



## References to Milo Andrus in the *St. Louis Luminary*

---

1854-1855

## Contents

Vol. 1, No. 1-November 22, 1854 .....	4
Vol. 1, No. 5-December 23, 1854.....	6
Vol. 1, No. 6-December 30, 1854.....	12
Vol. 1, No. 7-January 6, 1855 .....	15
Vol. 1, No. 8-January 13, 1855 .....	16
Vol. 1, No. 9-January 20, 1855 .....	20
Vol. 1, No. 10-January 27, 1855 .....	21
Vol. 1, No. 11-February 3, 1855 .....	22
Vol. 1, No. 13-February 17, 1855 .....	25
Vol. 1, No. 14-February 24, 1855 .....	30
Vol. 1, No. 15-March 3, 1855 .....	32
Vol. 1, No. 16-March 10, 1855 .....	33
Vol. 1, No. 17-March 17, 1855 .....	34
Vol. 1, No. 18-March 24, 1855 .....	39
Vol. 1, No. 19-March 31, 1855 .....	40
Vol. 1, No. 20-April 7, 1855 .....	41
Vol. 1, No. 21-April 14, 1855 .....	44
Vol. 1, No. 22-April 21, 1855 .....	46
Vol. 1, No. 23-April 28, 1855 .....	47
Vol. 1, No. 24-May 5, 1855 .....	48
Vol. 1, No. 25-May 12, 1855 .....	51
Vol. 1, No. 26-May 19, 1855 .....	53
Vol. 1, No. 28-June 2, 1855 .....	54
Vol. 1, No. 33-July 7, 1855.....	56
Vol. 1, No. 36-July 28, 1855 .....	59
Vol. 1, No. 38-August 11, 1855 .....	61
Vol. 1, No. 39-August 18, 1855 .....	62
Vol. 1, No. 40-August 25, 1855 .....	66
Vol. 1, No. 41-September 1, 1855.....	69
Vol. 1, No. 42-September 8, 1855.....	70
Vol. 1, No. 43-September 15, 1855.....	72

Vol. 1, No. 45-September 29, 1855.....	74
Vol. 1, No. 47-October 13, 1855 .....	75
Vol. 1, No. 49-October 27, 1855 .....	77
Vol. 1, No. 50-November 10, 1855 .....	79
Vol. 1, No. 52-December 15, 1855.....	80

## Vol. 1, No. 1-November 22, 1854

### More Baptisms—Summary of Correspondence

Elder **Andrus** informs us that he has lately baptized and organized a branch of eight members near Centreville, Ill., with a good prospect for more.

### Conference Minutes — Saturday, 4th

The meeting was opened at 10 1-2A.M., by singing and prayer. It was moved by Elder **Andrus**, and carried, that Elder Erastus Snow preside over the Conference, and that James S. Cantwell act as Clerk, and S. J. Lees Reporter. ...

...Elder Milo **Andrus** moved to acknowledge and sustain Elder Erastus Snow as an Apostle and President in this part of the United States; Carried unanimously. ...

...The President said he would not vouch that the best of all the Saints would be nominated, but hoped at least that men of integrity and sound faith would be selected; and if any should feel slighted, he would be promise [would promise] them that if they continued faithful they should have all the responsibility rolled upon them which they were able to bear. He then nominated Elder Milo **Andrus** for President of this Stake of Zion. Carried unanimously.

The President said Bro. **Andrus** was entitled to two Counsellors if he wish to have them.

Elder **Andrus** then nominated Elder Charles Edwards as first, and George Gardner as second Counsellor. ...

...President **Andrus** said that henceforth those who are favored with this world's goods need not expect (p. 4 col. 4) that they can go from this to any other gathering place of the Saints, with the fellowship of this people, unless they pay tithing and carry with them the Bishop's certificate to that effect.

At the conclusion of his remarks the meeting adjourned till seven o'clock.

At 7 o'clock P.M. the Conference again opened by signing and prayer, after which Elder **Andrus** called on those nominated for the High Council to take their seats to the right of the stand; the Bishop and his Council in front of the stand; the Elders on the front seats in the body of the house, and the Lesser Priesthood at the left of the stand. ...

