

BR: D1,2

How would you feel having to head West, again, after being kicked out of Nauvoo.

Utah Studies

Ch. 6.3: Their Faces Toward Hope:

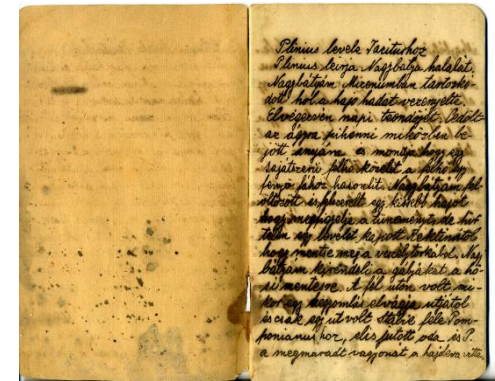
The Advance Company

The Advance Pioneer Company

Early spring of **1847**, Brigham Young led a small company westward. While **not exactly sure** where they would end up, they planned on scouting out the area, and when they found a good spot, sending word to others who were coming afterwards.



Known also as the “**Pioneer Company**”, they trail-blazed the way for future travelers, Mormon and otherwise. They improved the trail as they went, and marked the way. They took **careful notes**, and wrote **guidebooks** to explain where to find **good campsites**, **fresh water**, and places to **feed their animals**, etc.



The advance party was **mostly men**, though 3 women, 2 small boys, and a number of teenage boys joined them. Several members of the party were also **not Mormon**, as well as 3 black slaves.



Blazing the Way:

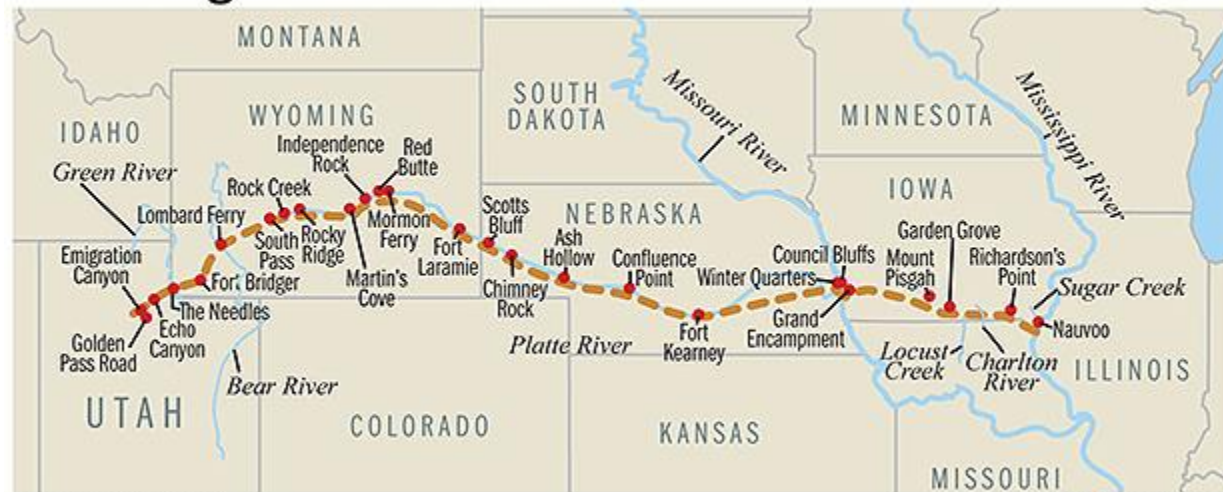
Thomas Bullock, a member of the party, kept the **official journal** of the party's journey. For example, he mentioned a list of provisions:

“1 cannon, a boat, 71 wagons, 93 horses, 66 oxen, 52 mules, 19 cows, and 17 dogs.”

River Crossings were especially difficult, sometimes taking 2 days to get all the animals, wagons and people across. The **North Platte River** took some extra time, as it was quite large to cross.

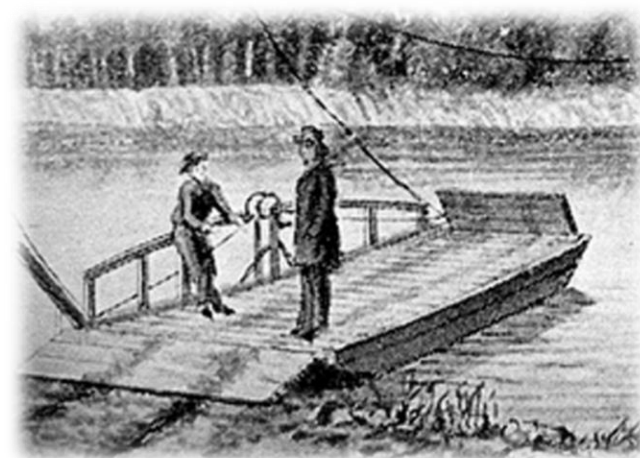
The men worked together and build a log raft, and used it as a ferry to bring wagons across. They kept some men there to continue to operate the ferry (known as the **Upper Platt** aka **Mormon Ferry**), and the fee they charged to others using the trail (going to Oregon or California) helped fund more Mormons on their journey West.

Sites along the Mormon Trail



SOURCE: Church News staff research

DESERET NEWS GRAPHIC



Arriving in Utah

They reached the **Rocky Mountains**, and the Sweetwater River, in June. They headed south, and arrived at **Ft. Bridger** in July. They rested for a bit, then traveled another 116 miles to the Salt Lake Valley.

Brigham Young talked with **Jim Bridger**, about possibly settling in the Salt Lake Valley. Bridger suggested they **not** settle in the Great Basin. He thought it was **too dry**, and thought they'd have a tough time getting plants to grow.

Brigham Young however disagreed, and was able to prove Bridger wrong. They used the **trail / road** the **Donner Party** had cleared down **Emigration Canyon**, and saw the Salt Lake Valley July 22nd, 1847.



Into the Valley!

“ We saw a vast, rich fertile valley . . . clothed with the heaviest garb of green vegetation abounding with the best fresh springs, rivulets, creeks, brooks, and rivers of varied sizes. ”

— Wilford Woodruff



ose from his wagon, and looked over the

mile looking over the a
the right place. Move on

reached the valley by

How would you feel? Would you be excited? Or Depressed?

ark [VID](#)

Young and several other
and prepare the rest of
It would be a long trip
at last. 70,000 Morn

“ I would rather go a thousand miles further than remain in such a forsaken place as this. . . . My things were such as not describe . . . every-thing looked gloomy. ”

— Harriet Young



Work Time!

Finish your **Mini Saga** or **Mormon Battalion Letter**. We'll have a **review / test** for Ch. 6 next time! We'll also present our Sagas / letters during our next class!