent out to Echo serving until May 1858. When General Johnson [Johnston] was moving in to Salt Lake we moved in ahead of them.

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<sup>7</sup> Marriage record gives year as 1835.

<sup>8</sup> The above statement of the year the family immigrated is in conflict with when James William Nixon I states the family came in 1848 vs. 1850. A Bridget Nixon is found on the passenger list of "The New World" in 1850. She is accompanied by John, Matilda, and Marie. John was listed as the same age as Catherine. Catherine may have been listed as John.

<sup>9</sup> He actually arrived in 1857. His service in the Utah War and his baptism proves this date.

<sup>10</sup> James was headed for California but traveled with the Mormons and was converted. He was in an unknown company wagon train.

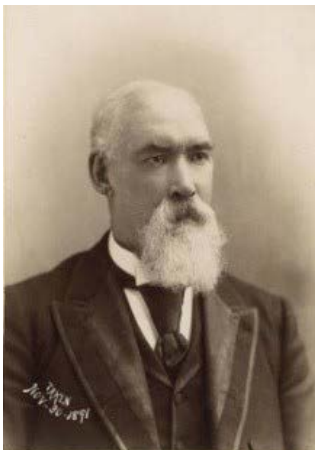
Brigham Young



Beehive House 1857, home of Brigham Young



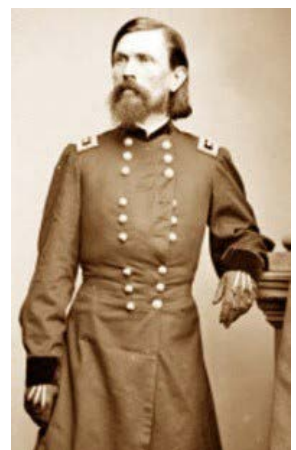
Note: Mormon Overland Trail indicates that James William Nixon arrived in Salt Lake in 1857. Source given was financial records of the Church. His involvement in the Mormon War also indicates he arrived in 1857 not 1859. He was baptized 26<sup>th</sup> of November 1857. Armand Whitehead, who was a missionary at the Church Archives in 2012 sent the following e-mail to Loretta Nixon: The MPOT (Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel database is incomplete. They estimate that 70,000 pioneers came prior to 1869. The MPOT has about 2/3 of these listed, but many are listed in unknown companies. JW is in this category. Many company ledgers are either lost, not turned in or in one case burned to keep the pioneer warm!



Brigham Young Jr.



John Sharp

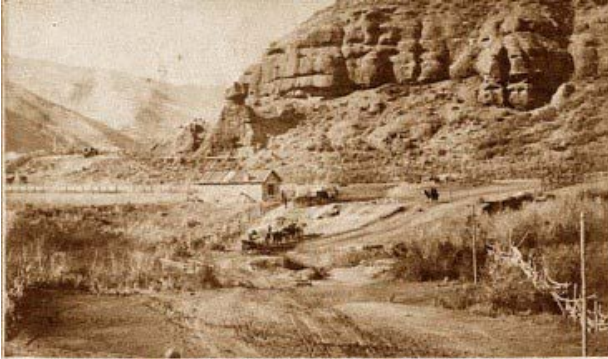


General Sidney Johnson



## The Echo Canyon Breastworks

Early Picture of Entrance to Echo Canyon



Picture of Echo Canyon taken in 1991 showing the rugged terrain.



The Echo Canyon Breastworks were constructed during the autumn of 1857 under the direction of General Daniel H. Wells, commander of the Mormon Militia. They were set atop high cliffs where they would provide the greatest strategic advantage against possible attack by Johnston's Army during the Utah War (1857-58). This 2500-man force was sent to the Territory by President James Buchanan to silence what was perceived to be a rebellion by the Mormons. The dry masonry walls, constructed of uncut stones, stacked in random courses without mortar, were 1 to 2 feet above ground and 4 to 12 feet in length. These fortifications stretched some 1.2 miles along the narrowest section of Echo Canyon. These Breastworks were part of a larger defensive network that included plans to dam the creek to force the troops against the canyon wall where the breastworks are located, and large trenches across the canyon to impede the passage of horses and men. More than 1200 men worked together completing the Breastworks on the cliffs in the matter of a few weeks. However, the peaceful resolution of the Utah War in the early summer of 1858 rendered the fortifications unnecessary.

Note: An account of Charles H. Wilcken, a German immigrant who first joined the U.S. Army that was sent to Utah in 1857 and then deserted and found himself among the Mormon soldiers sent to prevent the Army from entering Utah. He was amazed at the stark contrast between the soldiers of the U.S. Army and the Mormons who were sent by Brigham Young to deter their entry into Utah. His description of Echo Canyon gives you a feeling as to what James William Nixon was doing in 1857 and 1858. *“When, however, we reached Echo Canyon, I say in a moment that the course Colonel Alexander had followed was a very wise one. [Colonel Alexander decided to wait for Colonel Albert Sidney Johnston to arrive before proceeding to the Great Salt Lake Valley.] That canyon would have used up the whole of the army in a short time, only a small force would have been necessary to do it. Echo Canyon is a small narrow passage-almost a box canyon. The walls are, nearly perpendicular in some places even over-hanging, and often reaching a height of two hundred feet. I noticed great activity on those heights. Men were busily engaged piling large and small rocks in great quantities at the edges of the precipices to be ready to hurl destruction upon an advancing foe. In the canyon barricades were erected, dams were built across the creek, so as to inundate a portion of the road, if necessary and all manner of obstructions were in progress. At Echo Canyon were the headquarters of General Daniel H. Wells and his troops; how many there were I do not know, they seemed thousands to me. We were kindly received and it brought joy to the hearts of the soldiers to see the great number of cattle taken from their enemies. I, of course was The Elephant.” Numerous questions were asked of me, to which I could only give answer through an interpreter. [The Young Woman’s Journal, Vol. 18, 1907, pgs. 395, 396]*

I remained in Company with John Wheeler about Provo in employ of Levi Stewart herding sheep and cattle. I moved back to Salt Lake. Then through counsel of John Sharp who fitted me out, I started to Camp Floyd. I worked at chopping wood, driving team.

Early Provo by Samuel Jepperson (DUP Provo, Utah)

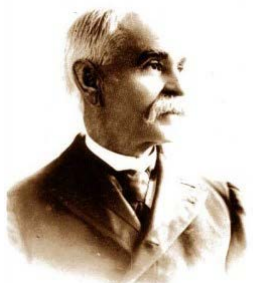


(right photo) Early Picture of Camp Floyd Established in July 1858 by a U.S. Army detachment under the command of Brevet Brig. Gen. [Albert Sidney Johnston](#). Camp Floyd was named for then Secretary of War [John B. Floyd](#). The detachment consisted of more than 3,500 military and civilian employees, including cavalry, artillery, infantry and support units. This unit, the largest single troop concentration then in the United States, was sent by President [James Buchanan](#) to stop a perceived [Mormon](#) rebellion, which came to be known as the [Utah War](#).

During the winter of 1858-1859 I did some trading. I cleared about \$1500.00 and bought two span of mules, wagons and three cows. On October 26, 1859 I married Johanna Maria Schultz. I worked during the winter of 1859 and 1860 for Dustin Amy at Tin Smithing. In the spring we moved to East Weber, opened up a farm and made considerable improvements on it. In 1864 I rented my farm and moved to Salt Lake City and bought a house and lot in the 9<sup>th</sup> Ward. I worked at my trade part of 1864 and 1865 for Alfred Best. [Picture at left is of Alfred Best.]

Alfred Best was born 19 June 1829, Todington, Gloucestershire, England. He came to Utah in 1849 and owned the first hardware store in Salt Lake City. He was a prosperous citizen of Salt Lake. One of his wives was Margaret Degroot Oakley, a relative of Loretta Nixon. The two years that James W. Nixon worked for Alfred Best must have had some influence in his later opening a hardware store in St. George, Utah. Below is the Home is where James and Johannah were married in Salt Lake City

Alfred Best



James W. Nixon



Johanna Nixon (last 2 photos)

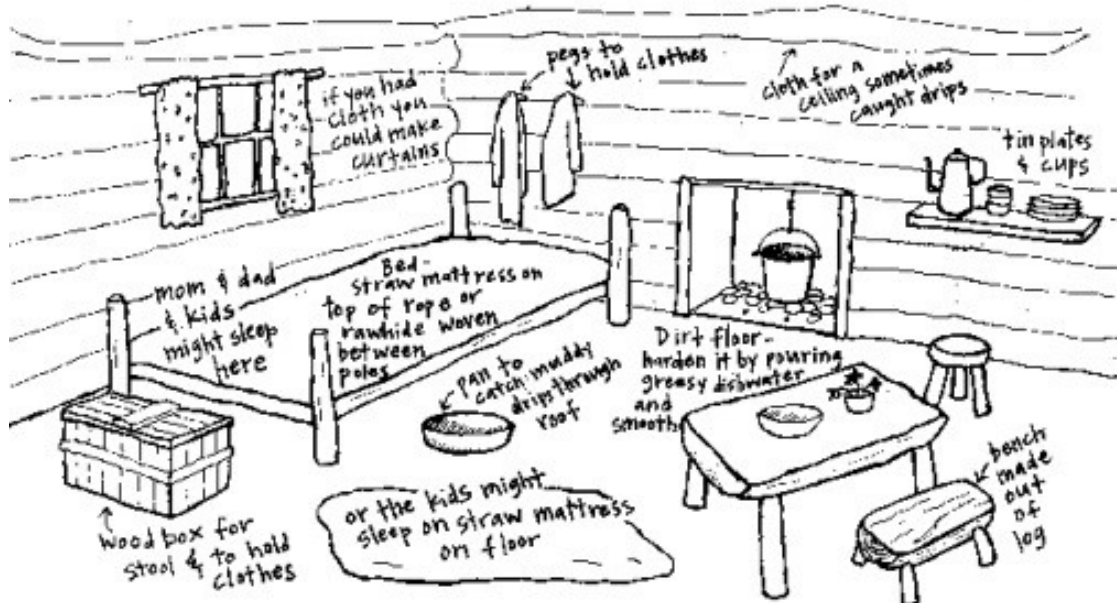
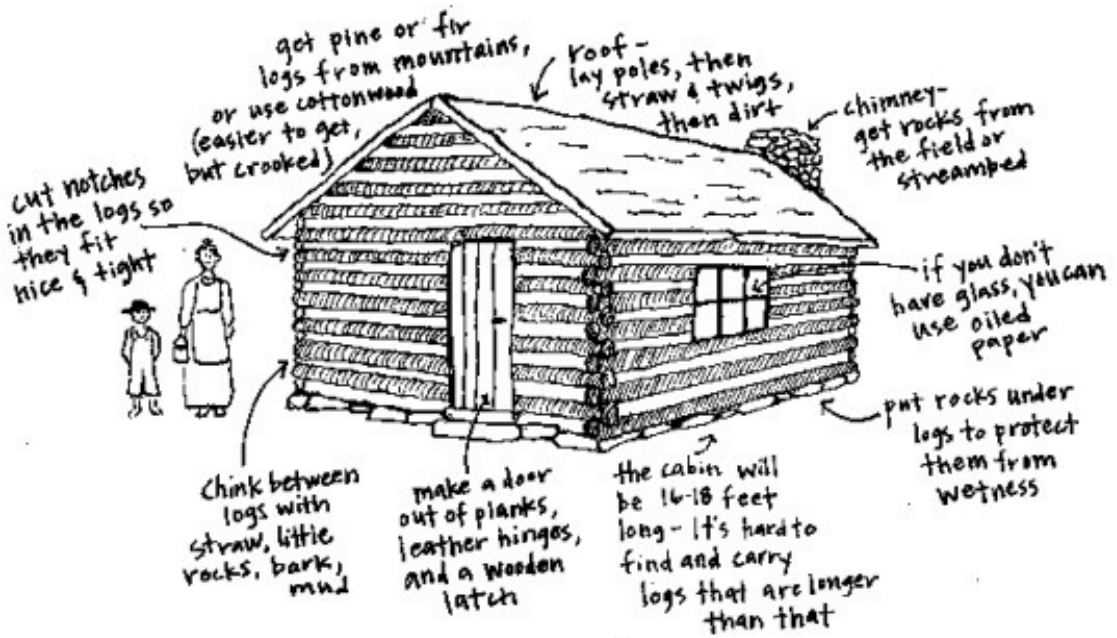


Home where James and Johanna were married

Note: The home is located at 10<sup>th</sup> East and 3<sup>rd</sup> South, Salt Lake City, Utah. Estelle Thomas, a deceased great-granddaughter told Loretta Nixon this was the home where James and Johanna Marie Nixon were married October 26, 1859. It is interesting that JamesWilliam Nixon had an English accent and Johanna Marie spoke Danish. The picture of the young girl was found in the picture collection of James W. Nixon II. The features seem to match the features of the known pictures of Johanna Marie Schultz.



Johanna's History gives the following:



*Brother Nixon purchased a small farm in wild, unsettled East Weber Valley. A rude log cabin was Johanna's home, six miles from nearest neighbors.*

*The cabin, originally one-room, was made two-rooms, and a small six pane front window of glass put in. After a time Johanna was able to afford narrow bleach cloth curtains for the window.*

*The tiny house originally had only the ground for a floor, but Brother Nixon managed to obtain some lumber and to make a rough board floor, which was however carpetless. There was a dirt roof, and in the bad weather the rain and mud would stream into the room.*

*Milk pans were put under the places that leaked the most. The furnishings of the home were three-legged stools, slab tops with holes for the legs, made by Brother Nixon, a huge chest, which held every odd thing, for a table and homemade lumber bedsteads, cumbersome and awkward.*

*In the logs of the walls, holes were bored and wooden pegs fitted in these. The pegs, on which clothing was hung, constituted, the wardrobe, when Johanna's first baby was born. She was then seventeen. Her husband hewed her a crude cradle out of a log.*

## Called to St. George

In October 1865 I was called to St. George on a mission. I sold out my farm, house, lot and other properties. I started on the 14th of January in 1866

for Dixie with a span of mules and two wagons. We had at this time three children, Annie, Emma, and Hannah. We arrived in St. George on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February. I bought a lot, pitched my tent and started next day for Los Angeles to buy a set of tinner's tools, machines and material to start business within St. George. I returned home on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May 1866. I had a good trip. During the summer of 1866 I built a house and worked in the basement at my trade during 1867 and 1868. [ Picture depicts the move to Southern Utah..]



They lived in tents until home was finished in 1866.





James William Nixon I, Emma, Johanna, Delia, Hannah, George, James W. Nixon II

James W Nixon II

Stoddard Tinsmith Shop, Navoo, Illinois



*When James W. Nixon and his family moved to St. George in January 1866 Indian depredations were very much evident. James W. Whitmore, the father of their future son-in-law, James W. Whitmore, was murdered by Indians near his ranch located near Pipe Springs. The bodies of James W. Whitmore and Robert McIntyre were found January 20, 1866 about 4 miles S.E. of the Whitmore Herd House. Undoubtedly, Johannah and her small family were terrified of Indians based on her passed experience*

with them. [See her history] In March 1866, while her husband is still away obtaining tinsmithing tools, James G. Bleak in his historical account states, "Elder John R, Young brings word to St. George at the request of Tut-se-grav-its, that the Navajos are on this side of the Colorado, in considerable force, and in the vicinity of the head waters of the Rio Virgen. This Chief of the Santa Clara Indians also stated, the supposition was that the hostile Navajos, would begin their depredations in the vicinity of Parowan first, that they were "very mad". Tutsegavits had sent the Indian runner who brought this word on the 29<sup>th</sup> to the friendly Indians residing near Parowan."<sup>11</sup>

Johanna is alone with her family while her husband is still in California obtaining tools for his trade. The following letter is very informative as to the conditions she faced while her husband was away.

James G. Bleak reported, "On the 4<sup>th</sup> May 1866, at the Semi Annual Conference, the conditions surrounding all the Southern settlements caused much attention to be given at this Conference to the preservation of the lives and property of the people from marauding Indians."<sup>12</sup>

About the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1866 the following letters were received:-

Grat Salt Lake City, May 2d, 1866

To President Erastus Snow and the Bishops and Saints of Washington and Kane Counties, Greeting.

Dear Brethren:- The recent occurrences in your counties and the threatened repetition of these scenes prompt us to write to you this Epistle.

To save the lives and the property of the people in your counties from the marauding and[320] blood-thirsty bands which

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<sup>11</sup> James Godson Bleak, "The Annals of the Southern Mission", Edited by Aaron McArthur and Reid L. Neilson, Greg Kofford Books, Salt Lak City, 2019, p. 129.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.



