

Short History of the Provo Branch, Utah County and Minutes of the Utah Stake of Zion, Utah County, 1852-1875, BYU Special Collections Library BX 8677.9224 .C47s appears to be a transcript of LR 9629 11 V.9

Elias H. Blackburn Papers, BYU Special Collections, Mss 785, Folder 5. Contains records of Provo 3rd Ward, including records of members. Also includes a list of excommunications for other wards (Bishop Bird, Bishop Duke, Bishop Fausett)

Utah Stake General Minutes, V.9, 1849-1858, 1866-1872, Church History Library LR 9629 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/78ea08f3-46b7-41b5-95e3-669f326dbbf7/0/0mp:700890>

1849

1849-03-12: In a public meeting, Brigham Young calls for a company to settle in Utah Valley.¹

1849-03-13: In GSLC, a company intending to go to **Utah Valley** meet at the President's office. John S. Higbee is chosen for president and bishop of the company, with two counselors. (*JHC* 1849-03-13 p.1, *JHC* 1849-03-17 p.1)²

1849-04-01: John S. Higbee and his party, from the 13th of March, settled on the **Provo river**.³ (*JHC* 1849-04-18 p.1)

1849-05-28: John Higbee wishes to return to his family, so Isaac Higbee called by Brigham Young as the "president of the settlement in **Utah Valley**." He is asked to call counselors.⁴ [gap in *Short History* 1849-1852]

1850

Spring: first settlers at Mountainville (Alpine)⁵

August: settlements begun in Evansville (**Lehi**), McArthursville (**American Fork**), **Pleasant Grove**, Mountainville (Alpine) [MH]. (*JHC* 8/31/1850)

September: first settlers at Sulphur Springs (**Lehi**)

September 13: First settlers at Battle Creek [**Pleasant Grove**]

September: American Fork settlers

¹ *Historian's Office General Church Minutes*, Church History Library CR 100 318 box 2 folder 9 p.1 https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE532663

² History of Brigham Young, March 17 1849, *Historian's Office History of the Church*, V.19 p.40, Church History Library CR 100 102, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f2c6c940-515e-4c5f-ae00-c85ff039cf15/0/57>

³ Carter, D. Robert, *Founding Fort Utah*, p.76

⁴ Letter from Brigham Young to Isaac Higbee, May 28 1849, *Brigham Young Office Files, General Outgoing Correspondence*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 16 folder 17 sheet 21. <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f19e5ab6-9574-4cec-9850-8a6c011f91bd/0/20>; *General Church Minutes*, Church History Library CR 100 318 box 2 folder 11 image 24, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=cb05e9e1-514a-4517-88fc-e48ef009b6e6&crate=0&index=23>

⁵ *Alpine Ward Historical Record*, p.1, Family History Library film 0002059

20 October: Hobble Creek (Springville) settled [EH, MH, CC 40] informally led by Aaron Johnson

Winter: first settlers at **Spanish Fork**

December 20: Meeting at Peteetneet [**Payson**]. "Pres. G.A. Smith spoke and said he thought the brethren in this settlement should organize a branch of the Church under the name of the Peteetneet Branch. Br. [James] Pace was chosen president of the branch. . . he would advise the Brethren to ask for a bishop and for the brethren to pay their tithing"⁶

1851

January 12: Brigham Young addresses Isaac Higbee as "Bishop Higbee"⁷

Feb: George S. Clark, reminiscing in 1890: "Settled in P.G. in Feb 1851, was then appointed Bishop of the North End of Utah Co. by Brigham Young, was ordained a high priest and to the office of bishop under the hands of George A. Smith."⁸ *But Smith was in Parowan at this time*

Feb 15: David Evans called to lead the **Dry Creek Settlement** (Lehi), the settlers move from Sulphur Springs to his new site, called Evansville

March: David Evans set apart as bishop of Evansville⁹ *Histories say George A. Smith ordained him, but Smith was in Parowan at this time. Could it have been March 1852 when Smith was presiding in Utah County?*

March 18: Brigham Young visits Evansville [**Lehi**], McArthursville [**American Fork**] and stay at **Pleasant Grove**. It is possible that the latter branch was organized at this time. The parentheticals were added later; it is very possible that McArthursville was not American Fork, as Duncan McArthur settled in between American Fork and Pleasant Grove (near the current American Fork High School).

March 19: Meeting in the schoolhouse in Utah Fort, led by Brigham Young. "We are about to organize this place with high council, bishop, &c." BY suggests the following for high council: Stephen Perry, Thomas Guymon, Aaron Johnson, Wm Miller, Peter W. Conover, Wm Pace, Alex Williams, Thos Willis, John Banks, Sam'l Clark, James Ivie, Elias Blackburn. Tho's Willis, Harlo Redfield, Peter Conover, and Is. Higbee nominated for pres't of "this place." Isaac Higbee is not unanimous, but carries. Revised high council: Asahel Perry [SV], Tho's Guyman [SV], Aaron Johnson [SV], Wm Miller [SV], Peter W. Conover, Wm Pace [SF?], Alex Williams, John Banks, Samuel Clark, James Ivie, James A. Smith, & ~~Gordon C. Case~~ (rejected) David Canfield appointed. "Elias Blackburn was then named to be a Bishop in this place." Higbee nominated John Blackburn & Thos Willis as his counselors.¹⁰ Mp:700884

⁶ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, Church History Library LR 6814 11 V. 2 p.2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=12773a88-1385-4fda-8f36-d39540a9fa77>

⁷ *General Church Minutes*, Church History Library CR 100 318 box 2 folder 27 sheet 2, https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE536802

⁸ George S. Clark, Biographical Sketch June 21, 1890, Family Search, <https://www.familysearch.org/memories/memory/197684873>

⁹ *Lehi Ward General Minutes*, v.2 p.2, Church History Library LR 4817 11. This portion of the record is not primary, but a history written in 1892

¹⁰ Utah Fort-Hobble Creek, 1851 March 19-20, *Historians Office General Church Minutes, 1839-1877*, Church History Library CR 100 318 box 2 folder 27 p.35.

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/6af4fc37-8897-4d05-b74b-3f8069ffd7db/0/0>. This is

March 19: President Young presiding at Utah Fort, "the people reelected Isaac Higbee to be the president of the **Branch in Utah**, and organized a high council for this **stake**, namely [12 names]. Elias Blackburn was elected to be the bishop of the place" with 2 counsellors. (DN 1851-05-03 p.250)

March 19: "elected Isaac Higbee to be pres't of the **stake <branch> in Utah**. Organized a high council for this **stake**, namely . . ." (Thomas Bullock, *Extracts from Brigham Young Journal, 1851*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 73 folder 3 p.2)

March 20: "Isaac Higbee ordained as Pres. of **this Branch** of the Church" (then counselors) "Elias Blackburn ordained a H.P. set apart as Bishop of **this Place**", then William Young and Harlo Redfield as counselors. Ordained as high councillors "in **this stake**." Banks, Conover, Pace, Ivie, Canfield, Smith, Williams, Clark. Of the 14, 6 were ordained high priests as well.¹¹

March 20: President Young "ordained Isaac Higbee as president of the **branch** and ... his counsellors. Ordained Elias Blackburn a high priest and bishop of the **branch**, and [counselors]." Then set apart 8 "counsellors in this **stake of Zion**." [8 of the twelve called the day before]

March 20: evening meeting at "Hobble Creek School House." BY: "Bro. Johnson has presided here. It is for you to select a P't and his co's, appoint a bishop who will select his cr's. There are 4 chosen last night to be co's in Provo." "It was voted that Asahel Perry [KWJ5-GJC] be the presiding officer in this branch...That Aaron Johnson be the bishop." Noah Packard & Stephen Perry as Perry's counselors, Wm Miller & Myron Crandell as Johnson's counselors.

March 20: Travel to Springville, have a meeting in the evening. "ordained Asahel Perry as president of the **branch at Springville** and . . . his counsellors; Aaron Johnson to be the **bishop of the branch** and . . . his counsellors. ordained [4 brethren] as members of the **high council in Provo City**." these 4 were those of the 12 called the day before but not ordained in Provo, including President Perry, Bishop Johnson, William Miller, and Thomas Guymon, all residents of Springville. (DN 1851-05-03 p.250; *E.H. Blackburn Papers*, Folder 5; *Brigham Young Journal, 1851* p.2; **General Church Minutes** p.37)

1851-03-23: "A meeting was held in the fort at noon." Benjamin Cross "was ordained a High Priest, and set apart as Bishop over **Payson Branch**."¹²

March 24: First meeting of the "high council of Provo City" (*Brigham Young Journal, 1851* p.3)

March 25: While in Provo, Brigham Young appoints George S. Clark [KWJC-2KM] "to visit the Saints in the vicinity of Pleasant Grove and receive from them their tithing, and account for the same to the General Tithing Office in Great Salt Lake City, and he also authorized to preach the Gospel in all branches in these valleys."¹³ *This effectively appoints him as acting bishop. Written by Thomas Bullock.*

Thomas Bullock's minutes of the meetings, partially written in shorthand; so this is the most primary source possible of what happened. The other sources below, many of which were also written by Bullock, are based on this.

¹¹ *General Church Minutes*, p.36

¹² Meeting at Payson, 1851 March 23, *General Church Minutes*, Church History Library CR 100 318, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/db67f77a-df95-407a-bbee-434c660d8870/0/40>

¹³ Certificate of Appointment, photograph of original in possession of family, FamilySearch, <https://www.familysearch.org/memories/memory/3125661>

March 30: Membership report for **Springville**, "Asahel Perry President"¹⁴

April 22: PB Edward Hunter writes to outlying bishops, about "your ward or district", including "Isaac Higbee [Provo]" but no others in Utah Valley¹⁵

April: David Evans ordained bishop of Dry Creek Ward (Lehi) by George A. Smith [but Smith is in Parowan] (???)

May 25: "Meeting of the Inhabitants living near the **American Creek** held at Hyrum Motts May 25th 1851. Meeting open'd by prayer. Elder John Banks Chosen to preside [over the meeting]; meeting appointed for the organizing the people into a **branch** of the Church Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Whereupon Leonard E. Harrington was chosen Presiding [acting] Bishop of the same & Arza Adams, & James Guyman Councilors & John S. Eldredge, clerk."¹⁶

June 16: A Stake of Zion is already organized at **Fort Utah**, with a "High Council and other officers." (JH 1851-06-16 p.1)

Summer: first settlers at Summit Creek [Santaquin] led by Benjamin F. Johnson (PE??) [MH]

Sep 1: **Payson Branch** has a branch presidency and a bishopric for 116 baptized members, Pres. James Pace with counselors, Bishop Benjamin Cross with counselors.¹⁷ Lists most rebaptisms prior to August 1851 as happening at Peteetneet.

Sep 5: **Springville** report, "Asahel Perry President of the Branch" with counselors, "Aaron Johnson Bishop" with counselors¹⁸

Sep 6: Report from Isaac Higbee, president of the "**Branch of the Church in Provo City**." 328 members¹⁹

"Clark, George Sheffer, first bishop of Pleasant Grove, Utah County, was ordained to that position in 1851 by Prest. George A. Smith; previously, the same year, he was appointed to the Bishopric of the northern end of Utah County by Prest. Brigham Young."²⁰

September: report from "**Pleasant Grove Ward**" by "G.S. Clark – Presiding Bishop," 70 members.²¹

¹⁴ Springville Ward baptism report, 1851 March, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ee3951bd-345c-4475-bfb9-04358f80a072/0/2>

¹⁵ Edward Hunter, letter to bishops, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, Copybook 1844-1853*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 1, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/23928a06-210d-4ec0-96c2-909bcbcb6a3>

¹⁶ *American Fork Ward Historical Record, 1851-1883*, p.3, Church History Library LR 10636 22, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d8488c80-d541-4fca-ae0-1852041e5e2e>

¹⁷ Payson Branch report, 1851 September, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/b8a39d1f-dfe8-4023-9067-03f7d1128f67/0/0>

¹⁸ Springville Ward baptism report, 1851 September, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/78b6892b-7539-4830-8eb5-8a2653e423e7/0/2>, Reports, 1851 September, *Bishop's reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f384a527-25c9-4399-b9d9-770fcaad5caf/0/5>

¹⁹ Reports, 1851 September, *Bishop's reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f384a527-25c9-4399-b9d9-770fcaad5caf/0/2>

²⁰ *Latter-day Saint Biographical Encyclopedia*, V.2 p.25, <https://archive.org/details/latterdaysaintbi02jensrich/page/24>

²¹ Reports, 1851 September, *Bishops reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f384a527-25c9-4399-b9d9-770fcaad5caf/0/10>

1851-09-14: "John Redford was appointed recorder for the **Provo City Church**"²²

1851-10-22: mentions "American River at Bishop Harrington's" [**American Fork**]²³

October 23: George S. Clark writes to family members, "George is Bishop and President of this [**Pleasant Grove**] Ward."²⁴

Nov 16?: "**Pleasant Grove** & Battle Creek: A list of those who have been rebaptized in the branch since coming to the valley."²⁵ most baptisms are in American Creek, a few in Utah Lake or Battle Creek. No leaders mentioned, but George S. Clark is first in the list (often a sign of the presiding authority), and almost all baptisms performed by James Guymon (AF Branch) and George S. Clark, some by Hanson Walker. NO YEAR GIVEN IN REPORT, last date is "Nov 16" 1851-11-21..1859-02-24: Bishop Blackburn records bishops courts; not sure if this is a higher court than others, but rare indication of jurisdiction beyond Provo: Springville (1851) (*Elias H. Blackburn Papers*, Folder 5) Book lists members of 3rd Ward in January 1854

Dec 4: BY writes to "David Evans, Bishop of Dry Creek"[Lehi]²⁶

December 21: Settlers at **Spanish Fork** organize themselves into "Spanish Fork Branch," President Stephen Markham with counselors, Bishop William Pace with counselors.²⁷

Dec 22: A third baptism report from Springville, President Asahel Perry and counselors²⁸

December 27: Benjamin F. Johnson writes from "Summit City" [Santaquin] about their new settlement.²⁹

1852

Jan 26: BY writes letters to James Pace (President of Payson Branch) and the High Council at Provo. The high council had disfellowshipped Pace and others; they appealed to Brigham

²² *Utah Stake General Minutes*, Church History Library LR 9629 11 V.9 p.20. This has been transcribed as *Short History of the Provo Branch, Utah County and Minutes of the Utah Stake of Zion, Utah County, 1852-1875*, BYU Special Collections Library BX 8677.9224

²³ George A. Smith, Journal 1851 April-November, 1852 July-December, *George A. Smith papers, 1834-1877*; Church History Library, MS 1322 box 2 folder 6 image 91, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/409aa44e-9b98-4576-afb1-a4a64e982729/0/90>

²⁴ George S. and Susannah Clark, letter October 23, 1851, transcript, FamilySearch Memories, <https://www.familysearch.org/memories/memory/151744943>

²⁵ Pleasant Grove and Battle Creek baptism report, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/545aee82-7693-4438-b66f-7189edc398c7/0/0>

²⁶ Brigham Young, letter to David Evans 4 Dec 1851, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.1*, p.22, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f7d18c09-51a0-42c6-8c73-10960c772d45/0/98>

²⁷ *Deseret News*, V.2 #6 (24 Jan 1852) p.23, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2579134>; more detailed report in *Spanish Fork Ward General Minutes*, Church History Library LR 8611 11 and Reports of the organization of Spanish Fork Branch, *Bishops reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d9975ffd-6175-4fa0-9545-af770af1f686/0/0>.

²⁸ Springville Ward baptism report, 1851 December, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/80b37694-da0e-465c-a36d-3bc847509942/0/1>

²⁹ Local Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.2 #6 (24 Jan 1852) p.22, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2579119>

Young, and he has accepted to hear the case at **General Conference**.³⁰ *Thus, the Provo High Council has jurisdiction over Payson.*

Feb 3: BY clarifies the Provo issue, stating a policy that “**the High Council have power to disfellowship the President of a Stake or Branch, or any other person within their jurisdiction; as also has the President and his Council, to disfellowship the High Council. The [General] Conference has not only the power, but also the right to arraign both the High Council, and President, and his Council and settle the matter for them.**”³¹

Feb 4: Thomas Bullock summons Benjamin Cross (Payson Bishop) to a meeting of the disputing parties and the Provo High Council at the **High Council in Great Salt Lake City** [Salt Lake Stake HC? Or Quorum of the Twelve?].³²

Feb 5: **Lehi** incorporated. Did the branch change its name at this time?

