

HISTORY OF JOHN GILLESPIE  
pioneer, Sept. 10, 1852  
Compiled and written by himself

A brief history of the life of John Gillespie, son of Peter Gillespie and Martha Scott Gillespie, Born March 27th, 1830, in the City of Glasgow, Scotland. Was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in 1843, and emigrated to America in 1849. Crossed the sea on the ship "James Pennel" and remained in the United States until the spring of 1852. Came up the Missouri River in the steam-boat "Saluda" about two hundred and fifty miles, where I landed and traveled through Missouri, buying up cattle for the emigrants to cross the plains. The steam-boat just before she reached Lexington, the boiler burst and blew the boat to pieces and all my clothing and tools were lost in the Missouri River. A great many people were killed and wounded, among the wounded was my sister-in-law Agnes Cook Gillespie. She was badly scalded and wounded and had to remain in Lexington for a long time under the care of a doctor. My brother Alexander, (her husband) who was with me about seventy-five miles from Lexington, went to Lexington and stayed with his wife and nursed her, while I kept on traveling through Missouri buying up cattle and landed in Cainsville about the last of May, and remained a short time. They proposed that we should all return to our father's home in Alton, Illinois, as father and mother has been writing to us, asking us to return, as my brother's wife was not able to cross the plains. I did not wish to return, and I told them I would not. I told them they could remain in Cainsville until the last company of emigrants and I would continue my journey to Salt Lake City, and that I would come back on the plains and meet them. So I started with two yoke of oxen and a yoke of cows. The first camp we made was on the west side of the Missouri river, while there cholera set in our camp and ten died and were buried before we could break camp. We then traveled on, building bridges and making roads, and we finally reached Salt Lake City on the 10th day of September 1852. We then prepared and started back on the plains, on horse back on the 16th of September, to meet my brother and his wife, who were in the last company of emigrants. Traveled as far as Green River, meeting emigrants every



day, and the last company I met told me they thought I would meet Kelsey's company in about a day's travel east of Green River. I crossed Green River the next morning and a very severe storm arose between the Gig Sandy and Pacific Springs but I traveled on three days and three nights without eating or sleeping, and found the camp on the third morning before daylight, by the barking of their dogs; they were camped on Strawberry Creek and their cattle had all strayed off in the storm toward the Wind River mountains and the company were nearly all out of provisions so much so that some of them were eating the dead cattle. I stayed with them two days and helped them gather up their cattle and got them started on the road to Salt Lake, then I came on to Green River on horse back and purchased twelve sacks of flour and a beef steer from Old Bates, who owned a trading post at Green River, and when the company reached Green River they had a jubilee of plenty to eat. My brother and his wife were in a wagon with another family and they were very heavy loaded and their horses were worn out. I traded my horse and saddle for a fine yoke of oxen, yoke and chain, and I got me a light wagon, and my brother put his freight into the wagon and my brother and his wife and I took the lead of the company and piloted them into Salt Lake City all right. About the latter part of October, I bought me a City lot in the Sixth Ward and built me a house. I was married to my wife, Catherine Ross on the 16th day of November, 1852. My brother and his wife, and my wife and myself lived in the same house, and my brother and I commenced cutting sone for the Temple and continued working all winter, and as provisions were scarce, we would receive ten pounds of flour once in two or three weeks. I have worked many a day with notheing but a few potatoes for my breakfast and the same for my supper. In the spring of 1853, I was ordained a Seventy in the second quorum of Seventies by Harrison Burgess, and I also enlisted in Colonel Robert T. Burton's Bataillion of Cavalry, and was engaged in actual service. As Walker, the Indian Chief was hostile and making raids on the southern Settlements.

About the first of July, I started south with a company of cavalry under the command of Colonel Wm. K. Kimbel, and when we reached what is now called Payson the Indians were very hostile and we camped there over night, and in the morning we found quite a number of arrows around the corrals where we had our horses. We assisted the people to fortify and secure themselves against the Indians. We then con-



tinued our journey south. At Chidken Creek the people had abandoned the settlement, leaving their pigs, chickens and other things behind them. The night after we left, there was a small company of infantry with a baggage wagon camped there, and the Indians followed the bed of the Creek down near the camp and opened fire on them, and they had a hot fight lasting over two hours, and in the conflict a man by the name of Duffy was shot through the leg and the two horses of their baggage wagon were shot and killed. I, with a few of our company was sent back to their assistance. We found no Indians, but could see considerable blood around where they were shooting. We rendered our man all the assistance necessary and they traveled on to Sanpete; while we continued our journey south, overtaking the company. We camped at Filmore one night where the people were all living inside a fort. We then continued south to Red Creed about eight miles north of Parowan. There was a good fort built there, but the people had abandoned the place, leaving nearly all their property. We stayed there a few days and then went on to Parowan. Apostle George A. Smith and Dimick Huntinton, the Indian interpreter, traveled with us as far as Parowan--we stayed there two days helping them complete their fortifications. We then went on to Cedar City and stayed there for about two weeks, moving their settlement to a safer place, so they could protect themselves against the Indians. Herding our stock and standing picket guard in holes dug in the ground so that we could see along the top of the ground, for the Indians were cunning, and would creep down the hollows, making noises imitating birds and coyotes so as to get to shoot at us; a few of us went still further south to the rim of the basin, where we found six Indians and twenty head of fine fat cattle. We arrested the Indians and brought them and the cattle back to Cedar City. W.H. Kimel was instructed to bring all their surplus cattle to Salt Lake City and when we had the people all in good safe quarters, we started home, taking with us about two hundred head of cattle and the Indians we had arrested; we reached Salt Lake City about the last of August, making a journey of about seven hundred miles. I there received a letter from my father who was on the plains traveling to Salt Lake with his family, (seventeen persons in all) requesting me to meet them with provisions as they were nearly through their supply. I got a team loaded up with provisions and started the next day east and went as far as Fort Bridger, and met them and it was a happy meeting. I traveled back with them, making a journey of two hundred and twenty-five miles. In October, I sold my property and moved out to Tooele and bought a farm. The Indians continued to be hostile, driving off our stock and killing people in the canyon, so that we had to go to the canyons in company well armed, working in the daytime and standing guard at night.