*surround you. There must be thorough and energetic measures of protection taken immediately.*

*Many of your settlements at the present time are too weak to successfully resist attack, or to prevent their stock from being driven off by any band of Indians, however contemptible, who may choose to make a descent upon them. These small settlements should be abandoned and the people who have formed them should, without loss of time, repair to places that can be easily defended, and that possesses the necessary advantages to sustain a heavy population. There should be from 150 to 500 good and efficient men in every settlement; but not less than 150 well armed men; and their horses should always be where they can put their hands upon them. Where there are several settlement which do not have this number of men, there should be places selected at which the requisite number can concentrate. At all the points where the settlements are maintained good and substantial forts, with high walls and strong gates, should be erected, and the people moved into them. Corrals also should be built, so convenient to the forts, and in such a strong manner that they can be easily guarded, and the stock be kept safe in them from every attack. In sending your stock on to the range, they should be placed in the charge of armed herdsman, and there should be enough of them to insure their own safety and the safety of the herds placed in their care.*

*When it may be necessary for wood, poles or timber to be hauled, one or two persons should not venture into the Kanyons; but a company should be formed who well armed themselves, should also be accompanied by an armed escort. Before they enter into any place where there is the least danger of an attack, cautious men, who can creep as close to the ground as any Indian, should precede them and reconnoiter, and while the men are at work, procuring their loads, there should be other vigilant men stationed in commanding positions to maintain guard, and to give warning if danger should approach.*

*These precautions should also be observed strictly in the cultivation of your fields and upon every occasion when you may have to perform any labors that may require you to leave your forts.*

*By breaking up your small settlements and gathering yourselves together in larger bodies you can observe these instructions and not feel that they are burdensome.*

*When settlements are abandoned measures should be taken to bury the house logs and fence poles &c to prevent [322] their destruction by Indians. Holes can be dug of a sufficient depth in which to put the logs, poles &c. and as they are buried, cover them with dirt, so that if the torch should be applied they would not burn. The grain at such places should be watched, and the stock kept off, and when it needs water, or is ready to be harvested, enough armed men should go and perform these labors as to be safe.*

*The careless manner in which men have traveled from place to place frequently in parties of one, two or perhaps three, and at times too when it was well known tht the Indians wre hostile, should be stopped and nobody should be permitted to aventure out from home and from the protection of the Forts unless accompanied by a sufficient number of men to make traveling safe.*

*Adopt measures from this time forward that not another drop of your blood, or the blood of any belonging to you, shall be shed by the Indians, and keep your stock so securely that not another horse, mule, ox, cow, sheep, or even calf shall fall into thir hands, and the war will soon be stopped.*

*We wish to impress this upon your minds-put yourselves and your animals in such a condition that the Indians will be dprived of all opportunity of taking life and stealing stock, and you may rest assured that, when they find you have vigorously entered upon this labor and that they can gain no further advantage over you, they [323] will soon cease their hostilities.*

*This policy which we now recommend has been urged upon the people for their adoption from the first formation of our settlements in these valleys until the present, and in every instance wher it has been strictly followed, life and property have been*



## Move to Pioche

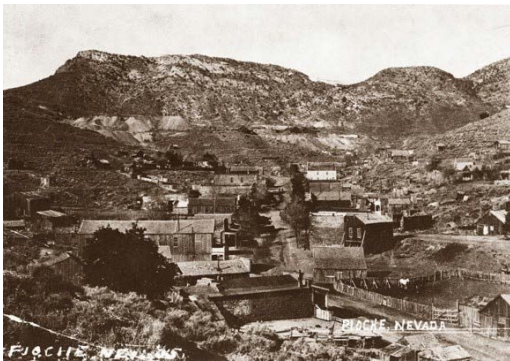
In the fall of 1871 I bought a place in Pioche, Nevada. I had counseled with President Young on the matter of going into business and was promised by him that if I would pay my tithing and keep the commandments of God that I would prosper. Which business I continued until March 15, 1873 at which time I sold out and moved to St. George. [See Appendix for excerpts of James W. Nixon's Journal during his years in Pioche, Nevada.] Henry Walland was listed as a merchant in Pioche in the 1880 census.

James W. Nixon's store may have looked like this. Iron doors on the windows and door for security



Pioche, Nevada about 1905

A Picture of Early Pioche, Nevada



During the 1870s and 1880s Pioche, Nevada had the reputation of having more murders committed than any other mining town in Nevada. This would explain, James W. Nixon's stay of only about two years in Pioche.

James returned to St. George with \$24,000 in gold. He contributed \$1000 to each temple then being built, the Salt Lake temple, and St. George temple. He also contributed \$1000 to the building of the St. George Tabernacle, and \$1000.00 to the poor of St. George.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Autobiography of James W. Nixon II

## BACK TO ST. GEORGE

In St. George, I had had a store built and engaged in the hardware and tinsmithing business which I followed until the 16th of May 1876.<sup>14</sup> I joined the United Order and turned in all my property. I was first appointed 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president then treasurer then I was appointed president and treasurer in February 1875 and filled this position until 1876. On February 21, 1876 I married my second wife, Hannah Fawcett.<sup>15</sup>

In the St. George United Order, members contributed their economic property to the order and received dividends and labor income according to the relative amounts of capital and labor contributed. A governing board directed the enterprise.

Building the St. George Temple



St. George Temple

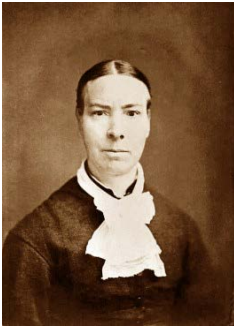


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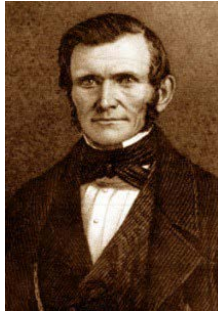
<sup>14</sup> This store is what used to be the J.C. Peenny Store on St. George Boulevard, just south of the Court House.

<sup>15</sup> The Annals of the Southern Mission by James G. Bleak states James W. Nixon joined the United Order February 9, 1874. He was elected vice president. Bleak does not record the appointment of Nixon as President of the United Order in February 1875. He acted as President of the Order until July 10, 1877 He resigns on that date as President, Treasurer and Superintendent of the Hardware Department. On the same date he is re-appointed Treasurer and Superintendent of the Hardware Department. In 1879 the United Order of St. George Account books, show he had a balance of \$8141.18. Erastus Snow states he contributed more to the Order than any other individual in St. George

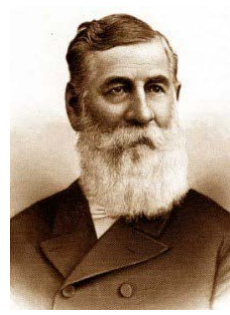
Hannah Fawcett



Wilford Woodruff



John D.T. McAllister

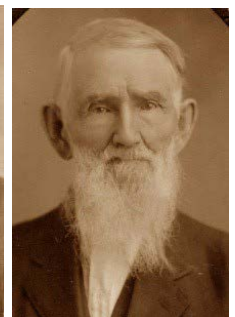
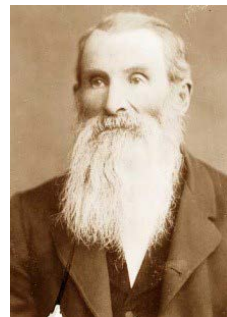


In January 1877 the St. George Temple was dedicated. I was called to labor there giving endowments to the living and the dead. February and March I had been acting for some of my wife Johannah's folks. On March the 27<sup>th</sup> I and Johannah and Hannah F received our second anointing under the hands of Wilford Woodruff.

April 2<sup>nd</sup> fitted up a circle room for the Seventies in the Temple. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> conference was held in the Temple. All of the twelve Apostles were present but Albert Carrington. All spoke freely of the United Order. All adjourned to meet in the new Tabernacle on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October next in Salt Lake City. A violent dust storm occurred at the close of the Temple conference.

April 16<sup>th</sup> President Young and others bid us good bye and started north. On the 17<sup>th</sup> I was ordained a Bishop and set apart to preside over the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward of St. George with C. A. Terry and A. P. Winsor as Counselors. This was done in the Temple under the hands of Wilford Woodruff and John D. McAllister.

John Daniel T. McAllister was called as President of the St. George Temple in 1884, following President Wilford Woodruff. On April 5, 1877, John Daniel McAllister was ordained a High Priest by Brigham Young, and was president of the St. George stake from 1877 to 1888. His counselors were Thos. J. Jones and Henry Eyring. He was also appointed assistant to President Woodruff. He was present at the dedication of the St. George temple on April 6, 1877. John Daniel T.



McAllister baptized Wilford Woodruff for George Washington and the other founding fathers. James William Nixon was a bishop of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward and John Daniel McAllister was the stake president. [Pictured above: Charles A. Terry and Anson Perry Winsor.]

Anson Perry Winsor was called to the Dixie mission in 1861, and settled at Grafton. In 1863 he was appointed bishop of the Grafton Ward. He was called to Pipe Springs in 1869 to build a fort against the Indians, to collect tithing cattle and take charge of them. He was with parties who went for the bodies of Whitmore and McIntyre who had been killed by the Indians. He also took part in the battle with the Indians.

He was called to St. George to work in the temple in 1877 and remained with this work as long as he was able to perform active service. He was one of the first ordinance workers in the St. George temple, and performed baptisms for the dead for more than one hundred thousand people. He was 1st councilor to Bishop Chas. Terry of the 3rd ward in St. George for a number of years. Charles Alphonso Terry was put in as bishop of the 3rd Ward replacing James William Nixon. After James W. Nixon acquired part ownership in Mt. Trumbull, he was released as bishop.

## **MT. TRUMBULL**

May the 11<sup>th</sup> [1877] started in company with Jas. G. Bleak and Sister Nixon and Emma for Mount Trumbull to organize the company there as a United Order Working Company in lumbering, farming and manufacturing of lumber. I organized them as a Branch of the Church with Eli Whipple as President Elder. On June the 26<sup>th</sup> I sent teams with supplies to Trumbull. On the 27<sup>th</sup> I was still laboring in the Temple. On August 22<sup>nd</sup> had Mary Anne, Emma, Amelia and Hannah M. our children born out of the covenant sealed to us. On 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in prayer circle meeting in behalf of President Young who is very sick. At 4 P.M. on the 29<sup>th</sup> he died. September 2<sup>nd</sup> President Brigham Young's funeral was held in the Tabernacle which was draped in mourning. He left the Church fully organized. On the 21<sup>st</sup> I started to Trumbull with Arron Nelson to look for water. Arrived there on 26<sup>th</sup> and found all well. Explored and became satisfied that we could get more water by digging. On the 30<sup>th</sup> attended meeting in the big house at Trumbull. On October 5<sup>th</sup> started home with Hannah F., Brother Nelson and my son James. I arrived 7:00 P.M. on the 6<sup>th</sup>. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> I started in company with T. J. Jones to Sebitts Mt. Shepherd with load of salt and on the 29<sup>th</sup> arrived home. November 28<sup>th</sup>. I married Zepher Kelsey January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1878. I was baptized for five fathers and uncles. On 22<sup>nd</sup> I was baptized for nine more relatives and friends and on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> was endowed for three more. I have continued to labor in the Temple as a missionary from the time of its opening until the present time. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 1878 I moved my family out to Trumbull. [On ??? the United Order was disbanded. James purchased Mt. Trumbull, etc.] I had

with others bought the Trumbull property including the livestock. I arrived on the 9<sup>th</sup> and planted corn and potatoes-taking care of the stock. Mill is running, sawed 2000 feet of lumber per day. June the 1<sup>st</sup> started to St. George with Sister Nixon. On the 7<sup>th</sup> started back to Trumbull and arrived on the 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 P.M. I omitted keeping this journal until October 7<sup>th</sup> when I met with board of United Order at St. George. On the 12<sup>th</sup> started with Zepher to Trumbull—arrived on 13<sup>th</sup>. I was engaged in digging potatoes, producing mill timbers, hauling poles, working at the barn and hauling planer [finished lumber] and other mill property down to the houses. On the 28<sup>th</sup> putting up wagon [getting it ready] for Dan Sill to go to Panguitch. On the 31<sup>st</sup> Dan and Walter started. November 2<sup>nd</sup> started for St. George taking Hannah F, and George A. Nixon to attend to business in St. George. <sup>16</sup> My father arrived on the 8<sup>th</sup> going out to Trumbull with me and Hannah F. Also J. S. Deluche. We arrived on the 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 P M. found all well. On the 19<sup>th</sup> A. McArthur and Orsen Foster arrived at Trumbull with their Mill. I assisted Deluche to set up a logging truck to haul logs. On November 20<sup>th</sup> I went up to the Mill and measured lumber. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> took down smokestack and timber for the mill. I Had a talk with Perkins, Blake and Company. I made a proposition to them to let them have one half of all the timber on the mountain for \$1000 or all of it for \$2000. Cannan or Windsor, which they refused to accept. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> working about the Tank. On the 27<sup>th</sup> I worked at the spring. T. Hancock came out and we worked at the mill, laying sleepers etc. until the 29<sup>th</sup> of December. Started to St. George attending to business until the 28<sup>th</sup>. Started back to Trumbull January 7<sup>th</sup> 1879 and arrived the 9<sup>th</sup>. On the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> preparing to move the engine. 10 inches of snow fell up to date. Working at the mill. On the 21<sup>st</sup> started to hunt for Dan Sill. I went to Panguitch and found he had gone to San Pete. I followed him there, February 1<sup>st</sup>. After talking to Dan and getting a statement of his doings since leaving Trumbull I concluded it was best to sell the oxen for wheat. I did so and stored the wheat at the mill until spring. I returned home to St. George February 16<sup>th</sup> attending to business until the 27<sup>th</sup>. Arrived

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<sup>16</sup> Walter Hoff, was James W. Nixon's nephew. He was the son of Catherine Nixon and Edward Hoff. Edward was killed in the Civil War and Catherine married Isaac Stuart. Walter went by Walter Stuart.



at Trumbull March 1st with Chister, Boggs Harmon and Howard Deluche. Working at the mill fitting it up. 16<sup>th</sup> started for St. George with Father, Boggs and Chister. On the 24<sup>th</sup> took Father to Washington to go to York with T. J. Jones on his way to St. Cloud, Minn. I then remained in St. George until the 29<sup>th</sup>. I arrived on the 31<sup>st</sup> at Trumbull with my son J. W. Nixon, Jr. Worked about the mill and farm. On the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of April making a smokestack for the mill.

### **Final Years**

The following is written by his wife Hannah F. Nixon. During the summer they finished the mill and commenced to saw lumber. Boggs the engineer got angry and left so Brother Nixon attended to the engine himself. His health had been poor for some time but still he labored whenever he was able until winter, when owing to sickness in his family they had to come into St. George and left him out at Trumbull with his son George A. Nixon. He was taken very sick and thought he would die.

He gave his little boy instructions to drag him out and bury him in the snow if he should die. As soon as the weather cleared up so that his son J. W. could travel he went out to release his father and let him come in and be doctored. He remained in St. George until spring. Then he took part of his family and went out and began running the mill, working as engineer himself. His health was very poor, but he was anxious to saw out the bill of Temple lumber before he quit but they had to haul water to finish it. He kept on till they sawed out the bill, then he had to give up. It was the last work he did on earth. He suffered a great deal of pain in his shoulders and sides. He had a large tumor growing under his right arm and some small ones on his left ribs. He stayed out at Trumbull until October then through the persuasion of his family he came to St. George to see if he could get medical assistance but he found that he would have to go to Salt Lake City to have an operation performed by cutting out the tumors. He started for Salt Lake City on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 1880.

After he arrived in Salt Lake City the doctors advised him to wait awhile until he was rested before undergoing the operation

so he waited until the 17<sup>th</sup> of January which was his birthday. The tumor taken out from under his right arm weighed one pound. The others were smaller. He seemed to get considerable better for a while, but his blood had become poisoned with the tumors so that they started to grow again.

He came home to St. George as soon as he could travel and it was after he had been home some time that the tumors began to grow again. Warm weather coming on he concluded to go out to Trumbull again being quite poorly for some time. Sister Nixon hearing of it came out to him. After a while he was advised to take some powders for the liver. He sent to town and got some and took them. They seemed to help him so he began to feel a great deal better.

He began to be restless and wanted to go to Panguitch for a few weeks for an outing. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of July he and his daughter started with J. W., Jr. driving the team for Panguitch Lake. They were gone about two months during which time he spent part of the time at Cameron's Mill on the Mammouth and the Lake. He got very much worse but his son J. W. had gone to Salt Lake City with a load of wool so that he had to wait until he returned before he could come home. When he did start he was so feeble that he had little hopes of getting home alive.

Providentially the Stake Presidency came along and took him with them to St. George. J. W. and Hannah his sister went back to Trumbull with a load of flour that he had purchased with the money earned by hauling the load of wool to Salt Lake City. Sister Nixon had gone to St. George so she was there to receive him. They procured the service of Doctor Higgins for him. He rallied some little but soon his leg began to turn black in spots and he suffered a thousand deaths.

His family worked with him faithfully, bathing his leg with herbs until it got better. Then a bad cough set in and he would cough with nearly every breath and through this dropsy commenced. The doctor battled with all of these diseases for some time, at length he gave him up and said he could do nothing for him and nothing but the hand of the Lord could raise him up

from the bed of sickness.

After that the cough stopped and he seemed to be getting better for a while. He lived for a while but he had to succumb at last February 1882 at his residence in St. George. He was buried on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Funeral services were held at the Tabernacle at 12 o'clock. The following are my children and their respective birthdays:

Mary Anne Nixon, Born January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1861  
Emma Amelia Nixon, Born December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1862  
Hannah M. Nixon, Born October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864  
James William Nixon, Born September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1866  
George A. Nixon, Born February 7<sup>th</sup>, 1668  
Sena L. Nixon, born December 4<sup>th</sup>, 1871  
Adelia M. Nixon, Born March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1874  
Josephine M. Nixon, Born June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1876  
Della Maude Nixon, Born March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1879  
My Parents and Brothers and Sisters:

Father -- William A. Nixon  
Mother -- Bridget Degnan Nixon  
Self -- James W. Nixon  
Sister -- Katie Nixon Stewart  
Sister -- Mathilda Nixon Gregory  
Sister -- Marie Nixon (called Jennie)<sup>17</sup>

My second wife Hannah I. F. Nixon, whose children were:  
Mary Johannah Nixon, Born November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1876  
Elizabeth Jane Nixon, Born December 9<sup>th</sup>, 1879

My third wife, Zepher Kelsey Nixon, whose children were:  
Franklin Nixon, Born February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1879  
Eva Nixon<sup>18</sup>

Grandchildren by Mary Johannah Nixon Andrews:  
Lola Andrews, Born May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1897

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<sup>17</sup> A brother and sister, Edward and Ann Nixon died in Wales before the family came to America.