Feb 10: **Mountainville** Branch [Alpine] organizes itself with President Charles S. Peterson.³³

Feb 20: “Bishop Clark wrote from **Pleasant Grove, Utah County**...” In his letter, he mentions the councilors and clerk. (JH)

Feb 25: Bishop Harrington attends bishops meeting in GSLC. “Wanted to know if a sectional organization could not be entered into where a number of the neighboring bishops could assemble and make reports to an individual that might be appointed to preside.”³⁴ *Is he asking for a stake organization for northern Utah County, or just a regional bishops council?* Also at this meeting is Bishop Aaron Johnson of Springville Ward, and David “Ivins” of Dry Creek Ward

Feb 29: In **American Fork**, “The Bishop also stated he had been to the city and received his ordination as bishop of the ward.”³⁵ *first time the ward record calls itself a “Ward” instead of a “branch.”*

March: Re-baptism record for “**Mountainville Branch**”³⁶

April 3-5: Statistical reports submitted from settlements,³⁷ mp:700812 including (only what is different from the summary report below):

- Mountainville Branch, “Bishop Isaac Houston,” “Organized Feb 12, 1852, C.S. Peterson, Pres”
- “American Fork Ward, Bishop Leonard E. Harrington” also calls it “A.F. Branch”

³⁰ Brigham Young, letters to James Pace and the High Council of Provo, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.1, p.40, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f7d18c09-51a0-42c6-8c73-10960c772d45/0/134>

³¹ Brigham Young, letter to Asahel Perry 3 Feb 1852, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.1, p.42, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f7d18c09-51a0-42c6-8c73-10960c772d45>

³² Thomas Bullock, letter to Benjamin Cross 4 Feb 1852, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.1, p.43, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f7d18c09-51a0-42c6-8c73-10960c772d45>

³³ *Alpine Ward Historical Record*, p.1

³⁴ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.34, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/49>

³⁵ *American Fork Ward Historical Record* p.7

³⁶ Mountainville Branch baptism report, 1852 March, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/b1c78b73-803d-4125-a7d0-959e452ea66c/0/0>

³⁷ *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f8e49375-cc4e-4fab-9ec7-1e7dfe8112ee/0/14>

- “Provo City Stake,” “Isaac Higbee Pres,” “Bishop Elias Blackburn”
- Springville Branch, Bishop Aaron Johnson, Pres. Asahel Perry
- Payson Branch, Bishop Benjamin Cross, President James Pace (both with counselors)
- Evansville or Dry Creek Ward [Lehi], Bishop David Evans, 151 members

April 6: First comprehensive membership report of the Church, listing “wards” and “bishops,”³⁸ including “Utah Co. - Provo”:

- Mountainville Branch, Isaac Houston, 65 members
- Evansville [Lehi—no report]
- American Fork, Leonard E. Harrington, 75
- Pleasant Grove, George S. Clark, 123
- Provo, Elias Blackburn, 866 [not divided into wards].
- Springville, Aaron Johnson, 269
- Spanish Fork [no report]
- Payson, Benjamin Cross, 155
- Summit Creek, *listed in Juab County but no report*
- 1553 total members

April 19: Utah County Court establishes school districts, lining up with the settlements of Dry Creek/Lehi City, Lott Settlement [Saratoga Springs], Mountainville/Upper Dry Creek [Alpine], **American Fork Ward, Pleasant Grove Ward, Provo 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Municipal Wards**, Springville Survey, Spanish Fork Survey, Peteetneet Survey, Summit Creek Survey.³⁹ *These surveys would provide a good contemporary source for the intended extent of the wards.*

1852-05-22: Brigham Young: “I received a petition from 126 persons in Provo for a new organization of **that stake**, and praying that Elder George A. Smith might be appointed to preside there.”⁴⁰

May 26: Isaac Higbee writes to BY, denying many of the charges about his leadership that were apparently in the petition, but is fine with George A. Smith coming to preside.⁴¹

May 30: “G. A. Smith and a portion of his family are about to locate themselves at **Provo, Utah County**, and he has been appointed to preside over that branch.”⁴²

July 15: Conference at Evansville, attended by BY, HCK, Orson Pratt, George A Smith⁴³

1852-07-18: Conference held. BY appoints George A. Smith as president of the “stake” to replace Isaac Higbee (with Higbee’s support). “GAS nominated Isaac Higbee and Dominicus Carter as his counselors, carried.” High Council “of this stake” sustained: Asahel Perry (Springville), Thomas Guymon (Springville), James A. Smith (Provo), Samuel Clark (Provo),

³⁸ Bishops Reports, 1852 April, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f667e21d-c265-4247-af91-9d4fce693508/0/0>

³⁹ *Utah Stake Manuscript History*, primary source not cited

⁴⁰ *Historian’s Office History of the Church*, Church History Library CR 100 102 box 9 V.22 p.50, https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE231983

⁴¹ Isaac Higbee to Brigham Young, *Brigham Young Office Papers: General Correspondence*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 22 folder 16 sheet 15, https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE3949191

⁴² Letter from Elder Robert Campbell, May 30 1852, *Millennial Star*, V.14 #32 (October 2 1852), p.508, <https://archive.org/details/MStarVol14/page/n513/mode/2up>

⁴³ *Lehi Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.1

James Ivie, Alex Williams, A. Johnson (Springville), Wm. Pace (SF?), John Banks (PG?), P.W. Conover, David Canfield, Wm Miller (Springville). Bishops: "Elias Blackburn was sustained as Bishop of **3rd Ward**; Jonathan O. Duke ' ' ' **1st Ward**; James Bird ' ' ' **2nd Ward**; Wm Wall ' ' ' **4th Ward**; Wm Fossitt for **Ward at the mouth of Provo Creek**"⁴⁴ E.H. Blackburn retains some duties of a presiding bishop (*Blackburn registry*) *Mouth of Provo Creek? Is that north of Provo, or West? Fausett eventually becomes bishop of the 4th Ward, which suggests north.*

1852-07-19: Bowery erected in **Pleasant Grove** "for the occasion, and at two o'clock the meeting was called to order by President Young.⁴⁵ After being opened by singing and prayer, he asked for some person to explain the difficulties which were rumoured concerning the Bishop, but there was not any present; on inquiries being made, the people voted to sustain George S. Clark as the Bishop of the ward." Some discussion on whether they want a separate presiding elder. "On motion, Henson Walker was voted to be the Presiding Elder of the **Pleasant Grove Branch**." "Not only did the President and his company start for the American Fork, but also the whole congregation took up the line of march to accompany them. On arriving at the river, it was arranged for brothers Pratt and Smith to preach in the School House, which they did, to a large congregation, while Presidents Young and Kimball, and Joseph Young travelled on to **Evansville School House**." *[Lehi]* (JH: This same information can be found on page 6 of 20 July.)

July 19. **Battle Creek** conference. BY references rumored difficulties in the branch: Geo Clark is bishop of the ward, Duncan McArthur has been presiding, but the branch "was not regularly organized," and apparently some contention over who is in charge. BY: "for the present, let the boundaries of the wards remain as they are" (American Fork, Pleasant Grove). Congregation sustains Clark as Bishop. After sermons, Bro. Henson Walker was nominated as presiding elder of the Pleasant Grove branch, sustained. GAS speaks, possibly as stake president.⁴⁶

July 28: G.A. Smith stays in "**Lehi**" on his way to live in Provo.⁴⁷

July 29: G.A. Smith arrives in Provo

1852-08-01: G.A. Smith calls and ordains bishops and counselors for **1st Ward** of Provo (Jonathan O. Duke) and **4th Ward** of Provo (William Madison Wall)^{48 49} (*Short History*, p.1)

⁴⁴ *General Church Minutes*, 1852 July 15-19 (original minutes in Thomas Bullock's shorthand), Church History Library CR 100 318 box 2 folder 38 p.29 <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7e0a8a20-b217-49f7-a91e-85464412d924/0/28>; original minutes by Thomas Bullock in *Lehi Ward General Minutes*, V.3 Church History Library LR 4817 11, p.5; Visit of President Young and Suite to Utah County, *Millennial Star*, V.14 #40 (November 27, 1852) p.630-631, <https://archive.org/details/MStarVol14/page/n635/mode/2up>

⁴⁵ *Lehi Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.8

⁴⁶ *General Church Minutes*, 1852 July 15-19 (original minutes in Thomas Bullock's shorthand), Church History Library CR 100 318 box 2 folder 38 p.32-33. <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=7e0a8a20-b217-49f7-a91e-85464412d924&crate=0&index=31>; Visit of President Young and Suite to Utah County, *Millennial Star*, V.14 #40 (November 27, 1852) p.630-631, <https://archive.org/details/MStarVol14/page/n635/mode/2up>

⁴⁷ George A. Smith Journal, image 101

⁴⁸ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, p.1

⁴⁹ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.38, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/53>

1852-08-04: "Bro. Wm Pace was ordained **Bishop of Palmyra** by Prest G.A. Smith", then they located the site of Palmyra City.^{50 51}

1852-08-15: G.A. Smith ordains bishop and counsellors of **2nd Ward** of Provo (James Bird) and a counsellor to bishop Wm Fausett of the **5th Ward**^{52 53}

1852-08-16: groundbreaking for Meeting house on the Public Square (*Short History* p.1)

1852-08-22: G.A. Smith ordains 2nd counselor of **4th Ward**, and makes Dominicus Carter and Isaac Higbee his own counselors (what about stake presidency?) (*Short History* p.2)

No records in *Utah Stake General Minutes*, 1852-08-22 to 1855-06

Sep 18: "A General meeting or conference in American Fork...of the inhabitants of American Fork, Evansville, Pleasant Grove, & Mountainville," presided by "Pres't" G.A. Smith, who says he has been "appointed to the County of Utah".⁵⁴ George S. Clark ordained Bishop (**Pleasant Grove**)⁵⁵ Bishop Blackburn (Provo) speaks but it is not clear whether he is PB over this area.

Sep 19: North county conference continues: "Bro. [Isaac] Houston of **Alpine** was then ordained to the office of Bishop by Pres. G.A. Smith."⁵⁶ Smith and others occasionally call all of these "wards." *So Smith has authority over the entire county, although there is no hint in this record if the high council does. Did Bishop Houston replace President Peterson or dual-leader?*

Sep 27: In a letter to Samuel Richards, George A. Smith says the following: "I was appointed by the Presidency of the Church to preside over the Saints in **Utah county**, which is the second in population in the Territory. The settlements extend in this county a distance of about fifty miles. The different Branches are known as **Mountainville, Lehi city, American Fork, Battle creek, Provo city, Springville, Palmyra city, Payson, and Summitville.**" "In **Springville** there is a school-house building... School-houses have been erected in almost every neighbourhood."⁵⁷

October 1: "Minutes of the Semi-annual Conference of **Provo Stake of Zion** held at Provo City. . . present President George A. Smith and John Taylor of the Quorum of the Twelve, Isaac Higbee and Dominicus Carter counsellors to the President; N.H. Felt travelling bishop . . . most of the high council, the President and council and most of the bishops of this stake."⁵⁸

October 3: "presented President Geo A Smith as Travelling Presiding High Councilor of this county and his counsel to wit Isaac Higbee & Dominicus Carter, carried, also Prest of **the stake** Isaac Higbee & counsel to wit John Blackburn & J.T. Willis, carried, also the high counsel, which

⁵⁰ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, p.1; George A. Smith Journal, Church History Library MS 1322 p.102, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=409aa44e-9b98-4576-afb1-a4a64e982729&crate=0&index=101>

⁵¹ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.39, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/54>

⁵² *Utah Stake General Minutes*, p.1

⁵³ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.39, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/54>

⁵⁴ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.8

⁵⁵ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.50, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/65>

⁵⁶ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.9

⁵⁷ Prosperity of Utah County, Utah Territory, letter from Elder G.A. Smith, *Millennial Star*, V.14 #42 (December 11, 1852) p.668, <https://archive.org/details/MStarVol14/page/n673/mode/2up>

⁵⁸ Provo Stake conference minutes, 1852 October 1-3, *Historians Office Local Unit Minutes*, CHL CR 100 589 box 1 folder 26 p.1, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/34be37fe-aa7f-4f5a-be44-c0ac5b77f086/0/0>

is as follows Asahel Perry, President, Thomas Guymon, James A. Smith, James R. Ivie, Samuel Clark, Aaron Johnson [Springville], William Pace, Harlow Redfield, John Banks, J.W. Conover, David Canfield, William Miller.”⁵⁹

October 1: Statistical Reports from wards.⁶⁰ Unlike summary report below, The “Provo Stake” (now clearly county-wide) itemizes the wards:

- George A. Smithm Pres’t
- 1st Ward of Provo City, Bp J.O. Duke, 196 members
- 2nd “ “ “, Bp James Bird, 186m
- 3rd “ “ “, Bp E.H. Blackburn, 189m
- 4th “ “ “, Bp Wm M Wall, 377m
- 5th “ “ “, Bp Wm Fausett, 210m
- Lehi City Ward, Bp David Evans, 260m
- Mountainville Ward, Bp I. Houston, 112m
- American Fork Ward, Bp LE Harrington, 153m
- Pleasant Grove Ward, Pz H. Walker, Bp Geo. Clark, 252m
- Springville Ward, Pz A. Perry, Bp. A. Johnson, 402m
- Palmyra or Spanish Fork Ward, Pz J. Markham, Bp. Wm Pace, 179m
- Payson Ward, Pz Jas McLelan, Bp. B. Cross, 193m
- Summit Ward, Pz Benj Johnson, 42m [*Bishop Holman not called yet*]
- Total 2751 members

October: first permanent settlers in Cedar Fort area [MH]

October 4: James S. Holman “ordained a bishop to preside over the branch of the church at **Summit City**, Utah County [Santaquin]” by George A. Smith, J.L. Heywood & Isaac Higbee⁶¹
Does not appear in Smith’s journal

October 5: G.A. Smith lays out a plat for **American Fork**, then visits Bishop Houston in Mountainville.⁶² Lays out a town plat for Mountainville.

October 6: Church Statistical Report only gives one report for “Provo Stake, Isaac Higbee” (president?), 2751 members. *This membership definitely includes the entire county. A draft report includes a list of the settlements that are crossed out, along with George A. Smith as president.*

1852-10-14: In SLC, B. Young calls G.A. Smith to return to Iron County to “preside over the affairs of that section” and survey Cedar City.⁶³

1852-10-18: G.A. Smith writes to David Evans nominating Charles Hopkins as **president of the branch at Lehigh City**, “it being the unanimous choice of the people.”⁶⁴

⁵⁹ Provo Stake conference minutes, p.3

⁶⁰ Bishops Reports, 1852 October, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/feeb487e-5e0e-468d-9c85-06c172bb0e24/0/26>

⁶¹ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.42, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/57>

⁶² G.A. Smith Journal image 107

⁶³ G.A. Smith journal 1851-1852, p.108, Church History Library MS 1322, box 2 folder 6

⁶⁴ G.A. Smith journal p.110

1852-10-20: G.A. Smith, as he leaves Utah County for the south, writes to Asahel Perry "Advising him to appoint Lorenzo Johnson to preside at Springville."⁶⁵ *Unclear if he ever served* Late November, G.A. Smith returns from his visit to Iron County. In December, he attends the legislature as a delegate from Iron County. Apparently, he still has oversight there as well.

1852-12-19: Elders Lyman and Rich wrote an article in the Deseret News about their travels and said the following: "We called at **Payson**, but to our astonishment, we did not find the Saints here as at other places; whether their Presidency and Bishoprick is dead, temporal or spiritual, or both we cannot say, but we feel certain they cannot be alive; we have no doubt but the Saints would be Saints indeed if they had a President and Bishop to take them by the hand and lead them; we stopped at **Springville**, where we were received by Bishop Miller and the Saints..." (JH p.2)

21 December: Bishops meeting in Salt Lake City includes Bishop Aaron Johnson [**Springville**] and Bishop Harrington of **American Fork**, who report on their "wards."⁶⁶ Bishops from Salt Lake, Davis, Utah, and Tooele Counties are mentioned.