...President Milo **Andrus** was then blessed and set apart as President of this Stake, and his Counsellors ordained and set apart, under the hands of President Erastus Snow. The High Council was ordained and set apart under the hands of President Milo **Andrus** and his Councillors. ...

### Conference Minutes — Sunday Morning, 5th

Being a day of fasting and prayer and free will offerings for the poor, it was spent in preaching, bearing testimony, &c.—During the day and evening the congregation was addressed by Elders: E. Snow, O. Spencer, M. Andrus, Case, Syler, and others with great boldness and effect; and the liberal offerings for the poor, the joyful countenances of the Saints and the universal expression of delight, testified that Zion truly was come unto us. Before closing the Clerk read the following report of the Branches in the St. Louis Conference...

## Vol. 1, No. 5-December 23, 1854

### Missionary Labors—St. Louis Conference—Items from Utah

ST. LOUIS, MO., Dec 20, '54.

DEAR BR. SNOW:—Since my last to you of the 7th inst., I have thought that some of the transpiring events that have come under my observation would not be uninteresting to your friends and readers of the Luminary feeling at all times an ardent desire to communicate to my brethren those things that cause my heart to leap for joy— that is, the onward march of the holy gospel and its sanctifying influence among the Saints of the most high God.

On the 15th inst., at 8 1-2 A. M., I started by the cars for Cheltenham, near the Dry Hill branch of the Church, having sent an appointment to preach there that evening. I spent the day in visiting the Saints and giving them such counsel as will have a saving influence, if given heed to. Evening came, and the Saints met together—the Lord blessed us with His holy spirit and gave me utterance. I was enabled through His blessing to discharge my duty in laying before my brethren the principles of life and salvation. We had a joyful time together; and I trust many will rejoice in days to come. I spent the night there, and started early in the morning for St. Louis. After spending a few hours in the city, I again started for Centreville, a distance of 10 miles, where I had an appointment for Sunday. Arrived there late in the evening; found the Saints all well. Sunday, 17th the congregation met at 11 o'clock. I preached to them the gospel of salvation. The people gave me good attention, and I pray that the spirit of the Lord may rest upon the honest inquirer after truth, until their minds are illuminated with the sacred truths of the gospel. There are some that are candidly investigating the principles in that place. I pray my heavenly Father to bless them in their search after the pearl of great price.

Monday, 18th, started at 6 o'clock for St. Louis; arrived there at 9 o'clock; and to my joy found that the mail from the valley of the Saints had arrived, bringing the joyful news of the prosperity of the Saints.

I glean from several private letters, items that may be of use to the Saints. In a letter from Elder Wm. Hyde, I learn that he set sail for the American shores, in company with 63 Saints, on the 22d day of March last. During the passage of 96 days he preached twice each week, although his health was poor in consequence of his constant labors in the Australian mission. The result of his preaching was, the captain and the first mate were converted to the gospel. After Br. Hyde had the satisfaction of seeing his company safely landed at San Barnardino [Bernardino], he started on the 27th July for the valley of the Saints, where he arrived on the 14th August.

To read his description of the joys of meeting his family, and to breath the pure atmosphere of heaven after being so long in an opposite climate, makes the heart dance for joy in view of that day when all the faithful servants of God will return after fulfilling their missions. Br. Hyde says that his health is improving fast; he attributes it to the blessing of the Lord in answer to the prayers of the Saints. The Elders and Saints will feel glad to hear that this faithful man of God is gaining his health again; may he live long among the tall cedars of Israel.

Also, from Elder Isaac Bowman we learn that peace and prosperity is the common lot of the Saints in the Bee-hive State; provisions and money plenty; the Saints happy, and the Indians peaceable. We also learn that the remains of Capt. Rodney Badger, who has drowned a year ago last May in the Webber, while trying to save the lives of an emigrant family, was found on the 25th October last, about two miles below, on a small island. The body had decayed, but the clothes were around the remains, though in a rotten state; the money that he had in his purse was found laying on his thigh bone. The Elders abroad will rejoice to hear that the remains of the brave Rodney are found.