<sup>18</sup> Her name ws Eva Jeannette. She married John Reeves

Milo Gwynne Andrews, Born May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1903

Grandchildren by Elizabeth Jane Foster:

Joseph Riter Foster, Born December 12<sup>th</sup>, 1910, Died  
October 23, 1912

Zona Foster, Born October 5<sup>th</sup> 1912, Died October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1912

Karl Franklin Foster, Born February 1, 1914

Irwin Foster, Born January 15, 1916

Grace Foster, Born July 25, 1918

Rulon Arthur Foster, Born September 12, 1920

# James William Nixon I and the United Order of St. George Stake.

## Purpose and Reasons of Organizing United Order In St. George

Before the United Order of St. George was officially organized, the principle of living as one was taught early by Joseph Smith. He emphasized soon after the Church was organized the importance of being one temporally as well as spiritually. The Doctrine & Covenants repeatedly admonishes the Saints to be one.

The Law of Consecration was practiced for a short time in Ohio and in Missouri. It was first outlined in a revelation to Joseph Smith, February 9, 1831. It was meant to promote economic equality and group self-sufficiency. A small group of Saints from Colesville, New York, moved to Thompson, Ohio, and instigated the Law of Consecration and Stewardship. It lasted but a short time because a few of the more affluent members withdrew and sued in the courts to recover their property.

The Thompson Saints and others were then called to settle Jackson County, Missouri. A second attempt was made at living The Law of Consecration after the Saints arrived in Missouri. This second attempt also failed but Brigham Young wanted to again try and bring about a "Zion Society."

"If you are not one ye are not mine."<sup>19</sup> This theme of oneness was again taught to members of the church by Brigham Young and the early leaders prior to the introduction of the United Order in St. George in 1874.

Prior to the organization of the United order of St. George, the co-operative movement, which originated in the northern section of Utah Territory, was admonished and initiated by the church leaders, particularly during the latter half of the 1860's. Co-operative merchandising, livestock production, farming, to some extent, and manufacturer of products for home use and export were instigated. Brigham Young said, "This co-operative movement is only a stepping-stone to what is called the Order of Enoch, but which is in reality the Order of Heaven. It was revealed to Enoch when he built up his city and gathered the people together and sanctified them, so that they became so holy and pure that they could not live among the rest of the people and the Lord took them away."<sup>20</sup> Brigham Young continues in

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<sup>19</sup> D&C 38:27 Revelation given Fayette, New York, January 2, 1831

<sup>20</sup> *Journal of Discourses*, Vol.13, 2, Talk given Salt Lake Tabernacle, April 7, 1869

this same talk about being one, “I want to say a few words still further to the people with regard to their faith in temporal things. If the people called Latter-day Saints do not become one in temporal things as they are in spiritual things, they will not redeem or build up the Zion of God upon the earth. This co-operative movement is a stepping-stone. We say to the people take advantage of it.”<sup>21</sup>

There was an economic crisis in 1873 and 1874, which probably made the introduction of the Order of Enoch at this time easier. When people are struggling economically, they are more accepting of something that will help them survive than when they are prosperous and self-sufficient.

Brigham Young was anxious to bring the people to a higher level both spiritually and temporally. It was an opportune time to again ask the Saints to live the Order of Enoch. He had a winter home in St. George. He could stay close to the organization, and this is probably why he chose to organize it at this time in St. George instead of in the Northern part of Utah. Karl Larson, in his book “I Was Called To Dixie”, states: “When he (Brigham Young) came to St. George to spend the winter of 1873-1874, he was prepared to act and they to listen. First presenting the idea to local leaders and finding them receptive, he publicly presented the new movement on February 15, 1874.” However, James G. Bleak’s record states that on February 9<sup>th</sup> a meeting was held in St George’s Hall and the election of the officers of the St. George United Order took place. Brigham Young presided over this meeting. Robert Gardner was elected President, Daniel D. McArthur and **James W. Nixon**, Vice President, Henry Eyring, Secretary, James G. Bleak and Alexander F. Macdonald, Assistant Secretaries.<sup>22</sup>

### **Implementing the United Order In Utah**

At the meeting held February 15, President Young concluded the meeting by saying, “If we are disposed to enter into the Order of Enoch, now is the accepted time and blessed are the Latter-day Saints. But if we are not disposed to enter this Order the curses of God will come upon the people; I cannot help it. I will not curse them. But the time has come for this work to be commenced.” At the close of the meeting, some 300 names were entered on the United Order Rolls.

February 1874 was the beginning of the Order of Enoch, or United Order of St. George in St. George and the surrounding settlements in Southern Utah. March 1874 was a busy time for organizing the settlements into the Order. By the end of March numerous settlements were organized, St. George, Rockville, Virgen

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<sup>21</sup> *Journal of Discourses*, Vol.13, 3

<sup>22</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, pg. 12.

City, Toquerville, Kanab, Johnson Settlement, Pahreah, Pine Valley, Pinto, Harrisburg, Morristown, Shoonsburg, Mt. Carmel, Long Valley and Glendale.

James William Nixon whole heartedly joined the order. Members of the order contributed money, property, or whatever they possessed to the Order. It wasn't required to contribute all of their possessions. The amount contributed by individuals varied from a few dollars to thousands of dollars. According to his son, James contributed most of his possessions.

Initially, James bought 94 shares, more than any other member. The next highest purchase was Daniel McArthur who bought 80 shares. The least amount of shares purchased was 5 shares. This was out of a list of twelve members. Following this listing was another account of what was contributed. James contributed, \$55.00 in cash, \$64.00 in Furniture, \$150.00 in Mules and Harness, Lumber a/c \$250.00, Boots & Shoes \$75.00, Glass \$10.50, Cap. Stock in Canaan Herd \$694.50.<sup>23</sup>

Erastus Snow stated in his history that James W. Nixon contributed more to the order than any other individual. He listed his contributions as \$7564.93. By January 1879, the account books for J. W. Nixon show a balance of \$8141.18. It is to be noted that individuals were not required to give everything to the Order.

Below is a letter addressed to Brigham Young with many questions as to how they Executive Board of the Order of Enoch was to proceed. One of the signatures on the letter was James W. Nixon, Vice President.

The following was sent to Prest. Young:

St. George, Augt 2d, 1874

Prest. B. Young:

Dear Brother: At the General Monthly meeting of the Board of Management of the United Order for this Stake of Zion held yesterday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, it was deemed advisable to present to you through a delegation a Report of the present condition of the United Order in this Stake; and to obtain the benefit of your counsel and instruction on the best course for us to pursue to successfully carry on the Order in this part of the land.

To aid in bringing the case before you, we beg leave to state that the order is established and working in every settlement in the St. George Stake, though with varying success as might be expected. Many members are in the **Order with their time and all their substance, fully controlled. Others are partly in and partly out, both in time and property. The first class move along with little trouble, the latter class are mostly of the fault finding and hard to please kind. Those who have interests separate from the Order often have to use part of their time to see to those interests.** [emphasis added]

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<sup>23</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, pgs. 175, 178

In St. George, where most of the mechanics of this Stake reside, those mechanics receive wages about at the old rates, feeling, with few exceptions, to draw to the full amount of their credit. The farmers have had no rate placed upon their labor. And now that the small grain is harvested and being threshed, they wish to know what they are to receive. Some of them claim that as they have produced grain and other crops, they should use those credits to supply themselves and their families, and then, if there be any surplus, it may be put into the treasury. This claim is made though some of the land, and some of the crops, have been put into the Order by men who have been called from farming to other labors. Teamsters also want to know the rate and kind of their wages.

At our Monthly Board Meetings, we do not get a quorum of the Board from settlement outside of St. George, this does not proceed from carelessness towards the Order, but rather from a feeling that each settlement organization considers itself empowered to do its own business to suit its own convenience.

Numerous letters from Salt Lake City have been received by sundry persons stating that attempts are being made to incorporate the United Order under the Territorial Incorporation Act, re-establishing the old cooperative system. Quite a number in this Stake have put themselves and all they have into the Order, but they state, that if it is only the old system of cooperation with a dividend perpetuating individual interest, they do not want anything to do with it, because, they think this is not the spirit of the Order, nor in keeping with your instructions of last winter.

The principle of charging a member for what is drawn for the support of himself and family has given rise to some dissatisfaction. After a member turns in all his substance and receives credit for it, and receives no addition to his original credit but what he receives for his time, it is assumed that his family may be large and that even with strict economy he may draw more than his labor comes to; in such case it is considered that the excess must lessen his original capital, and in time consume it altogether.

The following questions are respectfully submitted for such answers as you may deem wise:

Can the United Order be conducted on the system of a well-regulated family, where each member of the family according to ability, works to accumulate means for the family; doing so without a so much per day, or per month, for such accumulation, and letting each eat and wear what is needful, consistent with the circumstances of the family, without charging in dollars and cents for what is eaten and worn?

Farming, Mechanical, Manufacturing and Stock Raising Departments have been organized. Shall they be authorized to do each their own business, set their own prices, make trades and exchanges to suit themselves and receive the full benefit of their own labors; or shall the proceeds of the labor of these respective organizations be controlled and disbursed through one Treasury under the Board of management, said Board regulating the prices of labor and produce?

Brothers Robert Gardner and Edward Bunker are appointed to submit to you the foregoing and to receive from you such counsel and direction as you may feel to impart to us as a Board of management of the Order for St. George Stake.

Praying Our Father to inspire you to impart such words as shall prove a help in carrying on this work; and praying that you may be blessed all your labors for Zion

We remain Your brethren in the Gospel

Robert Gardner, President

Daniel D. McArthur, Vice President

**James W. Nixon, Vice President**

E. G. Woolley, Asst. Secretary<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, pgs. 145-148



The following letter is the reply to the letter sent to Brigham Young by Robert Gardner, Daniel D. McArthur, James W. Nixon and E. G. Woolley:

Logan, Cache Co., August

20<sup>th</sup>, 1874

To the President, Vice Presidents and Board of Directors of the United Order at St. George:

Dear Brethren:

Your letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst., sent by the hands of Bishops Gardner and Bunker, has reached us, and we are much pleased to learn from it, and from the statements of these Bishops, of your general prosperity and the success which has attended your labors under the United Order.

You say that those who have entered the Order with their time and all their substance fully controlled, move along with little trouble; while those who have interest separate from the Order have to use part of their time to see to those interests. These are the results which we should expect to see follow where people have divided interests. If a man presented himself to you for baptism and requested that only a portion of his body should be baptized, you would reject his application and say to him that he must have his entire person immersed or he could not become a member of the Church.

So with the Order; we do not wish to accept a portion of a man's person and a portion of his substances; therefore, until he is ready to enter himself and with all that he has he should not be a member of the Order, and this is our instruction to all the branches of the order. This alludes particularly to persons who are not in debt so, but they can settle up and come into the Order if they so choose. There are many points, however, which need explanations, and as Brothers Erastus Snow and Geo. Q. Cannon will visit you before long, they will be able to make them.

You say that your Monthly Board Meetings are not attended by a quorum of the Board from settlements outside of St. George, and that this arises from a feeling that each settlement organization considers itself empowered to do its own business to suit its own convenience

Each settlement organization is thus empowered, but where there is business of a general nature in which the Stake is interested, each should report to, and be governed by the action of the central organization in council with the other officers of the Order, and when it is desirable to arrange the price of labor, of products and of manufactures, delegates should be sent from the settlement organizations to meet for that purpose with the Board of Directors of St. George.

As you will see by the Articles of Incorporation, copies of which we have sent to you, we are organizing the Order under the statutes of the Territory. This is not for the purpose of perpetuating individual interest, "but to protect ourselves by laws and that it may be a shield to us. If the law is not as perfect as we wish it was, it answers an excellent purpose and we can operate under it, if we are so disposed, to great advantage. It is the use of the words "stock "and 'dividend" which has created the impressions of which you speak; but theses phrases are necessary to carry out the law.

The question is asked: If a man turns his mule teams into the Order, and they are put in his charge to go teaming with, and he should earn, say five hundred dollars in goods , money, etc., when he returns what must he do with his means? He should pay the amount earned by the teams into the treasury; then, should he want some portion of those earnings for his own and his family's use, it should be given to him by the Board or the Superintendent, and be charged to him as a portion of his dividend.

These teams being an active trust, the owner, when he turns them into the Order, received stock, therefore, which stock will be entitled to dividends. This explains also the other question respecting a member who turns in all his substance and receives credit for it, but only draws pay for his time, and his pay proving insufficient, even with strict economy, to support his family, it is asked, "Will he not be compelled to draw from his original capital, and finally, consume it altogether?"

If the man's substance is active, he will draw a dividend upon it in addition to his labor; if the Order, however, cannot make it produce as he can, let him retain it as a stewardship under the direction of the Board. If a man can support himself before entering into the Order, he can certainly sustain himself after entering into it; for one grand feature of the Order is retrenchment. A man who cannot sustain himself before or after entering into the Order will live as the rest of us, and probably his account will be more than his wages, still it is not a debt against him.

You ask: "Can the United Order be conducted on the system of a well-regulated family?" etc. Yes, certainly, but we are scarcely in a position to carry this out now, although this system of living will eventually be reached. Should this be adopted, however, in any of the branches of the Order at the present time, are must be taken in the keeping of books to have every member of the family charged with the amount he or she may draw. This is not for the purpose of creating a debt against each, but that an account of the expenses may be kept and that it may be known how the means had been expended. Jealousies are apt to arise and people think they have not drawn as much as they have; by keeping books this will explain all, so that everyone should be perfectly satisfied.

The proceeds of the labor of the respective organizations of farming, mechanical, manufacturing and stock raising departments should be controlled and disbursed through one treasury, under the Board of Management, and that Board with the delegates from the other organizations, should regulate the prices.

We do not wish to say anything upon the subject of wages. Each Stake, where there is an organization, must appraise its own produce and labor. Men can be selected as appraisers in whom the people have confidence and whose decision they will abide to place value upon the labor of each class.

The order will pay its tithing in bulk, and perhaps do a great deal more; and those who do not join the Order should pay their tithing promptly.

With kind love to yourselves and all the Saints and praying for your continued prosperity,

We remain Your Brethren,  
Brigham Young  
George A. Smith  
Daniel H. Wells <sup>25</sup>

Leonard Arrington, Feramorze Fox and Dean L. May, in their book, *Building the City of God*, comment:

*The response of the church authorities to the questions from St. George was less than satisfying. In many particulars they threw the questions back to the local leaders, straddled the issue, or gave evasive answers. . .*

*Some of the ambiguities in the reply were products, no doubt of sound judgment and wisdom on the part of the central authorities. . . Other ambiguities seem simply to be products of uncertainty among the leaders as to the most promising and beneficial course to follow. The main fault, however, must lie in the ambiguous position of the leaders themselves, who recognized that their will must at many points be*

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<sup>25</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, pgs. 151-154

compromised to the demands of those enforcing national and territorial law within the Mormon commonwealth.<sup>26</sup>

### **Challenges of Making the United Order Successful**

It can be seen, that making the United Order of St. George successful, was not an easy task. James W. Nixon and his co-directors were given many challenges. In February 1875, he states in his autobiography he was elected President and Treasurer of the Order.

Unfortunately, the members of the Church were not prepared to live the United Order. For various reasons, in many of the settlements, it began to dissolve. After only one year. Harmony, Toquerville, Washington, Pinto, Panaca, Pine Valley, and Rockville abandoned attempts to preserve the Order. It must have been very disheartening for James to see the organization, slowly fall apart. Nevertheless, he continued on as President until 1877 at which time he resigned the presidency but he continued to serve on the Board of Directors.

Initially the Order was created under the Articles of Agreement. Erastus Snow referred to it as the "Gospel Plan." Later in 1874, it was organized under the Articles of Incorporation and was legally registered with the courts.<sup>27</sup> This was done to avoid lawsuits from the courts. A copy of these documents is found in the appendix.

Not all the settlements incorporated under the same rules. The St. George Order was organized where land and farm equipment were placed under the direction of an elected committee which supervised production. The committees decided such matters as which crops to grow, who should work at which tasks, and to what extent members would be allowed to move or work outside the order. It did not require the members to dress alike, eat at a common table or regiment personal lives except to see that the work due the order was accomplished.<sup>28</sup> The later was the ideal set forth by Brigham Young but not everyone was inclined to accept this type of communal living. Orderville was one of the communities that organized under the later described system.

On September 6, 1874, it was presented to the members that the United Order might be organized under the "Articles of Association" and be incorporated under the Laws of the Territory of Utah.<sup>29</sup>

On Saturday and Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> 1874,

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<sup>26</sup> Leonard Arrington, Feramorz Y. Fox, Dean L. May, *Building the City of God*, p. 162

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid*, p. 387

<sup>28</sup> Dean L. May, *The United Order Movement*, *Utah History Encyclopedia*, 1994.