28 December: List of members and wards in Utah, includes **American Fork Ward, First Ward Provo, Second Ward Provo, Third Ward Provo, Fourth Ward Provo, Fifth Ward Provo, Springville (Hobble Creek) Ward, Lehi City Ward, Palmyra Ward, Pleasant Grove Ward, Payson Ward, Summit Creek Ward, Mountainville Ward** ⁶⁷

1852-12-31: Bishops statistical reports for Y.E. 1852 lists "Provo Stake" led by Isaac Higbee, but not itemized into wards

1853

January 1: school house dedicated in **Palmyra Branch**. "Proposed by Bro. Markham that inasmuch as the bishop Bro. Pace lived so far from the town, that Bro. John Wm Berry act as bishop for Palmyra in the absence of Bro. Pace."⁶⁸ *Markham is not called President in this page, but he is a couple pages later.*

January 18: At a presiding bishops meeting, "Bishop Harrington reported ... the Ward over which he presided at **American Creek**." "Bishop Pace, from **Spanish Fork Settlement**"⁶⁹

⁶⁵ G.A. Smith journal p.111

⁶⁶ JHC 21 Dec 1852, citing "original minutes on file"

⁶⁷ Registry of the names of persons residing in the various wards, December 28th 1852. *Brigham Young Office Files: President's Office Files: Office Memorandum Books 1852-1871*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 79 folder 12.

https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE4145451

⁶⁸ Record of Palmyra Branch, *Coonville Branch Record*, Church History Library LR 4867 21 p.27, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/4e7d3460-9fa4-49ce-8877-94c4aaa1c4e8/0/24>. Silas Hillman had been clerk in Coonville Iowa; he took the book when he emigrated in 1852; when he settled in Palmyra, he was called as clerk there and continued using the same book.

⁶⁹ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.49, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/64>

January 30 etc.: Bishop William Pace is clearly still part of **Palmyra Branch**, and acts as Bishop whenever possible, even though he is not living nearby (apparently, in the upper Spanish Fork valley, closer to the current city).⁷⁰

February 22: "President George A. Smith" visits **Palmyra Branch**.⁷¹

March 3: **Springville** (branch? ward?) baptism report, President Asahel Perry⁷² *The bishop is never mentioned in these; so in a dual-leader unit, the president was responsible for membership records?*

March 22: up to this date, **Palmyra** was consistently called a branch in this record, but "A meeting of **Spanish Fork Ward** was called on the evening of the 22nd of March for the purpose of dividing the ward and appointing a bishop for the new ward by Pres. Geo A. Smith." Stephen Markham is ordained the bishop, with counselors.⁷³ *Presumably, the other ward is Spanish Fork under Bishop William Pace.*

"There was some difficulty during the winter between the bishop and his councilor, and Geo A. Smith one of the twelve apostles had to come up to Palmyra to settle it. It I think originated about another man's wife, which the Bishop afterwards was sealed to. Geo A Smith at the time of settling the foregoing, divided the ward, making two: Palmyra City one, and what was then called Upper Settlement the other: Appointing Stephen Markham and ordaining him bishop of Palmyra Ward, and Pace remaining bishop of the other. At the foregoing organization which was March 22d AD 1853, I was chosen and ordained an high priest and first councilor to the bishop."⁷⁴

March 25: Stephen Markham ordained "a bishop for the town of **Palmyra**" by George A. Smith⁷⁵

April 3: "The Saints who had settled in **Cedar Valley, Utah**, were organized into a Ward; Allen Weeks, [Acting] Bishop. (JH p.1, CC, MH)

April 6: Church Statistical Report.⁷⁶ Same as October 1852, except dual presidents not listed, and:

- Provo City, Bp. Elias H. Blackburn (city wards not itemized)
- Palmyra, Bp. Stephen Markham
- Do. Upper Settlement [Spanish Fork], Bp. Wm Pace
- Pleasant Grove, Bp. Wm G. Stenett [Acting?]
- City of David [Alpine], Bp. Isaac Houston
- Payson, James McClellin [Bishop or President?]

⁷⁰ *Coonville Branch Record*, p.29

⁷¹ *Coonville Branch Record*, p.30

⁷² Springville Ward baptism report, 1852-1853, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c47b4025-0616-452c-b922-c0cfa705a366/0/0>

⁷³ *Coonville Branch Record*, p.32-33

⁷⁴ *Silas Hillman Autobiography*, BYU Special Collections MSS 61, p.42

⁷⁵ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.57, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/72>

⁷⁶ List of bishops' reports, 1853 April, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/48a21447-79a1-49ab-8d82-df19138a5f74/0/4>

April 6: statistical report from “Payson Branch, James McClellen President, Benjamin Cross, Bishop”⁷⁷

April 9: General Bishops meeting includes representatives from:⁷⁸

- Bishop Blackburn, Provo
- Bishop Clark, Pleasant Grove Ward
- Bro. McCornack, Dry Creek
- Bishop Harrington, American Fork
- Bishop Holman, Summit Creek

June 25: **Palmyra** visited by Geo. A. Smith and Bishop E. Blackburn.⁷⁹ *Is Blackburn still a stake presiding bishop?*

Summer: Summit City [Santaquin] abandoned during Walker War [MH]

Fall: due to Walker War, upper settlement (Bishop Pace) abandoned and all move into Palmyra (MH)

Oct 8: General bishops meeting includes representatives from:⁸⁰

- Pleasant Grove, Bishop George S. Clark
- Springville, Bishop Aaron Johnson
- American Fork, Bishop Harrington

October 8: Report of the Bishops at conference lists “Wards” with “Bishops” at Dry Creek [Lehi] (D. Evans), Mountainville [Alpine] (no report), American Fork (L.E. Harrington), Pleasant Grove (George S. Clark), Provo 1st (J.O. Duke), Provo 2nd (J. Bird), Provo 3rd (E.H. Blackburn), Provo 4th (Wm W Wall), Springville (Aaron Johnson), Palmyra (Stephen Markham), Payson & Summit Creek [Santaquin] (Benjamin Cross), and Cedar Valley (Allen Weeks)⁸¹_{mp:800205} *Spanish Fork not mentioned*

October: directory of local leaders includes the following in Utah County.⁸²_{mp:700323}

- **“Provo District”**: “President of Stake” Geo. A. Smith (I. Higbee & D. Carter counselors), “President of Branch” Isaac Higbee, high council (which is mostly from Provo but includes a few from Springville and Spanish Fork). **Provo City 1st Ward**, Bishop Jonathan O. Duke; **2nd Ward**, Bishop James Bird; **3rd Ward**, Bishop Elias H. Blackburn; **4th Ward**, Bishop William Madison Wall. *Not sure if “Provo District” extended further than Provo-Spanish Fork*
- **Lehi City** [not titled a ward or branch]: President Chas Hopkins, Bishop David Evans
- **Springville City**: President & Patriarch Asahel Perry, Bishop Aaron Johnson

⁷⁷ Report of Payson Ward, 1853 April, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7d336c2a-de57-458d-ad4e-aadef92e6a9c/0/0>

⁷⁸ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.60, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/75>

⁷⁹ *Coonville Branch Record*, p.51

⁸⁰ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.70, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/87>

⁸¹ Report of General Conference, *Deseret News* V.3 #19 (October 15 1853) p.74-75 <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2579576>

⁸² Utah Territory Officers Oct 1853, *Winter Quarters Municipal High Council Records 1846-1848*. Church History Library LR 6359 21 box 1 folder 3 p.90 <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=0ddc178b-8238-4ee7-aca4-b0dce74a6659&crate=0&index=90>. No explanation is given for why this book includes a much later report for a different place by a different scribe.

- **Palmyra City:** President of Branch & Bishop Stephen Markham
- **Spanish Fork Ward:** Bishop Wm Pace (no other leaders listed; this seems to be a less organized unit, possibly dependent on Palmyra)
- **Payson City:** President pro tem James McClellan, Bishop Benjamin Cross
- **Summit Creek Ward:** Bishop James Holman (no other leaders listed)
- **Cedar Valley Ward:** Bishop Allen Weeks
- **Lake City:** President of Branch & Bishop Leonard E. Harrington
- **Pleasant Grove Ward:** Bishop G.S. Clark, President Henson Walker
- *It seems like the ones called "Wards" are new/minor settlements, with the major settlements titled "City". Mountainville not listed.*

Dec: **American Fork Ward** sustains L.E. Harrington as "Bishop & President of the Ward."⁸³

1853-12-22: "Elder Henson Walker was ordained a High Priest and Bishop and set apart to preside in **Pleasant Grove, Utah County**, by Heber C. Kimball and Geo. A. Smith in the President's Office." (JH) George S. Clark has left for southern Utah.

Between October 1853 and April 1854: Bishop William M. Wall of Provo 3rd Ward ~~called on a mission to Australia~~, William Fausett (former bishop of 5th Ward) appointed the new bishop [MH] *Wall was called on a mission in February 1856, and was fighting in the Walker War at this time. Yet Fausett is listed as bishop after this—so Wall may have been released for a reason other than a mission.*

1854

Height of the Walker War in Utah County

March 24: BY writes to "Bishop Cross, Payson," mentions "your ward"⁸⁴

April 6: Church statistical report.⁸⁵ Same wards/leaders as previous October, except:

- Dry Creek (Lehi), no report. *Report for Dry Creek Ward in separate reports does not mention President Hopkins, but there isn't a space on the form for a president.*⁸⁶
- Mountainville, Isaac Houston
- Pleasant Grove, Hanson Walker
- Provo 4th, William Fausett
- Payson called a "branch" in separate report
- *Spanish Fork still not reported*

April 7: At general conference, BY calls George A. Smith as Church Historian and Recorder. While he retains a home (and a wife) in Provo, he ceases to function as the stake/region president, and Isaac Higbee becomes the de facto president.⁸⁷

⁸³ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.18

⁸⁴ Brigham Young, letter to Benjamin Cross 24 Mar 1854, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.1*, p.479, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f7d18c09-51a0-42c6-8c73-10960c772d45>

⁸⁵ Statistics of Utah Territory, 1854 April, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/de72ac25-66a4-403f-a2fb-356c65fa78bf/0/0>

⁸⁶ Bishops Reports, 1854 April, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0bcb9b1d-852e-4296-aaa5-4ac8d5756941/0/0>

⁸⁷ *Deseret News*, April 13 1854

April 8: At a general bishops meeting, attendance included:⁸⁸

- Bro. Stephen Markham, Palmyra Ward
- Provo 1st, 2nd, 3rd (Bishop Blackburn), 4th Wards
- Bro. Evans, Lehi
- American Fork
- Bro. Walker, Pleasant Grove
- Springville
- Mountainville

May 6: BY and others visiting "Battle Creek Fort," mentions "Bishop H. Walker"⁸⁹

May 7: BY company visits Provo, mentions "Bishop Richards"

May 24: 34th Quorum of Seventies organized in Provo under the direction of Pres. Joseph Young. (*Elias H. Blackburn Papers*, BYU Special Collections, Mss 785, Folder 1)

May 31: List of wards south of GSL City, with bishops, counselors, and clerk (and several measures of development, like the size of the fort, schools, and whether shade trees have been planted). It is clear that by this time, this is the general pattern.⁹⁰

- American Fork (L.E. Harrington)
- Mountainville (Isaac Houston)
- Lehi (David Evans)
- Pleasant Grove (Henson Walker)
- Provo 1st (Jonathan O. Duke)
- Provo 2nd (James Bird)
- Provo 3rd (Elias H. Blackburn)
- Provo 4th (William Fausett) [not Wm Wall??]
- Springville (Aaron Johnson)
- Palmyra (no leadership listed)
- Payson (Benjamin Cruse)

Summer: After being refused by GA Smith, **Spanish Fork** Upper Settlement residents obtain permission from Brigham Young to build a new fort closer to them where 300 S Main in Spanish Fork is now, which they call "Fort St. Luke" for reasons nobody remembers.⁹¹

5 Nov: American Fork holds a conference.⁹² L.E. Harrington sustained as "Bishop of this *Branch & Ward*." *However, throughout the rest of the record at this time, it exclusively calls itself a ward.*

November 12-22: G. A. Smith takes speaking tour through Utah County wards, from GSLC, clearly not presiding there anymore.

⁸⁸ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.88, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/105>

⁸⁹ *General Church Minutes*, CR 100 318 box 2 folder 52 image 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=435983e1-2d15-47b0-b35f-21328378bbc2&crate=0&index=1>

⁹⁰ Representation of Settlements South, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/46b12e45-ce40-4489-9716-23c94afa7b1b/0/0>

⁹¹ George A. Hicks, *History of Spanish Fork*, 1913, BYU Special Collections MSS 284, pp. 22-23

⁹² *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.20

December: Several new post offices announced, including “Taylorsville (Mountainville).” This name did not persist.⁹³

Dec 19: BY writes to the Utah County bishops:⁹⁴

- David Evans, Dry Creek
- L.E. Harrington, American Fork
- Hanson Walker, Pleasant Grove
- Elias Blackburn, Provo
- A. Johnson, Springville
- Stephen Markham, Palmyra

Dec 25: Bishop Benjamin Cross of **Payson** dies⁹⁵

During 1854 and 1855, “Bishop Alfred Cordon” frequently appears in American Fork.⁹⁶ *He is one of Edward Hunter’s traveling bishops, not bishop of Willard yet. He seems to have more direct authority here than the stake officials in Provo. During these years (1852-1855), there is no mention in the American Fork Ward Historical Record of any stake officials visiting from Provo; instead, home missionaries from neighboring north county settlements are common.* During 1854, the settlement in **Cedar Valley** is frequently called “Stone City.”⁹⁷ *Is this Cedar Fort?*

1855

1855-01-01: **Springville City** have a New Years celebration with “a procession as follows; --
1st, Captain John Taylor, with brass band.

...

5th, President A. Perry, and Councilors,
6th, Bishop, and Councilors.” (JH p.1)

Feb 12: Allen Weeks ordained “Bishop of Fort Cedar in **Cedar Valley**” by Edward Hunter⁹⁸ *He must have been an acting bishop prior to this*

1855-03-04..8: E.T. Benson & G.A. Smith tour Utah County wards, including the “branch at Provo”, on their way to Parowan

March 6: Report of Geo. A. Smith on travel in Utah County: “Elder Chas. B. Hancock was unanimously chosen **Bishop of Payson**, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Benj. Cross, and we ordained him. The branch organization was discontinued, and the Bishop directed to preside” with two counselors. “After partaking of their hospitality, we proceeded to the Fort of the

⁹³ New Mail Routes and Post Offices, *Deseret News*, V.5 #41 (21 December 1854) p.152, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2581542>

⁹⁴ Brigham Young, letter to bishops 19 Dec 1854, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.1, p.791, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f7d18c09-51a0-42c6-8c73-10960c772d45>

⁹⁵ Payson, *Deseret News*, (11 Jan 1855), V.4 #44 (11 Jan 1855) p.164, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2581688>

⁹⁶ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.20-35

⁹⁷ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.32, 34, 39

⁹⁸ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.99, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/116>

newly incorporated **City of Spanish Fork**, and were very kindly received by Bishop Wm. Pace.” Also mentions visits to Springville, Palmyra, Provo, Lake City, Pleasant Grove, Lehi, and Mountainville, but no indication of organization.⁹⁹

March 11: Census of population of **Palmyra Ward**: 254 members and authorities¹⁰⁰

April 6: Church statistical report.¹⁰¹ Same wards/leaders as previous April, except:

- Lehi (instead of Dry Creek), David Evans
- Spanish Fork, William Pace (and Palmyra still listed)
- Payson, Charles B. Hancock

April 6: General conference “voted that Isaac Higbee be dropped as President of the **Stake of Provo**, in Utah County; and that James C. Snow fill that office. Conference voted that Asahel Perry (who has been ordained a patriarch) be relieved from the duties of president of the branch at Springville, and that Aaron Johnson be the president of said **branch at Springville**.”¹⁰²

7 Apr: General bishops meeting includes bishops from Lehi, Lake City, Provo, Pleasant Grove, Springville, Spanish Fork, Palmyra City, and Cedar Valley Wards.¹⁰³

May 27: first record in *Stake General Minutes* 2nd period, talk by Bishop E.H. Blackburn and “President [James C.] Snow”¹⁰⁴

3 June: “Bro. Wm. M. Wall” reports on the Indians.¹⁰⁵ *Has he already been released as bishop of 3rd Ward?*

June 24: in a meeting of the seventies, during discussion of what if any local authority they have, it is mentioned the “Bro. J.C. Snow has superseded Bro. Geo A. Smith in the Pres’dcy of this County”¹⁰⁶

July 13: “Special Conference at Provo City, Pres’t B. Young.” Among other things, Young reprimands the saints for building some of their towns in different locations than where he told them.¹⁰⁷ *According to the JHC 7/15/1855, at this conference James C. Snow is officially sustained as president, with Dominicus Carter and James N. Jones as counselors.*

July 16: at the recent conference, “Pres. J.C. Snow chose his counselors, Bro. Dominicus Carter & James N. Jones.”¹⁰⁸ Bishop Duke (Provo 1st) mentions having “ward prayer meetings” (at his house), children’s blessing meetings, and bishops courts, but not Sunday sacrament meeting

⁹⁹ Our Home Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.5 #2 (March 21 1855) p.12, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2571140>

¹⁰⁰ *Coonville Branch Record*, p.52

¹⁰¹ Bishops’ reports, 1855 April, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1758a9b4-3e1e-4315-bf93-3debdd0c5e1d/0/0>