In the spring of 1854, we commenced and built a wall half a mile north and south and a quarter of a mile east and west, eighteen feet high with bastions in each corner, with port holes in each corner. In 1855 we commenced building our houses on our city lots; I built a great many houses for other people. The grasshoppers and crickets were very bad and numerous, so much so that they darkened the sun at noon-day when flying in the air; the people suffered a great deal for the want of bread. I have gone several weeks at a time without bread; the grasshoppers having destroyed all our crops. During the year we made many journeys after Indians, who drove off our stock. In 1856 the grasshoppers were worse, and there was a great deal of suffering for the necessities of life. In the spring of 1857, I was called by President Brigham Young to move into Salt Lake City to cut stone for the Temple. I bought me a house and lot in the Fifteenth Ward, and moved my family to Salt Lake City in June. My wife and I received our endowments on the 24th of July. while Brigham Young and party were celebrating the day at the Lake, at the head of Cottonwood Canyon, an



express on horse back from the east came, informing Governor Young that Johnson's army was coming to Salt Lake to hang the leaders of the Church and confiscate the people's property. About the first of August, a company of cavalry under command of Colonel R.T. Burton was called to go back on the plains to meet the army to disable them and hinder them from reaching Salt Lake City. We traveled as far as the Devil's Gate, we could hear nor find nothing of them, four of us dressed in buck-skinsuits and with two pack animals, we traveled as far as Fort Laramie; there we found the army, where they had layed over for a few days to recruit. We camped with them one night under the pretense of being from California gold digging, and were going to the States. We found out their intentions. They said they were going to hang Brigham Young and the leaders of the church and that they had the ropes with them to do it. The next morning we traveled a little east and crossed the Platte River and traveled back to our camp at the Devil's Gate and informed R.T. Burton that the army was coming and what their intentions were. He then ordered that all the houses and buildings and corrals be burned up and then started back into the hills on the Sweetwater, there we camped, scouting the country and watching the army; when they were in course of travel the cavalry and infantry and artillery and baggage wagons occupied about one mile of space. Joseph Sharp and myself were called to scout about the camp of the army at night to find out how they fixed the animals. We made what we called a horse fiddle and dumb bell and other things to stampede their animals and when they reached the Pacific Springs about one o'clock in the mornign, we made a grand stampede; the animals rughing over the tents where the soldiers were sleeping, making great confusion and noise, but as their horses and mules were hobbles and locked with log chains, we got very few of them away, we continued to stampede and drive until the army reached Hams Fork; we drove off in all about fourteen jundred head of cattle and horses. We then traveled back to fort Bridger where General Wells with a large body of Infantry were camped, we told him what we had accomplished and he called Lot Smith to take a small company of cavalry to go back east of Green River to cut off a few wmall trains of baggage wagons which were loaded with bacon and beans and the ropes that they calculated to hang the leaders of the Church; we burned their wagons and yokes and bows, and the cattle followed the trail of the cattle we had drove off before; we then traveled back to Fort Bridger andcommenced burning the grass all over the country and close down to the camp of the army at Hams Fork, and some days we could scarcely see the sun for the smoke. The cavalry would charge on us and drive us back to Black's Fork, and as they turned we would follow them back as we were ordered not to kill any of them if we could avoid it. The army started to go up Bear River,(north) to come around that way to Salt Lake, as they were afraid to come through Echo Canyon, but we started up to Bear River and made dams and flooded all the country so that they could not travel. In a few days, they started to come by Fort Bridger, and we burned all the buildings inside of the Fort and we started up to Cedar Ridge between Fort Bridger and the Muddy, and camped there with the army of General Wells, he had his army all ready to attack them. When Johnsons army marched up within half a mile, they turned back and traveled to Hams Fork and there they camped all winter, eating mule flesh part of the time without salt, as they could not accept a load of salt that Brigham Young sent out to them. The most of General Wells' army traveled back to Echo Canyon, leaving guards at prominent points, to watch the movements of the army; quite a number of General Wells' army was released to go home. I among them, reached home about the last of October, and I hauled wood the most of that winter from the west



mountains. In the spring of 1858, I sold my property in Salf Lake and moved back to Tooele, and in April we were called upon to grind up our wheat, and make boxes to put our flour in and prepare to move south, we knew not where. I boxed up about three thousand pounds of flour, fixed up four wagons and about the first of May, we started to travel south as far as Lehi, and my family stayed there in the wagons and I herded my stock on the West side of the Jordon about twenty miles south of Salt Lake City. We stayed there until the treaty was accomplished; about the last of July, we were called to go to our homes.

When I came back to Tooele, the streets were all covered with tall grass; we had good crops that year, as the few men that had been left at home watered and tended all the crops. It took us some time to get our provisions and other belongings all moved back and we had a very good time during that winter. In the spring of 1859, I went to Camp Floyd and built a number of stores, and a great many houses for the army, and made considerable money, which we were in great need of at that time, our families being in great need of clothing and other necessities. In the fall I sold a race horse to one of the officers at Camp Floyd for \$700.00 and that fall also, I was elected sheriff of Tooele County and Marshall of Tooele City, and I acted in these offices for a number of years, traveling a great deal after thieves and murderers. I also served several terms as a City Counselor. I was also commissioned as a Major of Calvary and Commander of the Tooele County District by General Charles Durkee, Bovernor of Utah Territory.

In 1863, I built Abel Parker's house and several buildings at Grantsville. In 1866, I built the Grantsville meeting house and received part of my pay in wheat at \$12.00 a bushel. On September 29th, 1866, an indictment was found in the Probate Court against Robert Sutton, alias Thomas Clark, on the 29th the prisoner appeared in court and plead not guilty, Jury dily impanelled and sworn, case tried and found guilty, of murder in the first degree; sentence of death passed to be shot on the 10th day of October, 1866, warrant for execution signed October 10th, warrant duly returned, prisoner executed at 11 o'clock. John Towberry, Judge. Richard Warburton, Clerk and John Gillespie, Sheriff.