<sup>29</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, p. 154

Apostle George Q. Cannon spoke. He said, "If there ever was a time when we should be one, temporally and spiritually, it is the present. The experience of 44 years should cause us to be prepared for union in our temporal affairs. We are passing through a crisis in our history. This is particularly so in the North. We have been exposed to trials and persecution. There was a time in our history when we were persecuted by mobs who defied the laws of the land. Of late we have been and still are, oppressed by some who seek to wield this spirit of persecution under color of law."<sup>30</sup>

A question arose shall there be a Board of Directors for each branch of business within an association, or shall one Board direct all the branches? The answer was that there be a Superintendent for each branch of business in each association, who will be under the direction of the Board of Directors.

It can be seen that the Board of Directors of the United Order of St. George, was under a great deal of pressure to see that the Order succeed. It took vision, foresight and leadership but in spite of this, it boiled down to whether the people were willing to overcome pettiness, selfishness and put the Kingdom of God first.

On September 20, 1874, President Erastus Snow at the conclusion of the meeting said, "I will confess, as I have to the Presidency, I was, the past winter, slow, doubtful hesitating in receiving the establishment of the United Order. This was not caused by the principle itself, but as to whether the people could and would receive it and carry it out."<sup>31</sup>

Another question arose as to why the Order wasn't organized under the law in the first place. Erastus Snow explained, "We commenced operation in the United Order in this city as a co-partnership, but we did not organize under the Law. While the people would maintain the spirit of union, this would answer it has been better for the people to try the experiment of combination where they have been under the influence of moral suasion alone; then to have the strict letter of the law to govern them. The policy of government adopted and followed, by President Brigham Young, has been of that gentle, easy, kind which exhibits the father. After a summer's experience, it is considered best to organize, that we may secure such protection as the law afford."<sup>32</sup>

President Snow continued, "We began with the Gospel and now we will continue by organizing under the Law. We wish it distinctly understood that the utmost liberty is accorded to enter the

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<sup>30</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, p. 155, 156.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid*, pgs., 1874, 68, 169,

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid*, pgs., 1874, 158, 159

Order or not. If after the experience of the past season, the people wish to enter the Order, well, if not, it is their own matter.”

He then continued, “In the time past, Prest. Young had stated, “We want the time and talent of all who enter this Holy Order; we do not ask for their property, still, where the heart is, there will be the treasure be also.” Now the word is, enter into the Order, Time, Talent, Property and all.”<sup>33</sup>

It was voted that the members of the General Board of the United Order meet and organized under the law. This was in itself a tremendous responsibility for members of the General Board. It was decided a convention be called to set a uniformity of price for labor and products.

### **Accessment of United Order’s Success**

On September 14, 1874, The General Board of the United Order of St. George Stake assembled. Reports were given for the surrounding settlements. It was reported that production seemed to be increased as a result of combination of effort, but it was felt that carelessness in the use of equipment seemed to be prevalent, particularly among the young people. When the draft of proposed articles of incorporation was received, property ceased to come into the Order. It was expressed that, if possible, something should be done to cause members to feel individual responsibility.

Another comment was, that in the Santa Clara Ward, those who put themselves and all they had into the Order, had not grumbled or complained. Those who were partly in and partly out had often felt uneasy and had complained. Again, it was reported that there was a carelessness in the handling of equipment.<sup>34</sup>

It can be seen that what the members of the Church were called to do at this time, was not an easy undertaking. James W. Nixon was in the middle of it, trying to make a success of what they were called to do. In February 1875, he was elected President of the Order. He took charge when the Order seemed to be collapsing. He spent quite a bit of time, traveling from settlement to settlement speaking, and baptizing members into the Order. There was an ordinance of baptism needed to join the Order. James probably baptized close to a hundred members into the United Order during this time.

The wording of the ceremony of baptism into the United Order as used in the baptisms was as follows: “\_\_\_\_\_having authority given me of Jesus Christ, I baptize you for the remission of your sins, the renewal of your covenants, and for the observance of the rules of

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<sup>33</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, pgs. 159, 160

<sup>34</sup> Ibid, 1874, p. 163.

the Holy United Order, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy ghost.

There were suggested rules the member needed to incorporate into their lives. These rules were similar to what members commit to today to obtain a temple recommend.

For example, 1. We will not take the name of the Deity in vain, nor speak lightly of his character, or of sacred things. 2. We will pray with our families, morning and evening, and also attend to secret prayer. 3. We will observe and keep the word of Wisdom according to the spirit and meaning thereof. All of these rules, along with the Articles of Association and Articles of Agreement can be found in the appendix.

### **Responsibility of Leadership in the Order**

To have an idea what James W. Nixon's responsibilities were in the Order, the following information is taken from the Articles of Association, Article 9 of The Articles of Association states: *The Board of Directors shall have power to make all by laws for the management of the property of the company, the regulation of its affairs, the transfer of its stock, for prescribing the duties of its officers, agents and employees, and such other by-laws, rules and regulations as may be necessary for fully carrying out the objects of the corporation. They shall have power to appoint from the members of said Board or from the Stockholders, an executive committee not to exceed five in number, whose part in the management of the affairs of the corporation shall be as prescribed by the by-laws, and shall also have power to appoint or provide for the appointment of all appraisers of property, agents, assistants, and employees, whose services in this corporation may be necessary. And no contract shall be binding on this corporation except when made by the Board or its duly authorized agents.*<sup>35</sup>

Section VI of the By-Laws of the United Order of St. George, Washington County, Utah Territory states: *It shall be the duty of the President to sign all deeds, bonds, notes, and other writings obligatory, to which the Company is a party, when such writings shall have been approved by the Board or the Executive Committee. He shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Stockholders and in cases of a tie, shall have the casting vote. In the absence of the President, or when, for any cause, he is unable to discharge his duties in person, one of the Vice Presidents shall exercise all of the powers and perform all of the duties of the President; the Vice Presidents shall have precedence in the order in which they are respectively designated in the order of their election. When the President and both the Vice*

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<sup>35</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, pgs. 173,174

*Presidents are absent from any meeting of the Board or Stockholders, a President pro-tem shall be elected by and from the members thereof.*<sup>36</sup>

James W. Nixon also served as treasurer for several years during the time the United Order of St. George existed. Section VII of the By-Laws states: *It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the corporation to receive and safely keep all moneys, valuables, evidences of value, and other property deposited or entrusted with him by the Board, and to disburse the same on warrants issued by the Secretary, countersigned by the President. He shall preserve the vouchers in support of all disbursements by him made and shall keep accurate and complete accounts of all money or other property received and paid out, and at all transactions appropriately belonging to the duties of his office, in books, prepared for that purpose, which shall at all times be open to the inspection of any member of the Board. He shall render, at the end of each fiscal year, or oftener if required by the Directors, a statement of the receipts and disbursements during the preceding year, and present the same to the Board at its next general meeting thereafter, and shall do and perform such other duties as shall be required of him by the Board of Directors.*<sup>37</sup>

On October 1, 1874, James W. Nixon was listed as one of the principal subscribers to the United Order of the Saint George Stake who appeared before William Snow, probate judge of Washington County, Utah, to execute the agreement in the courts. In the ensuing months, the records show that he traveled to the various outlying communities to talk and to baptize the members into the Order.

#### **J. W. Nixon's Activities between 1874 and 1882.**

The records of St. George indicate that J. W. Nixon owned stock in two separate Cattle Companies. In January 1874, he was in attendance of a stockholder's meeting of the Winsor Castle Cattle Company. The following is found in the *The Annals of the Southern Mission*:

**Friday January 2, 1874.** The Annual Meeting of Winsor Castle Stock Growing Company convened in St. George Present:

President Brigham Young, George A. Smith, Daniel Hendrix, Alexr. F. Macdonald, Hector McQuarrie, A. F. Macdonald, Jun., **James W. Nixon**, Southern Utah Tithing Office (by Agent) and Anson P. Winsor, making a total representation of a majority of the Cap. Stock, to wit: \$13,968.00

Election of Officers took place with following result:

George A. Smith, President, John W. Young, Vice President, Alexr F. Macdonald, Sec and Treasurer, Anson P. Winsor, Amos M. Musser, Joseph Hammond and **James W. Nixon, Directors.** Anson P. Winsor

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<sup>36</sup> Ibid, 1874, pgs. 180, 181

<sup>37</sup> James G. Bleak, *The Annals of the Southern Mission*, 1874, pgs. 181, 182

was <sup>38</sup>engaged as Superintendent for the Company.”

Apparently, when James W. Nixon returned from Pioche, he invested in two Cattle operations, of which “The Winsor Castle Stock Growing Company” was one of them. It proved to be a wise investment. For example, as of July 1, 1874, it had a Capital of some Fifty thousand dollars, and declared a dividend for the past eighteen months’ business, of thirty- three and one-third per centum. <sup>39</sup>

The other cattle company he invested in was the Canaan Co-operative Stock Company.

Records show in 1875, he had \$1958.61 in The Canaan Stock Company and \$2300.00 in the Winsor Stock Company. <sup>40</sup>

**February 1, 1874.** The following were called to be Home Missionaries in addition to those who were called in November 1873: Edwin D. Woolley Jr., Edwin G. Woolley, Anthony W. Ivins, **James W. Nixon** and Richard Bentley. This call came just prior to his being elected as Vice President of the United Order of Saint George that was organized February 9, 1874. It is interesting to note that James W. Nixon’s son, James W. Nixon II, married Effie Dean Woolley, daughter of Franklin B. Woolley, a brother to Edwin D. Woolley and Edwin G. Woolley. It is unknown what the responsibilities of the Home Missionaries were in 1874.

**Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1874.** Pursuant to Public Notice meeting convened in St. George Hall, President. Brigham Young presiding. After he addressed those present on the principles of the United Order and of the organization of that Order the following officers were elected: Robert Gardner, President, Daniel D. McArthur, Vice President, **James W. Nixon Vice President**, Henry Eyring Secretary, James G. Bleak Asst. Secretary, Alex. F. Macdonald, Asst, Secretary. <sup>41</sup>

**Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1874.** The finishing of the St. George Tabernacle was so far completed that the first meeting in the Upper Room was held as a Priesthood Meeting of the Southern Mission with President Brigham Young presiding. Prayer by Elder John W. Young. James W. Nixon was no doubt in attendance. Water was of particular interest. There apparently was a dispute between the citizens of the Santa Clara settlement and the citizens of Pine Valley over the Santa Clara water. President Young urged the members to co-

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<sup>38</sup> James G. Bleak, Annals of Southern Utah, 1874, pg. 1

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., 1874, pg. 137

<sup>40</sup> Saint George United Order Record Books, Capital Stock Ledger, 1874-1880, Church History Library.

<sup>41</sup> James G. Bleak, Annals of Southern Utah, 1874, pg. 12



operate and try to work out their differences.<sup>42</sup>

**Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1874.** President Young spoke mainly on organizing the members into the United Order. He tried to get a feel of what the members thought. He asked for a raise of hands for all who were ready to enter the United Order. James Bleak records that a large majority raised their hands. President Young then asked for a raise of hands who were not ready. Not a hand was raised.<sup>43</sup> All of the speakers emphasized uniting into the Order.

Another subject that was addressed was that of the St. George Temple. President Young was extremely anxious to see it completed as quickly as possible. As of February 14, 1874, only the rock foundation was completed. Seven hundred and ten cords of black volcanic rock, pounded into the earth with the weight of a cannon, was not an easy task. One cord weighed 160 pounds to the cubic foot. This was necessary because the surface of the temple site was stable for four or five feet but then the ground became wet and soft. The first stone for the foundation was laid Monday, March 10, 1873. It took eleven months to lay the foundation of the temple. It is unknown whether James took part in this tremendous undertaking, but he was certainly a part of the community when all of this was taking place. It is interesting that after the order was disbanded, he acquired part ownership in Mt. Trumbull, that was covered with huge pine trees, many board feet of lumber from these trees were used in building the temple. One of the last physical labors he performed before illness struck him prior to his death, he sawed lumber to complete the second tower of the temple. The first tower was destroyed by lightning soon after the death of Brigham Young.<sup>44</sup> This was the agreement that he made to work off the debt that was still hanging over his head when he left the Order. It appears much of the debt came from his purchase of Mt. Trumbull.<sup>45</sup>

Implementation of Order- February 8, 1874  
James William Nixon's responsibilities in the Order  
Problems: Success or Failure

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<sup>42</sup> Ibid., 1874, pg. 13.

<sup>43</sup> Ibid., 1874, pg.

<sup>44</sup> Brigham Young, who was now deceased, was never happy with the first tower, which was much shorter than the second. Some people felt that Brigham Young was again voicing his displeasure with the tower when lightning struck the tower.

<sup>45</sup> See letters in Appendix.

*Mt. Trumbull Historical Overview*  
*By Loretta D. Nixon*

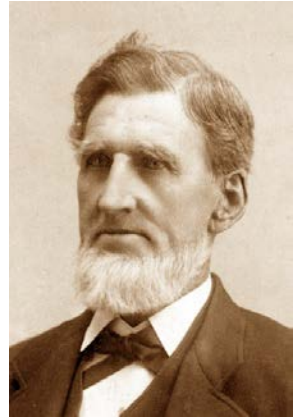


During the construction of the St. George Tabernacle and Temple, Brigham Young looked to Mt. Trumbull for an increased source of lumber. In April 1873 a survey team was sent to Trumbull and surveyed and located twenty-five quarter sections of land.



## Roads to Trumbull

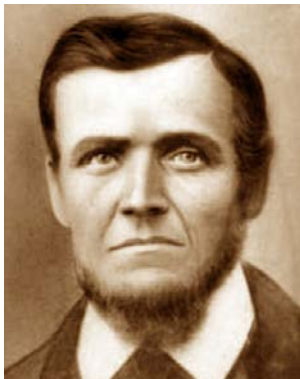
In order to transport the lumber to St. George from Mt. Trumbull, adequate roads had to be built. In a letter dated May 2, 1874, Robert Gardner wrote to Brigham Young and said, “the Trumbull road was all done but hurricane ridge.”



Robert Gardner

Soon after the survey, a sawmill, owned by Ebenezer Bryce and Samuel Burgess of Pine Valley, was sent to Trumbull. Ben and Fred Blake also had a sawmill on Trumbull. It was located close to the Bryce and Burgess mill. The Blakes said, “the hardest thing they ever did was take their sawmill up the Hurricane Fault.”

-Upper left: Ebenezer Bryce, Upper right: Samuel Burgess  
-Lower left: Fred Blake, Lower right: Ben Blake

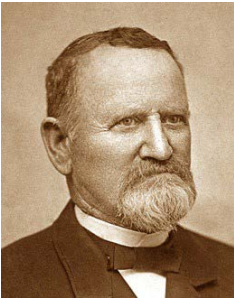


## Hauling Lumber by Oxen



The trip from the Mt. Trumbull sawmill to St. George, was as a long, tedious journey. The oxen traveled slowly. There were many miles of desert country and water was scarce. It took nearly seven days. The drivers needed more than skill and experience, they needed great courage and exceeding faith.

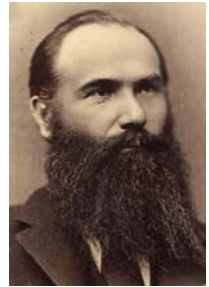
On February 9, 1874, the United Order of St. George was Organized, Robert Gardner, President; Daniel D. McArthur and James W. Nixon, Vice Presidents; Henry Eyring, Secretary; James G. Bleak and Alexander F. Macdonald, Assistant Secretaries.



Daniel D. McArthur



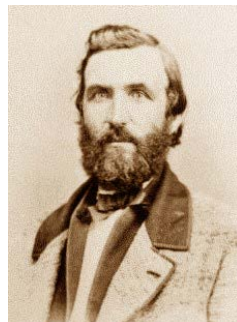
James W. Nixon



Henry Eyring

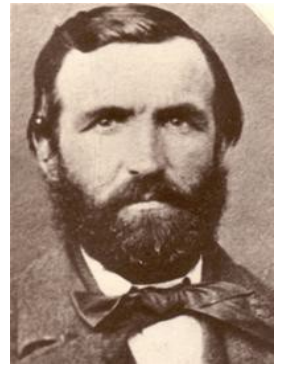


James G. Bleak



Alexander F. Macdonald

In May 1874, Alexander F. Macdonald reported to President Young that five good teams were fitted last week and gone to Trumbull for temple timbers. He indicated that the cutting of the lumber, rock hauling and temple work was moving right along.



Alexander F. Macdonald

St. George  
June 9<sup>th</sup>. 1874

President G. A. Smith  
Trustee in Trust  
of the Church of Jesus Christ  
of Latterday Saints:

Dear Brother,

I am instructed by the  
Mount Trumbull Lumber Company to communicate  
with you in regard to the New Saw Mill now being  
put up at Mount Trumbull, as we understand  
by Bro. Wilcox for the Trustee in Trust.

A year ago last March it was reported  
to Brother Joseph M. Young that there was a large  
body of fine pine timber growing on and about  
Mount Trumbull, and that there were outside  
men who intended to locate and claim it for the  
purpose of making lumber for the Pioche market.  
Bro. Young immediately got up a small party of  
the Brethren who went and examined the country  
and found the report to be true so far as regarded the

timber. On his return to St. George Brother Young organized a company, called Mount Trumbull Lumber Company and had it incorporated according to Law. The company sent out a party with the Surveyor and had Twenty four Quarter Sections of timber land surveyed and located, soon after they purchased a Steam Saw Mill of Messrs Bryce and Burgess of Pine Valley. The Trustee in Trust is represented in this company by a subscription of the amount of \$500. The ostensible <sup>purpose</sup> for which the mill, <sup>was put</sup> there at present, was to furnish lumber for the finishing of the St. George Tabernacle and the building of the Temple. At the time Pres. Brigham Young proposed to the company to put in a larger mill, it was understood both from himself and Pres. John W. Young that if the large mill was put in there, it would go in as Capital Stock in the company. Is this your intention still? and if so upon whose appraisement; the Company have no special choice; but if it is your wish to unite the mills in one interest they would prefer doing so now and have it understood either way.

