

President Benjamin Harrison's Speeches
To Utah County train stops
May 9th 1891
And to the Salt Lake Visit

LEHI CITY, UTAH, MAY 9

THE first stop after leaving the capital of Utah was at Lehi City, where a large sugar factory is located. The Committee of Reception consisted of Mayor A. J. Evans, Bishop T. R. Cutler, James Harwood, and C. A. Granger.

The President made a brief address, saying :

My Friends This industry which you have established here is very interesting to me. I hope it is to open the way to a time when we shall have a home supply of sugar for every household. [Cheers.]

American Fork, UTAH, MAY 9.

EARLY in the afternoon a brief stop was made at American Fork, where several hundred children were marshalled under Bishop George Halliday (Mormon) and Rev. F. G. Webster. The Reception Committee consisted of Mayor George Cunningham, James Chipman, John J. Gushing, and John F. Pribyl.

The President, addressing the school children, said :
I want to express my interest in these dear children who have

gathered here. It is very pleasant to have at all these little stations these expressions of your good-will. I rejoice to see the development which has taken place in these regions since I was here a few years ago, and I have no doubt that it will go on until all your valleys are prosperous and full of happy homes. [Cheers.]

Provo, UTAH, MAY 9

Mr. Mayor and Fellow-citizens This is another of those bright and beautiful pictures that have been spread before our eyes on this whole journey from Washington. I am glad to stop for a moment in this enterprising and prosperous city. I am glad to know that you are adding manufacturing to your agriculture, and that you are weaving some of the abundance of wool that is furnished by your flocks. It is the perfection of society, commercially, when you find immediately at your own doors a market for those things that you have to sell. You are a long way from the seaboard. The transportation companies, however fair their rates may be, must levy very heavy tolls upon your produce for taking it to the Atlantic or to the Pacific. It is then a pleasing thing when, instead of sending your wool to some distant city to be woven into cloth, you can do that work yourselves as you develop, bringing in these manufacturing industries whose employees consume the products of your farm and in turn give to the farmer that which he and his children have to wear. You are approaching the most independent commercial condition. When every farmer is able to sell from his own wagon everything he produces and is emancipated from transportation tolls, he is independent and prosperous.

I am glad to see these dear children here coming from the free schools of your city. The public school is a most wholesome and hopeful institution. It has an assimilative power possessed by no other institution in our country. Where the children of rich and poor mingle together on the play ground

and in the school-room, there is produced a unity of feeling and a popular love for public institutions that can be brought about in no other way. [Cheers.] God bless and promote your public schools until every child in your Territory shall be gathered into them. [Cheers.]

SPRINGVILLE, UTAH, MAY 9.

As the presidential train reached Castle Gate, a mining town on the summit of the Wahsatch Mountains, the people turned out en masse. A salute was fired with dynamite cartridges. The President briefly thanked the people for their greeting.

At Springville, the last stopping-point in Utah, the committee that welcomed the President consisted of Don C. Johnson, Joseph M. Westwood, H. M. Dougall, R. A. Deal, and Anthony Ethier.

Governor Thomas introduced President Harrison, who said:

My Friends Your towns in Utah are very close together. I scarcely close an address at one before we are in the corporate limits of another ; but I am glad to receive here this pleasant welcome. The evidence of kindness which I read in all your faces is very reassuring and very comforting. It is delightful, I think, to those who are charged with public duties to come now and then and look into the faces of the people who have no other interest than that the Government shall be well administered. [Cheers.]

I cannot hope, of course, to give a post office to everybody. I have endeavored in the selection of those who are to administer the functions of public office for the general Government to secure good men. I have desired that everywhere they should understand that they were the servants of the people [applause], that they were to give the best public service possible, and that they were to treat everybody alike.

It has been very pleasant to-day to ride through this most extraordinary valley, and to notice how productive your fields are and how genial and kindly your people are. [Cheers.]

I am to do whatever I can in public office to serve our people. I am glad to contribute whatever I can as a citizen to the general prosperity and to the glory and dignity of our country. [Cheers.]

And now one word or two to these few comrades who gather about me. They are not many, but they are entitled to honor. Those who struggled in the early years to establish homes in the West, and those who in the hour of public distress and peril bared their breasts to the shaft of battle that the Nation might live, are worthy of the highest regard. [Cheers.]