Early in the morning, I pitched a small tent up on the bench, and had five men with riffles, four of them loaded with bullets and one loaded with powder, neither of the men knew who had the blank gun. I called out a company of cavalry to keep back the crowd of people, from all over the county. I set the prisoner on a chair about sixty yards from the mouth of the tent, and covered his face and opened the front of the tent, and gave the word of command, and he was shot dead; we had his grave dug and buried him right there, dispersed the crowd and left a guard there, and moved the tent and the men that night so that no one knew them that did the shooting. In the year of 1867, my time was mostly occupied in the duties of the sheriff's office, and battalion of cavalry, and a batallion of infantry; we used to camp on Camp Stansbury and drill three days at a time. Richard Warburton was Adjutant and William C. Rydalch was Quartermaster; we used to have good times having sham battles.

In the spring of 1868, I was called by President Young to be captain of a train of wagons to go back east after emigrants. About the 1st of May, I started with one hundred and two wagons, the largest train, I believe, that ever crossed the plains, I called upon Isaac James Caldwell as my assistant, the streams and rivers were very high, and when we got to Green River, the river was very high, and there was a high wind blowing. There was three trains there ahead of me, and they had been unable to get any of their cattle or wagons across the river and Captain Seeley's teamsters tried to cross with a ferry-boat without any wagons on it, and the roped broke and it went



down the river and upset and drowned seven of his teamsters. I went up the river the next morning about half a mile and found a place where I started my cattle across onto an island about half way across the river, and I picked out a few of my men that were the best swimmers and they swam across the river and reached an island, and started the cattle across to the east side. My cattle were across the river first. I had over one thousand head of cattle, and the cattle belonging to the other trains went across much easier when they saw my cattle on the other side; the wind calmed down some and we got the ferry-boats and spliced the rope, and commenced crossing our wagons on the boat and in three days I started on my journey east. When we got to the Sweet water, we killed some fine, fat deer and lived well. I traveled on to Cheyenne where the terminus of the railroad was; there I camped until the emigrants and freight arrived there. Herding our cattle in the North Platte all over the country where the best feed was. Horace S. Eldridge was there as agent for the emigration and he was taken very sick and he left Alexander Piper and myself to fit out the emigrants. We fitted them out and started the trains back to Salt Lake and Horace S. Eldridge went home on the stage coach. I stayed on the North Platte about three months. I sent some of my teams to hauling cordwood to the government post at Fort Benton to get clothing and provisions for my men. I loaded up fifty of my men's wagons with freight for Walker Brothers and took an invoice of all the goods I loaded and started them to Salt Lake in charge of my assistant, Isaac James Caldwell, and about the middle of August, I started back with about seven hundred emigrants and loaded up four wagons with Quartz Mill Machinery for the Sweet water mines. When we reached the three crossings of the Sweetwater, there was a small train with merchandise for the Sweetwater mines; the Indians had attacked them and killed two and wounded two and run off their cattle and plundered their wagons and scattered goods all over the ground. The sheriff and the man that owned the goods, with a posse of men came out from the Sweetwater mines, and the Indians made an attack and killed the sheriff and wounded the owner of the goods and several others. I gathered up the goods that were left, and loaded them in the wagons and up some of my cattle on to the wagons and hauled them to the Sweetwater mines and found the man that owned the goods in bed wounded; he was very glad for what I had done. I went to the mill, unloaded my freight, got my pay in gold dust, started back and overtook my train at the Pacific Springs about midnight. We continued our journey to Salt Lake and reached there about the 20th of September with my cattle in good condition, and did not lose any. I settled up with Walker Brothers and went to the President's office and settled up with the Church and then returned home. I was home about ten days when I returned to Salt Lake City to attend October conference; at the conference my name was called to go on a mission to the Muddy; my crops were destroyed during the previous summer by the grasshoppers, and my wife thought I would not be able to go, but I told her that I had faith that the Lord would open up the way for me if I would go, and He did and I bought wheat for my family at \$2.00 a bushel. And I fitted a team and took two of my family with me and started about the last of October in company with A.W. Sabins and A.L. Hale and William M. Rydall; we traveled as far as St. George where we met Joseph W. Young who had charge of that mission. We laid over one day and Brother Young told us to take charge of ten wagons and go on to the Muddy and he would wait till the balance of the company were ready. The Indians were very hostile, we guarded our animals every night out in the hills and finally reached the Muddy in safety; in the course of four or five days Joseph W. Young left St. George with a company of fifteen wagons and when they reached the Mosquet Flat on the Rio Virgin River, the Indians drove off all their horses and mules except an old blind mare



belonging to Joseph W. Young and none were recovered. They sent a messenger on foot and told us the accidant they had had. We all took our teams and went back and hauled their wagons to the Muddy. We had to make two trips as we did not have teams enough.

Joseph W. Young then laid out a town-site on a high, sandy bench, I went to work to dig me a cellar, hauled rock from the mountains and built me a good cellar and built an adobe room on top of it, and paid 18¢ a foot for lumber to make a floor and door, and I paid \$1.00 each for poles to put on the roof. We covered the roof with willows and flags. I built several other houses for the people, and we made a water ditch several miles long, along the foot hills of this sandy bench, and when the wind blew, it filled the ditch up faster than we could make it. We planted fig trees and other trees and they did well; when we could get the water to them. In the summer of 1869, I came up north to see how my family was. I brought a team and wagon to Salt Lake for George Boyd and in the fall I bought me another team and wagon to go back to the Muddy and we found that we could not keep the water in this new ditch; so we abandoned the place and move two miles up the Muddy stream and called the town of St. Joseph, it was a much better location. I built me another house and took up twenty acres of good willow land, and paid seventeen dollars an acre for grubbing and breaking it up. I built quite a town there for the people and we raised good crops and did well; we were then located in Piute County, Utah Territory, and I was appointed assessor and collector for that county. Every stick of timber we got we had to go seventy five miles for it, and haul our feed and water across a desert country.