There is more and timber enough for the

In the later part of 1874, the lumber production was slowed for various reasons, such as machinery breaking down, labor problems etc. In the early part of 1875, Robert Gardner, an experienced lumberman and President of the United Order of St. George, was asked by Brigham Young to go to Trumbull and expedite the lumber production. Gardner's history states:

During that time the Temple construction was being hurried with all speed, President Brigham Young had sent a large steam sawmill to Mount Trumbull to hurry getting out the Temple lumber. He turned the sawmill into the United Order and Bryce and Burgess and their company turned in their mill. Brother Whipple was sent to superintend the work. In the later part of 1874, the lumber production was slowed for various reasons, such as machinery breaking down, labor problems etc. In the early part of 1875, Robert Gardner, an experienced lumberman and President of the United Order of St. George, was asked by Brigham Young to go to Trumbull and expedite the lumber production.

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However, the snow fell deep and no hay was available for the teams, and many of the men got dissatisfied. As a consequence, the lumber business was stopped. The stoppage was very annoying to Brigham Young and George A. Smith. Gardner really didn't want to go to Trumbull. He said, "I would rather go to China than Trumbull." But he was faithful and dedicated to The Church and did go. He recorded in his history:

Within a few days after, I went with Brother Whipple and took an inventory of all the property and took possession of both the steam mills, teams and all of the fitouts[outfits]. I returned to St. George in a few days and found the masonry work of the Temple finished, and the workers were having a jubilee. As soon as I could, I started back to Mount Trumbull with two cooks, men and provisions. Soon I had the mill running. I fitted it out with men and took six men with me into the woods; four with cross-cut saws and two with axes. I took my "bill of lumber" for the Temple and my ax and measuring pole and selected and marked suitable trees for the choppers to cut. When they were cut down, I measured and marked them for the men with the cross-cut saws.

Frederick Blake tells that Gardner turned over a lot of the responsibility of Trumbull to him after Gardner made the initial push to get the lumber production going again. Fred and his brother, Ben, and William McCullough were experienced teamsters who hauled a great deal of the lumber by ox team to St. George. Members throughout Utah were called to help in all aspects of building the St. George Temple such as preparing the foundation, cutting the stones, carpenters, lumber jacks, teamsters etc.



Eli Whipple





Erastus Snow

From February 1874 to January 1877, James W. Nixon served in various capacities in the United Order, such as President, Vice President, Director and Treasurer. He became involved with the Mt. Trumbull Lumber operations while serving in these leadership positions.

In July 1876, the same month he married Hannah I. Fawsett, Erastus Snow reported to Brigham Young that there were considerable delays and some sickness as well as repairs that needed to be made on the mill-tank, carts, wagons.

“Despite the obstacles, some fifty thousand feet were sawed with prospect of steady work hereafter. Ultimately over a million board feet of lumber was produced for the St. George Temple from the stand of ponderosa pine timber located on Mt. Trumbull. The following year James married his third wife, Zepher Kelsey.

In September 1876, under the direction of President Young, the “Big Sawmill” from Mt. Trumbull was taken to Arizona and located near Mormon Lake. Lot Smith wrote from Sunset, Arizona to President Young on October 4, 1876, “The mill has arrived.” James W. Nixon II, reported, “When the big mill was no longer needed for the temple building, it was shipped to Arizona.”

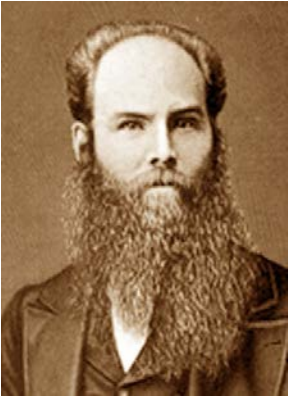
According to Warren Tenney who had worked at Trumbull, the mill was well used and not in the best of shape. Warren was commissioned to transport the mill to Arizona. It took seven wagons, plus four more for supplies and 72 oxen to carry out this task.

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Not only was James W. Nixon deeply involved in the operation of Mt. Trumbull and other aspects of the United Order, he was called as Bishop of the St. George 3rd Ward. He was set apart by Apostle Wilford Woodruff in the St. George Temple on April 17, 1877.

Lot Smith



James W. Nixon II

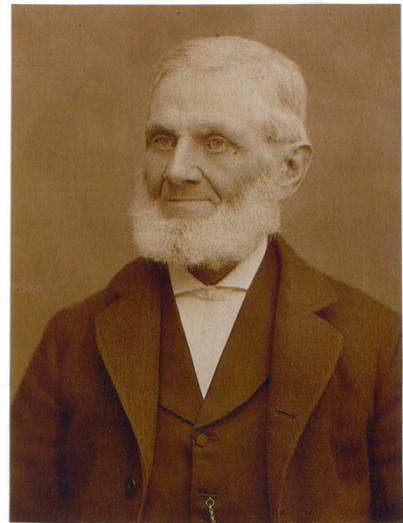


Warren Tenney



Eli Whipple, who was previously called to superintend the mill, was set apart as Presiding Elder of the Mt. Trumbull Branch on May 11, 1877. By June 1, 1877, there were 31 men, women and children at Trumbull. They were organized in the United Order which was attached to the United Order of St. George. According to one account, there were forty men who worked at the mill plus women who worked in the boarding house to help feed and take care of the mill hands. Hannah Nixon, one of James Nixon's wives, gives a vivid account in her history of what it was like to cook and care for the men at Trumbull. It was not an easy task.

September 25, 1877, James W. Nixon I records in his history that he took A. Nelson to look for water. Water was critical in running the steam operated mills. Before Nixon Springs was located, it took one man full time to supply water for the mills. In order to carry water from Nixon Springs to the mill, the water had to be transported by gravity in man made wooden troughs for nearly a mile. The stream was small and ran only one gallon per minute. The troughs would have to be kept clear of refuse that would be placed there by animals. Keeping the mill running to capacity was very difficult. Sources for additional water came from the Big and Little Springs that were located several miles from the mill. A. Nelson was probably Aaron Nelson who was an early pioneer of St. George.



Aaron Nelson

James W. Nixon I



John P. Chidester



At the beginning of 1878, it was decided at the United Order of St. George Board Meeting those who desired could draw out their capital stock. This was the beginning of the dissolution of the United Order of St. George. In March 1878, James W. Nixon, along with John P. Chidester were elected to take an inventory of all the property of the United Order held by the Trumbull Department and appraise it at a fair trade valuation, using Rio Virgen Factory Pay as a basis. James G. Bleak writes that on June 6, 1878, Bishop James W. Nixon, who was a devoted adherent to the United Order from its commencement in 1874 and who recently had, with a few others, purchased from the United Order of St. George, the Mt. Trumbull Lumber interest and sent a letter requesting his release as bishop of the St. George 3rd Ward. He was not able to fulfil his duties as bishop and devote his energies to the business at Trumbull.

From June 1878 to 1880, James Nixon and his family tried to make a success of Mt. Trumbull. Lower Left, Hannah, Jennie & Mary Nixon.



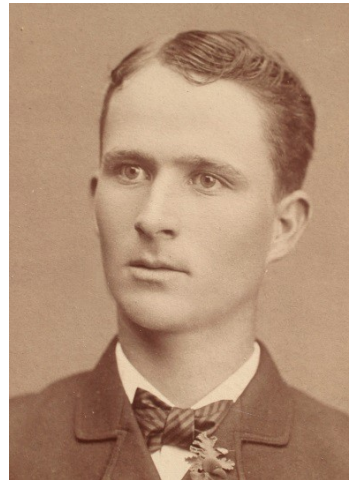
Frank, Zepher and Melba





James William Nixon II records in his history:

About 1880, when he was fourteen years of age, his father lost his health, having overworked at the mill. He [his father] was very ambitious, a man who always crowded his work and was called a hustler. He had always made a success of his business matters until he had this ranch and the second hand sawmill thrown on to his hands which he had to operate under adverse circumstances. . . The mill was old and continually needed repairs, which were expensive and took a long time to get extra parts for the mill or engine. Often a shut-down was necessitated while repair went on.



James William Nixon II

Men and Women named by James W. Nixon II who worked at Trumbull:

Alexander McDonald, manager. Ebenezer Bryce, engineer, Eli Whipple, Samuel Carter. Tom Pierce, John McConnel and Will Perkins, loggers. David Park, Will Perkins, Pen Wilbanks, John McConnel, Fred & Ben Blake, William A. McCullough, William Hunt, William Ferry, Sam Carter, Isom Waler, drivers. Hate Horten, Higbee and Stewart Retta Pierce Hall, Maria Empy Gould, Millie Pearce, cooks Hannah, Zepher and Johanna also cooked when needed

James William Nixon I, died after two years illness on February 19th 1882. Johanna Marie Shultz Nixon and her family inherited three fifths of the business on Mt. Trumbull. Hannah and Zepher and their families each inherited one fifth interest. No record has been found to date of the “others” who purchased Mt. Trumbull from the United Order. However, James W. Nixon’s son, James said that Anthony W. Ivins, one of the Apostles, had an interest in Trumbull. Somehow between 1878 and 1882, James William Nixon came into full possession of the Mt. Trumbull operations.

The heritage of these stalwart pioneers, will forever be remembered for their faith and dedication to their God and to their families.





Mt. Trumbull about 1910-1920 ,  
Grace Nixon Stewart Collection James William Nixon II standing by tree



Mt. Trumbull, Grace Nixon Stewart Collection



Nixon Spring's home, Grace Nixon Stewart Collection

Lone Tree, Mt. Trumbull, James  
W. Nixon standing by tree. Grace  
Nixon Stewart Collection.





Hurricane Cliffs, picture by Adam Helman



Mt. Trumbull from the North, Adam Helman Picture



**EVERYTHING YOU WANT FOR**  
**Housekeeping,**  
 AT THE  
 NORTH WESTERN GENERAL  
**HOUSE FURNISHING DEPOT.**

**WILLIAM NIXON & SON,**

Have just opened the Largest and most Complete  
 Stock of

**House-Furnishing Goods,**

Ever seen in the Territory, which they will sell at

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FOR CASH.

At prices that will

**DEFY COMPETITION.**

Our stock consists in part as follows :—

**\$10,000 Worth of Queensware, Glass Ware,**  
 And Stone Ware of every description.

**\$15,000 WORTH OF STOVES**

Consisting of 50 different patterns of the best style and  
 finish.

**\$10,000 Worth of Hardware,**

Farming Implements, Wooden and Willow Ware,  
 Looking Glasses, Water Coolers, Ice Cream Freezers,  
 Cutlery, Britannia and Silver Plated Ware, Shower,  
 Plunge and Hip Baths, Glass Lamps, Lanterns, Brushes,  
 Baskets, Mats, Refrigerators, Safes, &c. Also the largest  
 and best assortment of House Furniture in Saint Paul,  
 consisting in part as follows :

**200 DOZEN CHAIRS,**

45 different patterns and kinds.

12 doz. Centre, Side, Card and Dining Tables.

12 DOZ. WASH STANDS, DIFFERENT STYLES.

2 doz. Sofas from \$12 to \$50 Each.

1 DOZ. SPRING-SEAT ROCKING CHAIRS.

200 SETTS OF BEDSTEADS.

Also, a large and complete stock of

MATRASSES, PILLOWS, COMFORTS, &c.,

And in fact, everything in the

**HOUSE-FURNISHING LINE.**

Also, Manufacturers and Dealers in every description of  
 Copper, Tin and Sheet Iron Ware. Roofing done on  
 short notice, and warranted. Hydraulic Rams put up  
 and warranted. Give us a call, as it is no trouble to  
 show Goods.

All kinds of Sheet Iron and Copper Work for Steamboats  
 and Mills, such as Smoke Pipes, Breecching and Copper  
 Pipes of every description, and at greatly reduced prices.  
 Our facilities for doing such work are unsurpassed.

**All Work Warranted.**

WM. NIXON & SON,

je13-1f

St. Anthony street, St. Paul, M. T.

This is an amazing inventory of merchandise that William Abraham and his son James William Nixon I had in their store in St. Paul, Minnesota. As can be seen from this ad, they were successful merchants and had a huge inventory to sell. Tragically, the store burned in 1856 and James William Nixon I headed for California. He came across the plains in a Mormon Wagon Train. He was converted to the Gospel and was a faithful servant to his God and to his family.

Unfortunately Bridget had a severe alcohol problem and William Abraham Nixon divorced her in 1853. William moved to St. Cloud, Minnesota and raised a second family. The second marriage may have contributed to James deciding to go West. Bridget remained in St. Paul and died a few years before William Abraham Nixon.

# Appendix II

## Articles of Agreement of the United Order of St. George

The following has been matured and adopted without dissent, by the United Order of St. George. It is the result of much deliberation aided by the invaluable counsels and suggestions of President Brigham Young:

Preamble and Articles of Agreement  
of the

United Order of the City of St. George

Realizing by the spirit and signs of the times, and from the results of our past experience the necessity of a closer union and combination of our labor for the promotion of our common welfare.

And, Whereas, we have learned of the struggle between Capital and Labor, resulting in strikes of the workmen, wish their consequent distress; and also, the oppression of monied monopolies.

And Whereas, there is a growing distrust and faithlessness, among men in the political and business relations of life, as well as a spirit for extravagant speculation and over-reaching the legitimate bounds of the credit system, resulting in financial panics and bankruptcy, paralyzing industry, thereby making many of the necessities and conveniences of life precarious and uncertain.

And, Whereas, our past experience has proven that, to be the friends of God, we must become the friends and helpers of each other, in a common bond of brotherhood.

And Whereas, to accomplish such a desirable end, and become truly prosperous, we must be self-sustaining, encouraging home manufacture, producing cotton, wool, and other raw materials and not only supply our own wants with manufactured goods, but also have some to spare for exportation, and by these means, create a Fund for a sure basis upon which to do all our business.

And Whereas, we believe that by a proper classification of our labors and energies, with a due regard to the laws of life and health, we will not only increase in earthly possessions at a more rapid rate, but will also have more leisure time to devote to the cultivation and training of our minds, and those of our children in the arts and sciences.

And Whereas, at the present time, we rely too much upon importation for a large share of our clothing and other necessaries, and also bring from abroad many articles of luxury and of but little value, for which we pay our money, most of which articles could be dispensed with.

And Whereas, we believe that the beauty of our garments should be the workmanship of our own hands, and that we should practice more diligently, economy, temperance, frugality and the simple grandeur of

manners that belong to the pure in heart.

And Whereas we are desirous of avoiding the difficulties above alluded to, and feel the necessity of becoming a self-sustaining community, fully realizing that we live in perilous times, socially, morally, politically and commercially.

Therefore: Be it Resolved, that we, the undersigned, being resident of the places set opposite our respective names, do hereby, of our own free will and choice, and without mental reservation, or purpose of evasion, and also without any undue influence, constraint or coercion having been used by any party whatsoever, to direct and guide us in this action, mutually agree, each with the others, and with our associates, and successors, to enter into, and form a co-partnership, for the purpose, and subject to the provisions as herein set forth, viz:

Article 1st. The name and style of this Co-partnership shall be the United Order of the City of St. George.

Article 2d. The objects of this Order are to carry on a general business of farming, manufacturing, merchandizing, fruit-growing, stock raising, dairying, and as many other pursuits as will tend to the material prosperity of the Order.

Article 3d. The principal place of business shall be at the City of St. George, but other places may be selected by the Board of Management, for carrying on the different branch of the business of the Order.

Article 4<sup>th</sup>. The Officers of this Order shall consist of a President , two Vice Presidents, a Secretary, two assistant Secretaries, one Treasurer and three Directors, who shall form a Board of Management to do business for the Order. They shall be members of the Order and be elected by vote of two thirds of the whole number of members; they shall hold their office during good behavior, or at the pleasure of the members of the Order.

Article 5<sup>th</sup>. It shall be the duty of the President, to preside at all meetings of the members, and of the Board. In case of absence or disability of the President, either of the Vice Presidents may perform the duties of President. The President shall call meetings of the Board or of the Members whenever the business of the Order may require it.

Article 6<sup>th</sup>. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to make a faithful record of the meetings of the members and of the Board; to keep the Account Books of the Order, and make a Financial Report of the business of the Order to the Board as often as required. In all these duties the Secretary shall be assisted by the Assistant Secretaries. The Board may also appoint a corresponding Secretary if the business of the Order requires it.

Article 7<sup>th</sup>. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive, and safely keep all property belonging to the Order committed to his charge. He

shall employ or disburse the same on Orders from the Secretary, or, as the board may direct. He shall also furnish a true and correct statement of all money and other property received, disbursed and on hand to the Board of Management, whenever required.

Article 8<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Management shall have power to call to their assistance such help as may be required for carrying on successfully the business of the Order.

Article 9<sup>th</sup>. All property offered for investment in the Order shall be appraised by a Committee elected by the members of the Order, who shall report their labors to the Secretary, whose duty it shall be to credit as Capital Stock the property invested by each individual as valued by the Committee. Said Committee shall also fix upon the price of labor, and all individual services rendered.

Article 10<sup>th</sup>. There shall be a foreman elected for each branch of business, whose duty it shall be to superintend and manage the business entrusted to his care. He shall give credit for all labor performed by each member of his Department, and charge said members with all they may draw. Said foreman shall report their accounts to the Secretary as often as may be deemed necessary by him, or required by the Board.