¹⁰² Minutes of the General Conference, *Deseret News*, V.5 #5 (April 11 1855) p.36 <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2572399>

¹⁰³ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.102, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/122>

¹⁰⁴ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, Church History Library LR 9629 11 V.10 p.1, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/da814a81-fed5-4040-a87a-2cfc46a96f52/0/0>

¹⁰⁵ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, Church History Library LR 9629 11 V.10 p.3, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/da814a81-fed5-4040-a87a-2cfc46a96f52/0/2>

¹⁰⁶ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.20

¹⁰⁷ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.23

¹⁰⁸ Jonathan O. Duke, *Reminiscences and Diary*, p.25, Church History Library MS 136

July 27: GA Smith visits the settlements in Utah Valley: Provo "President J.C. Snow," Payson "Bishop Charles B. Hancock," Palmyra, Springville "President Aaron Johnson", Spanish Fork "Bishop Wm. Pace"¹⁰⁹

August 5: In regular Sunday meeting, JC Snow ordains James N. Jones a high priest and "his second counsellor to this stake of Zion."¹¹⁰

24 August: David Pettigrew (pres. HP Quorum, Salt Lake Stake?) visits Mountainville, Bishop Isaac Houston; Lehi, Bishop Evans; Battle Creek, Bishop Walker; Springville, Bishop A. Johnson; Payson, Bishop Charles W. Hancock; American Fork, Bishop L.E. Harrington.¹¹¹ *Pettigrew advises and organizes High Priests in these settlements, clearly asserting authority beyond Salt Lake Stake.*

September 2: Meeting of High Priests in Provo, General President David Pettigrew calls Emer Harris "to preside over the High Priests in this City."¹¹²

September 23: Census of population of **Palmyra Ward**: 249 members and authorities.¹¹³

October 6: Statistical report lists "wards" with "bishops," including Mountainville: I Lone City: I Houston, Lehi: D Evans, Cedar Valley (no report), American Fork: LE Harrington, Pleasant Grove: H Walker, Provo 1: JO Duke, Provo 2: J Bird, Provo 3: EH Blackburn, Provo 4: W Fawcett, Springville: A Johnson, Spanish Fork: W Pace, Palmyra: S Markham, Payson: CB Hancock.¹¹⁴ *Separate unit reports in same file says that "Lone City" was suggested by Pres. H.C. Kimball*

8 Oct: General bishops meeting has representatives from wards including Provo, Springville, Palmyra, American Fork, Spanish Fork, Pleasant Grove.¹¹⁵ *Note both Palmyra and Spanish Fork. There is also a "Lone Ward," which is probably Alpine*

October 26: Conference. Appears to be the introduction of local missionaries.¹¹⁶ American Fork mentions many of its members attending, strengthening that it was part of the stake.¹¹⁷

Nov 7: "council of the bishops of the county"¹¹⁸

December 1: Conference at Palmyra School House. Appears to be led by Wm. Snow & A. Farr, some of the local missionaries¹¹⁹

3-4 December: Several apostles hold meetings in Lehi and Spanish Fork [not Palmyra] on their way to the legislature in Fillmore.¹²⁰ These are probably not home mission quarterly conferences, and no local leaders are mentioned.

¹⁰⁹ *St. Louis Luminary* 1:44:175; Our Correspondence, *Deseret News* V.5 #21 (Aug 1 1855) p.168 <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2570793>

¹¹⁰ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.50

¹¹¹ Missionary Visit, *Deseret News*, V. 5 #33 (Oct 24 1855) p.261

¹¹² *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.63

¹¹³ *Coonville Branch Record*, p.52

¹¹⁴ Bishops' reports, 1855 October, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/4fafdf12-abf1-4bd3-8cbc-21f4dcf98f05/0/2>

¹¹⁵ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.114, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/134>

¹¹⁶ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.90

¹¹⁷ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.41

¹¹⁸ J.O. Duke diary p.33

¹¹⁹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.144

¹²⁰ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1854-1859*, p.89, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ed47e448-2936-4a1d-a4d8-4b5f96a8d1ac/0/90>

Dec 22: Bishop Wm Miller (Provo High Council? Presiding Bishop?) organizes an Elder's quorum in Springville, Pres. Gardiner Curtis¹²¹

1856

January 27: In discussing sustaining local leaders, James C. Snow speaks of bishops almost exclusively; it is clear that by this point, they are the primary authorities, at least in the outlying settlements. The fact that all of Provo is still meeting every Sunday suggests that the 4 Provo wards are less congregational.¹²²

"In February of this year John W. Berry went to see Pres. Brigham Young on business. Whilst there a conversation arose in regard to Palmyra and it was the feeling of the President to have the place broken up and recommended that the brethren through him [Berry] to move to the new location of Spanish Fork."¹²³

William Pace called on a mission to Britain

February?: "Pres James C. Snow and D Carter came here [Spanish Fork] and appointed J.L. Butler and J.W. Berry to be presiding officers in this ward with instructions for them to be united in their moves and council. This was reported to the President and he sustained it and appointed J.L. Butler Bishop of Spanish Fork Ward."¹²⁴ *Some secondary sources (MH) say that JW Berry was called as president, but this doesn't say so particularly. In the next entry they are called "Bp. & Councilor." Bill Hartley says Butler probably thought he was just acting bishop in Pace's stead at first.*

February 23: Brigham Young writes the saints at Palmyra: "Bishop Markham ... desiring counsel concerning the removal of your City location to the Bluffs at **Spanish Fork City**. The first presidency...it was unanimously decided that this would be best for you to remove to the bluffs [Spanish Fork] and use your present city flat for farming purposes."¹²⁵ *That is, merge the two settlements*

February 24: 4th Ward Bishop William M. Wall called on a mission to India.¹²⁶ *The Indian Mission was closed, and he ended up serving in Australia.*

March 14: President J.C. Snow speaks at American Fork.¹²⁷ *This is the first time this record mentions him visiting in anything like a presiding role.*

Spring: First permanent settlers in Pond Town (**Salem**), most coming from Palmyra.¹²⁸

¹²¹ *Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes*, V.32 (Springville) p.2, Church History Library LR 9629 13

¹²² *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.191

¹²³ *Spanish Fork Record of Members*, Family History Library film 27309 item 2, Church History Library LR 8611 29

¹²⁴ *Spanish Fork Record of Members*

¹²⁵ Brigham Young, letter to Palmyra 23 Feb 1856, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.2, p.582, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, [https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=7a67fc61-
ea19-4673-96d6-fd4d49d329ee/0/1194](https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=7a67fc61-
ea19-4673-96d6-fd4d49d329ee/0/1194)

¹²⁶ Missionaries, *Deseret News*, V.5 #51 (27 Feb 1856) p.405, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2572251>

¹²⁷ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.45

¹²⁸ Ted L. Hanks, *Summer Spring: An Historical Perspective of Salem, Utah*, 1990, p.39

Spring: Summit Creek [Santaquin] resettled, Bishop James S. Holman returns, President Benjamin F. Johnson [MH]

March 29: Final record of **Palmyra Ward**.¹²⁹ *Bishop Stephen Markham was probably released about this time.*

April 6: Report of members of “the Branch of the Church at South Creek, Cedar County” [Fairfield], Pres. William Cumington.¹³⁰

April-May: “The Bishop [Butler] went to Salt Lake City to see the president who ordained him to be Bishop of Spanish Fork Ward and gave him a letter of instruction and of council to the brethren.”¹³¹

April 26: “Quarterly Conference for the Provo Stake of Zion.”: speakers included Bishops Aaron Johnson [Springville], L.E. Harrington [AF], E.H. Blackburn [Provo 3rd], David Evans [Lehi], and Presidents James C. Snow [Provo], David Fullmer [Salt Lake Stake]. High council is completely reorganized.¹³²

May 13: William M. Wall (4th Ward Bishop) leaves on his mission to Australia¹³³

May 29: BY to “Bishop John L. Butler,” authorizing him to collect all the records from his predecessors in **Spanish Fork/Palmyra**: Stephen Markham and Wm. Pace¹³⁴ This confirms that he is the new permanent bishop, if “acting.” An attached letter to the members instructs the two settlements to stop bickering, move together, and work together to improve the town and surrounding fields.¹³⁵

June 1: JL Butler reads Young’s letter to the **Spanish Fork** Ward and is sustained as bishop and JW Berry as 1st Counselor. He calls GW Wilkins as 2nd counselor.¹³⁶ *Did this oblivate Berry’s call as President if he ever was? He is the go-to for temporary presiding in later years.*

June 12: BY writes the southern bishops, including “David Evans, Dry Creek; L E Harrington, American Fork; William Walker, Pleasant Grove; Elias Blackburn and the Bishops in Provo City; Aaron Johnson, Springville; John Butler, Spanish Fork; Charles Hancock, Payson.”¹³⁷ *Does not mention Mountainville, Cedar Valley, Santaquin, Palmyra*

June 28: James C. Snow, Dominicus Carter, and Bishop Elias Blackburn visit American Fork, clearly as stake representatives.¹³⁸

¹²⁹ *Coonville Branch Record*, p.94

¹³⁰ Bishops’ reports, 1856 April, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/90086001-7831-4e90-a9d6-25f80cd04ce5/0/20>

¹³¹ *Spanish Fork Record of Members*; John L. Butler, *Autobiography*, p.78, Church History Library MS 2952, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/8e634e8e-51e5-4db2-b2e6-1b20a56d034a/0/106>

¹³² *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.290

¹³³ *Missionary Reports*, 1857, Church History Library MS 6104, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/2e0ff31c-4ad0-4406-ba6e-491146dbe44d/0/0>

¹³⁴ Brigham Young, letter to John L. Butler 29 May 1856, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.2, p.744, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7a67fc61-ea19-4673-96d6-fd4d49d329ee/0/1518>

¹³⁵ Brigham Young to John L. Butler and the brethren of Palmyra and Spanish Fork, May 29 1856, *Brigham Young Office Papers: Letterbooks*, V.2, p.746, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7a67fc61-ea19-4673-96d6-fd4d49d329ee/0/1520>

¹³⁶ *Spanish Fork Record of Members*

¹³⁷ Brigham Young, letter to southern Bishops 12 June 1856, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, Miscellaneous Letterbook 1855-1877*, p.61, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 15, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1732c22d-2937-4365-a1af-efc782ca1769>

¹³⁸ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.49

July 24: Reports of pioneer day festivities include:¹³⁹

- Springville: "President Aaron Johnson, Bishop Miller, bishops of several Wards."
- Provo City: "President of the Provo Stake of Zion," "19 Bishops and their counselors, each at the head of the citizens of his ward."
- Spanish Fork City: "Bishop" (no president)
- Payson: "Bishop Charles B. Hancock."

July 26: Conference.¹⁴⁰

August 23: Isaac Houston, bishop of Alpine, dies [CC, MH, Alpine Ward Records]

August 30: Lake City Home Mission Quarterly Conference.¹⁴¹ Joseph G. Hovey presiding [Home missionary?]; Bishops Evans (Lehi), Harrington (American Fork), and Walker (Pleasant Grove) present, as are "President James C. Snow and Bishop Blackburn of Provo". PB Elias Blackburn counsels members to "honor the Pres of the Stake." Pres. Snow speaks with clear authority over this area, but doesn't preside at the meeting.

September 27-29: Spanish Fork Home Mission Quarterly Conference.¹⁴² Home missionaries are presiding, but J.C. Snow and Bishop John Butler is present; J.W. Berry is listed as his counselor. *Berry left on a mission within a few months, replaced by AK Thurber.*

7 Oct: General bishops meeting has representatives from wards including American Fork, Pleasant Grove, Provo, Springville, and Payson.¹⁴³

8 October: Edward Hunter and counselors rebaptize and reconfirm several bishops,¹⁴⁴ including:

- Leonard E. Harrington, bishop of Lake City
- John Lowe Butler, bishop of Spanish Fork
- Henson Walker, bishop of Battle Creek
- Aaron Johnson, bishop of Springville
- David Evans bishop of Lehi City
- Allen Weekes, bishop of Cedar Fort

October 16: JC Snow encourages the Fourth ward to build a Ward House.¹⁴⁵

24 October: Provo City has a single High Priests Quorum¹⁴⁶, Pres. Dominicus Carter, with teachers appointed for each ward. The ward bishops and (stake) President Snow are frequently present and speak.

¹³⁹ Twenty-fourth of July Celebrations, *Deseret News*, V.6 #22 (August 6 1856) p.170
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2573522>

¹⁴⁰ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.369

¹⁴¹ *American Fork Ward Historical Record*, p.51; Home Missions, *Deseret News* V.6 #29 (24 Sep 1856) p.228, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2573985>

¹⁴² Minutes, *Deseret News*, V.6 #33 (22 Oct 1856) p.258,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2574189>

¹⁴³ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.163, Church History Library CR 4 2,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/183>

¹⁴⁴ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.165-166, Church History Library CR 4 2,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/186>

¹⁴⁵ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.431

¹⁴⁶ Provo High Priests Quorum Minutes 1856-1859, p.1, *Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes*, Vol 1, Church History Library 9629 13

25 Oct: Home Mission Quarterly Conference in Pleasant Grove.¹⁴⁷ As usual, visiting missionaries preside. President Snow and Bishop Blackburn from Provo present and speak. October 26: mentions a Thursday meeting in the Third Ward. Is that when wards are holding separate meetings?¹⁴⁸

November 15: Conference¹⁴⁹

November 15: Thomas T. McCullough ordained "Bishop of Alpine City in place of Bishop Isaac Houston, deceased" by Edward Hunter¹⁵⁰

November 23: Pres. JC Snow gives a talk on bishops. Clearly, Bishops are the primary authority in wards (in Provo at least)¹⁵¹

November 29: Provo seems to have a single Elders Quorum, with teachers in each ward.¹⁵²

Bishop Blackburn is present and speaks with some authority. "The President" is often mentioned but no name given or indication of whether he is the quorum president or the stake president.

Baptism report from "the Branch of the Church at South Creek [**Fairfield**], Cedar County," President William Cummington.¹⁵³

By the end of 1856, it is fairly clear (but indirectly) from several sources that the stake has jurisdiction over the entire county.

Late 1856-Early 1857: Lycurgas Wilson made the first presiding elder of Pond Town, part of Payson Ward.¹⁵⁴

1857

January 8: talk about block teachers in Provo¹⁵⁵

January 10: In Provo Elders Quorum meetings, "the Danish Elders" are being reported by teachers separate from the other wards.¹⁵⁶ Is it a separate branch? This continues for a few months, then stops.