You have entered into the heritage which they bought and preserved. May you, with as true, loyal hearts as they, preserve and hand down to your children these institutions. [Cheers.]

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, MAY 9.

AT Pocatello the President was met by a committee representing the citizens of Ogden, Utah, who took this opportunity to pay their respects, it being impracticable to hold a reception in that city owing to the late hour the train passed. The Ogden committee consisted of Mayor W. H. Turner and wife, Hon. James A. Miner, E. M. Allison and wife, J. R. Elliott, W. N. Shilling and wife, Capt. Ransford Smith, Wm. H. Smith, M. N. Graves and wife, Col. A. C. Howard, Rev. A. J. Bailey, E. M. Correl and wife, Thomas Bell, J. Cortez and wife, W. W. Funge and wife, O. E. Hill and wife, John K. Boyle, Gilbert Belnap and wife, Joseph Belnap, J. S. Painter, Maj. R. H. Whippie, W. R. White, and Prof. T. B. Lewis.

The committee appointed by Governor Thomas to meet and welcome the President at the State line on behalf of the Territory of Utah consisted of Hon. E. P. Ferry, of Park City; H. G. Whitney, O. J. Salisbury, and M. K. Parsons, of Salt Lake; Lieutenant Dunning, of Fort Douglas ; and Chief-Justice Zane, Associate Justice Anderson, Hon. C. S. Varian, Colonel Godfrey, John E. Dooly, Heber M. Wells, E. C. Coffin, and Spencer Clawsoii.

The presidential party arrived at the " City of Zion" at 2:45 A.M. At 8 o'clock they were met by Governor Thomas and Mayor Geo. M. Scott at the head of the following Citizens' Committee of Reception: Secretary Sells, Irving A. Benton, General Kimball, Colonel Nelson, Commissioner Robertson, C. C. Goodwin, Hon. J. T. Caine, R. C. Chambers, Fred Simon, Hoyt Sherman, Ellsworth Daggett, Judge Blackburn, Colonel Lett, James Hansborough, Frank D. Hobbs, Judge Miner, General Connor, Judge Barch, J. H. Rumel, C. E. Allen, Arthur Pratt, H. G. McMillan, J. P. Bache, Judge Boreman, W. H. H. Spafford, A. J. Pendleton, Fred Heath, W. L. Pickard, H. Pembroke, Daniel Wolstenholm, Councilman Armstrong, W. P. Noble, Louis Cohn, W. P. Lynn, L. C. Karrick, E. R. Clute, J. B. Walden, J. M. Young, Sheriff Burt, Selectmen Howe, Miller, and Gaboon ; C. B. Jack, W. H. Bancroft, R. Mackintosh, J. H. Bennett, Robert Harkness, H. W. Lawrence, J. B. Toronto, and Mesdames Zane, Salisbury, Dooly, Blunt, Chambers, Goodwin, James, Anderson, Lawrence, Gaylord, Simon, and Barch ; Miss Robertson, Mrs. I. A. Benton, and Mrs. Hobbs. This committee and a large body of citizens escorted the party to the Walker House, where breakfast was served. The President then headed a procession, composed of U. S. troops, State guards, G. A. R. veterans, pioneers, and many other local organizations, and was escorted to a pavilion in Liberty Park.

Governor Thomas and Mayor Scott delivered welcoming addresses, to which President Harrison responded as follows:

Fellow-citizens The scenes which have been presented to us in this political and commercial metropolis of the Territory of Utah have been very full of beauty and full of hope. I have not seen in all this long journey, accompanied as it has been with every manifestation of welcome and crowned with flowers, anything that touched my heart more than that beautiful picture on one of your streets this morning w^hen the children from the free public schools of Salt Lake City, waving the one banner that we all love [cheers] and singing an anthem of praise to that beneficent Providence that led our worthy forefathers to land and has followed the pathway of this Nation with His beneficent care until this bright hour, gave us their glad welcome. [Applause and cheers.]