There were five baptised in St. Louis last week, besides several re-baptisms and much inquiry after the principles of the Latter-day Saints. Much interest is manifested by the Elders and Saints in general to roll forth the work of the Lord according to the ability given them.

Brethren and sisters keep yourselves pure in the sight of the Lord; pray much that the light of the Holy Spirit may abide with you forever; be kind, and prove yourselves true to each other, and the spirit of peace will be with you forever. Amen.

MILO **ANDRUS**.

...

### **The High Council to all the Saints...**

The High Council to all the Saints throughout this Stake of Zion—Greeting:

Beloved brethren and sisters—Our now perfect organization in this region of country has brought with it new duties and increased responsibilities and obligations, which if carefully observed and faithfully discharged, will make us more perfect, even as our present government is more perfect.

If there is one duty more weighty, or obligation more binding to us than another, it is to feel after your welfare, to lead you by our example, and counsels, and instructions to your respective duties; to mingle our feelings, sympathies and spirit with yours, that you may learn to be better fathers and mothers, better

husbands and wives, better servants and masters, better members of society, and in a word, that you may become better Saints of the Most High God.

You are chosen, dear brethren from among an ungodly world, to be repositories of the revelations of Jesus Christ, to be champions of truth; and you are required to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered and now restored to the Saints.

You have covenanted with the Lord at the waters of baptism to keep His commandments and obey His laws, and live by every word that proceedeth from His mouth. Your obligations and responsibilities are, therefore, a hundred fold greater than they were before you made this sacred engagement, and renewed the holy seal of the covenant, even the Holy Ghost, the comforter which has taken of the things of Jesus and revealed them unto you.

Do you wish to learn more fully your duties and obligations? Then listen to the voice of wisdom and counsel, and obey the same in meekness and simplicity, and the spirit of God shall rest upon you; the visions of heaven shall be unfolded to you, and you shall never be confounded worlds without end.

Are you elders of Israel? Then strive with all diligence to magnify your high and holy calling; cleanse yourself from all uncleanness and all manner of unrighteousness; study not to please man, but study how you may please the Lord and His servants; put not your trust in man, but trust at all times and for all things in the mighty God of Jacob. Call to mind the noble acts and generous deeds of the Elders of Israel in ancient days, who, through their faith and righteousness, are renowned and honored both on earth and in heaven. “Through faith the Elders obtained a good report.” Let your ambition ever be to excel in the knowledge of truth, the exercise of wisdom, and the practice of righteousness.

Are you Priests, Teachers, or Deacons? Then watch with fidelity over the church, over which the Lord hath made you overseers. Treasure up in your hearts words of wisdom and comfort, that you may have wherewith to strengthen and console the weak and desponding; honor and obey the counsels of your brethren, that the Saints may honor and obey you; be men of faith and prayer and live continually in the fear of the Lord and in the light of His spirit and no good thing will be withheld from you—but you shall be called the ministers of God. Let all your aspirations for greatness be resolved into goodness; and be contented in the station in which the Lord has placed you—only magnify the same and you shall be honorable. Do not aspire for office and power; but remember that a wise and faithful Deacon is greater in the sight of the Lord, and has more power and influence than an unfaithful Elder; and the office [office] of a Teacher is the most important and honorable that man can hold.

To husbands: love your wives. Treat them kindly and tenderly, as Christ does his church. You are appointed to be the head of the woman; then do not resign the government into her hands, but sustain with honor and dignity the position you are called to enjoy. Be not austere and tyrannical, harsh and cruel; for He who has given her unto you is her Father, and He will listen unto her complaint, and unless you repent and reform she may be taken from you and given to one more worthy of her. Do you aspire to be the saviour of your wives? Then learn, brethren, to save yourselves. If you would have your wives obedient to you, learn to be obedient to those men who are placed over you. If you would be honored by your wives, be temperate in you words and deeds, and prove to them by your wisdom, integrity, and righteousness, that you are worthy of their love and confidence, and your wives will feel satisfied that you are the men to lead them to celestial glory.