January 21: Bishop JO Duke (Provo 1st) "commenced to hold block meetings through the ward"¹⁵⁷

¹⁴⁷ Minutes, *Deseret News*, V.6 #36 (12 Nov 1856) p.284, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2574423>

¹⁴⁸ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.446

¹⁴⁹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.482

¹⁵⁰ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.173, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/194>

¹⁵¹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.513

¹⁵² Provo Elders Quorum Minutes, p.1, *Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes*, Vol 20, Church History Library LR 9629 13

¹⁵³ South Creek Branch (Fairfield) baptism report, circa 1856, *Historian's Office rebaptism records, 1848-1876*, Church History Library CR 100 591, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d4d7d8b5-9d49-4d4a-976c-9e78574157ae/0/0>

¹⁵⁴ Lee R. Taylor, *Salem, City of Peace*, 1954, p.7

¹⁵⁵ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.638

¹⁵⁶ Provo Elders Quorum Minutes

¹⁵⁷ J.O. Duke diary, p.43

April 7: General Bishops meeting includes representation from wards in Springville, Pleasant Grove, Four Wards of Provo, Lehi City, American Fork, Spanish Fork, Payson, Santaqui, Alpine City, Cedar Valley¹⁵⁸

22 June: BY writes to many bishops, including:¹⁵⁹

- David Evans, Lehi Ward
- L.E. Harrington, American Fork Ward
- Hinton Walker, Pleasant Grove Ward
- President J.C. Snow & Bishops of Provo City
- Aaron Johnson, Springville Ward
- John L. Butler, Spanish Fork Ward
- Charles B. Hancock, Payson Ward
- James S. Holeman, Santa Quin Ward

First settlers at Pondtown [Salem], part of Payson, led by Lucurgus Wilson [MH]

Spring: First settlers in the Goshen valley, PE Phineas Cook [MH]

1858

New settlers in Goshen Valley build a fort called Sodom, 2.5 miles NW of the present town [MH]

Spring: Pleasant Grove Ward transfers tithing to other wards in the area, including Fort Cedar (Bp. Allen Weeks), Summit Creek (Bp. Holman), Payson/Peteetneet (Bp. CB Hancock), Alpine City (Bp. TJ McCullough), Lehi, Spanish Fork (Bp. Butler), Springville, Provo, American-Lake City, and Goshen (Bp. Cook).¹⁶⁰

May 28: "Payson & Spanish Fork Cities cooperation [corporation? Cooperation?] line runs commencing at the NE corner of Pond Town field, N 160 rods (roist?) to the center of the sloughs, then following the center of the sloughs 3deg S of West to where they form Duck [Duels?] Creek to Payson coporation line, then North to Utah Lake, from this point 37 degrees S of East to Water Kanyon."¹⁶¹ *Is this the ward boundary? Does it make sense?*

June 6: Wilford Woodruff and Orson Hyde visit Pondtown [Salem]. "We organized the pondtown district into a ward and we appointed A.O. Smoot Bishop and to preside over the people in that place."¹⁶² *Is this a temporary appointment during the move south? A.O. Smoot is still bishop of Sugar House Ward and mayor of SLC. David P. Rainey appears to have been called as bishop soon after*

¹⁵⁸ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.199, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/220>

¹⁵⁹ Brigham Young, letter to bishops 22 June 1857, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.3*, p.640, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=99279f54-9c69-41a1-ac5d-e6069f9a2920>

¹⁶⁰ *Pleasant Grove Ward Tithing Records*, Church History Library LR 7005 23 box 1 folder 24

¹⁶¹ James C. Snow, Journal 1857 December-1860 December, *James C. Snow papers*, Church History Library MS 32834, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/539bcb0f-6fe6-4227-b84e-8f9960d0a1ee/0/21>

¹⁶² *Wilford Woodruff Journal*, 1854 Jan-1859 Dec, p.310, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ed47e448-2936-4a1d-a4d8-4b5f96a8d1ac/0/311>; James Kilfoyle, *Journal*, p.53, Church History Library MS 2597

June 27: Conference, attended by President James C Snow & J.N. Jones, First Presidency and several of the Twelve.¹⁶³

July 11: "Pres't James C Snow said in consequence of Bishop E.H. Blackburn being called to take care of the tithing matters on the Bench [Orem??] I have appointed Bishop Wm. M. Wall Bishop Pro Tem of the 3d Ward," sustained unanimously.¹⁶⁴

August-December: *General Minutes* only records a couple meetings; apparently clerk Lucius Scovill is temporarily away?

Sep 9: Letter to Hiram B. Clawson from "David P. Rainey, Bp., Pond Town"¹⁶⁵

~~December 26: Alpine Bishop Isaac Houston dies, T.J. McCullough takes over~~¹⁶⁶ See 1856

After the Move South, William McBride replaces James Holman as bishop of Santaquin, President B.F. Johnson is released and no president is continued [MH]

1859

February: Edward Hunter ordains David P. Rainey as bishop of Salem/Pond Town [MH]

March 1: President Snow lays out a city plat at Goshen¹⁶⁷

March 6: President Snow's counselors are now Dominicus Carter and Silas Smith.¹⁶⁸

March 21: First presidency writes "Bishop David P. Rainey, **Pond Town**."¹⁶⁹

23 March: Judge Cradlebaugh is holding court in Provo, trying to arrest as many leaders as he can, including President James C. Snow and Aaron Johnson¹⁷⁰

Cyrus Wheelock is temporarily presiding over **Springville** while Bishop Johnson and other leaders are in hiding.[MH] He may have ceased in the fall when Johnson returned.

May 8: "Elders George A Smith and Ezra T. Benson of the quorum of the Twelve, visited Spanish Fork Ward and held meeting, and set apart John W. Berry as president of Spanish Fork Ward."¹⁷¹ *Butler in his illness had asked for someone else to take charge of Sunday meetings. Albert Thurber is probably also acting as bishop for the time being.*

May 15: in his first meeting as president, John W. Berry refers to "the branch." Bishop Butler also speaks. The next week calls it a ward again.¹⁷²

¹⁶³ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1147

¹⁶⁴ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1168, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/da814a81-fed5-4040-a87a-2cfc46a96f52/0/1197>

¹⁶⁵ David P. Rainey, letter to Hiram B. Clawson 9 Sept 1858, *Brigham Young Office Files, Incoming Correspondence, General Letters, Pen-R 1858*, Church History Library CR 1234 1, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=fb63bc9d-2f98-4646-9be2-c645401e9b08>

¹⁶⁶ *Alpine Ward Historical Record*

¹⁶⁷ James C. Snow Journal

¹⁶⁸ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1186

¹⁶⁹ David O. Calder (First Presidency clerk), letter to David P. Rainey 21 March 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.5*, p.79, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁷⁰ *Wilford Woodruff Journal*, 1854 Jan-1859 Dec, p.390, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ed47e448-2936-4a1d-a4d8-4b5f96a8d1ac/0/391>

¹⁷¹ *Spanish Fork Ward Record*; John L. Butler, *Autobiography*, p.99, Church History Library MS 2952, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/8e634e8e-51e5-4db2-b2e6-1b20a56d034a/0/127>

¹⁷² *Spanish Fork Ward Record of Members*

May 16 1859: letter from Brigham Young “to the Saints in and about **Provo City**.” “We should like to have Silas Smith take charge of the Church affairs in that place for the present, and that Isaac Bullock to assist them till you hear from us.”¹⁷³ *Stake President? Presiding Bishop?*

May 22: Silas Smith and Isaac Bullock begin presiding over meetings. It sounds like Snow might be in hiding.¹⁷⁴

June 4: BY writes to “Bishop Elias Blackburn.” (Provo Pres Bishop) “Under existing circumstances while you are absent from the duties of your office, I wish you to give all matters pertaining to the tithing office into the hands of Elder Silas Smith.”¹⁷⁵ *So this is seen as temporary*

June 26: Silas Smith says, “I do know that Bro. Jas C. Snow & E.H. Blackburn stands fair with Pres’t B Young for he told me that he had nothing against either of them.”¹⁷⁶

July 5: First Presidency writes notes to several bishops in Utah County:¹⁷⁷

- Bp. J.L. Butler, Spanish Fork
- Bp. C.B. Hancock, Payson
- Bp. David Evans, Lehi
- Bp. Aaron Johnson [Springville]
- Bp. S.S. Smith [Provo APB/ASP]
- Bp. Wm McBride [Santaquin?]
- Bp. Allen Weeks, Cedar Co.
- Bp. L.E. Harrington, American Fork
- Bp. T.K. McCulloch, Mountainville
- Bp. Hanson Walker, Battle Creek

August 2: First Presidency reports a decision on appeal from the Provo High Council and “President Silas Smith”¹⁷⁸

August 29: First Presidency writes a follow-up to “Silas Smith, Acting Bishop and President in Provo.”¹⁷⁹

Fall: Goshen Valley settlers abandon Sodom, building two new towns, Mechanicsville near the old fort, and Sandtown a mile southwest of Sodom and 2 miles WNW of the current town [MH]

Fall: First settlers at Spring Lake

¹⁷³ Brigham Young to the Saints in and about Provo City, May 16 1859. *Brigham Young office files: Letterbooks*, Church History Library, CR 1234 1 box 5 v.5 p.137.

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123/0/330>

¹⁷⁴ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1189

¹⁷⁵ Brigham Young, letter to Elias Blackburn 4 June 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.146, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123/0/348>

¹⁷⁶ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1194

¹⁷⁷ A Milton Musser (First Presidency clerk), letters to William McBride et al 5 July 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.178-180, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁷⁸ First Presidency, letter to Silas Smith 2 Aug 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.201, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁷⁹ First Presidency, letter to Silas Smith 29 Aug 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.224, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

Sep 3: Brigham Young calls Aaron Johnson (Springville Bishop) and Elias Blackburn (Provo 3rd Bishop) on missions.¹⁸⁰

September: Bishop Blackburn called to Scandinavian Mission, released from 3rd Ward (*Blackburn Papers*, register)

4 Sep: mention of "John Berry, President of Spanish Fork"¹⁸¹

13 Sep: BY writes to "President Cyrus H. Wheelock, Springville"¹⁸²

14 Sep: BY writes to "President and Bishop Franklin W. Young:"¹⁸³ "It has been deemed best, in consideration of certain important circumstances of which you are aware, to ordain you to be the President and Bishop in Payson. Myself and Prest. Heber C. Kimball will be your counselors. [?!]...call upon Bishop Charles Hancock for the books..." p.265 it is called a ward.

October: statistical report from "Spanish Fork Branch," "John W. Berry, Pres't"¹⁸⁴

October 12: "Cyrus H. Wheelock, President at **Springville**"¹⁸⁵

Oct 22: In discussing Spanish Fork, BY clearly references "President John Berry" and "The Bishop"¹⁸⁶

Oct 22: BY writes "Bishop Aaron Johnson, Springville Ward"¹⁸⁷ *so he hasn't left on a mission, or it was very short*

October 26: Statistical report from "Spanish Fork Branch," "John W. Berry, President"¹⁸⁸

October 30: Edward W Clark appointed bishop of Provo 3rd Ward "in the place of Bishop Wm W. Wall who had resigned as his business call'd him in another place."¹⁸⁹ *Wall had left to settle Provo Valley [Heber City]*

¹⁸⁰ Brigham Young, letter to Jacob Gates and others 3 Sep 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.233, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁸¹ *Historian's Office Journal*, Church History Library CR 100 1 box 2 v.23 p.206, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/436e0e99-3fbf-45f6-8035-5cfa3a682fd0/0/209>

¹⁸² Brigham Young, letter to Cyrus H. Wheelock 13 Sep 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p., Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁸³ Brigham Young, letter to Franklin W. Young Sep 14 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.240, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123/0/534>

¹⁸⁴ Report of Spanish Fork Branch, 1859 October, *Bishops Reports 1848-1866*, Church History Library CR 100 592, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/719cd015-60ce-4bc2-b7fa-0f016d5028e4/0/1>

¹⁸⁵ *Historian's Office Journal*, Church History Library CR 100 1 box 2 v.23 p.266, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/436e0e99-3fbf-45f6-8035-5cfa3a682fd0/0/269>

¹⁸⁶ Brigham Young, letter to John Davis 22 Oct 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.280, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁸⁷ Brigham Young, letter to Aaron Johnson 22 Oct 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.281, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁸⁸ *Historian's Office Journal*, Church History Library CR 100 1 box 2 v.23 p.292, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/436e0e99-3fbf-45f6-8035-5cfa3a682fd0/0/295>

¹⁸⁹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1228, Church History Library LR 9629 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/da814a81-fed5-4040-a87a-2cfc46a96f52/0/1257>

Nov 7: BY writes "Bishop McBride, Santaquin"¹⁹⁰

November 13: "Counsellor Isaac Bullock Presiding," but James C. Snow speaks, so he has clearly been permanently released.¹⁹¹

November 26: BY writes "Pres. Cyrus H. Wheelock, Springville"¹⁹²

1860

January 18: Edward W Clark ordained a bishop by Orson Hyde, Ezra T. Benson, Prest Silas Smith & Bp Jonathan O. Duke. *Is Duke acting Presiding Bishop?*¹⁹³

January 20: Ezra T. Benson reports that he has just visited **Goshen** and disorganized it;¹⁹⁴ "Bishop Phineas Cook of that place was a very good man, but he lacked wisdom," kept telling his members about visions he was having, causing disputations on doctrine. MH says he was only a presiding elder.

Feb 5: "Silas Smith presiding and counselors I Bullock and JO Duke."¹⁹⁵ Duke is frequently presiding over meetings when Smith & Bullock are gone.

Feb 5: John W. Berry (**Spanish Fork**) [KWJH-C65] writes Brigham Young, clearly in a presiding role¹⁹⁶

15 Feb: William Price ordained bishop of **Goshen** by Brigham Young¹⁹⁷

Feb 17: Orson Hyde brings William Price to **Goshen**, where he is sustained.¹⁹⁸

February 21: "Spanish Fork, under the presidency of Elder John W. Berry..."¹⁹⁹

March 2: John W. Berry (**Spanish Fork**) writes George A. Smith (Church Historian) with a question about old ward records, clearly in a presiding role.²⁰⁰

¹⁹⁰ Brigham Young, letter to William McBride Nov 7 1859, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.5*, p.303, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

¹⁹¹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1261

¹⁹² Brigham Young Letter, *The Brigham Young Center*, <https://brighamyoungcenter.org/s/byp/item/10424>

¹⁹³ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1287

¹⁹⁴ Journal 1858-1863, *Brigham Young Office Files*, p.30, Church History Library CR 1234 1, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/59c492be-a813-4f8b-bc88-7cd952c95cdf/0/0>

¹⁹⁵ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1295

¹⁹⁶ John W. Berry, letter to Brigham Young, 5 Feb 1860, *Brigham Young Office Files, Incoming Correspondence, Ecclesiastical Files, Recommends, 1860*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 Box 64 folder 30, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=c22046f2-d879-4d50-a184-21d6557303cc>

¹⁹⁷ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.300, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/325>

¹⁹⁸ Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.10 #1 (7 March 1860) p.2, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2583762>

¹⁹⁹ Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.9 #52 (Feb 29 1860) p.411, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2590713>

²⁰⁰ John W. Berry, letter to George A. Smith, March 2nd 1860, *George A. Smith Papers*, Incoming letters 1860, Church History Library MS 1322, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7014d97f-8c71-41c3-8d58-99ba9ebd67c9/0/8>

March 26: BY Writes Spanish Fork Bishop John L. Butler:²⁰¹ "Owing to the state of your health, I have thought it best for you to roll the burden of all the business affairs of your ward upon Br. Thurber, your first counselor."

6 April: General bishops meeting includes representatives from the Payson, Lehi, American Fork, Springville, Battle Creek, and Provo Wards.²⁰²

April 10: Spanish Fork Bishop John L. Butler dies.

April: A.K. Thurber is "Acting Bishop of Spanish Fork Ward."²⁰³

April 18: BY writes "Pres. C.H. Wheelock, **Springville**"²⁰⁴ *so it is still a dual-leader ward*

July 17: Brigham Young notifies Silas Smith that **William Miller** has been ordained the Presiding Bishop for Provo City by Brigham Young on this day. Furthermore, "the time will probably come when it will be well to appoint a President in your place, but we do not deem it best to do so at present; meanwhile, Bro. Miller will act in the capacity of President."²⁰⁵ *This sure seems to suggest that the presidency of the stake was primarily for Provo city.*

July 22: Jonathan O. Duke (presiding) nominates "Bro. Wm Miller of Springville to be the Presiding Bishop of this place" carried. Miller says he plans to move to Provo.²⁰⁶

July 22: **Springville** Elders Quorum reorganized, present are Bishop Aaron Johnson and President C.H. Wheelock²⁰⁷

July 24: Annual Celebration is led by "Bishop William Miller (our newly appointed Bishop)." *No mention of a stake president*²⁰⁸

July 29: Letter from Brigham Young is read; interpreted by Miller "to take the Presidency of this County."²⁰⁹ in following months, he is called "President Miller". He doesn't call counselors, so the Provo bishops preside when he is absent.

Fall: In Goshen Valley, Sandtown and Mechanicsville are abandoned for a new town site ("Lower Goshen") 2 miles below Sandtown, 1.5 miles NW of the old fort, 4 miles from present town [MH]

6 Oct: General bishops meeting includes representatives from "Country Wards," including Lehi, Battle Creek, Provo, Spanish Fork, Payson, Pond Town, Springville, and Cedar Valley.²¹⁰

²⁰¹ Brigham Young to John Butler March 26, 1860, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.438, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123/0/916>

²⁰² *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.305, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123/0/916><https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/330>

²⁰³ *Spanish Fork Ward Record*

²⁰⁴ Brigham Young, letter to C.H. Wheelock 18 April 1860, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.5, p.468, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=adc114c8-073a-494e-98cf-c9d00a054123>

²⁰⁵ Letter from Brigham Young to Silas Smith and the Brethren in Provo, July 17, 1860. *Brigham Young Office Papers, General Outgoing Correspondence*, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 1 folder 8 sheet 14, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e075d080-0f07-4eef-b5d4-026b12c1d0cb/0/13>

²⁰⁶ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1342

²⁰⁷ *Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes*, V.32 (Springville) no page number

²⁰⁸ Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.10 #22 (August 1 1860) p.176 <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2584601>

²⁰⁹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1343

²¹⁰ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.319, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/346>

28 Oct: Special meeting at Provo with visiting First Presidency. Attendees include G.A. Smith, Bishop L.E. Harrington (American Fork), Bishop David Evans (Lehi), Bishop Walker (Battle Creek)²¹¹ BY stays at "Bishop Miller's"

December 2: Last entry in 2nd period of *Utah Stake General Minutes*.²¹² No more records until mid-1866.