In the summer of 1870, I came up north to see my family. Two months on Muddy, it was so hot we could not do any work. W.C. Rydalch had a writ of attachment from the Third district Court for about Five Thousand Dollars against Howard Egan of Deep Creek, Tooele Couty. Thomas Tanner was then sheriff of Tooele County. W.C. Rydalch came to see me to know if I would go out and attend to the business for him. I told him I would if he would see the sheriff and get him to deputize me and let me take charge of the business. The sheriff consented and I took Thomas Tanner, William Bracken and John Rydalch with me. When I got to Deep Creek, I found that Howard Egan had given John Binley a bill of sale and I found the bill of sale good, but I found from the Justice of the Peace privately that the cattle had never been turned over to John Binly. I did not let this be known, and next morning, I told my men to saddle their horses. I hired a large corral from Samuel Worthington and I told my men we would go and make a drive; we drove in all of Mr. Egan's cattle and a great many others,, we separated Egan's cattle from the rest, and then turned the others out. Messrs. Egan and Biley were very ixcited and wanted to know what I intended doing and my opinion of the bill of sale. I told them the bill of sale was good, but he had never had possession of the cattle, and that I had taken possession of them first under a writ of attachment. They talked of burning the corral and letting the cattle out. I told them the corral was mine and to leave it alone and I quarded the corral all night. The next morning I attached a set of blacksmith's tools and some other property and started back to Grantsville, drove the cattle across the desert in the month of July, which was a very hard journey for the want of water. I levied on about Three Thousand Dollars worth of property and with court fees and what W.C. Rydalch paid me, I received One Hundred and Fifty Dollars, which was a great help to me. I fitted up in the fall and started back to the Muddy, taking my son William with me; he was then eleven years old. We arrived at the Muddy all right, President Brigham Young, George A. Smith and others visited us that winter. I got up an excort of cavalry to travel with them to the different settlements, and President Young told me he wanted me to



take a small company of men across the Colorado River east and explore the country, and when I found a small stream of water to call it a small stream of water, and not to call it a river, but to represent the country just as I found it; for this Muddy country was misrepresented to me. That winter, Congress took a slice off of Utah Territory and put it onto Nevada, and that brought us into Nevada, the taxes were so high (being  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$  in gold) that President Young told us to break up the Mission, and those that had homes in the north to go home, and those that did not, to settle any place they chose in Utah. I had on hand about one hundred and fifty bushels of wheat. I had it ground into flour and hauled it to the Pariaget mines, and sold it for Twelve Dollars a hundred, a distance of sixty miles. Bishop Daniel Stark wished me to stay till the people were all moved away. As we had to send to St. George for some teams to move the people that had lost their teams. The assessor and collector and sheriff came down from Nevada to assess the people and levy on their property for the tax. I told them that the people had paid me their tax and got their receipts, and I did not know any law that would require them to pay taxes more than once in the same year; but they said they were going to collect the tax. I told them if they were going to do so by force, that there wasn't enough of them. They said they would go back and bring a posse of armed men. I said all right. I sent my teams to the Beaver dams, a distance of forty miles, which was across the line of Nevada, and had the teams come and moved all the people across the line. These men came back, also their posse of armed men, in a few days, but there was nothing but our houses and land, and they were welcome to them. We continued our journey north and quite a number of people from the Muddy made a new settlement in long valley. I continued my journey north and when I reached Veaver, we had a heavy snow storm eighteen inches deep. I there laid over three days. When traveling between Buck Horn springs and Beaver, three men on horseback came riding very rapidly from the mountains toward me. I felt like something was wrong. I drove my team to one side of the road, turned my mules out with the harness on, my son William was very excited, (being only eleven years old) although I said nothing to him, but I took my gun and buckled my revolver on me, and was in readiness for them. They rode up to me and asked if I had seen a certain man that I knew nothing of. I told them I had seen no person since I left Parowan; they then rode about one hundred yards behind my wagon, consulted with each other and then went away. I am satisfied they were highway men, but they thought I had nothing worth taking although I had about Four Hundred Dollars in my trunk, and had my mind made up that if they took it, it would be over my dead body. I continued my journey and reached home about the first of May, 1871. I remained home the most of that summer, attending to my own business. In the fall of 1871, we incorporated as a Tooele County Stock Association, and I was chosen as one of the directors. We herded our cattle at Grouse Creek, Boselder County, Utah, and I made a number of trips there. In the spring of 1872, the mining camps in Tooele County, Stackton, Jacob City, Ophir and Lewiston, built up and began to boom, they all had a number of saloons and herdy-houses and houses of ill fame. In the summer of 1873, two convicts made their escape from the Utah Penitentiary, by the names of Williamson and Smith; they killed the warden and made good their escape, and an officer from Salt Lake, by the name of Floriday came to me and told me there was Five Hundred Dollars reward for the two men, and asked me to go with him to find them, and I would be well paid. I went with him and we found them, arrested them, and took them back to Salt Lake City, and I never received a dollar for my services. In the summer of 1874, the stage-