To wives: honor and obey your husbands as your future presidents on earth, and your future representatives in heaven, and your husbands, if good men, will bless and honor you; but if they curse and swear and take the name of the Lord in vain, and give themselves to drunkenness, whoredoms, and otherwise defile themselves, then love them as you would a viper, and honor them as you would the devil.

To parents: The Lord has given to your care an important charge. Your children are an heritage and gift of God; and if you train them up in the fear of the Lord they shall be the crown of your rejoicing and glory in the kingdom of our God. Be careful that you set a proper example before them. If you curse and swear your children will be likely to do the same; if you mingle with the vulgar, the drunken and profane, your children will do so likewise; if you neglect your duties as a Saint of God, and rebel against the authority he has placed over you, your children will most probably drink into the same accursed spirit; and remember that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

We will now present you with another view of the subject, drawn from the ancient Nephites, who once lived upon this land. There were among them two thousand young men, who had received what we will venture to call a model education, which give [gave] them the strength of lions and the power of Gods. The prophet He[l]aman says: “Now they had not fought, yet they did not fear death; and they did think more upon the liberties of their fathers than they did upon their own lives; yea, they had been taught by their mother that if they did not doubt God would deliver them; and they rehearsed unto me the words of their mother saying: ‘We do not doubt our mothers knew it.’ \* \* \* And I with my two thousand did surround the Lamanites, and did slay them; yea, inasmuch as they were compelled to deliver up their weapons of war, and also themselves as prisoners of war. \* \* \* And now it came to pass that when they had surrendered themselves up, behold, I

numbered those young men who had (p. 2 col. 5) fought with me, fearing, lest there were many of them slain; but behold, to my great joy there had not one of them fallen to the earth: yea, and they had fought as with the strength of Gods; yea, never were men known to have fought with such miraculous strength; and with such mighty power did they fall upon the Laminites, that they did frighten them; and for this cause did the Laminites deliver themselves up as prisoners of war.”

If you would have now such faithful, brave, and zealous young men, we must have corresponding parents; and if you would be thus honored and distinguished, obey the oft repeated counsel of the prophet Brigham, namely: “Live your holy religion.” You shall then be blessed, honored and glorified in your children, who will, through eternal ages, call you blessed.

We moreover say unto all Saints be temperate in your thoughts and actions; pray without ceasing; let your prayers be heard in your families day by day; seek not the riches of the world, but seek rather the riches of heaven, “which neither moth or rust doth corrupt, and which thieves do not break through and steal;” cease from murmuring, complaining, and speaking ill of one another; cherish the spirit of God in your hearts and cultivate the spirit of charity in your bosoms, which hopeth all things, believeth all things, and endureth all things, and which hideth a multitude of sins. Do not act so foolishly as some have done, who for some real or imaginary wrong committed by some Cain or Judas, Balaam or Simon Magus, have kicked up their heels, denied the faith, and cursed God, or that which is equivalent, His faithful servants: by the by, we will remind such of a German proverb—“the curses of the wicked are like chickens, they generally return home to roost.” Take heed, brethren, that you be not led into so unwise a course, which has led many apparently good men and women into the depth of sin and the vortex of apostacy; be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Cease from loud and boisterous laughter, that you grieve not the spirit of God, for God is not pleased with any excess in his children; and excessive laughter is sin.” See Doctrines and Covenants, page 148.

In conclusion, we say unto you in the words of 2d Peter, 1st chap., 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th verses: “Add to your faith virtue and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance, and to temperance patience, and to patience Godliness, and to Godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness charity; and if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren [n]or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. \* \* \* Wherefore brethren give diligence to make your calling and election sure, for if you do these things you shall never fall.”

Signed in behalf of the Council. MILO ANDRUS, Pres't.

J. S. CANTWELL, Clerk.

## Vol. 1, No. 6-December 30, 1854

### Married

In this city on the 24th inst., by Elder Milo **Andrus**, MR. WILLIAM BROWN, son of Henry and Sarah Brown, late of England, to Miss MARIAN BLANCHARD, daughter of James and Maria Blanchard, late of Ogbourn, St. George Wilshire, England.