My service in public life has been such as to call my special attention to, and to enlist my special interest in, the people of the Territories. It has been a pleasant duty to welcome the Dakotas, Washington, Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming into the great sisterhood of the States. I think it has not fallen to any President of the United States to receive into the Union so large a number of States. The conditions that surround you in this Territory are of the most hopeful character. The diversity of your productions, your mines of gold and silver, iron, lead and coal, placed in such proximity as to make the work of mining and reduction easy and economical ; your well-watered valley, capable, under the skilful touch of the husbandman, of transformation from barren wastes into fruitful fields all these lying in easy reach and intercommunication, one with the other, must make the elements of a great commercial and political community. You do not need to doubt the future. You will step forward confidently and progressively in the development of your great material wealth. The great characteristic of our American institutions the compact of our Government is that the will of the majority, expressed by legal methods at the ballot-box, shall be the supreme law of all our community. To the Territories of the United States a measure of local government has always been given, but the supervisory control, the supreme legislative and executive power has been,

continuously, as to the Territories, held and exercised by the general Government at Washington. The territorial state has always been regarded as a temporary one. The general Government has always looked forward to a division of its vast domain first, the territory northwest of the Ohio, then the Louisiana purchase, then these accessions upon the Pacific coast into suitable sections for the establishment of free and independent States. This great work of creating States has gone forward from the Ohio to the Pacific, and now we may journey from Maine to Puget Sound through established States. [Cheers.]

The purity of the ballot box, the wise provisions and careful guardianship that shall always make the expression of the will of the people fair, pure and true, is the essential thing in American life. We are a people organized upon principles of liberty, but, my good countrymen, it is not license. It is liberty within and under the law. [Great applause.] I have no discord, as a public officer, with men of any creed or politics if they will obey the law. My oath of office, my public duty, requires me to be against those who violate the law.

The foundation of American life is the American home. That which distinguishes us from other nations whose political experience and history have been full of strife and discord is the American home, where one wife sits in single uncrowned glory. [Great applause and cheers.] And now, my countrymen, I beg to assure you that every hope you have for safe running on these lines of free government, on these lines of domestic and social order, I have. For every one of you I have the most cordial greeting. God bless and keep you and guide you in the paths of social purity, order, and peace, and make you one of the great communities of the American Union. [Cheers.]

Chamber of Commerce Speech.

The visitors were then taken to the new Chamber of Commerce, where the business men of the city greeted the Chief Executive. The occasion was also the formal opening of the building for business.

President Harrison made an address. He said : I am very glad to witness in this magnificent structure which you are opening today for your use an evidence of the commercial importance of the city. Organizations of this character are very useful when rightly conducted, very promotive of the business prosperity of the cities in which they are established, and of the best interest of their membership. It is quite right that those who may be engaged in the rivalries of business, pushing their several lines of trade with the energy and enterprise that characterize our people, should now and then assemble and lay aside things that are personal and selfish and consider the things that affect the whole community. These organizations, as I have known them in other States, have been the council chamber in which large and liberal things have been devised for the development of the interests and prosperity of the community. I do not doubt that you will do so here ; that new enterprise will be welcomed, and that the friendly business hand will be extended to those who are seeking investments. I wish you all success in this enterprise, and I hope you may grow until its membership shall embrace all of your commercial classes, and that its influence may do for your business here what the water of your mountain streams has done for the plains make them grow longer and more productive, and at the same time expel from them those mean jealousies which sometimes divide men. [Prolonged Cheers.]

Address to the School Children.

The party visited the Mormon Tabernacle, which was profusely decorated with bunting and flags. On the side of the Temple in large letters was the motto " Fear God ; Honor the President." The entire city was tastefully decorated. The President reviewed the school children, about 2,000 in number. They rendered patriotic songs, and he addressed them in the

following happy speech :

To the School Children In all this joyous journey through this land of flowers and the sunny South I have seen nothing more beautiful and inspiring than this scene which burst upon us so unexpectedly This multitude of children bearing waving banners makes a scene which can never fade from our memories. Here, in these children from the free schools established and guarded by your public authorities, is the hope of Utah and the country. [Cheers.]

I give you my thanks for a demonstration that has cheered my heart. May each of you enjoy every blessing that a free country and a more beneficent and kindly Creator can bestow. [Cheers.]