frauds. Edward Broad and myself were appointed to go to Jacob City, we went up Sunday afternoon, as Monday was the day of election, and as we reached the lower part of the town, there was a shot fired and a man shot dead in the bottom of the gulch; we put our horses away for the night and walked around the town, and found the saloons all running and the dances going on. they kept up till three o'clock in the morning. We got up next morning and got our seats in the rooms with the Judges of Election, there was a porch in the front of the room, about sixteen feet high from the bottom of the gulch, and they raised the window and put their ballots in by the window. There was a great deal of illegal voting going on, women trying to disguise themselves voting two or three times, but I detected them and stopped them from voting. About ten o'clock W.H. Lee sent a man over from Ophir, and told me they had stolen all of his tickets, and asked me to send him some of mine; I sent him half of mine. A number of men after voting at Ophir would come over to Jacob City and voted and a number from Jacob City went to Ophir and voted (voing twice), and quite a number of men and women voted at Jacob City that were nonresidents, and not legal voters, and I protested against it a number of times, but Judge Bethoon (senior Judge of the election) overruled my objections. I took down items of all his proceedings, and at the close of the elections we rode home in the night and the next day we found out that the election all through the mining camps was conducted the same way, and by this means giving the Liberal party a majority of votes in Tooele County. But the People's party concluded to contest the election and we engaged Attorneys Sutherland and McBride to defend us in the Third District Court of Utah, and when the case was called before Chief Justice McKain, we had sufficient proof of illegal voting in the mining camps but Judge McKain ruled against us, and in favor of the Liberal party, and we held our positions and secreted the County records and Judge McKain issued a mandamus and Deputy Marshal Kindsley came out to Tooele while Judge Rowberry and the County Recorder Warburton, W.H. Lee and myself were in Salt Lake City consulting with our attorneys. Mr. Kindsley took possession of the County Recorder's office, which was left in charge of Deputy Recorder F.J. Hammerlund; and as we were driving home J.M. Hollaher met us at Lake Point and told us that the Deputy Marshal had taken possession of the Recorder's office. Judge Rowberry asked me to go to Tooele and try to get back the possession of the records and they went to Grantsville. I got home a little after dark and Mr. Kindsley sent for me, he wished to see me. I sent word to him I would see him in the morning. I got a few of the boys and I told them what I wanted them to do; early next morning I went up to see Mr. Kindsley. He had E.S. Smith, the M.E. Parson, and Henry Barrow with him guarding the office. I asked Mr. Kindsley to take a walk up the street with me, and take a drink or ci gar, which he did, and when we came back, my boys had possession of the Recorder's office. The boys had made some excitement on the outside and Smith and Barrows ran out to see, and my boys ran in and closed the door. Mr. Kindsley was greatly annoyed and excited as his arms and bedding were in the office; I told him I thought the boys would give him his arms and bedding. They did so, and he went back to Salt Lake City. In a few days the United States Marshall Maxwell came out and Judge Rowberry and a few of us had an interview with him in the Court-house, but we came to no terms; our case was still going on in the Third District court. In about ten days later, Judge McKain issued a preemptory mandamus, and



on the 6th day of September, 1874, the Liberals took possession of the County offices, but our representative to the Legislature gained his seat; as the Legislative Body were the judges of the qualifications of their members; and the court officers made some improvements in the court-house, appropriated otherwise county means, until county warrants were worth 25¢ on the dollar; in a short time Judge McKain died, and Judge Stricklin was appointed Chief Justice in his place, he was a strong Liberal also, and operated with the Liberal party strongly, On the 4th of July, 1876, the Centennial year, we had the greatest celebration ever Tooele had. I was Marshal of the day, we had a company of cavalry out and other displays, and we had a grand time and closed the day with two grand balls in the evening. In the winter of 1876 and 1877 the Legislature enacted laws for the registration of all legal voters and that did away with the fraud that had been going on at our elections and Judge Stricklin was put out of his position, and Judge Schaffer was appointed in his place, and he was an honorable man. I saw Judge Stricklin some time after on the streets of Salt Lake City ragged and poor.

In the summer of 1878, the People's party began to work diligently for the August election, and we gained about three hundred majority of votes, and the Liberals party would not give up the possession or count the votes; we had again to call on the Judge of the Third District court to issue an order for them to count the votes; and they kept on from one plea to another until the month of April, 1879, and then they counted and they acknowledged that we had received three hundred votes majority; and asked them to issue our certificate of election, and they refused to do so, and Judge William B. Shiller stood up and left the court house and E.S. Martin got up to shut the door of the vault, and I told him that we did not want it closed; and he told me he was going to dinner. I told him all right, to give me the key to the office door, and I would stay until he came back. He gave me the key, and he never came back and F.M. Lyman and myself kept possession of the house; and I stayed there ten days, both day and night, and they finally issued our certificates of election, and the People's party has held possession ever since of all the offices.

In the summer of 1879, the directors of the Co-operative cattle herd, appointed Able Parker and myself, and authorized us to sell the herd, and in the fall we sold the herd to Mr. Thomas of Grouse Creek, Boxelder County, for the sum of \$10,000.00 and it greatly relieved the people of Tooele as the grasshoppers had destroyed the most of their crops that summer. In the summer of 1880 I built a large two story house for S.W. Wooley of Grantsville and about the 1st of August I went on a journey with Apostle Erastus Snow, Brigham Young and F.M. Lyman. We traveled through all of the settlements of Sanpete county, holding meetings at each settlement, and then traveled over the mountains to Castle Valley, held two meetings at Castle Dale, drove to Wilsonville and held two meetings. Drove to Cottonwood Spring and camped one night, crossed Price River and drove to Green River, and camped one night, and drove to Grand River. The river was very high, drove to Grand Valley, and layed over one day. The White Mountain Indians had shot two young men by the name of Smith. The settlers were very excited, riding up and down the valley with fire arms, making threats, what they would do with the Indians. Towards night they came to Brother Snow and asked his advice. he told them if they would quiet down and let him send a cool headed man in charge of them to go and find the Indians and also find the young man who was still missing; they said they would. Brother Snow asked me if I would go and take charge of the men. I told him I would; we got ready and started about six o'clock in the evening and traveled all night a distance of forty miles and reached the Indians camp early the next morning, and found the man was shot through the foot, but the Indians that had done the



shooting had gone towards the Navajo nation, and we came back with the young man. We reached Grand Valley about sundown. We started on our journey the next morning, drove to Caine Springs and camped over night. August 31st, drove to Blue Mountains where we saw some very fine timber, long leaf pine, trees one hundred and thirty feet high. September 1st we drove a distance of sixty miles without any road. a young man from Bluff City met us on horse-back to pilot us in, we traveled down a very rough canon called Recapture, and on the 2nd of September drove to Bluff City on the San Juan River. September 3rd, laid over one day and held two meetings, and visited their ancient dwellings in the mountains with seventeen and eighteen rooms in them. September 4th, drove up the river to Mount Zuma and held one meeting; in the morning F.M. Myman and I took one span of horses and a light buggy and drove to Navajo springs in Colorado. On the 7th, we drove to the Mankees, where there was a fine settlement, good land, plenty of water, and fine timber on the flat. On the 8th, we drove over the mountains to the Laplata; going over the mountains to the Laplata, we found some beautiful parks and beautiful timber. We camped over night at the Laplata. It was a mining district. On the 9th, we drove to Bowen's Ferry on the San Juan River, where we again joined Brother Snow's camp. We saw corn there fourteen feet high and beautiful potatoes. On the 10th, we drove to Sulphur Springs, and visited Wm. Hyde's, who were keeping the trading post, buying wool and Navajo blankets; his blankets were fine ones worth from ten to forty dollars.