In connection with the above we beg leave to state that we were present and shared the festivities of the occasion, and feel much pleasure in assuring the friends of Mr. and Mrs. Brown that everything was done up *brown* on that occasion; and we sincerely hope that the *products* of this union may be as numerous and happy as were the guests.

### The Latter-Day Saints Tea Party

Held in the Fourth Street Church, St. Louis, December 25th, 1854.

Pursuant to announcement the Latter-day Saints met as above to enjoy a merry Christmas day; and from the unanimous good feeling that prevailed—the legitimate result of the spirit of God in our midst—we can verily say, we had a happy Christmas day.

At half past two o'clock P. M., the meeting was opened by the choir singing—“We are the true sons of Zion.” Prayer was then offered up by Elder Gardner.

Anthem from the choir—“And it shall come to pass in the last days.” After which President **Andrus** arose and spoke as follows:

I wish to make a few introductory remarks to the proceedings of this day. I commence by wishing my brethren and sisters and my associate friends a happy and merry Christmas; and I prophecy on the the [*sic*] back of that—for I am prophet enough to do that—if you will observe the rules of order your joy and happiness shall be complete, and you shall have one of the choicest Christmas gifts that can be bestowed upon mortals—a gift above that which man can give; it is the gift of the Holy Spirit. A greater portion of this spirit is held in reserve for this people when they know more what they are about, and learn better the results of their doings.

To us there is no difference, as far as names are concerned, whether we call this gathering a social, religious, or political meeting; for every desire and every pure action, and indeed everything that produces pure happiness, is embraced in our religion; and the Almighty is willing we should enjoy it in its fullness. For this purpose we have met together, and our enjoyment will be according to our understanding of righteous enjoyment. Our religion embraces every truth and every good principle in heaven and on earth. If there are any heavenly songs on

earth they belong to us. If there is anything that gladdens the eye, is agreeable to the taste, pleasant to the smell, or in any way gratifying righteously, it belongs to us; for the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, and we are His sons and daughters if we keep His commandments; and the preventative against us receiving more of our Father's blessing than we do receive, is the lack of wisdom. May this day, with its variety, serve to teach us wisdom; and may we draw, like the honey bee, that which is choice, and sweet, and ennobling, from every available source, while in mortality, I wish you to enjoy yourselves to-day and at all times, and the more we mingle together and introduce amusements and joys of our own making, the better; they will bring us nearer that lasting joy and consolation we shall have when the earth is recognized—when the poor, the meek, and contrite shall inherit the earth; when those who have borne everything for Jesus' sake—who for this inheritance have forsaken the tombs of their father, shall partake of a full reward.

The kingdom of God in it[s] onward course will embrace every good; and the only danger of us not partaking of its blessing—of not being a guest at the feast of the bridegroom—is our non-observance of the instruction we receive, and a willful walking in darkness. But every lover of truth who cleaves unto the Lord has hope, and all the glorious privilege of receiving truth and light that will lead him to the fountain of light, and to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

I congratulate you as members of the royal family of heaven—as heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ; but before you receive your inheritance you have to undergo much chiseling and polishing, and you will have need for the oil of consolation and the gift of the holy spirit, to enable you to pass through the ordeal; that you may not crumble nor break, but that you may endure as polished stones, and shine in the superstructure, the greatness and glory of which shall attract the attention and command the admiration of kings and emperors. So great shall be the magnificence of Zion, that they will be constrained to bring their gold, silver and precious stones to beautify her temples, courts and palaces.

I wish you to feel happy and cheerful to-day which is the very opposite spirit to that which reigns in the religious and fashionable world, which is a spirit of restraint, bondage, and misery. To meet in their several societies would be to me a perfect hell.

I want everything to be done here in a spirit of freedom and good feeling; the music and singing, and all that is done, then to rejoice the heart, animate the spirit, and happify ever[y] person in this assembly. If there is anything contrary or opposed to this, I hope it will be overruled, restrained and banished, that the spirit of peace may reign uninterruptedly among us. Amen. ...