David P. Rainey (Salem Bishop) moves to Cache Valley, replaced as "presiding Elder or Bishop" by Bryan Jolley.[MH]

First school house built in Provo 4th Ward, used for all meetings. [MH] First real meetinghouse isn't built until 1881. *What does this say about its ward-ness?*

1861

March 6: Provo Bishop William Miller accuses Springville President Cyrus Wheelock of killing stray cattle.²¹³

March 10: At a meeting of the Twelve,²¹⁴ Brigham Young sends Orson Hyde and G.A. Smith to "go through the settlements South and settle the difficulties. I want you to settle Cyrus Wheelock's difficulty." *Wheelock is president of Springville Ward*

March 13-14: Hyde and Smith hold meetings in Springville to investigate allegations of Cyrus Wheelock embezzling cattle.²¹⁵ Refers to "their minutes" for details, but when they return from Nephi a few days later, Wheelock calls the meeting to order, so he is apparently still president.

March 19: They announce a decision in the Wheelock case (what was it?), Wheelock "called the meeting to order"²¹⁶ *Wheelock is not mentioned again*

6 Apr: General Bishop's meeting, including the bishops of American Fork, Lehi, Pleasant Grove, Payson, Alpine, Springville, Summit Creek, and Provo²¹⁷

May 16: Brigham Young and company "spoke to the people in Springville upon the subject of the dealings of the people with Bishop A. Johnson. He sustained Bishop Johnson in his course."²¹⁸ *No mention of Cyrus Wheelock. Has he been released as president?*

7 Oct: General bishops meeting includes representatives from Pleasant Grove, Provo, American Fork, Cedar Valley, Lehi, Pond Town, Payson, Spanish Fork, Springville, Alpine "Wards."²¹⁹

²¹¹ *General Church Minutes, 1860 October 25-November 6*, p.9, Church History Library CR 100 318, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/af9d0821-6aa1-4826-876f-ca41a34682df/0/10>

²¹² *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.10 p.1384

²¹³ *Historian's Office Journal*, V.25 p.109, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f700a1d2-a506-4a0b-9ad4-3f9ec8654671/0/112>

²¹⁴ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1860-1865*, p.120, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/801702bf-e607-4f0d-82d0-e0f84b8c2406/0/125>

²¹⁵ George A. Smith, *Journal 1861 March 12-19, George A. Smith Papers*, Church History Library MS 1322, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/3a01b1d4-d24b-4ed6-8fdf-bd9eb4a6ab2b/0/2>

²¹⁶ *Historian's Office Journal*, V.25 p.122, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=f700a1d2-a506-4a0b-9ad4-3f9ec8654671/0/125>

²¹⁷ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.335, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/361>

²¹⁸ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1860-1865*, p.132, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/801702bf-e607-4f0d-82d0-e0f84b8c2406/0/137>

²¹⁹ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.351, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/377>

11 Apr: BY writes to “Bishop A.K. Thurber, Spanish Fork,” referencing a matter in “your place” (not called a ward), which was sent to Bishop Butler the previous March.²²⁰ *So the change in bishopric took place during this year*

15 Apr: BY writes to “Bishop Aaron Johnson, Springville”²²¹

30 October: Joseph W. Young arrives in **Payson**, having been ordained Bishop and set apart to preside over the ward in Salt Lake City. He then returned to collect his family, whereupon Bishop Franklin W. Young left for Southern Utah. JW Young returned 9 November.²²²

4 Nov: BY writes to “Bishop William Miller, Provo”²²³

Nov 24: “George Sinnett, Pres. of the Elders Quorum Sph. Fork ordained to that office by Pres. Berry”²²⁴

Benjamin F. Johnson presides at Spring Lake Villa [MH], probably part of Payson

Adobe schoolhouse completed in 1st Ward, its first [MH]

1862

9 Feb: Andrew Hunter Scott ordained bishop of “the 2nd Ward Provo City” by John Taylor and George A. Smith²²⁵ James Bird had left for southern Utah [MH]

20 Feb: John B. Fairbanks sustained as Bishop of Payson, as Joseph W. Young has been called to go to the Missouri River to superintend the emigration season.²²⁶ He is ordained by April 27, when he calls his counselors.

18 Feb: BY writes “Bishop L.E. Harrington, American Fork” about a member of “your ward”²²⁷

6 April: at a general priesthood meeting,²²⁸ “a difficulty between John Barry [Ward president] and Zebedee Coltrin of Spanish Fork was investigated. President Young spoke most of the

²²⁰ Brigham Young, letter to A.K. Thurber 11 April 1861, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.7*, p.69, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a&crate=0&index=0>

²²¹ Brigham Young, letter to Aaron Johnson 15 Apr 1861, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.7*, p.70, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a&crate=0&index=0>

²²² *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.3, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/6>

²²³ Brigham Young, letter to William Miller 4 Nov 1861, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.6*, p.4, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=0c8e23c5-4d6a-446f-8d81-108a52bd39c4>

²²⁴ *Spanish Fork Ward Record of Members*, p.434

²²⁵ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1851-1862*, p.362, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/d6ef2526-92a6-45f5-9906-6879ac3353b3/0/388>

²²⁶ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.4, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/7>

²²⁷ Brigham Young, letter to L.E. Harrington 18 Feb 1862, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.6*, p.141, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=0c8e23c5-4d6a-446f-8d81-108a52bd39c4>

²²⁸ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1860-1865*, p.200, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/801702bf-e607-4f0d-82d0-e0f84b8c2406/0/207>

Evening and gave instruction upon the different offices of the Priesthood. He told the different duties of the President of the Branch, the Bishop, and the different quorums.”

April 7: in one of several talks about bishops and presidents in wards, Orson Hyde says, “I am happy to inform you that I have never heard of any feeling of difficulty between the President and Bishop at Spanish Fork. Brother Young did not know of a single exception to the rule, but I have been informed by all parties that these brethren have never conflicted [President Brigham Young: I wish I had never heard anything to the contrary.]” The dual leadership of Thurber and Berry was one of very few this late.²²⁹

April 7: General bishops meeting includes bishops of “country wards:” Mountainville, Am’n Fork, Pleasant Grove, Provo, Springville, Span’h Fork, Payson, Goshen, Pond Town²³⁰

30 May: BY writes “Bishop A.K. Thurber, Spanish Fork” about an issue, mentioning acting Bishop Jolley in **Pondtown** [Salem].²³¹

Summer: H. Bryan M. Jolley (Salem bishop/PE) leaves for Southern Utah (Middleton), replaced by president Moses Curtis, Salem becomes a dependent branch of Payson [MH]

October 6: General Bishops Meeting includes representatives from the Cedar Valley, Alpine City, Lehi, Am’n Fork, Pleas’t Grove, Provo City, Springville, Span’h Fork, Pond Town, Payson, and Goshen Wards²³²

November: JW Berry released as ward president; He is called to settle in St. George. (MH) *He founded Berryville, later Glendale near Kanab*

10 Nov: G.A. Smith calls William E. Nuttall as acting bishop of Provo 3rd Ward, replacing Bishop Edward Clark who has resigned.²³³ *Clark has moved to Spring Lake near Payson.* MH says Nuttall was ordained at this time

29 Dec: BY’s office writes to F.W. Young, discusses earlier time when he was “Bishop of Payson”²³⁴

Small adobe school house built in 2nd Ward, its first. *What does this say about its wardness?*

1863

2 Jan: BY writes “Bishop McBride, Santaquin Ward”²³⁵

²²⁹ Orson Hyde, Bishops and Presidents, April 7, 1862. *Journal of Discourses*, V.10 p.31.
<http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/cdm/ref/collection/JournalOfDiscourses3/id/4346>

²³⁰ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.6, Church History Library CR 4 2,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

²³¹ Brigham Young, letter to A.K. Thurber 30 May 1862, Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.6, p.259, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=0c8e23c5-4d6a-446f-8d81-108a52bd39c4>

²³² *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.16, Church History Library CR 4 2,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

²³³ *Provo 3rd Ward General Minutes*, Vol 1s p.1, Church History Library LR 7223 11

²³⁴ A Milton Musser (Brigham Young’s clerk), letter to F.W. Young 29 Dec 1862, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.7, p.113, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a&crate=0&index=0>

²³⁵ Brigham Young, letter to Bishop McBride 2 Jan 1864, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.6, p.731, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=0c8e23c5-4d6a-446f-8d81-108a52bd39c4>

14 Jan: At the Bishop's meeting in Salt Lake City, Albert K. Thurber is ordained as "bishop of Spanish Fork" by Edward Hunter²³⁶ *So prior to this he had been acting*
 January 29: John Brown ordained bishop "to preside at Pleasant Grove" by Brigham Young.²³⁷
 27 Feb: Edward Hunter writes to Bishop Evans of Lehi mentions "your ward"²³⁸
 Spring: John W. Berry leaves Spanish Fork to settle in St. George.²³⁹ *Was he still ward president until then?*
 June 26: Conference, Brigham Young and several of the Twelve present, along with thousands from across the county. (DN 13:5)

1864

Spring: 1st Ward Bishop Duke resigns; his counselors take temporary charge of the ward [MH]
 June 8: BY writes to "Bro. Harrington, Bishop at **American Fork**."²⁴⁰
 July 10: Conference, Brigham Young and members of the Twelve present (DN 13:369)
 Sep 2: Church leaders passing through Payson stay with "Bishop John B. Fairbanks"²⁴¹ [KWNC-RK2]
 October: George A. Smith appoints John P.R. Johnson as bishop of Provo 1st Ward [MH] *conflicts with ordination 1866.*
 Oct 25: GA Smith replaces Wm E Nuttall as bishop of Provo 3rd Ward with Myron Tanner²⁴² *Nuttall is moving to Provo Valley [Heber]*
 Dec 24: A. Milton Musser diarizes, "The Pres't last evening directed me to blend the Santaquin Ward into Payson & install Bro. David Halliday as President over the Branch."²⁴³ *Musser is a traveling bishop who does various ecclesiastical and tithing jobs for Brigham Young.*
 John F. Shields presides over Salem under the Payson bishopric. (MH)

1865

Jan 3: BY writes A. Milton Musser, "As Bishop Wm McBride has resigned his bishoprick at **Santa Quin** and desires to be released from his duties, I think it best that that settlement and **Spring Lake Villa** should be attached to the bishoprick of Payson, where Bro. John B.

²³⁶ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.20, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

²³⁷ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.21, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

²³⁸ *Lehi Ward General Minutes*, v.2 p.33

²³⁹ Bleak, James, *Annals of the Southern Mission*, Book A p.179, Church History Library MS 318, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1ffeaa33-7cc2-4408-8c2f-5f1b3730c4f7/0/23>

²⁴⁰ Brigham Young, letter to Leonard Harrington 8 June 1864, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.7, p.200, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a&crate=0&index=0>

²⁴¹ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1860-1865*, p.317, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/801702bf-e607-4f0d-82d0-e0f84b8c2406/0/323>

²⁴² Provo 3rd Ward General Minutes, Vol 1s p.2

²⁴³ A. Milton Musser, *Diary 1864-1865*, p.17, Church History Library MS 8140 box 1 folder 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/bccc084b-d63a-4db5-b98e-d344b05c4e6b/0/20>

Fairbanks is presiding as Bishop. You can appoint Elder David Halliday to preside over Santa Quin.”²⁴⁴

Jan 8: A. Milton Musser meets with the saints at “Gardnersville” with Bishop Price [Goshen].²⁴⁵

“This small branch of the church geographically belongs to the Goshen Ward proper but for years has kept aloof” due to a dispute that they tried to resolve. “Heretofore their T[ithing] matters were settled by Bp. Wm McBride [Santaquin] while the distance from Santaquin is about 7 miles. The distance to Goshen is but 3 miles. We told them we were not directly commissioned to bring about this blending...” *Gardnersville was a little NW of current Goshen*

Jan 8: A. Milton Musser meets with Santaquin.²⁴⁶ “By the authority of Prest B Young we placed David Holladay President over this ward. [Vice?] Bishop Wm McBride resigned & attached the ward with its adjuncts to that of Payson under the guidance & direction of Bp. Jno. B. Fairbanks who with his counselors was present. The action & voting were unanimous.” *So Santaquin appears to become a dependent ward, not a branch.*

Jan 8: “The jurisdiction of the bishop of this [**Payson**] ward has this day been extended as far south as Pungen Springs in Juab County and is made to include Santaquin in the south end of this County. Payson Ward now included Salem (Pond Town), Payson, Spring Lake Villa, Santaguin, and Pungen Springs. David H. Holladay was the local president of that [Santaquin] branch of this ward.”²⁴⁷

Jan 24 [this letter is out of order; is the date correct?]: BY sends A. Milton Musser to consolidate several wards, including “blending” **Alpine** into **American Fork Ward** (Bishop L.E. Harrington), and **Cedar Fort** and **Fairfield** into **Lehi Ward** (Bishop David Evans).²⁴⁸ They will continue as a branch with a president.

Jan 27: A. Milton Musser reports,²⁴⁹ “We also blended Alpine Ward with American Fork & Cedar Fort & Fairfield we blended with Lehi.” *This would likely have been done on the 26th*

Feb 3: BY writes bishops Allen Weeks of **Cedar Valley** and William Miller of **Provo** about members in “your ward.” Also to “Elder David M. Holladay,” Santaquin, about members “from your place.”²⁵⁰

²⁴⁴ Brigham Young, letter to A. Milton Musser 3 Jan 1865, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.7*, p.416, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a&crate=0&index=858>

²⁴⁵ A. Milton Musser, *Diary 1864-1865*, p.27, Church History Library MS 8140 box 1 folder 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/bccc084b-d63a-4db5-b98e-d344b05c4e6b/0/29>

²⁴⁶ A. Milton Musser, *Diary 1864-1865*, p.28, Church History Library MS 8140 box 1 folder 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/bccc084b-d63a-4db5-b98e-d344b05c4e6b/0/30>

²⁴⁷ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.14, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/17>

²⁴⁸ Brigham Young, letter to A. Milton Musser January 24 1865, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.7*, p.762, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a/0/1556>

²⁴⁹ A. Milton Musser, *Diary 1865 Jan-Jun*, p.2, Church History Library MS 8140 box 1 folder 10, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/b1eb0af6-2c7f-4a7a-ab5a-83e99437ffee/0/3>

²⁵⁰ Brigham Young, letter to Allen Weeks 2 Feb 1865, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.7*, p.455, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6; letter to William Miller 3 Feb 1865, *ibid.*, p.457; letter to David M. Holladay, 3 Feb 1865, *ibid.*, p.458

Feb 17: George A. Smith visits Santaquin on request of "David Haladay, Pres't of Santaquin (which has recently been included in the Ward of Payson)." Also mentions "John Fairbanks, Bishop of Payson Ward," and "Santaquin District"²⁵¹

Feb 17: AK Thurber is still bishop of Spanish Fork²⁵²

April: Spanish Fork bishop Thurber called on a mission to Europe.

April 17: BY writes Charles B. Hancock (Payson), who apparently wants to be bishop again, but BY says the current bishop [Fairbanks] is doing a good job, so there is no opening.²⁵³

June 8: While Spanish Fork Bishop Albert Thurber is on a mission, Springville Bishop A. Johnson is to act as bishop, George W. Wilkins called as President (MH)

July 24: Pioneer Day celebration at **Alpine** features "Bishop Thomas J. McCullough"²⁵⁴ *This is despite the January "blending," suggesting that he is continuing under the presiding bishopric of Leonard Harrington.*

Oct 27: BY writes "Elder George Wilkin, Spanish Fork" to deal with a member "of your place."²⁵⁵ *This corroborates that Wilkin is acting as ward president, but not a bishop*

In rolls sent to the general HPQ president John Young,²⁵⁶ include HP quorums in Provo, Payson, American Fork, Springville, Spanish Fork,

November: Teachers quorum reorganized at **Payson** by Bishop Fairbanks, begins to keep a record book. Mentions President Merlin Plum (with counselors) of Pond Town [**Salem**] Branch.²⁵⁷

1866

Feb 13: Springville Teachers Quorum, assigning teachers to preach in the 4 wards (prayer meetings?).²⁵⁸ *These are clearly not modern wards, or even semi-wards, just districts. It also had 4 wards as early as 1861*

²⁵¹ *Historical Department office journal*, V.28 p.79, Church History Library CR 100 1, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/583afbe8-fd88-426e-ae13-03eeb8b80c3f/0/83>

²⁵² *Spanish Fork Ward Aaronic Priesthood Minutes*, V.1 p.22, Church History Library LR 8611 12

²⁵³ Brigham Young, letter to Charles B. Hancock 17 April 1865, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.7, p.575, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a&crate=0&index=0>

²⁵⁴ The Fourth, *Deseret News*, V.14 #41.(July 12, 1865) p.322, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2598114>

²⁵⁵ Brigham Young, letter to George Wilkin Oct 27 1865, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.7, p.793, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=867b28d5-f5ea-44bb-b228-516179bc010a&crate=0&index=0>

²⁵⁶ Utah County High Priests Quorum Genealogical Records, *Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes*, Vol. 2, Church History Library LR 9629 13

²⁵⁷ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.16, V.4 p.5, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/19>, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ebeb61ef-3c6a-4199-a82c-5c8af536fb72/0/4>

²⁵⁸ *Springville Teachers Quorum Book 9*, p.1, Springville Ward Aaronic Priesthood Minutes V.1, Church History Library LR 8674 12

Feb 20: BY writes Bishop William Miller about a member.²⁵⁹ *It is very common at this time for BY to write Miller about any and all Provo matters, alongside bishops for neighboring settlements, suggesting that a) the individual ward bishops are of a lower status than a regular bishop, and b) Miller's presiding status is primarily focused on the city, with limited authority over other settlements in the county/stake.*

April 5: General bishops meeting resumes after a few years hiatus.²⁶⁰ Ward reps include bishops of Pleasant Grove, Provo, Payson.