Article 11<sup>th</sup>. There shall be a meeting held of the members of the order in the City of St. George, on the first Monday of February in each year, at which time the Board of Management shall furnish an Annual Report of the business of the Order. At such meetings the Officers of the Order shall be presented for approval or disapproval by the members, and shall be continued in office if sustained by a two thirds vote of all the members of the Order. Provided: That, if through disability, any member is unable to attend, he may have the right to state by letter, who he wishes to vote for, or vote by proxy. The Board shall have power to enact By-laws for the general management and direction of the business of the Order, which By-laws shall be presented to the members at the Annual meetings and when approved by a two thirds vote of all the members of the Order, shall become as binding upon them as these Articles of Agreement. The Board shall also have full power to buy Real estate and to buy and sell personal property and products, and do all other business consistent with the interest of the Order.

Article 12<sup>th</sup>. We hereby Agree to place in this Order, fully and entirely subject to these Articles of Agreement and all By-laws approved by the members as above specified, all our time, labor, energy, and ability, and such property as we may feel disposed to transfer to the Order to be controlled in the interest of the Order, as may be deemed best by the Board of Management.

Article 13<sup>th</sup>. After the end of Five years after the organization of this Order, the Board of Management shall cause an Inventory to be taken,

of all the properties of the Order, and make a general settlement of the business during the said Five years, and compute a dividend of gains on the Capital Stock of the Order, which dividends shall be credited to each individual member, in proportion to the Capital Stock invested by him, or her, and the time of such investment. At the end of every subsequent five years, a similar settlement of Accounts shall be made, and dividends credited to individuals as above provided for. Should any of us, who are subscribers to this Instrument, choose to entirely with-draw from the Order, at or before the end of the fifth years from the organization of this Order, we hereby agree to accept, at the end of said five years, one half of the Capital and one half of the dividend, credited us, as above proved, as a full compensation for all our claims of whatsoever nature, or kind, and for all services rendered. Should any of us choose to with-draw during any subsequent term of five years, we will accept the above mentioned rate of percentage in full of all our claims. And we hereby declare it to be our full belief that by uniting our labor and energies, we shall receive such an increased profit beyond what we would be able to obtain by individual exertion, that we are willing to take the above named fifty per cent of the Capital and dividend placed to our credit, as a just and equitable proportion of all our claims against the Order, in the event of our desiring to separate ourselves from the said Order.

Article 14<sup>th</sup>. We will not assume the payment of any individual' debts, contracted previous to his, or her, uniting with the Order to enable the Board to cancel such indebtedness; and we will not become responsible for the payment of any debt that will be contracted hereafter by any individual member, unless said debt be contracted with consent of the Board.

Article 15<sup>th</sup>. We further agree to encourage Home Manufacture to the fullest extent of our ability; to produce cotton, Wool, other raw materials; and to cease the importing and using of any foreign merchandise which can be reasonably dispensed with And that we will make every effort to develop new branches of home industry, until we have become self-sustaining in every particular. To this end we will not patronize, in our business relations, those who are not members of the Order unless absolutely compelled by our necessities.

Article 16<sup>th</sup>. We also agree to be temperate, economical and frugal in our food and drink, avoiding as much as possible the use of imported luxuries.

Article 17<sup>th</sup>. In our dress, we desire to be plain and neat, and as much as possible, wish to be clothed in the workmanship of our own hands. We deprecate foolish and extravagant fashions, and while we have a due appreciation of neatness and beauty, we believe it ruinous to our

interests to copy after extravagance, and to be forever changing in style, of apparel, at a great and unnecessary expense.

Article 18<sup>th</sup>. We further agree to be energetic, industrious, and faithful in the management of all business entrusted to us; and to abstain from all selfish motives and actions, as much as lies in our power. We desire to seek the interest and welfare of each other; and to promote the especial good of the Order, and the general welfare of all mankind.

## APPENDIX III

Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>- 1874 The following Articles of Association were presented in Probate Court of Washington County and proceedings had thereon as follows:

### Articles of Association

#### Article I

The name of this corporation shall be The United Order of St. George.

#### Article 2

This corporation shall continue in existence for a period of twenty five years.

#### Article 3

The objects of this corporation are for Mining, Manufacturing, Commercial, and other industrial pursuits and the construction and operation of wagon roads, irrigating ditches, and the colonization and improvement of lands, and for establishing and maintaining colleges, seminaries, churches, libraries and

Any benevolent, charitable, or scientific association and for any other rightful objects consistent with the Constitution of the United States and the laws of this Territory. Also to take, receive and execute trusts, either passive or active; and for these purposes shall have the right and power to receive, take, and hold, either by gift, purchase or devise the right, title, interest and possession of real or personal property; and may bargain, sell, and alienate the same, and thereby pass such title thereto as it may hold therein.

But it is expressly understood and agreed that when property is held by this corporation as a trustee, the beneficiary of the trust shall not, in consideration of such trust, be entitled to stock in said company, and it is further understood and agreed that if the beneficiary holds and

keeps possession of the trust property, this company shall not be accountable or liable, nor in anyway responsible for the rents, issues, or profits therof. But the trust, duty, power, interest, and authority of this company to such property shall be as expressed in the Deed of Conveyance thereto, of real property, or in the agreement between the parties of personal.

#### Article 4

The general place of business of this corporation shall be at St. George, in the Territory of Utah, with the right, privilege and power to establish one or more branch places of business in each or any of the counties of the Territory.

#### Article 5

The capital stock of this corporation shall be Thirty two thousand dollars, which shall be divided into Sixteen Hundred shares of Twenty dollars each.

#### Article 6

The officers of this corporation shall consist of a Board of Ten Directors, a President, two Vice Presidents, aq Secretary and a Treasurer (Fifteen in number), whose qualifications shall be to own and hold in said corporation at least five shares of stock each: and whose term of office shall be one year and until their successors shall be elected and qualified.

#### Article 7

There shall be an annual meetingh of the Stockholders of this Company, held at the general place of business in the county of Washington, Territory of Utah, at St. George on the first Monday in February of each year, for the purpose of electing Directors to serve for the ensuing year; notice of which shall be given as prescribed by the by-laws. The Directors, when so elected, shall be notified of that fact by the Secretary of the meeting at which such election is made and therefore they shall, within twenty days thereafter, meet and organize as a Board, and shall electg from their number a President, two Vice Presidents, a Secretagary and a Trreasurer.

Provided: That a Special Election for the afore said Fifteen Directors, to hold office until the first Monday in February 1875 and until their successors are elected and qualified, shall be held in the Tabernacle in the City of St. George on Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 1874 at 4 p.m.

#### Article 8

All elections, whether by the Stockholders or by the Board, shall

be by ballot, unless at the meeting at which the election is to be made it is decided by a majority of those present and entitled to vote, to make the election viva voce. The persons receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be deemed and declared duly elected.

#### Article 9

The Board of Directors shall have power to make all by-laws for the management of the property of the Company, the regulation of its affairs, the transfer of its stock, for prescribing the duties of its officers, agents and employes, and such other by-laws, rules and regulations as may be necessary for fully carrying out the objects of this corporation. They shall have power to appoint from the members of said Board or from the Stockholders, an executive committee not to exceed five in number, whose part in the management of the affairs of the corporation shall be as prescribed by the by-laws and shall also have power to appoint or provide for the appointment of all appraisers of property, agents, assistants, and employes, whose services in this Corporation may be necessary.

and no contract shall be binding on this corporation except when made by the Board or the duly authorized agents.

#### Article 10

Any officer of this corporation may be removed for conduct prejudicial to the interests of the same by a two-thirds vote of the Directors.

#### Article 11

Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors or other office of the Corporation, may be filled by the Directors until the next regular election.

#### Article 12

Any officer of this Corporation may resign his office by giving the Board thirty (30) days notice in writing, before the same is to take effect, but the same may be accepted on shorter notice.

#### Article 13

The individual or private property of the Stockholders shall not be liable for the debts or obligations of the Company.

#### Article 14

The subscribers hereto have each fully paid Twenty five per centum of the capital stock subscribed, by transferring, paying and conveying to said Corporation the following real and personal property,



the value of which has been ascertained by competent parties, duly appointed for that purpose., a description and kind of which are given in the schedule hereunto attached, and which is hereby declared to be a part and portion of these Articles.

#### Article 15

The Directors shall have the right and power to declare dividends on said stock whenever, in their judgement there are funds for that purpose due and payable. But when so declared, the same may be paid to the Stockholders in proportion as they may be entitled, or credited to them in the books of the Company, and stock issued to them in payment therefor, at the option and in the discretion of the Directors.

#### Article 16

The names, places of residence, and number of shares taken by each subscriber hereto are as follows:

Name	Residence	Shares
Robert Gardner	St George	27
Daniel D. McArthur	St George	80
<b>James W. Nixon</b>	<b>St George</b>	<b>94</b>
James G. Bleak	St. George	31
Edwin G. Woolley	St George	5
Alexander F. Macdonald	St George	5
Eli Whipple	St George	60
Henry W. Miller	St George	9
Jacob Gates	St George	5
Nathaniel Ashby	St George	47
David H Cannon	St George	6
Edwin D. Woolley, Jun.	St George	26

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this seventeenth day of Sept. A.D. 1874.

Robert Gardner, D. D. McArthur, James W. Nixon, James G. Bleak, Edwin G. Woolley, Alexander F. Macdonald, Eli Whipple, Henry W. Miller, Jacob Gates, Nathaniel Ashby, David H. Cannon, Edwin G. Woolley Jun. [This should be Edwin D. Woolley Jun. See list of names.]

Territory of Utah  
County of Washington  
Precinct of St. George  
City of St. George

On this first day of October A.D., 1874, personally appeared before me, William Snow, Probate Judge in and for the County of Washington, Territory of Utah, Robert Gardner, Danl D. McArthur, **James W. Nixon** and James G. Bleak, Whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument, as parties thereto and who on their part executed the same and the said parties duly acknowledged to me each for himself and for the other parties to the agreement that they each respectively executed the same freely and voluntarily and for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the City of St. George County of Washington, this first day of October A.D. 1874.

(Signed) Wm. Snow, Probate Judge

Territory of Utah  
County of Washington

We, Robert Gardner, Daniel D. McArthur, James W. Nixon and James G. Bleak being the same persons whose names are in, and who subscribed the foregoing agreement being first duly sworn according to law, on our several oaths do say that it is bonifide the intention of the persons names in said agreement to commence and carry on the business as therein mentioned, and that said affiants, and each of them, verily believe that the parties thereto are able and willing to pay for the shares of stock subscribed by them in said company, and that at least twenty five per centum thereof has been paid. Signed: Robert Gardner, Daniel D. McArthur, **James W. Nixon**, James G. Bleak.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October A.D. 1874.

(Signed) Wm Snow, probate Judge.

Schedule of property subscribed and paid to the United Order of St. George; the value of which has been ascertained by competent parties duly appointed for that purpose.

**Robert Gardner** By Cash Cr on Mt. Trumbull a/c 500.00 and Cap Stock Wool Prods Co. 53.79

Carried forward \$553.79

**Daniel D. McArthur** By Wheat 46.00, 4 Mules, 2 horses, harness, 3 wagons

with beds brakel racks hobbles &c 1573.00

\$1619.00

**James W. Nixon** By Produce 41.00, Mdse, 11.63, Tinnners tools &c 560.65  
 Cash, 55.00 Furniture 64.00, Mules and harness 120.00, Lumber a/c  
 250.00, Boots and Shoes, 75.00, Glass 10.50, Ca-p. Stock in Canaan Herd  
 694.50

1892.28

**James G. Bleak** By Cap Stock in Wool Assoc. 89.68, Capt. Stock in  
 Rio Virgan M. Co. 248.32,  
 Cap. Stock in St. Geo. C.M.I., 171.53,  
 Cap. Stock in Canaan Cop 124.33 633.86

Edwinn G. Woolley by Cap Stock Canaan Herd 100.00

**Alexander F. Macdonald** By Cap Stock Canaan H. 118.27

**Eli Whipple** By Lumber 141.20, Stock 945.00, One Mower 125.00  
 1211.20

**Jacob Gates** By Cap Stock in Wool Assoc.  
 100.00

**Pg. 179**

**Nathaniel Ashby** By 2 Mules, Harness, Wagon &C  
 950.00

**Henry W. Miller** By Farm tools, 28.00, Wheat, 60.00,  
 Cap Stock Wool Assoc., 100.00  
 188.00

**David H. Cannon** By Boots, & Shoes, 75.00, Live Stock 46.00  
 121.00

**Edwin D. Woolley, Jun.** By 2 Mules, harness, Wagon &C. 525.00

Total \$8012.40

In connection with the foregoing Articles of Association, the following were presented to and approved by the officers and members 1 October 1874- The United Order was officially registered with the courts. Heretofore, in March the Order was registered with the courts of Utah.

[366-372] pgs. 179-194

In connection with the foregoing Articles of Associatiobn the following were presented to and approved by the Officers and Memebers---

By –Laws of the United order of St. George  
Washington City, Utah Territory  
Section I

The fiscal or business year of this Company shall commence on the first day of January, and shall terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December in each year.

Section II

All meetings of the stockholders of this Company, whether regular or special, shall be held in the Company's office at St. George, where some unless some other place be designated by the Directors; Notice of which, stating the time, place and object thereof, shall be given by the Secretary of the Company, by publishing the same for at least ten days prior to such meeting.

Section III

The stockholders owning not less than one third of the capital stock, may at any time call meetings, notice of **(366) Pg. 180** which shall be given as prescribed in the foregoing section. If at any such meeting so called a majority of the stock is not represented, either in person or by written proxy, such meeting shall be adjourned from day to day, not exceeding three days, without transacting any business; and if within said three days, stockholders having at least a majority of the stock do not attend, and participate in such meeting then the same shall be dissolved.

Section IV

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held at Two o'clock p.m. on the First Monday in each month, at such place as the Directors shall from time to time prescribe, which may be continued or adjourned at the discretion of the board, a majority of whom shall be a quorum to do business.

Section V

The President or any three Directors may at any time call special meetings of the Board, due notice of which shall be given, of time and place, to the Directors personally, or by publishing the same for at least three days prior to the holding thereof.

Section VI

**It shall be the duty of the President to sign all deeds, bonds, notes, and other writings obligatory, to which the Company is a party, when such writings shall have been approved by the Board or the Executive Committee. He shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Stockholders, and in cases of a tie, shall have (367) Pg. 181 the casting vote. In the absence of the President, or when, for any cause, he is unable to discharge his duties in person, one of the Vice-Presidents shall exercise all of the powers and perform all**

**of the duties of the President; the Vice Presidents shall have precedence in the order in which they are respectively designated in the order of their election. When the President and both the Vice Presidents are absent from any meeting of the Board or Stock holders, a President pro tem shall be elected by and from among the members thereof.**

#### **Section VII**

The Secretary shall, unless by the Board otherwise ordered, make out a statement at the end of each year, showing the financial condition of the Company and lay the same before the Board at their next regular meeting. He shall have a general supervision of the accounts of the Company, and shall have sole custody of the corporate seal, and affix the same to all instruments required to be sealed, and perform such other duties as shall be required of him, by the Board of Directors.

#### **Section VIII**

**It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of this Corporation to receive and safely keep all moneys, valuables, evidences of value, and other property deposited or entrusted with him by the Board, and to disburse the same on warrants issued by the Secretary, countersigned by the President. He shall preserve the vouchers in support of all disbursements by him made and shall keep accurate and complete accounts of all Pg. 182 money or other property received and paid out, and of all transactions appropriately belonging to the duties of his office, in books prepared for that purpose; which shall at all times be open to the inspection of any member of the Board. He shall render, at the end of each fiscal year, or oftener if required by the Directors, a statement of the receipts and disbursements during the preceding year, and present the same to the Board at its next general meeting thereafter, and shall do and perform such other duties as shall be required of him by the Board of Directors.**

#### **Section IX**

**The Board of Directors shall elect from their number an executive committee of three, whose duty it shall be to attend to the business of the Company, subject always to the control and direction of the Board. They shall appoint, either from their own number or from among the stockholders, two or more appraisers, whose duty it shall be to assess the value of all property to be brought by or turned into the Corporation, provided in case of dissatisfaction with such appraisal an appeal may be had to the Board of Directors, or other appraisers may be added for that case.**

#### **Section X**

The Secretary of the Company shall keep, in a book provided for

that purpose, a correct copy of the proceedings of each meeting of the stockholders, as well as of the Board of Directors. Such record shall show the name of each Director present at such meeting of the Board and the name of any Director voting against any proposition, whenever such Director shall desire the same placed upon record. He shall also keep a book, labelled "Book of Stockholders," containing the names of all persons alphabetically arranged, who are or shall be stockholders in this company, showing their place of residence if known, the number of shares of stock held by them respectively, the time when they became owners of such shares, as also the time when they may have ceased to be stockholders, which books, during the office hours of this company, shall be open for the inspection of stockholders.

#### Section XI

A certificate of stock shall be issued for fully paid up shares, and shall be signed by the President, and countersigned by the Secretary, each certificate shall express upon its face its number and date of issuance, the number of shares for which and the name of the person to whom it is issued. No transfer of stock shall be made when a certificate thereof has been issued, until such certificate is properly endorsed and returned to the Company. In case of the loss or destruction of a certificate of stock a duplicate thereof may be issued, provided a sufficient indemnity bond against loss or damage to the Company, by reason of the finding such lost certificate, be first approved by and filed with the Secretary.