A marriage had been announced to come off at this stage of the entertainment. Elder **Andrus** therefore arose and delivered a short address upon the institution of marriage, and solemnized the marriage of two couple[s], which were pathetically blessed by the President, and enthusiastically cheered by the assembly. ...

Three sisters, acting as a deputation for the female portion of the choir, presented Elder Milo **Andrus** with a silver guard and gold seal. The fair deputation, among other things, expressed their hope that the recipient might be guarded in the path of duty by the Lord, and aided by the power of the Most High to guard the interests of his people, and to bring to pass a great amount of good among the children of men. Elder **Andrus** answered as follows:

I receive this token of friendship from my sisters of the choir with a heart full of gratitude towards them and my heavenly Father; and I sincerely and most heartily subscribe to that portion of their address that expresses a hope that I may ever be a guardian of the interest and welfare of the sisters as well as of the brethren.

I repeat that which has been already said, if I have accomplished any good among you it is attributable to the Almighty, for of myself I am nothing, and can do nothing; unto God, therefore, be all honor and glory.

Your token of respect I will wear as long as I live; and I hope that as it brightens by wearing, my mind may brighten by intelligence for ever and ever. Amen.

Toasts were then read by S. J. Lees, from which we select the following:

President Snow. When the winter is past, may the Lord continue “Snow” in our midst. Allen T. Riley.

Milo **Andrus**, President of the Stake. A champion of truth and defender of the faith. May his word be the word of the Lord, and his counsel and end of controversy. G. Gardner.

Mormonism. May it, like the air, run through and encircle the universe. S. J. Lees.

The President of this Stake. May he drive it so deep, and pack the saints around it so close that the combined forces of earth and hell may never pull it up. A. L. Siler. ...

Elder **Andrus** expressed [expressed] his satisfaction with the proceedings of the day, and proposed a vote of thanks to the choir, also to Elder Harris, the marshal of the day.

## Vol. 1, No. 7-January 6, 1855

### Married

On the 25th December, 1854, by Elder Milo **Andrus**, Mr. HENRY RAMPTON, late of Old Alresford, Southampton, England, to Miss FRANCES DINWOODEY, late of Latchford, Warrington, England.

At the same time and place, by Elder Milo **Andrus**, Mr. JOHN EVANS, Jr., late of Latchford, Warrington, England, to Miss MARY ELLISON, late of Altrincham, Cheshire, England.

From the High Council

FROM THE HIGH COUNCIL.

Beloved Brethren and Sisters—Being associated with you from time to time, we know there are some things that it is necessary to remind you of, as regards your several duties in the kingdom of God, to his Priesthood on the earth, and to yourselves.

Beloved Brethren and Sisters, the Lord requires you to obey his commandments now, as much as he did when you came into his kingdom; you felt it a duty then to bow to his commands, and knew it was right for you to do so, in order to obtain the blessings you were then seeking for; and the blessings you then enjoyed came through obedience to the commands of the Lord through his servants, and every blessing that you ever will receive, must and will come through the same channel. Then we would ask you, do you yet enjoy these glorious privileges? If you do not, whose fault is it, yours, of [or] the Lord's? We answer, the fault is on you[r] own side, for your Heavenly Father is as ready to give to you to day as he was when you first obeyed the Gospel. You then held in high esteem his authorities upon the earth, and have testified from time to time, that you knew they were the servants of the Lord, and when you said so, you felt that the spirit of the Lord bore witness to the same. Through this means, you showed your duty to God by respecting and holding up by your prayers and faith the Lord's authority upon the earth. Is it not as binding upon you now? We say it is, if you are still in the possession of the same spirit. Has not God, in and through his son Jesus Christ, give[n] you the means for you to obtain salvation? He has. Then every truth you are in possession of, all the good you can do, everything you enjoy—whether (**p. 2 col. 3**) temporal or spiritual—even yourself, wives and children, all belong to him, and he has only placed you as a steward over the same, and in his own due time he will call upon you for an account of your stewardship. Then before that time comes, do your duty to the Lord and yourself, by calling around you every morning and evening, your family to prayer, and before you partake of the food to sustain life, ask the Lord to bless it, that it may do you good for the Lord most assuredly requires you to do this, in order that you may show your respect to him before your family, that your family may take pattern by it and respect you; but on the other hand, if you see no necessity in those things, buy [but] say you will pray when it suits you, you will ask a blessing on the food you eat when it suits you, you will assemble with the saints when it suits you, you will obey the servants of the Lord that are set over you when it suits you, depends [depend] upon it you are setting a bad example before your children, and when they grow up they will do the same things unless they fall into the hands of those whole [who] will teach them the ways of the Lord; but inasmuch as you will do the things that the servants of the Lord require[s] you to do, no matter how simple they may appear to be to you, the