April-May: reports to PB Edward Hunter from Bishop David Evans of Lehi, Bishop L.E. Harrington of American Fork, Bishop John Brown of Pleasant Grove, A.F. Macdonald clerk of "Provo City Ward" (mentioning "Bishop Miller"), Bishop Aaron Johnson of Springville and Spanish Fork Wards, Bishop John B. Fairbanks of Payson Ward, Bishop William Price of Goshen Ward.²⁶¹

1866-06-03: Beginning of 3rd period of Utah Stake General Minutes; weekly citywide Sunday meetings presided over by Bishop Wm. Miller meeting in Bowery.²⁶² (*Short History* p.8)

1866-07-22: Provo [Valley?] bishop W.W. Cluff (visiting?) (*Short History* p.7)

1866-08-19: G.A. Smith ordains J.P.R. Johnson as bishop of 1st Ward (replacing J.O. Duke) with counsellors, Myron Tanner as bishop of 3rd Ward with a counsellor, and a counsellor to Bishop A.H. Scott [of Provo 2nd] (*Short History* p.12)²⁶³

1866-09-16: Isaac Bullock (returning from mission) reinstated as counselor to Bishop Wm Miller (*Short History* p.13)

November: Spanish Fork Bishop Albert Thurber returns from his mission and resumes his duties Bishop A.H. Scott of Provo 2nd Ward leads a wagon train back to the Missouri River for a company of emigrants, his counselors act in his stead [MH]

1867

January 13: AK Thurber is bishop of Spanish Fork²⁶⁴ George W. Wilkins speaks at this meeting, with no apparent sign of leadership.

January 18: High Council mtg, G.A. Smith presiding (*Short History* p.23)

²⁵⁹ Brigham Young, letter to William Miller 20 Feb 1866, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.8*, p.116, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 6,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=b3c72fee-6f44-4ce6-8a9f-5cf38b6153d1>

²⁶⁰ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.94, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

²⁶¹ *Perpetual Emigrating Fund Company outfitting reports, 1866*, Church History Library CR 376 13 box 1 folder 7, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/a165f3f9-21fc-42fd-8a85-b6a9abf4b4f2/0/2>

²⁶² *Utah Stake General Minutes*, Church History Library LR 9629 11 V.9 p.70

²⁶³ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.103, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

²⁶⁴ *Spanish Fork Ward Aaronic Priesthood Minutes, V.1* p.26, Church History Library LR 8611 12

23-25 April: Brigham Young and company (on their way to St. George) hold meetings in American Fork (Bishop Harrington), Provo (Bishop Miller), Springville, Spanish fork, Payson, and Santaquin (Bishop Hollady)²⁶⁵

May 16: Pleasant Grove Bishop John Brown leaves on a mission to the Southern States.²⁶⁶

Thomas Woolley apparently acts in his stead

June 21: BY writes to "Bishop A.K. Thurber, **Spanish Fork**"²⁶⁷ *So he is back in charge at this point*

July 30: BY writes to "Bishop Tho's J. McCullough, Alpine City," mentioning "your place"²⁶⁸ *Is it an independent ward again?*

1867-08-24: Two days meeting with Brigham Young and company.²⁶⁹ Provo meetinghouse dedicated by John Taylor. Afternoon meeting in bowery: Geo. Q. Cannon presents for sustaining "Wm. Miller as Bishop, Isaac Bullock and Geo W. Bean councillors as the presidency of this Stake of Zion" [bishop and SP?] as well as high council.²⁷⁰ (*Short History* p.41)

Afterwards, he is generally referred to as Bishop, not President

25-27 August: Young and company hold meetings in Payson, Goshen (Bishop Price), and Lehi²⁷¹ Young decides to "locate Ghoshen on the east side of the Lake." [Goshen Reservoir?]

1867-09-01: first Sunday in Provo meeting house, **Bishop** Wm. Miller presiding (*Short History* p.43)

1867-10-06: small meetings, encouraged most saints to go to SLC to conference in the new tabernacle (*Short History* p.48)

Oct 12: A list of wards includes Lehi, American Fork, Pleasant Grove, Provo (one entry), Springville, Payson, Goshen. Does not mention Alpine, Cedar Valley, Piontown, Santaquin, or separate Provo wards.²⁷²

Oct 18: BY writes Franklin D. Richards, "I have just returned from a visit to **Goshen**, whither I have been for the purpose of locating a new site for their city. A place was selected at the head of their farming lands, east and south of Gardnersville, a small village lying to the south of Goshen Proper. The people were well suited with the choice and will remove there as soon as

²⁶⁵ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.65, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/71>

²⁶⁶ Missionary Department missionary registers, 1860-1959, 16 May 1867, Vol. A, Page 9, Line 349, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ba363c10-3f8f-49eb-a2a2-e84ccb003aea/0/14>

²⁶⁷ Brigham Young, letter to A.K. Thurber 21 June 1867, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.10*, p.256, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 7, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=873e43de-f5b9-4a8a-bfaa-be07a5fdf18f>

²⁶⁸ Brigham Young, letter to Thomas J. McCullough 30 July 1867, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.10*, p.333, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 7, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=873e43de-f5b9-4a8a-bfaa-be07a5fdf18f>

²⁶⁹ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.84, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/90>

²⁷⁰ The President's Trip to Utah County, *Deseret News*, V.16 #36 (Sep 4, 1867) p.282, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2600075>

²⁷¹ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.85, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/91>

²⁷² Brigham Young, letter to Thomas Woolley, 18 October 1867, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.10*, p.430, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 7, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=873e43de-f5b9-4a8a-bfaa-be07a5fdf18f>

possible.” *Secondary sources indicate that the town was surveyed in Spring 1868 and most people moved there by the end of the year.*

Oct 18: BY writes “Acting Bishop Thos. Woolley, Pleasant Grove”²⁷³

1867-11-24: Wm Fausett resigns as bishop of 4th Ward (after 20 years), accepted by Bp. Wm. Miller with honor.²⁷⁴

1867-12-01: Bp. Wm. Miller calls Wm. A. Follett as bishop of 4th Ward with counsellors ²⁷⁵

Provo Elders Quorum organized with Christoffer Jensen Kempe as president.²⁷⁶

1868

Feb 9: H.C. Kimball, B. Young, W. Woodruff, J.F. Smith intend to live in Provo part-time. Calls Abraham O. Smoot as “Bishop of Provo City and Pres. of the High Council”, Wm. Miller and E.F. Sheets counselors. Also a high council is sustained²⁷⁷ *Again, Presiding Bishop and Stake President? As with Miller, he is called Bishop, not President*

Feb 9: “A.O. Smoot was elected bishop of that stake & Wm Miller & EF Sheets wer apptd his counsellors.”²⁷⁸

March 1: “Bro. Moses Curtis” reports to Payson Teacher’s Quorum that the people of Pond Town were “dissatisfied with their president, Br. Shields.”²⁷⁹ *Still a dependent branch...*

March 8: Elders Quorum organized in Salem City.²⁸⁰

March 11: BY writes “Bishop David H. Holladay, Santaquin” about a matter that is clearly official bishop business.²⁸¹

April 12: “Female Relief Society of Pleasant Grove” organized under the direction of “Acting Bishop Thomas Wooley”²⁸²

April 25: In first of a series of published Church directories, the following are listed:²⁸³

- Utah County

²⁷³ Brigham Young, Note 12 Oct 1867, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.10*, p.423, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 7, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=873e43de-f5b9-4a8a-bfaa-be07a5fdf18f>

²⁷⁴ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.103, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/78ea08f3-46b7-41b5-95e3-669f326dbbf7/0/0>

²⁷⁵ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.103, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/78ea08f3-46b7-41b5-95e3-669f326dbbf7/0/0>

²⁷⁶ *Utah Stake Manuscript History*

²⁷⁷ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.106

²⁷⁸ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.123, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/122>

²⁷⁹ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.9 p.91, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ebef61ef-3c6a-4199-a82c-5c8af536fb72/0/85>

²⁸⁰ *Salem Elders Quorum Minutes*, p.1, Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes, V.29, Church History Library LR 9629 13

²⁸¹ Brigham Young, letter to David H. Holladay 11 March 1868, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks, V.10*, p.702, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 7, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=873e43de-f5b9-4a8a-bfaa-be07a5fdf18f>

²⁸² *Pleasant Grove Relief Society minutes*, p.1, Church History Library LR 7006 14, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/605357bb-4975-42df-be27-0ebde41c5423/0/9>

²⁸³ Church Directory, *Salt Lake Daily Telegraph*, V.4 #253 (25 April 1868) p.4

- listed under the authority of Apostle Joseph F. Smith, but he is not listed as a “County President” with other apostles
- Alpine: Thomas J. McCullough
- Lehi: David Evans
- American Fork: Leonard E. Harrington
- Pleasant Grove: Thomas Woolley, Act’g
- Provo: AO Smoot
- Springville: Aaron Johnson
- Spanish Fork: AK Thurber
- Payson: John B Fairbanks
- Santaquin: David Holladay
- Goshen: William Price
- Fairfield: John Carson
- Cedar Fort: Elder Cook

1868-05-03: General Minutes begin showing “Record of the **Provo Stake** of Zion” in the header of each page, but no unique organizational acts just before or after (*Short History* p.65)

1868-05-10: Bishop A.O. Smoot, “Bishops do not have time to teach doctrine as the temporal duties occupy their time.” instructs bishops to organize Female Relief Societies in their wards to minister to the sick and relieve bishops.

11 June -- **Cedar Fort:** “Brothers Geo. A Smith and A. M. Musser visited us a few Sundays ago and preached to us. There is nothing that seems to do so much good, or strengthens our faith more, than to have our brethren, who stand in authority over us to visit us, and preach the words of life and salvation to us. The Sunday after Bros. Geo. A. Smith and Musser were here, our Bishop David Evans and Br. Karren, of Lehi City, held a two days’ meeting with us...Last Sunday, the High Priests held meetings here. Jas. Rodeback is President of the High Priests here, and at Fairfield also.” - Geo. W. Thurmond²⁸⁴ *So it is still under Lehi Ward*

August 4: Last of a series of published Church directories, same as April 25.²⁸⁵

October 10: “Bishop Fairbanks [Payson] ... thought he would call on Bro. Merlin Plumb to move back to Pond Town (Salem) and teak the lead of matters there.”²⁸⁶

1869

Jan 23: Salem Teachers Quorum: “Moved that this ward be divided into two wards, and the east side up the road be known as the first ward, and the west side as the second ward, RH Davis be first teacher of the first ward, John H. Shields be first teacher of the second ward.”²⁸⁷ [parts of page missing] *So it is being called a ward, and the two wards are only teachers wards*

²⁸⁴ Andersen, David. 2015. *News Clippings from Cedar City, Utah 1851-1924*, edited by Kaylene Canfield CreateSpace Independent Publisher, Place of publication not identified, Americana collection, F 832 .l6 A53 2015, L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

²⁸⁵ Church Directory, *Salt Lake Daily Telegraph*, V.5 #25 (4 Aug 1868) p.4

²⁸⁶ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.9 p.102, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb61ef-3c6a-4199-a82c-5c8af536fb72/0/96>

²⁸⁷ Teachers Reports 1869-1873, *Salem Ward general minutes*, V.39, Church History Library LR 7814 11

17 April: Daniel H. Wells dedicates new meeting house at Springville.²⁸⁸
 1869-08-01: last page of general minutes with "Provo Stake of Zion" header²⁸⁹
 May 12: Pleasant Grove Bishop John Brown returns from his mission.²⁹⁰
 August 7: Salem, mentions "President [Merlin] Plumb"[KWZT-BNJ]²⁹¹ *president of ward? branch? Teachers quorum? No mention of a bishop for the next several months, Teachers quorum seems to be collectively taking in many roles of bishop*
 23 Sep: AM Musser (Church secretary) writes "Bishop John Brown, P. Grove."²⁹²
 1869-10-02: Stake Conference (one of few in this record), but no significant sustainings or business mentioned²⁹³
 October 7: In general conference, several bishops and many others are "called to go on short missions to the Eastern States" (probably to do business for the cooperative mercantile program), including Bishops A K Thurber (Spanish Fork), Fairbanks (Payson), and David Evans (Lehi).²⁹⁴ *Counselors will likely be serving as "acting bishops" in their place.*
 Oct 28: Pleasant Grove Relief Society mentions "Bp. John Brown"²⁹⁵
 Oct 28: Mention of "Mountainville Ward."²⁹⁶ *Is this name being used interchangeably with Alpine?*
 Nov 15: Bishop David Fairbanks of **Payson**, who is leaving on a mission with other bishops, nominates Daid Lant to act as [ward] president and I.M. Coombs to act as bishop while he is gone.²⁹⁷
 Dec 29: Bishop Jonathan O. Duke dies [CC]

1870

1870-02-26: Special Conference, attended by B. Young and several apostles. No sustainings or business mentioned²⁹⁸

²⁸⁸ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.171, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/177>

²⁸⁹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.157

²⁹⁰ Missionary Department missionary registers, 1860-1959, 16 May 1867, Vol. A, Page 9, Line 349, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/ba363c10-3f8f-49eb-a2a2-e84ccb003aea/0/14>

²⁹¹ Teachers Reports 1869-1873, *Salem Ward general minutes*, V.39, Church History Library LR 7814 11

²⁹² A. Milton Musser, letter to John Brown, 23 Sep 1868, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.11, p.806, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=967db140-f060-437f-b583-794f7affa2d0>

²⁹³ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.164

²⁹⁴ Thirty-Ninth Semi-Annual Conference, *Deseret News*, V.18 #36 (13 Oct 1869) p.426, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2604075>

²⁹⁵ *Pleasant Grove Relief Society minutes*, p.4, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/605357bb-4975-42df-be27-0ebde41c5423/0/12>

²⁹⁶ *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.196, Church History Library CR 4 2, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>

²⁹⁷ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.60, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/63>

²⁹⁸ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.180

April 15: Bishop J.B. Fairbanks (**Payson**) returns from his mission.²⁹⁹ *Other bishops probably returned about the same time.*

May 31: BY writes "President A.O. Smoot"³⁰⁰

August 4 BY writes "Bishop T.J. McCullough, Alpine City"³⁰¹

Sep 10: Salem redivided into three wards (1 East of public square, 2 West of public square, 3 west of pond), still President Merlen Plumb³⁰²

Oct 1: Robert H. Davis sustained as "President of the Cooperative Store" in Salem, but he is hereafter called President Davis, so it may have been more.³⁰³

October 24-25: Brigham Young, several apostles, and Provo High Council meet in Springville to hear a case against Bishop Aaron Johnson (something to do with the organization of the local cooperative).³⁰⁴ After exonerating him, "Pres. Young said **a bishop could not be tried, only by a high council and the first presidency.**"

Nov 12: First mention of "President Robert H. Davis" in Salem³⁰⁵

27 Nov: William Bringham appointed the new bishop of Springville [MH]

28 Nov: Springville Bishop Aaron Johnson has recently resigned, William Bringham is now bishop³⁰⁶

Robert H. Davis called as bishop of Salem [Hanks 80]

1871

January 1: Bishop Fairbanks (**Payson**) appointed his 2nd counselor B.F. Stewart to preside over a new small town 3 miles north of Payson called "**Benjamin**" in honor of Stewart.³⁰⁷

April 26: Bishop Fairbanks (**Payson**) leaves on a mission to England, appointing Orrawell Simons to act until a new bishop is called.³⁰⁸

²⁹⁹ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.68, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/71>

³⁰⁰ Brigham Young, letter to A.O. Smoot 31 May 1870, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.12, p.151, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/1cf3b5e4-2f87-4fd2-969e-312d723da192>

³⁰¹ Brigham Young, letter to T.J. McCullough 4 Aug 1870, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.12, p.279, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets?id=c91a2db1-a2f0-470d-ac3a-324c44e06cd1>

³⁰² Teachers Reports 1869-1873, *Salem Ward general minutes*, V.39, Church History Library LR 7814 11

³⁰³ Teachers Reports 1869-1873, *Salem Ward general minutes*, V.39, Church History Library LR 7814 11

³⁰⁴ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.271, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/279>

³⁰⁵ Teachers Reports 1869-1873, *Salem Ward general minutes*, V.39, Church History Library LR 7814 11

³⁰⁶ Springville Teachers Quorum minutes, p.135, *Springville Ward Aaronic Priesthood Minutes*, Church History Library LR 8674 11

³⁰⁷ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.77, V.10 p.12, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/80>, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7dd48536-2e69-45fd-9224-0ed6b302d875/0/15>

³⁰⁸ *Payson Ward General Minutes*, V.3 p.80, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/85>

June 22: BY writes "Bishop Wm Bringham, Springville"³⁰⁹

1871-08-19: "Utah County Conference," B. Young presiding. Replaced a few high councillors.³¹⁰

Aug 20: At Provo Stake conference, BY ordains Joseph Smith Tanner as bishop of Payson³¹¹

John B. Fairbanks has been called on a mission to England in April. Tanner arrives and is sustained September 3.