#### Section XII

This Company will not be the recipient of a trusteeship for personal property, unless it has an active duty to perform in connection therewith, with full right, power and authority to exercise and carry out such trust, as in the judgement, if may deem for the best use and benefit of the beneficiary thereof; nor will it be a mere passive trustee for real property, except the grantor thereof make provision for just compensation for all labor and duties by it performed in carrying out the object and design of such trust; and it is distinctly understood and agreed by this Company and the party or parties making such deeds, his or their heirs or assigns, and his clause in effect shall be "incorporated" into every deed of trust to this company, that all expenses and costs incurred in protecting the legal title thereto, or other labor connected therewith, including the labor of making and executing the deeds of the same, shall be paid by the beneficiary of the trust; and that for such expenses this Company shall have a lien on such property for the security thereof.

#### Section XIII

When this company is called upon or required to exercise an

active power, connected with the duty of trusteeship, and this provision shall be in substance incorporated into every such deed of trust, it shall not be liable, accountable, or in any way responsible for the rents, issues, profits or losses of **(368) Pg. 185** such property so long as it allows the beneficiary of such trust to have and hold control over the same; but in consideration of its agreeing to have and exercise such trusteeship, it shall have the right, power and authority to, at any time, take possession of such property, and out of the rents, issues, and profits thereof, apply the same, in its discretion, to the maintenance of the beneficiary of such trust, his heirs or assigns, but in case the beneficiary of such trust shall wish to sell his interest in connection with, or separate from the legal title, he shall first get the written consent of this Company; and in case he fails to do so, and sells or attempts to sell his interest in such property, or in case of his insolvency or legal judgements against him or them, then said Company shall have the right and power, at its option, to sell and dispose of such property on such terms, and in such manner as it may deem expedient, and out of the proceeds of such sale, apply the means arising therefrom, to the maintenance and support of the beneficiary of said trust, his heirs or assigns, or it may, in its discretion, pay the whole of said proceeds to said beneficiary, in which event its liability ceases. And it is distinctly understood that the said trustee shall, in all trust property, have the option to purchase the same at the lowest market value, whenever the beneficiary thereof is desirous of selling his interest herein.

#### Section XIV

This Company will not be the recipient of any trusteeship, unless the property so to be conveyed is free **(369) Pg. 186** from all incumbrances; nor will it accept the trusteeship unless the beneficiary of such trust or the grantor will sign and endorse these by-laws.

#### Section XV

These by-laws may be amended, altered, or repealed at any general meeting of the Board, by a two-thirds vote thereof.

### **Instructions for Members of the Untied Order**

For numerous reasons, obvious to the reflecting, it has been deemed best to organize the various Branches of the united Order in accordance with the laws of our Territory, as they afford us ample scope for carrying out plans for our more prosperous temporal welfare in learning and practicing the best methods for living, letting live, and helping to live, until we can become self-sustaining, and all enjoy the

necessaries and comforts of life, also that we may be better able to Sustain our operations against aggressions, whether internal or external.

The brethren were instructed that the first "articles" were only for the time being, and that we should proceed under them until we had time to prepare others in accordance with our laws. They are now prepared as briefly and plainly as possible, with a hope that they will be satisfactory, as we feel **Pg. 187** assured they will be when understood.

In our farming operations, cleanly and thorough tillage and the best varieties of seeds are specially recommended for producing the most satisfactory results.

The use of oxen on farms and in most of our teams work is advised, because we deem it the most economical.

Plowing, planting, sowing, irrigating, haying and harvesting can be most profitable conducted under as extensive a combination as each locality will permit, and under the direction of the most competent persons. The most improved implements of husbandry should be provided as speedily and extensively as possible; and whenever combining our field operations leaves a surplus of mowers, reapers, threshers, wagons, plows &c., &c., they should be properly taken care of until they are needed, or an be disposed of.

Good and sufficient storehouses should be prepared for grains, and sufficient hay properly tacked and otherwise secured, and shelters made for humanely caring for stock during winter, so that none be lost.

When surplus grain or other products are to be disposed of, let it be done by or through committees appointed for that purpose, which committees will correspond with, and be advised by the committee, or secretary of the Central Branch of the United order in Salt Lake City, so that sales may not conflict in different Branches of the Order. The proceeds **Pg. 188** of such sales should be deposited with the treasurer of the Association to which they belong, and be safely kept by him until otherwise directed by the Board.

When surplus potatoes cannot be profitably fed to stock or marketed, they should be made into starch.

The best varieties of white corn should be raised in suitable localities, and mills constructed for making it into samp.

Mustard, broom corn, hops, and sorghum should be raised in sufficient quantities to supply home needs.

Inasmuch as some continue to the use of tobacco, and as it is good for sick cattle, and when planted in orchards is said to be a preventive against the codling moth, it is recommended that enough be raised to at least supply our own wants.

All fruits should be carefully gathered at maturity, and each cared for in the method best suited to its kind, that all may be most



healthful in their use, the surplus be in the best possible condition for market and no inferior or badly conditioned fruits offered for sale, as such fruits are injurious to health, damage the reputation of our excellent varieties, and consequently militate against the extensive and rapidly increasing interest of fruit raisers.

When hay and straw are stacked the work should be well done, and the stacks, so far as practicable, either thatched or covered with cheap movable **(370) Pg. 189** roofs; and all straw and chaff should be carefully saved.

Our situation renders it advisable, so far as we may be able, to keep on hand a supply of head-stuff sufficient for from three to seven years.

As rapidly as possible, the finest varieties of grapes for raisins should be added to those already in our southern settlements, and all our markets supplied with the best of raisins. So far as wine and brandy are produced, pains should be taken that they be of the purest and best qualities, and vessels and storage cellars should be prepared for keeping the wines in the best condition.

In raising stock it is well to keep in mind that those most adapted to the locations and purposes of the producers afford the most satisfaction and profit; and that inferior varieties, particularly scrub horses, are to be got rid of as fast as practicable, in favor of better breeds.

It is also well to keep in mind that both humanity and profit require that all stock be properly cared for in winter as well as summer, that such as cannot be so cared for be disposed of, and that young and surplus stock be summered, as fully and invariably as possible, on ranges inaccessible in winter. Among the different breeds of cattle, the Devons are reputed to make the best work oxen, and are also said to make good milch cows and beef cattle. **Pg. 190**

To attain a self-sustaining position, to the fullest extent our resources and climate will permit, it is requisite that more attention be paid to manufacturing as extensively and variedly as our wants may require. Much cloth of excellent quality is now made in our Territory, but the quantity comes short of supplying the people, though wool continues to be sent abroad. Such sale is obviously very unwise, for it curtails an essential branch of manufacture in the extent it could and would aid trade and agriculture., sustaining outside labor to the detriment of our own. So also in leather; our hides are exported, while we import leather and the articles manufactured from it, throwing idle or into other employments our tanners and many of our shoemakers. So far as tannic acid should fail to be supplied from our red pine bark and oak and sumac shrubs, it

would be cheaper to import the deficiency in a concentrated form than to sell our hides to distant markets and import leather. In short, our financial comfort and prosperity require that we give our agricultural and trading interests the powerful aid of manufactures as rapidly and fully as possible, until we can produce a full home supply of all required classes of fabrics made from wool and leather, all our furniture, farming machines and implements, and wood work and wooden ware of every description,. Hats, caps, bonnets, brooms, buttons and molasses, and everything within our capabilities, from **(371) Pg. 191** time to time, for advantageously producing all we can consistently desire.

So far as we may lack timber suitable for our purposes, it is much wiser to import such timber than the manufactured articles; and in the meantime, as fast and extensively as possible, take steps for raising the black walnut, ash, and other valuable timber trees adapted to our several localities.

Our attention should be given to saving all rags suitable for making paper, that we may be able to print our school and all other books on home-made paper.

Our important key to our success is dispensing with all vain and other unwise expenditures, restricting our expenses within our means, and using those means in the most judicious manner.

In wet weather and where minerals keep the soil damp and cold, wooden-bottomed shoes, iron shod or leather soled for durability, are recommended both for health and economy. And while leather continues scarce, it is advisable to use strong cloth, so far as practicable, for uppers for leather-soles shoes, especially for women and children and light wear of men.

Wisdom dictates that we do not receive into the Order property that we can not properly care for.

It behooves all, to all times cultivate and practice frankness and fairness in all our business conduct and conversation, that the fullest confidence may exist, that each is diligently laboring to promote the welfare of all, and by so wise a **Pg. 192** course the more speedily attain the beneficial results we have in view. Let every member so live as to all times enjoy the Spirit of the Lord for guidance in all labors and duties.

### **Suggested Rules for the Members of the united Order**

Having formed ourselves into a United Order we hereby mutually agree to adopt the following Rules for our guidance in daily life, walk, and conversation, vz:

1<sup>st</sup>: We will not take the name of the Deity in vain, nor speak lightly of His character, or of sacred things. 2<sup>nd</sup>: We will pray with our families, morning and evening; and also attend to secret prayer.

3<sup>rd</sup>: We will observe and keep the word of Wisdom according to the spirit and meaning thereof.

4<sup>th</sup>: We will treat our families with due kindness and affection, and set before them an example worthy of imitation. In our families, and in our intercourse with all persons, we will refrain from being contentious and quarrelsome; and we will cease to speak evil of each other, and will cultivate a spirit of charity towards all. We consider it our duty to keep from acting selfishly or from covetous motives, and will seek the interest of each other and of the order.

5<sup>th</sup>: We will observe personal cleanliness, and preserve ourselves in all chastity by refraining from adultery, whoredom and lust. We will also discountenance and **(371) Pg. 193** refrain from all vulgar and obscene language or conduct.

6<sup>th</sup>: We will observe the Sabbath day to keep it holy, in accordance with the revelations.

7<sup>th</sup>: That which is not committed to our care we will not appropriate to our use.

8<sup>th</sup>: That which we borrow we will return according to promise: and that which we find we will not appropriate to our own use, but seek to return it to its proper holder, or department.

9<sup>th</sup>: We will as soon as possible cancel all our individual indebtedness contracted prior to our uniting with the Order; and when once fully identified with said Order, we will contract no debts contrary to the wishes of the Board of Management.

10<sup>th</sup>: We will not knowingly patronize any person engaged in any business who is not a member of the Order, unless our necessities absolutely require us to do so.

11<sup>th</sup>: In our apparel and deportment we will not pattern after, nor encourage, foolish and extravagant fashions; and we will cease to import, or buy from abroad any article which can be reasonably dispensed with; or which can be produced by a combination of home labor. We will foster and encourage the producing and manufacturing of all articles needful for our use as fast as circumstances will permit.

12<sup>th</sup>: We will be simple in our dress and manner of living using proper economy and prudence in the management of all entrusted to our care. **(372 Pg. 194).**

13<sup>th</sup>: We will combine our labor for mutual benefit; sustain with our faith, prayers, and works those whom we have elected to take the management of the different departments of the Order, and be subject to them in their official capacity, refraining from a spirit of fault finding.

14<sup>th</sup>: We will honestly and diligently labor, and constantly keep in view, and devote ourselves and all we have to the Order and the building up of the Kingdom

## APPENDIX IIII

### Chronology of James W. Nixon I b.1836, Liverpool, England

Date	Event
January 17,1836	Birth: Liverpool, England, Parents William Abraham Nixon, Bridget Degnan (Dagnal)
February 13, 1838	Birth: Sister Catherine, Liverpool, England
February 28, 1840	Birth: Brother Edward, Caernavon, Wales
August 8, 1840	Death: Brother Edward, Caernavon, Wales
September 27, 1841	Birth: Sister Ann, Caernavon, Wales, (death place unknown)
April 15, 1843	Birth: Sister Matilda, Probably Bangor, Wales
March 14, 1846	Birth: Brother William, Probably Bangor, Wales
May 25, 1848	Birth: Sister Jenny, Bangor, Wales
1848 -1850	Immigration to United States-Lived New York, Ohio, Minnesota [I was unable to locate the family in the 1850 United States Census. His father, William Abraham, states he immigrated in 1848. Bridget, John (Catherine), Matilda, Marie to America on "The New World" L. Nixon]
September 1850. 1852	Divorce records, St. Paul, Minnesota gives date as 1852, Obituary says resident since 1849.
Dec 12, 1854	Father divorced his mother, Bridget Nixon
1853-1856	St. Paul Minnesota (In business with his father, William Abraham Nixon) Business burned in 1856.
May 1857	Started on the Plains with a Mormon Ox Train
September 2, 1857	Arrived in Salt Lake City, Utah
November 26, 1857	Baptized in City Creek a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter- day Saints by Elder Robert Martin, confirmed by Dunbar Allen of the 20 <sup>th</sup> Ward.
February 11, 1858	Received his Endowment

May 1858	Served in Echo Canyon prior to May 1858 in the Standing Army against General Johnson for a least two months.
Winter of 1858-1859	Went to Camp Floyd, chopped wood, drove team, and did some trading, cleared about 1500 dollars
October 26, 1859	Married Johanna Marie Schultz in Salt Lake City
Winter of 1859, 1860	Worked for Dustin Amy at Tin Smithing
Spring of 1860-1863	Moved to East Weber, Utah and opened up a farm, made considerable improvements
1864-1865	Rented his farm, moved to Salt Lake, bought house and lot in 9 <sup>th</sup> Ward, worked at his trade for Alfred Best.
October 1865	Called to St. George on a mission –Sold farm, house and other property
January 14, 1866	Traveled to Dixie with wagons and two span of mules. Family of three children, Mary, Emma and Hannah, 5, 4, and 2 years of age.
February 14, 1866	Arrived in St. George, Utah , bought a lot, pitched a tent started next day for California to buy tinsmith tools.
May 16, 1866	Returned from California
Summer of 1866-1868	Built a house and worked in the basement at my trade.
1869, 1870, 1871	Worked as a teamster
Fall of 1871-March 15, 1873	Bought a place in Pioche, Nevada to do business (Mercantile)
1873	Returned to St. George, built a store and commenced the Tin Smith and Hardware business.
July 21, 1873	Mission to Minnesota
January 2, 1874	
<b>LDS Church Library Annals of Southern Utah</b>	
January 2, 1874	Annual Meeting of Winsor Castle Stock Growing Company convened in St. George. President: President Brigham Young, George A. Smith, Daniel Hendrix, Alex. F. MacDonald, Hector McQuarrie, A. F. MacDonald, Jr., <b>James W. Nixon</b> , Southern Utah Tithing Office (by Agent) and Anson P. Winsor, making a total representation of a majority

of the Cap. Stock for wit: \$13,968.00. Election of Officers took place with following result: George A. Smith President, John W. Young, Vice President, Alex F. MacDonald, Sec & Treasurer, Anson P. Winsor, Amos M. Musser, Joseph Hammond and **James W. Nixon** Directors. Anson P. Winsor was engaged as Superintendent for the Company

February 1, 1874

Called as a Home Missionary (Annals)

February 9, 1874

**Church Library**  
**MS381\_b0001k\_f0009**

Monday, Pursuant to Public Notice Meeting convened in St. George Hall, President Brigham Young presiding. After he addressed those present on the principles of the United Order and of the organization of that Order, the following officers were elected: Robert Gardner, President, Daniel D. McArthur, Vice President, James W. Nixon, Vice President, Henry Eyring Secretary, James G. Bleak, Asst. Secretary, Alex F. MacDonald, Asst. Secretary

May 2, 1874

**LDS Church Library**  
**CR1234 1 : Brigham Young office files 1832-1878 CR 1234 1/b0046/f0008**

Deseret Telegraph Company St. George 2 May 1874

Prest. B. Young and G. A. Smith

Bakery temporarily finished had a fine lot of Bread this morning hands will start on the quarry Monday—

Trumbull road all done but hurricane ridge-work on Temple going on fine- rops look well- Board of United Order meet every evening at six p.m.

R Gardner

May 14, 1874

James W. Nixon I turned himself and property into the United Order, appointed second vice president,

May 24, 1874

**LDS Church Library**  
**CR 1234 1\_b0046\_f0008\_00023.JPG**

Deseret Telegraph May 24, 1874

St. George 24 May 1874

To Prest. B. Young

Today Thero 100 degrees

5 good team & fitted last week & gone to Trumbull for Temple timbers

Virgin & Clara Rivers high break in Washington field Canal to be Repaired

tomorrow Field labors pressing

Cutting lumber, Rock hauling and temple work moves right along.

Rock hauling and temple work moves right along Panacca, Hebron, Pinto & Pine Valley with St. George have united on one herd for stock in the order

M. P. Romney & Mechanic now working in the order an agreeable meeting of the board yesterday they propose to furnish scaffold poles & do the rock hauling for Temple by contract a tannery is proposed in Pine Valley

Good health and quiet prevails

Grain from Sanpete deposited at Parowan Mill as directed. Prof. Shultz keeps school sin St. George hall.  
A. F. MacDonald

July 1, 1874

**LDS Church Library**  
**CR 1234 1\_b0035\_f0006\_00012.JPG**

Letter to Brigham Young from Robert Gardner

Jul 1, 1874

Mount Trumbull Lumber Co. have tendered their Steam Saw Mill and all their improvements and appurtenances to the Order, which is to assume the present liabilities of the Company. The Board has accepted, deducting the liabilities from the appraised value. Eli Whipple has been chosen by the Board

of Management as Superintendent of the Lumbering interest at Mount Trumbull. He started yesterday with a number of hands to work in the timber to get logs for the Temple Bill of Lumber.