Lord will pour out his blessings upon you that will cause your hearts to rejoice. On the other hand, if you reject the council and will of those men that have been sent to preside over you in this stake of Zion, you will find that you are walking in the broad road that leaded [leads] to distruction, instead of being saved in the kingdom of God.

Then, Brethren and Sisters, our desires and prayers for you are that you contend for that faith which was delivered to the saints, and do everything that shall be required of you, in order that you may obtain eternal lives in the kingdom of God. Even so. Amen.

Written in behalf of the High Council.

MILO **ANDRUS**, Pres't.

**St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1855**

ST. LOUIS, MO., Jan. 8th, 1855.

DEAR BR. Snow:—I resume my pen to communicate through the columns of the Luminary a few things that I trust will be of benefit to your readers. Since my last, I went, in company with many of the St. Louis Saints, on the 1st of this month, to a New Year party, held in [the] Gravois branch. We arrived about 12 o'clock, and enjoyed ourselves, in company with the Saints at Gravois, with a walk in the woods. It was a delightful day—the weather as warm as spring. The hills were dressed with a mantle of green grass; the scene was calculated to move the heart of man with a degree of the inspiration of heaven. The groups of merry boys and girls showed that they were enjoying a happy new year. At half past five P. M., the meeting room was filled with a goodly company if Saints, whose cheerful faces plainly bespoke that they had come with the full intention of enjoying themselves. We sat down to a fine old English tea; after the tables had been replenished three times, and all satisfied, the tables were cleared away, the meeting called to order, and prayer offered up in thanks for past blessings; then followed speaking and singing, which lasted until half past ten, when the company were dismissed. All repaired to their homes in peace, having enjoyed one of the best new year days that they had ever enjoyed in this country. The spirit of friendship seems to be on the increase. I pray the Lord to bless the Saints in Gravois. While numbers there feel to thank the Lord for the prospect which I think is dawning among them, there is more interest manifested in the sacred principles of the Gospel there, than heretofore.

I now wish to turn your attention to this city, and our prospects here since my last communication, December 20. On the second of January, the Elders and the Quorums met in the basement of the church. I attended; and from hearing the

testimonies of their own feelings, and of the Saints, so far as they had power to discover, all seemed to speak highly in favor of that reformation so nobly commenced in Utah, and working its way into every mission throughout the world. It makes every officer who is posted in any position in any part of the great harvest field, feel bold and determined to thrust in his sickle, and reap and gather the vine of the earth that is worthy of being gathered. I pray the same all-inspiring spirit may be [with] every officer and member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. There has been four added to this branch by baptism since December 20th, and there are others on the eve of entering in by the same door. Rebaptisms are also of weekly occurrence, showing a disposition in the Saints to obey counsel and renew their covenant[s]. I feel to bear testimony that the word of the Lord is like a two-edged sword, and when wielded by a skillful officer, cuts its way and causes the hearts of those who feel disposed to practice iniquity, to tremble and fear.

I have received several communications from various parts of Utah, by the mail of the 16th. I select a few extracts that I know will be interesting to the Saints.

Elder Esaias Edwards writes from Toole city. He states that the commanding officer of the United States troops now in the Territory, had forty square miles surveyed of the best portion of Rush valley, lying about ten miles south of the city, where they have all their horses and mules stationed, in consequence of which it makes a ready market for flour, beef, oats, corn, vegetables, butter, cheese, and eggs. The prices are— flour, \$5 per 100 lbs.; oats, \$1.75 per bushel; corn, \$2 per bushel; potatoes, 75 cents per bushel; butter 50 cents per pound; cheese, 25 cents per pound. It is also reported that the main California road to Carson valley will go through the city, there having been a new route discovered south of the desert, making the distance about 300 miles less, with plenty of grass and water. He states there never was such universal prosperity in that city since its first location.