Sep 20: BY writes "Bishop Joseph Tanner, Payson"³¹²

1871? Redistricting of Wards (mentioned in *Utah Stake Bishops Meetings 1866-1875*, p.169-174 BYU Library)

1872

May 11: "Utah County Conference, Pres. B. Young Presiding" Several general authorities present, no sustainings mentioned.³¹³

12 June: BY writes a Springville resident, *clarifying that the proper course of appeal of a decision of the "authorities of Springville" is to "the High Council at Provo," then to the First Presidency.*³¹⁴

June 29-30: Two days meeting in Alpine. Present are "President A.O. Smoot", Bishop McCullough, and several other valley bishops.³¹⁵

July 20: Wilford Woodruff dedicates a new meetinghouse in Payson.³¹⁶

July 26: BY writes "Prest. A.O. Smoot" about a matter from Provo Valley [Heber] that has been appealed to the "High Council of Provo," confirming that they should deal with it.³¹⁷

³⁰⁹ Brigham Young, letter to William Bringham 22 June 1871, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.12, p.732, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c91a2db1-a2f0-470d-ac3a-324c44e06cd1>

³¹⁰ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.251

³¹¹ Ordination, *Presiding bishopric meetings minutes, 1862-1879*, p.255, Church History Library CR 4 2,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/e9b0c4cc-2d99-497a-b4ce-f5afe97ea098/0/0>; *Payson*

Ward General Minutes, V.3 p.84, V.10 p.46,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0ef48109-79b6-43fa-b397-9a2c5a15d289/0/89>,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/7dd48536-2e69-45fd-9224-0ed6b302d875/0/45>

³¹² Brigham Young, letter to Joseph Tanner, 20 Sep 1871, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.12, p.856, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 8,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/c91a2db1-a2f0-470d-ac3a-324c44e06cd1>

³¹³ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.270

³¹⁴ Brigham Young, letter to Joseph S. Wing 12 June 1872, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.13, p.102, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93fd7376-7e4a-4d1a-a011-b5966c6fd559>

³¹⁵ Two Days Meetings, *Deseret News*, V.21 #23 (10 July 1872) p.330,

<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2611574>

³¹⁶ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1865-1872*, p.333, Church History Library MS 1352,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/0c76d480-00aa-4210-9334-12a578908f1f/0/341>

³¹⁷ Brigham Young, letter to Abraham O. Smoot 26 July 1872, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.13, p.152, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9,

<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93fd7376-7e4a-4d1a-a011-b5966c6fd559>

July 27: "General Conference Utah County. Pres. A.O. Smoot..." *This is the first time I have seen him called President; two weeks earlier he is still called Bishop; and continues being called such the next day.*³¹⁸

July 28: Last entry in V.3 of general minutes. They are still holding weekly morning and afternoon meetings for all of Provo³¹⁹

1873

March 19: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops lists:³²⁰

- PB David Evans (*since January 1865?*)
 - **Lehi**, David Evans
 - **Cedar Fort**, HF Cook
 - **Fairfield**, John Carson
- PB L.E. Harrington (*since January 1865?*)
 - **American Fork**, L.E. Harrington
 - **Alpine**, T.J. McCullough
- **Pleasant Grove**, John Brown
- **Provo**, A.O. Smoot
- **Springville**, Wm. Bringham
- **Spanish Fork**, A.K. Thurber
- PB J.S. Tanner
 - **Salem** alias Pondtown, Robt. H. Davis
 - **Payson**, J.S. Tanner
 - **Santaquin**, D.H. Haliday
 - **Spring Lake Villa**, B.F. Johnson
- Goshen, Wm Price

April 14: BY writes "Prest D.H. Holladay, Santaquin"³²¹ *In earlier letters he was addressed as Bishop. On April 28 he writes again, addressing him as Bishop (p.352).*

May 14: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as March except:³²²

- A.O. Smoot PB
 - Provo First Ward, J.P.R. Johnson
 - Second Ward, A.H. Scott
 - Third Ward, Hyrum [Myron] Tanner
 - Fourth Ward, Wm. Follett

³¹⁸ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.277-304

³¹⁹ *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.9 p.281

³²⁰ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.22 #7 (March 19 1873) p.103, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2622070>

³²¹ Brigham Young, letter to D.H. Holladay, 14 April 1873, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.13, p.327, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93fd7376-7e4a-4d1a-a011-b5966c6fd559>

³²² Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret Evening News*, V.6 #147 (May 14 1873) p.4, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23160976>

May 31: BY and apostles visit Provo for two days meetings.³²³ Several patriarchs ordained, including A.O. Smoot

June: Albert Thurber (Spanish Fork Bishop) sent to Grass Valley near Richfield to work with the Indians.³²⁴ *Apparently, George W. Wilkins presides in his absence as President, not Acting Bishop.*

July 26-27: Two Days' Meeting at Alpine, including (in order) "President A.O. Smoot, Bishops W. Miller, L.E. Harrington, T.J. McCullough," and others.³²⁵ *Does the order matter? Does William Miller still have a leadership role? Is Harrington presiding over McCullough?*

Aug 23: two days meeting at **Salem**, present are Bishop/President A.O. Smoot, Joseph S. Tanner (Payson Bishop), "President Robert H. Davis" conducting³²⁶

September 21: Spanish Fork Sunday meeting presided over by "President George W. Wilkins." He had presided occasionally since late 1872 when others were absent, but it is here that he is first referred to as "President." He will preside over meeting for next several months, even when Bishop Thurber is present.³²⁷

25 Nov: Church leaders visit Provo to celebrate the completion of the railroad to there.³²⁸

1874

29 Jan: Bishop David H. Halliday of Santaquin dies [CC, MH] His counselor John D. Holladay takes charge

5 Feb: Pleasant Grove Elders Quorum organized by Bishop John Brown³²⁹

March 24: David John replaces Dominicus Carter as president of the Provo City High Priests Quorum.³³⁰ "Bishop A.O. Smoot" nominates John, but seems to be as a quorum member, not as stake president. Snelgrove, counselor to the general HPQ president is present, but does not call John.

March 28: Two days' meeting in Provo. In addition to "President A.O. Smoot," participants include Bishops A.K. Thurber (Spanish Fork), JB Fairbanks (Payson), Wm Bringham (Springville), Wm Miller (Provo), and L.E. Harrington (American Fork), and "there was a large representation from the settlements of the county," so this is for the entire stake.³³¹ The United order is announced and the new High Priests quorum president is sustained.

³²³ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873-80*, p.28, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/38>

³²⁴ *Richfield Stake General Minutes*, p.59

³²⁵ Correspondence, *Deseret News*, V.22 # (August 6 1873) p.433, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2619606>

³²⁶ *Salem Ward General Minutes*, V.13, Church History Library LR 7814 11

³²⁷ *Spanish Fork Ward General Minutes*

³²⁸ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873-80*, p.50, Church History Library MS 1352, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/60>

³²⁹ Payson Elders Quorum Minutes, p.1, *Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes*, V.28, Church History Library 9629 13

³³⁰ Provo High Priests Quorum Minutes 1874, p.1, *Provo Stake Melchizedek Priesthood Minutes*, Vol.3, Church History Library 9629 13

³³¹ Two Days' Meeting, *The Provo Daily Times*, V.1 #202 (March 30, 1874), p.3, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=28448804>; V.1 #203 (March 31 1874), p.3, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=28448809>

April 4: in the next meeting of Provo HP Quorum, "President A.O. Smoot" speaks³³². Consistent in subsequent meetings

April 8: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as Dec 1873, except:³³³

- **Provo 3rd**, Myron Tanner
- **Santaquin**, John Halladay

April 26-28: Church leaders organize United Order in Provo, "Battle Creek or Pleasant Grove," American Fork, Lehi.³³⁴ In the latter three, the formulation is "organized *that branch* into the United Order." so the generic branch is still an active thing?

April: Albert K. Thurber, Bishop of **Spanish Fork**, is called to explore eastern Sevier County and settle in Richfield

July 10: President A.O. Smoot visits **Spanish Fork**, George D. Snell sustained acting bishop and to preside over Spanish Fork Ward (finally eliminating separate leaderships).³³⁵

23 Aug: From 1868 to now, in Salem Elder's Quorum meetings, Robert H. Davis is never referred to as "Bishop."³³⁶

September 11: Bishop Andrew H. Scott of Provo 2nd Ward dies.[CC] MH says October 11. Presumably his 1st counselor James W. Loveless take charge for almost 2 years

31 Dec: A.M. Musser (BY's secretary) writes to "Bishop Geo D. Snell, Spanish Fork"³³⁷
Provo 2nd Ward builds a meeting house [MH], thus securing its status as a full ward

1875

Jan 2: Salem, "President Robert H. Davis"³³⁸ (still a branch?)

Jan 6: List of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as October 1874, except:³³⁹

- **Spanish Fork**, Bishop Geo. D. Snell

July 31: At a two days' meeting in Provo, BY ordains "George Halliday Bishop for Santaquin, Harv. Harris Cluff Bishop for the 4 Ward of Provo"³⁴⁰ and some bishops for other areas. *4th Ward Bishop Follett was moving to Arizona.*

Dec 29: New list of Presiding Elders and Bishops, same as June, except:³⁴¹

³³² Provo High Priests Quorum Minutes 1874, p.3

³³³ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.23 #9 (April 8 1874) p.151,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2635244>

³³⁴ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873-80*, p.66, Church History Library MS 1352,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/76>

³³⁵ *Spanish Fork Ward General Minutes*, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/a319324a-60fc-4fc5-9561-926fa595a017/0/125>

³³⁶ Salem Elders Quorum Minutes

³³⁷ A Milton Musser, letter to George D. Snell 31 Dec 1874, *Brigham Young Office Files, Letterbooks*, V.13, p.664, Church History Library CR 1234 1 box 9,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/93fd7376-7e4a-4d1a-a011-b5966c6fd559>

³³⁸ *Salem Ward General Minutes*, V.13

³³⁹ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.23 #49 (January 6 1875) p.782,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2614880>

³⁴⁰ Wilford Woodruff, *Journal 1873 Jan - 1880 Feb*, p.124, Church History Library MS 1352,
<https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/eb07ddd8-d258-43b3-82fd-1b0bc186b269/0/134>

³⁴¹ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret News*, V.24 #48 (December 29 1875) p.755,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2643418>

- **Provo 4th Ward**, Bishop H.H. Cluff
- **Santaquin**, George Halliday
- J.H. Tanner, PB “over Payson and Salem” [not Santaquin & Spring Lake?]

1876

June 11: Henry Freeman Cook ordained bishop of **Cedar Valley Ward**³⁴² *This may be when it became completely detached from Lehi bishop. MH says Allen Weeks resigned this date due to ill health, so he was still bishop. Direct conflict with 6/11/1877.*

July 15-16: Two Days’ Meetings in Provo, including “Elder A.O. Smoot, President of the **Utah County Stake** of Zion”³⁴³

August 20: James W. Loveless ordained bishop over Provo 2nd Ward [MH] *He was previously counselor and probably acting bishop since 1874.*

December 22: Final published list of Bishops and Presiding Elders, recent changes:³⁴⁴

- **Provo 2nd**, James W. Loveine [Loveless]

1877

June 2: Reorganization of stake by John W. Young (FP Couns), and apostles Taylor, Erastus Snow, Richards, and Cannon.³⁴⁵ Mp:700891 Also on the stand is “Bishop Smoot”:

- Pres A.O. Smoot, High Council. Bishops:
- Provo 1: JPR Johnson
- Provo 2: JW Loveless
- Provo 3: Myron Tanner
- Provo 4th: JE Booth [New]
- Provo 5th [New]: Peter Madsen
- Goshen: Wm Price
- Santaquin: George Halliday
- Spring Lake Villa: B.F. Johnson
- Payson: Joseph S. Tanner
- Salem [New]: Robert Davis
- Springville: Wm Bringhurst
- Pleasant Grove: John Brown
- American Fork: LE Harrington
- Alpine: Thos J. McCullough
- Lehi: David Evans

³⁴² Died, *Deseret News*, V.31 #14 (April 26 1882) p.224,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2638263>

³⁴³ Meetings at Provo, *Deseret News*, V.25 #26 (26 July 1876) p.401,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2623549>

³⁴⁴ Presiding Elders and Bishops, *Deseret Evening News*, V.10 #27 (December 22, 1876) p.4,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23166497>

³⁴⁵ Special Conference at Provo, *Deseret News* V.26 #19 (June 13, 1877) p.303,
<https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=2627051>

- Cedar Valley: H.J. Cook.
- *[Spanish Fork??]*

June 2-4: Stake minutes are similar,³⁴⁶ but:

- Mentions “Pres. Abraham O. Smoot” at the beginning, conducting.
- John Taylor mentions “we are now here for that purpose, as the organizations of the Stakes of Zion, on account of their rapid growth, have become somewhat loose.”
- Bishop George D. Snell, Spanish Fork

June 4: George D. Snell ordained bishop of Spanish Fork (previously acting bishop)³⁴⁷

June 4: John E. Booth ordained as bishop of Provo 4th Ward

June 5: Goshen Ward reorganized by Erastus Snow and A.O. Smoot, same bishop but new counselors [MH]

June 6: Santaquin Ward reorganized, Bishop George Halladay [CC]

June 11: Erastus Snow and A.O. Smoot meet in Cedar Valley to reorganization of Cedar Valley Branch into a Ward, Bishop Henry F. Cook sustained [MH, citing Stake minutes] *This directly conflicts with 6/11/1876!*

August 12: Spring Lake Ward organized, Bishop Benjamin F. Johnson [CC]

October 13: Stake Conference.³⁴⁸ Sustainings same as in June

1878

15 Jan: List of wards and bishops, including “Utah Stake”³⁴⁹ mp:700350

- John P R Johnson, 1st ward, Provo City
- James W Loveless, 2d ward, “
- Myron Tanner, 3d ward, “
- John E Booth, 4th ward, “
- Peter Madsen, 5th ward, “
- William Bringhurst, Springville
- George D Snell, Spanish Fork
- Robert H Davis, Salem
- Joseph S Tanner, Payson
- Benjamin F Johnson, Spring Lake
- George Halliday, Santaquin
- William Price, Goshen
- Henry F Cook, Cedar Fort
- David Evans, Lehi
- Thomas J McCullough, Alpine

³⁴⁶ Utah Stake Historical Record, *Utah Stake General Minutes*, V.12 p.1, Church History Library LR 9629 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/f60f8c46-7b7b-481a-9d81-3fbdc735ca7a/0/7>

³⁴⁷ *Spanish Fork General Minutes*, Minutebook 1867-1877 p.181, Church History Library LR 8611 11, <https://catalog.churchofjesuschrist.org/assets/a319324a-60fc-4fc5-9561-926fa595a017/0/180>

³⁴⁸ Minutes of the Quarterly Conference of Utah Stake of Zion, *Deseret Evening News*, V.11 # (October 16, 1877) p.2, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23167745>

³⁴⁹ Names of Presidency and Bishops of the Organized Stakes of Zion, *Deseret Evening News*, V.11 #45 (15 Jan 1878) p.6, <https://newspapers.lib.utah.edu/details?id=23168119>

- Leonard H Harrington, American Fork
- John Brown, Pleasant Grove
- A.O. Smoot, President of Stake