**Report of the Management Board CR 1234 1\_b0035\_f0006\_00012.JPG1874 Aug 2 1874**

**In December 1874, labor problems at Mt. Trumbull**

**LDS Church Library**

**Title: Incoming letters, Sn-Y, 1874**

**Call Number: George A. Smith papers; General correspondence**

**Identifier: MS 1322/b0008/f0019**

Dec 25 1874

Pres. Geo. A. Smith

Things are about as I expected at the mill. I will get there to tonight with some pepper, coffee, dried fruit and molasses but do not expect that they will be satisfied.

I think we had only best to keep 10 men until the situation gets warmer so that we can work to better advantage What do you advise in the matter? E. Whipple

p. s. The best beef we have there is killed. Flour will only last a week E.W.

Mount Trumble Dec 25<sup>th</sup> (1874)

Bro. Eli Whipple to Geo. A. Smith

The hands from the north have struck this morning. They held a meeting and passed a resolution that they would not do any more work until they had different provisions. Such as coffee, dried fruit, sugar, molasses, pepper, beans &C.

Bro. Wilcox had to blasé out the mill this morning. I think they will stay until they hear from you.

With kind regards D. Herten

Also additional to the above called for vinegar, onions, sage, pickles, tea, wicks for candles and lamps.

Mount Trumbull

Pres. George A. Smith,



It seems to me that we can get along with one set of hands and do all the work that is required. Br. Whipple plans heretofore has been to run both mills or two sets, in one mill which has not been advantageous thus fare. If this meets with your vues please make arrangements with Bro. Whipple or send word to that effect. We got to running the mill yesterday, sawed 4 of the 40 foot timbers., 2 are on the road to St. George. This revolt of the men is hard at this time

By next week, I should have had all the 40 12x24 and 7 12x 12 = 39 with the 8 x 12=20

Your bro in gospel W. E. A. Wilcox.

February 1875- Appointed president and treasurer of the United Order

1875-1876 Continued as president and treasurer of the United Order

January 27, 1875

**Church Library**

**CR 1234 1\_b0036\_f0006\_00047.JPG**

Prest B. Young and George A. Smith from Eli Whipple James G. Bleak

January 27, 1875

Dear Brethren,

In compliance with your recommendation of the 17<sup>th</sup> of Dec. we tendered the little Mill at Trumbull to the Mount Trumbull Lumber Co. They cited the agreement of last June with the Stake Board to take the Mill and all the claims and assume the liabilities of the original company; they asked that this be still held good. This we looked upon as a refusal to receive.

Today, however, a committee consisting of Bros. Jacob Gates and Wm H. Branch from the Board of the Mt. Trumbull Lumber Co waited upon us, and expressed a belief that their company would be willing to receive both Mills with their profits and liabilities from last June till the present.

We desire to learn if you are willing to turn the large Mill into the Mt. Trumbull Lumber Co. as Capital Stock to aid in the effecting of the settlement.

We append a list of the stockholders of the Trumbull Lumber Co.

Awaiting your answer, we remain

Very respectfully,

Eli Whipple, James G. Bleak

(For the Board of Directors of St. George Stake)

Mount Trumbull Lumber Co Stock-holders:

Andrus James  
Ashby Natl  
Branch Wm. A.  
Bentley Rd  
Bryce Ebenezer  
Burgess Saml I.  
Eyring Henry  
Gardner Robt  
Gates Jacob  
Jones Thos J.  
Judd Thos  
Milne David  
Macfarlane J. M.  
McIntire E. W.  
Mustard David  
Macdonald Alex F.  
Nixon Jas. W.  
Pearce Thos  
Snow M. M.  
St George T. O.  
Woolley & Seegmiller  
Whitmore J. M.  
Young Jos. W.

**LDS Church Library**

October 21, 1875 To B.Y from A. F. McDonald

The ox train of six wagons are now hauling lumber from Trumbull Basin to the top of Hurricane Hill at the rate of 15000 per trip and we are calling on the wards to assist in bringing the lumber here. Some of our ablest teams have gone to Pioche to haul ore etc.

February 21, 1876

Married Hannah I. Fawcett

July 16, 1876

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Brigham Young from Erastus Snow July 16, 1876

I returned last night from Trumbull where considerable delays and some sickness and insubordination have retarded the lumbering interest. I believe these hindrances are now mostly removed. Bro. Tenny's health is improving, repairs on mill-tanks, carts, wagons &c nearly accomplished and working parts better organized for business. We deemed it necessary to turn a portion of ox train from lumber hauling to logging-some fifty thousand feet have been sawed with prospect of steady work hereafter.

January 1, 1877	St. George Temple dedicated, called as a temple worker
April 6, 7, 8, 1877	Attended Conference held in the temple, all but one member of the Twelve were present
April 16, 1877	Brigham Young returned to Salt Lake
April 17, 1877	Ordained bishop of St. George 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward. C. A. Terry and A. P. Winsor counselors. This ordination took place in the St. George Temple under the hands of Wilford Woodruff.
May 11, 1877	Traveled to Mt. Trumbull with J. G. Bleak, Johanna and Emma, his wife and daughter- Purpose of trip to organize the company there as a United working Company in lumbering and farming and manufacturing of lumber, organized a Branch there with Eli Whipple as Presiding Elder.
June 2, 1877	

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Wilford Woodruff to Brigham Young June 2, 1877

The Saints at Mount Trumbull have been organized as a Branch with Elder Eli Whipple as Presiding Elder, and have been attached to the 1st Ward St. George. There are now 31 men, women and children at Trumbull organized in the United Order and attached to the United Order of St. George. Eli Whipple is the Superintendent. This census does not include Bro. Green and his hands. An excellent spirit prevails in the little organization at Trumbull; Bros Nixon and Bleak visited them for the purpose of organizing them and laid before them some of the instructions which you had written to other organization of the United Order.

The Brethren at Trumbull have unanimously prescribed the uniform rate of wages of one dollar and a quarter for each man per day and women's youths and boys wages to be in proportion. The Saints in the organization there are living on the one eating house principle. –

June 26, 1877	Sent supplies to Trumbull
June 27, 1877	Labored in the temple
August 22, 1877	Mary Annie, Emma Amelia and Hannah M. Nixon sealed to James W. Nixon and Johanna Marie Schultz Nixon in St. George Temple
August 28, 29, 1877	Attended prayer meetings in behalf of Brigham Young who was gravely ill. He died on 29 <sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.
September 2, 1877	Funeral Service for Brigham Young
September 25, 1877	Started for Mt. Trumbull with A. Nelson (Aaron) to look for water.
September 26, 1877	Arrived at Mt. Trumbull, found all well, explored and satisfied could get more water by digging.
September 30, 1877	Attended meeting in Trumbull Big House
October 5, 1877	Started home with Hannah F., Brother Nelson and James, my son
October 6, 1877	Arrived in St. George
October 22, 1877	Started in company with T. J. Jones to Sebits Mt. sheep herd with load of salt.
October 29, 1877	Arrived home
November 28, 1877	Married Zepher Kelsey
January 15 22,24,25, 1878	Baptized and did temple work for ancestors in St. George Temple

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***Identifier: MS 318/b0001/f0013***

**1878 Mon 7<sup>th</sup> no month given**

At Board Meeting of the United Order of St. George, it was decided that all members

Who desire to draw out their capital stock, make formal application in writing to Secretary Bleak, without delay, so that the

Executive Committee might have the opportunity to have a settlement with them.

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February 4, 1878

Called meeting of the Board of the United Order of St. George, John D. T. McAllister was chosen as Prest., and Thomas J. Jones and Henry Eyring, Vice President, Joseph Orton as Seretary and **Jas W. Nixon** as Treasurer.

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February 11, 1878

Mon. 11<sup>th</sup>. At Board Meeting of the United Order of St. George, a list of applications was read of brethren wishing to draw out their capital stock. After considerable discussion, action on the applications was deferred until a valuation be made of the assets of the United Order.

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February 14, 1878

Thurs. 14<sup>th</sup> The Stockholders of the United Order of St. George met. Secretary Bleak's report for the past year was read and the motion accepted.

The election of a Board of Directors was declared to be in order. It was decided that the Board consist of five. The following were elected: John D. T. McAllister, Thomas J. Jones, Henry Eyring, **Jas. W. Nixon** and Joseph Orton.

On the motion, the Stockholders voted unanimous thanks to James G. Bleak for faithful labors as Secretary of the United Order of St. George.

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**Identifier: MS 318/b0001/f0013**

March 4, 1878

St. George City: Election took place, resulting in the election of Richard Bentley as mayor; Robert C. Lund and Edwin D. Woolley as Aldermen; and Erastus Snow, Jacob Gates, James G. Bleak, John M. Macfarland and Robert Gardner as Councilors.

At a meeting of the Board of the United Order of St. George Vice Prest. Jones and Treasurer James W. Nixon, were elected Executive Committee. Sundry applications for return of Capital Stock were made, and were referred to the Executive Committee. James W. Nixon having offered to take the stock in trade of the Hardware Department at its appraised value, his offer was accepted and the amount ordered to be entered against his Capital Stock in the United Order. It was decided that James W. Nixon be charged with the amounts due to the Hardware Department, and that he use all diligence to collect said debts, but that, after reasonable diligence to collect, all uncollected amounts shall be credited back to him.

James W. Nixon and John P. Chidester were elected to take an inventory of all the property of the United Order held by the Trumbull Department and appraise it at a fair trade valuation, using Rio Virgen Factory pay as a basis.

It was decided to offer the interest held by the United Order in the Wine Cellar Building at St. George, to Southern Utah Tithing Office, at its face value.

It was also decided that the United Order of St. George pay the amount due to the Mount Trumbull Lumber Co., in three equal annual installments, to be paid in Canaan, or Winsor, Capital Stock, or in lumber, at the option of the United Order; each annual

payment to be completed by the 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. of each year: lumber at the following rates: common, \$25.00 per M, and finishing @\$40.00 per M, at the Mill.

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***Identifier: MS 318/b0001/f0013***

March 16, 17, 1878

St. George Stake Conference was held in St. George Tabernacle. Prest J.D. F. McAllister, presiding.

On the stand, of the General Authorities, Apostle Wilford Woodruff and Erastus Snow, and of the Seven Prest of the Seventies: Levi. W. Hancock, Henry Harriman and Jacob Gates, also a very good attendance of the authorities of the stake, every ward being well represented.

Very encouraging reports were made of the condition of the wards expressive of an earnest desire to improve spiritually and temporally.

The speakers at the meetings were Apostles Wilford Woodruff and Erastus Snow, Prest. McAllister, Bishops Luke Syphus of Panaca, Marius Ensign of Santa Clara; John Parker of Virgin City, Miles P Romney, Walter Granger, **Jas. W. Nixon** and David H. Cannon of St. George; Bps Thos. S. Terry of Hebron, Wm. Snow, of Pine Valley, Thos. J. Jones of Washington; Wilson D. Pace of Harmony; Robert Knell of Pinto and Elders Jesse N. Smith of Parowan, Joseph T. Wilkinson of Leeds; George Spilsbury of Toquerville and Thos. C. Hall of Rockville.

The themes dwelt upon by the speakers in addition to local reports were Intellectual Improvement, by means of Mutual Improvement Associations and otherwise; advancement in Home Manufactures, including the production of silk; the duty of the Saints to increase the number of Temples to the Name of the Most High; the uses, privileges and blessings of those Holy Temples; and the necessity

which exists that all should, in humility and faithfulness, walk in the fear of God. . . .  
Peace and a full measure of brotherly kindness pervaded the counsels, teachings and exhortations of the brethren who spoke to the assembled Saints.

- May 7, 1878                      Moved family to Mt. Trumbull, **bought with others**, the Trumbull property, including livestock, mill running, sawed about 200 feet per day
- May 9, 1878                      planting corn, peas, and rutabagas
- June 1, 1878                      Started for St. George with Sister Nixon

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June 6, 1878

**1878 6<sup>th</sup> June Bishop James W. Nixon, who was a devoted adherent to the United Order from its commencement in 1874 and who recently had, with a few others, purchased from the United Order of St. George, the Mount Trumbull lumber interest, this day submitted the following:**

**“St. George, June 6<sup>th</sup> 1878**

**To the Presidency of the St. George Stake of Zion**

**Brethren: As my duties and labors require all my time and energies to be devoted to the business of the Trumbull Department, I believe that it would be productive of good; to have some other person placed as Bishop of the Third Ward (St. George) in my stead, who could attend to the duties thereof.**

**I remain your Brother in the Gospel**

Signed: James W. Nixon.”

- June 7, 1878                      Started back to Trumbull
- June 8, 1878                      Arrived at Mt. Trumbull 7:00 p.m.

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June 15. 16, 1877      **Sat. and Sun. 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June: The Quarterly Conference in and for St. George Stake convened in St. George Tabernacle, Prest John D. F. McAllister presiding. The written resignation of James W. Nixon as Bishop of the 3<sup>rd</sup> St. George Ward was read. On motion, the resignation was accepted and James W. Nixon honorably released from the duties of Bishop of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward, St. George, and that he be sustained by faith and prayers of the Conference in his new field of labor at Mount Trumbull. On motion of Elder Henry W. Miller, duly seconded, Charles Alphonzo Terry was elected as Bishop of 3<sup>rd</sup> St. George Ward.**

October 7, 1878      Met with Board of United Order at St. George

October 12, 1878      Started with Zepher to Trumbull

October 13, 1878      Arrived at Mt. Trumbull, digging potatoes, moving mill timber, hauling ash poles &c, working at barn, hauling planer, and other mill property down to the house.

October 28, 1878      Fitting up wagon for Dan Sill to go to Panquitch

October 31, 1878      Dan and Walter started (Walter is Walter Hoff, his nephew. He went by Stuart, the name of his mother's second husband.)

November 2, 1878      Started for St. George with Hannah F. and G.A. Nixon (George, his son,) attending business in St. George

November 8, 1878      William Abraham Nixon, his father, arrived ,  
Father arrived (from Minnesota)-Going out to Trumbull with father, Hannah F. and J. S. Deluche.

November 15, 1878      Arrived at Mt. Trumbull with his father, Hannah F. and J. S. Deluche at 9:00 p.m., found all well, digging potatoes and mill timbers, hauling poles and working at barn hauling planer and other mill property down to the house.

November 19, 1878      A. McArthur and Orsen Foster arrived at Trumbull with their Mill, I assisted Deluche to set up a logging truck to haul logs.

November 20, 1878      Went to the Mill and measured lumber.

November 22, 1878	Took down smoke stack and timber for the mill. Talked with Perkins, Blake and Company. Made a proposition to sell them half of all the timber on the mountain for \$1000 or all of it for \$2000. Cannan or Windsor, which they refused to accept
November 23, 1878	Working about Tank
November 27, 1878	Working at the spring, T. Hancock came out and we worked at the mill, laying sleepers etc. until 29 <sup>th</sup> of December.
December 23, 1878	Worked about the Tank.
December 27, 28 1878	Worked at the spring. T. Hancock came out and we worked at the mill, laying sleepers etc.
December 29, 1878	Started to St. George, attending to business until the 28 <sup>th</sup> ?
January 7, 1879	Back to Trumbull, arrived January 9 <sup>th</sup> .
January 13 <sup>th</sup> , 14 <sup>th</sup> 1879	Preparing to move the engine, 10 inches of snow fell up to date, working at the mill.
January 21, 1879	Started to hunt for Dan Sill. Went to Panguitch and found he had gone to San Pete. I followed him there.
February 1, 1879	After talking to Dan, concluded it best to sell the oxen for wheat, s tore the wheat at the mill until spring.
February 16-27 1879	Returned to St. George attended to business
March 1, 1879	Arrived at Trumbull with Chister, Boggs Harmon and Howard Deluche, worked at mill fitting it up.
March 16, 1879	Started for St. George with Father, Boggs and Chister.
March 24, 1879	Took Father to Washington to go to York with T. J. Jones on his way to St. Cloud, Minn.
March 25-29 <sup>th</sup> , 1879	St. George
March 31, 1879	Arrived at Mt. Trumbull with my son J. W. Nixon, Jr. ,worked about the mill and farm.
April 14, 15, 1879	Making a smokestack for the mill

April-December 1880	Boggs, the engineer left. James W. Nixon II attended the engine himself. Health very poor , wanted to saw out the bill of Temple lumber. He kept working until he did. Last work he ever did. Suffered a gret deal of pain in his shoulders and sides.
December 7, 1880	Salt Lake for operation on tumors.
July 8, 1881	Went to Panguitch Lake with daughter Hannah and son James.
July 1881-February 1882	Very sick, passed away February 19, 1882, St. George, Utah

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2 Feb 1882 ( Apparently part of this record is mission.

Sun. Feb 5<sup>th</sup>. Sister Ruth Orchard Fawcett?

Then begins a biography of James W. Nixon

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day saints 26 November 1857, by Elder Robert Martin, Confirmed under the hands of Elders William C. Dunbar and .... Allen of the 20<sup>th</sup> Ward, Salt Lake City, received his Endowment in December 1857. Was enrolled in Brigham Young, Jr's Company of Cavalry in the Standing Army; served two months in Echo Canon; after that company was disbanded, he was organized into John Sharp's Regiment of Infantry and was again sent out to Echo Canon and served until May, 1858, when General Johnston's army was moving towards Salt Lake City.

In Oct. 1865, Brother Nixon was called to settle in St. George; he promptly responded.

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1874, he was elected a Vice President of the United Order of St. George Stake and on the 16<sup>th</sup> of May following, placed all his property herein, without reserve, and continued an active member till the final winding up of the affairs of the Order.

On Sat. 28<sup>th</sup> April, 1877, he was ordained Bishop of Third Ward President Wilford Woodruff, the previous 19<sup>th</sup> of January.