On the 12th, drove near Wingate in New Mexico; the 13th, drove to Bernum's camp, where the Zuma Indians villiages, and they are a very industrious people; they cultivate the soil, raise a great deal of corn and wheat, manufacture very fine crockery ware, and build their houses two and three stories high, the entrance to them being all at the top of the houses; they use long ladders to climb into the house and pull their ladders in after they get up, in time of war with other Indians. They had a church there, over three hundred years old, with elegant architecture inside. they were Roman Catholics. They had a dancing hall with an entrance of about four feet square, but no covering overhead; they were great people to dance, dancing two or three weeks at a time, some of them dancing themselves to death. On the 16th, drove to the meadows of St. John, the 17th drove to Croncho, held two meetings; on the 18th drove to St. John, on the 19th held two meetings; there was quite a number of Spaniards settled at St. John and the Mormons had considerable trouble and expense with them about the land; The 20th, drove to Round's valley, held one meeting. There was a young man there that was very anxious to pull square holts, he said he had never been pulled up. I told him I thought we had a man that could pull him up. I spoke to F.M. Lyman and he gave the young man a boy eleven years old on his shoulders and pulled the young man up easy. I took the boy off and told Brother Lyman to pull him up with one hand, he did so easily. The 21st, drove to Wuterso, there we killed an elk weighing six hundred and forty pounds, held two meetings, drove to Bushe Valley through the Mockeone Mountains to the head waters of the Gila River, where there was plenty of game, wild turkeys and lots of timber; stayed over night. The 22nd, drove back to Round Valley, held one meeting; the 23rd, drove to Croncho, held one meeting the 24th, drove to Snowflake; the 25th held two meetings and drove to Walker; the 26th held three meetings and drove to Woodruff; the 27th, held two meetings, (Woodruff is a nice little settlement on the Little Colorado River, the people had a great deal of expence to keep up their dam in the river) we drove to St. Joseph, held two meeting; the 28th, drove to Sunset, held three meetings. The people all lived in the United order there, we all ate at one table, they had fine water melons there; we visited Brigham City, but the place was abandoned as it was a very poor place; the 30th drove to Roundy's point on our way home, October



1st, drove to Dougway on the Little Colorado River, the water was very muddy, and dug a hole close to the bank and filtered our water through the sand, for ourselves and horses; the 2nd, drove to Moonancopy. John W. Young had a small cotton factory there. Held one meeting; the 3rd drove to Moabby, held one meetin. The 4th, drove to Red Canyon tanks; there we had to take our horses two miles to water, take our shoes off and climb over smooth rocks to get water out of the tanks for our horses. The 5th, drove to Big Colorado River, it was about three thousand feet from the top of the hill, down to Lee's ferry and a distance of about one mile. The 6th drove to Jacob's pool; the 7th drove to Navajo wells, the 8th drove to Kanab, held one meeting. The 9th, drove to Orderville, and visited a number of friends that used to live on the Muddy; held two meetins and drove to the dairy a few miles from the dairy in crossing a bad crossing we broke the front axle tree of our carriage, and we had to go about six miles and found a man camped in the timber, we secured the loan of his light wagon, and on the 11th drove to Panguitch, stayed that night, hired a man to take the wagon back and take our carriage back to Orderville, and we secured a light buggy. On the 12th drove to Circle Valley, held one meeting, the people there lived in the United Order also. The 14th, drove to Joseph Creek; the 15th drove to Kanosh, held one meeting; the 16th drove to Fillmore, the 17th held three meetings; the 18th drove to Scipio, held one meeting, the 19th drove to Nephi, held one meeting; the 20th to Payson, held one meeting; the 21st drove to Provo, held one meeting; the 22nd drove to Camp Floyd held one meeting; the 23rd drove home to Tooele Dity, making a journey of two thousand miles. Visited a number of the wards in Tooele Stake, giving a short history of our travels through Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona, also preaching to the people.

On January 30th, 1881, I was ordained a High Priest, and set apart a High Councilor, and home missionary in the Tooele Stake of Zion by President Joseph F. Smith. President John Taylor while preaching to the people of Tooele City made the remark that the people of Tooele County did not have sense enough to maintain their offices in Tooele County until F.M. Lyman came here and restored them to office again, which, I think, was very uncalled for as the people of Tooele County worked harder and cast a stronger ballot than ever was cast in Tooele County, and it was but a short time until the people of Salt Lake City and Salt Lake county did not have sense enough to maintain their offices. The Liberal party go possession of both the city and county offices, and involved the city and county a great many thousand dollars in debt. United States Marshal Ireland, appointed me Deputy Marshal, and I did most all of his business in Tooele County, and I was well occupied with the sheriff's business.

In December 1882, I received a letter from the Governor of Utah Territory informing me that he had received a telegram from Deep Creek, Tooele County, to the effect there, was a band of highway robbers there, and that they had robbed John Divine's store, and stolen other property from him and were also stealing from the people on the highway, and requested me to get a posse of men and go out and arrest them. On the 25th of December, I took my son William and started for Deep Creek and reached there on the night of the 28th, and found the people standing guard and very much excited. I found out all of the particulars, and raised a posse of ten men and started for the robbers headquarters, on the Antelope Mountains, where we reached them we found about two thousand pounds of oats on the road below their camp, in sacks, but the robbers were not there. William Nay, one of the robbers had a wife and family near Deseret, and I thought I might capture them at Deseret. I sent my men home and on the 17th of January, 1883, I took the train for Deseret. When I reached Deseret, I went by the name of Davis, as



I thought the robbers might have some friends there, and as I did not want them to know that there was an officer after them. I placed a guard near Nay's house day and night, on the third day, I received a telegram from Mr. Dooley, Wells Fargo agent, that the Southern Pacific Railroad train was held up and robbed, and he thought it was the same robbers I was after, and he sent me a case of 45 Winchester rifles and cartridges. I got up a posse of twelve men and one baggage wagon at Swacey Springs. I rode up on a low pass on the Antelope Mountains, and discovered two men on horse back riding up the big canyon. I reined my horse back so they would not see me, rode down the mountain a little way and motioned my men to come up. We left our horses there in charge of two men and eight of us went up to the top of the hill, and when the two men got to a line with us, I ordered them to halt and throw up their hands. They dismounted behind their horses and opened fire on us, we fired and shot both of their horses, and firing continued from both parties for a few minutes. We shot William Nay in the shoulder, he jumped about three feet and fell as we thought dead, but he rallied again and shot three times. Frank Holly was lying behind some brush and all we could see to shoot at was one leg, and we shattered that from his knee to his ankle, and he kept on shooting as long as he was able. I called to them to throw their arms away from them, (as we were about one hundred and sixty yards away from them) they did so, and we went down the steep mountain to them, took their arms all from them, we built three large fires around them with dry cedars as they were very cold with the loss of blood, and it was a very cold night, with about ten inches of snow on the grounds. We tore up shirts, made some splints and dressed their wounds the best we could, sent for our baggage wagon which was about six miles off. Holly told me the other three men were at their camp, as they came the day before with a band of horses, they had stolen between there and Toana, and he said "For God Sake don't shoot them other men." I told him I would not, that I would write a note and let him sign it; I wrote a note and told them that Nay and Holly were shot and badly wounded and under arrest and that if they would surrender, there would not be a shot fired; and Holly signed Nay's and his own name. About two o'clock in the morning, Captain Deal, detective for the Southern Pacific railroad and sheriff of Elko County, Nevada, with a posse of ten men came up the big canyon, and our picket guard hailed them. I went down to see who it was, and brought them up to our fires, they had just come up from Toana. We laid the wounded men in our baggage wagon, and sent two men with them to Swacey Springs. We then started across the hills to the robbers quarters and surrounded their house before daylight, and at daylight, we sent John Smith into their house with the note. Frank Francis came out cursing and swearing and said, if those other two men were with us we would never surrender. We disarmed them and put them in irons (they were all well armed with revolvers and repeating rifles) they had a good many of the goods they had stolen from John Devine's store and a saddle and Colt's revolver, and two horses belonging to Devine. We tore down their house, which was a rock house with port holes to shoot out of; they had a stock corral about eighteen feet high, with a shoot about forty yards long to run horses into. We tore that all down and burned it. There was a nice spring of water close to their house, the only water there was within five miles. We left some of the men there (from Deep Creek) to gather up about forty head of horses, they had stolen, and take them back so that the owners could get them. We also found two pairs of fine field glasses and a fine gold stop watch, we had the number of the watch from the owner which they had stolen, when they held up the stage coach on the Boise road, some time before. We then started for Deseret and the wounded man suffered a great deal as the road was very rough and rocky; we reached Deseret the next night



in time to catch the twelve o'clock train for Salt Lake City; We reached Salt Lake City at ten o'clock the next morning, and there was thousands of people at the depot to welcome us home. We took the prisoners to the City Hall, called in two doctors to attend their wounds, they took thirteen pieces of bone out of Nay's shoulder, and a few small pieces out of Holley's leg. We then went down to Wells Fargo and Company's Bank to see Mr. Dooley, he took us into the back room and commenced talking about our trip, and some of the men went right to sleep, as we had not laid down for four nights. He told us the State of Nevada had offered four thousand dollars reward, and the Southern Pacific Railroad company three thousand dollars reward, and the Wells Fargo & Company three thousand dollars, making in all ten thousand dollars. Mr. Dooley told us he would see to getting the money together for us, and he did so and about the 1st of April we received the ten thousand dollars, and after all expenses were paid, we divided the money up between Captain Deal's men and our men equally. In a few days the robbers were taken to Elko County, Nevada, and were tried for the crime of train robbing and found guilty, the three oldest men were sentenced to thirteen years imprisonment and the two young men to eleven years in the State of Nevada penitentiary.

In the fall of 1885, I was chosen as delegate to the Cattle convention to meet in St. Louis, Missouri, and on November 17th, I left home; on the 19th left Salt Lake City on a special train all decorated and sleepers for the delegates, which went right through to St. Louis, without changing. When we reached Denver, there was a delegate and brass band met us and escorted us to all the principal places; they also treated us to a fine dinner. Denver is a fine city, the buildings and improvements are grand; we reached St. Louis on the 22nd at 8 O'clock a.m. and drove to the Laclede Hotel, the convention met in a fine large hall. We had a fine time, visited the St. Louis bridge. It is 1550 feet long and 90 feet high, with a wagon road on top. There are two railroad tracks with switches, and each switch locks itself, so there can be no accidents; the machinery is all worked with compressed air, and a very fine piece of workmanship. On the 24th, I went to Alton, Illinois to visit my sister Martha, whom I had not seen for thirty years; on the 25th went back to St. Louis, and went with some of the convention members to visit the stock yards ten miles on the east side of the Mississippi river. We had a special train to take us out and back; we visited the yards. They had some very fine stock there, they were slaughtering three thousand head of hogs and one thousand head of beef every day. They had a grand dinner prepared for us, with champagne and all kinds of drinks; on the 26th had a fine turkey dinner; on the 27th we had a grand ball, there was about seven thousand people present, and on gentleman's daughter, with her dress and jewelry, was worth twelve thousand dollars. On the 28th, I started with a few of the delegates at 7 p.m. for New Orleans, on the 29th crossed the Camrell river at Nashville, Tennessee, where there is an inhabitanace of sixty thousand people; on the 30th, I reached New Orleans at 8 o'clock a.m. traveled through Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Alabama and Louisiana. December 1st, visited the exhibition which was very fine. I also saw some of the fastest horses on record. I visited the cemetery which was very fine, with a nice drive around it, with orange and banana trees growing all round the drive, and one statue of a Southern General mounted on horseback, and in full uniform cut out of fine marble. It cost thirty thousand dollars. I visited Lake Pontchartrain, which is twenty-eight miles wide and sixty miles long, there are some fine fish in the lake, and a thousand street cars running night and day. I also went across the Mississippi and visited Elgiers, which is greatly built up since I visited it thirty years ago.



of the High Priest Quorum of the Tooele Stake of Zion. Sept. 22nd, 1897, I was appointed delegate to the Veaver Valley land and Irrigation Company, to the Sixth Irrigation Congress, to be held at Lincoln, Nebraska, on the 28th, 29th and 30th of September, and when the Congress closed, I went to Chicago and Bellefue, Iowa, and Alton, and Bunker Hill, and Illinois and visited all of my relatives and had a very pleasant visit with them. I traveled four thousand five hundred miles.

April the 24th, 1899, my wife and myself started on a trip to California, and visited Rockland and Oakland, Sacramento, San Francisco, and San Jose, and had a splendid time, and traveled about two thousand three hundred miles, and arrived home on the 22nd of May.

Nothing of importance to relate from May 22nd, 1899 until April 20th, 1901. Left Salt Lake City on the evening of the 20th of April for Denver, on my way to Scotland and England. Spent one day in Denver, from there went to Kansas City, spent one day in Kansas City, from there went to Independence, Jackson County, Missouri, visited the Temple lot there. Also the Josephite church building. From Independence went to Washington, D.C., capital of the United States, spent three days in Washington visiting the navy yards and other places of importance. From Washington, to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, spent two days in Philadelphia, from there went to New York City and Brooklyn. Spent four days visiting in New York City and Brooklyn, and saw some very interesting sights, from there went to the City of Boston, spent two days in Boston.

We sailed from Boston on the 8th of May, 1901, on the ship Commonwealth, a very fine ship six hundred feet long, the very best accommodations were had on board this boat. Landed in Liverpool, England, on the 16th day of May, after a delightful ocean voyage, a distance of three thousand miles. Left Liverpool on the evening of the same day for Glasgow, Scotland, starting from Glasgow on the 20th of May, I traveled through the north highlands of Scotland, passing through and stopping at various places, namely: Ballater, Bracmar, Naiarn, and Iverness.

From Iverness, took a steam boat up the Caledonian Canal to Chan. I traveled back to Glasgow, sailing from Glasgow went to Inveraray, known as the west highlands of Scotland. While in Glasgow, spent three days at the Glsgow Exposition, the displays were very fine. I was particularly pleased with the Art Galleries. I left Glasgow for Liverpool on the 8th day of July, visited Manchester, England, Sheffield, London, traveling in all about one thousand miles in England. Sailed from Liverpool, England, on the 18th day of July, and landed in Boston on the 26th day of July. Left in the evening for Buffalo, went to visit the Niagra Falls.

From here went into Canada about six hundred miles to visit a niece of mine. From here went to Chicago, spent two days in Chicago. left Chicago on the evening of the 3rd of August, via Denver & Rio Grand road, arriving in Salt Lake City on the 7th of August, spent one day in Salt Lake City, left for my home on the morning of the 8th and



arrived at Tooele the same day.

I consider this trip the journey of my life, as I had looked roeward to it for many years, having been away from my birth place for fifty-two years. This trip covered a distance of fourteen thousand eight hundred miles.

Sept. 26, 1901, went to Walkerville, Montana, eight hundred sixty four miles; to Sanpete county, two hundred eighty miles, total, one thousand three hundred eighty four miles.

June 10th, 1904, John Gillespie and wife went to Butte, Montana and Walkerville, nine hundred forty four miles. July 22nd, 1904 went to Richfield and Glenwood, five hundred and eight miles. July 2nd, 1906, John Hillespie and wife went to Richfield and Glenwood, both ways five hundred eight miles. September 2nd 1906, I made a trip to Boise, Idaho, four hundred thirty-four miles, both eays, eight hundred sixty-eight miles. John Gillespie was called on August 2nd 1908 to Butte and Walkerville for the funeral of Arthur B. Bryan, my son in law, who died on August 1, 1908 at 6:30 o'clock. The journey both ways was ten hundred fifty miles. Resided at home until August, 1911, when my wife and I went to Butte and Walkerville to bless Margaret's baby. Resided at home with occasional trips to Salt Lake City. On July 20th, 1912, my wife Catherine Ross Gillespie died. After this I stayed at home--my daughters, sons and grandchildren taking care of me.

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John Gillespie was taken ill the latter part of January, and died of general debility February 9th, 1915 at the age of 85 years ten months and 13 days. He was buried Feb. 11, 1915 in Tooele cemetery beside his wife, Catherine Ross Gillespie.

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February 22, 1937

John Gillespie owned property on the west side of north Main street, Tooele, Utah where he reared his family. The property was recently sold to the federal government and the old home was wricked to make way for the present Federal Building (Tooele Post Office with government office rooms) on north Main street wich was occupied for first time Feb. 23, 1934.

The property on which the Tooele Senior and Junior high schools now stand and the new smelter residential addition on Second West street was at one time his farm property, later sold to his son William R. Gillespie, who made the latter transaction.

He was frugal and industrious in the early part of his life and fairly comfortable in his advanced years, able to accomocate persons with financial help in loans of money prior to the advent of banks in our county.

He was, with the help of his sons, successful in the sheep business for a number of years.

Much of his success in life could, no doubt, be attributed to his wife, Catherine Ross Gillespie, and her ability as a thrifty house-keeper, homemaker and helpmate in general. While she took no-----



# List of Children of

## PETER AND MARTHA SCOTT GILLESPIE

William Gillespie	April 20, 1819	1847
Isabella Gillespie	July 23, 1820	1893
Peter Gillespie	Jan. 24, 1822	Jan, 2, 1896
Margaret Gillespie	April 20, 1824	1873
Alexander Gillespie	Aug. 9, 1825	1891
Arnes Gillespie	Feb. 29, 1827	1866
John Gillespie	June 24, 1828	May 3, 1902
Robert Gillespie .	June 17, 1832	Feb. 9, 1915
James Gillespie	Dec. 31, 1834	1838
Janet Gillespie	Aug. 12, 1836	Dec. 13, 1863
Adam Gillespie	June 18, 1838	Oct. 1840
Helen Gillespie	April 10, 1840	Oct 1842
Mary Gillespie	June 29, 1842	Feb. 15, 1854

Children all born at Glasgow, Linrickshire, Scotland. Came to American in 1849 on a great ship "Pennel".

The family remained in Alton, Illinois for sometime until 1852 when they arrived in Utah the latter part of October the same year.