The next extract is from Elder Isaac Bowman, dated Nov. 30. He states that the weather was very fine, health good, money plenty, and all kinds of business lively; the produce market [is] good for the farmers—the improvements in the city, in the way of building, during the past year, without a parallel, there having been about 300 good buildings put up during the past year. He says that notwithstanding the great quantities of goods taken to Utah by the various merchants and traders, there will not be sufficient to last till spring, so great is the demand.

In consequence of the United States troops in the city and Territory, and California emigrants that are wintering there, drunkenness was found to be on the increase, in consequence of which the City Council have annulled all licenses for distilling and retailing liquor in the city. He also states that President Young has commanded all the Presidents, from the first quorum to the last and least, to purify themselves, and purge their Quorums of all evil

doers, that a pure people may remain, that will do the will of the Lord in all things.

Another extract from Elder Joseph Cain, says that there has been a new route discovered to Carson valley, saving 400 miles; it goes west from Toole, and south of Marys river. He also says that brothers C. B. Huntington and S. A. Kinzie, who had just returned on the route, say there is plenty of grass and water every day, and a first rate road. This confirms the statement made by brother Edwards. I would also add that letters from my family bring the joyful tidings that all is well in Utah, so far as the Saints are concerned.

Dear brethren and sisters, I hope you'll strive to lay hold of the spirit of reformation, and purify yourselves that you may meet your brethren and sisters ere long in the valleys of the mountains, and be prepared to partake of the greater blessings of the Lord taught by his servants.

I am, as ever, your servant for Christ's sake and the Gospel's.

MILO **ANDRUS**.

#### **For The Luminary. Letter from Elder Blair**

Elder Seth M. Blair writes from Port Sullivan, Texas, dated Dec. 11th, 1854. We give the following extracts:

BELOVED BR. SNOW—The friend of the God and the servant of the people—I have this moment received your interesting letter, which gave me much joy, and caused me to be filled with renewed energy and vigor (if it is possible in the work in which we are respectively engaged). ...

...Remember me in love to brothers **Andrus**, Taylor, Felt, Dr. Clinton, Spencer, and all and every servant and friend of the people of God. And may the peace and blessing of the Lord rest and abide with you, and may success crown your every effort to bring universal peace and righteousness upon the earth.

Your devoted friend and brother in the new covenant. S. M. BLAIR.

## Vol. 1, No. 9-January 20, 1855

### Elder M. Andrus Requests...

Elder M. **Andrus** requests us to say that he has received the invoice of the following books, which will be for sale on arrival of our first ships company, and gives the following list of books and prices for the information of our friends living at a distance to save them the trouble of writing concerning them:—

Book of Mormon, \$1; Doctrine and Covenants, 95 cents; Voice of Warning, 50 cents; Government of God, 50 cents; Hymn Books, roan, 50 cents, calf gilt, 80 cents, morocco \$1.25; Divine Authority of Joseph Smith, 10 cents; Remarkable Visions, 10 cents; New Jerusalem, 15 cents; Only Way to be Saved, 5 cents.

Elder **Andrus** requests that all communications to him by letter, in future, be postpaid.

## Vol. 1, No. 10-January 27, 1855

### Married

On the 20th inst., by Elder Milo **Andrus**, Mr. WILLIAM CLEGG to Miss SARAH SANDS, both of St. Louis.

The High Council to the Emigration by the *Clara Wheeler*

THE HIGH COUNCIL.

To the Emigration by the *Clara Wheeler*.

Dear Brethren and Sisters—You have left fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, houses and lands, in obedience to the commandments of our heavenly Father. You have heard and understood the voice of the good Shepherd, when he said to you by his servants, “Gather yourselves together. Oh, my people.” Through a series of changing circumstances you have at length reached the land of Zion. What have you lost by your change of circumstances? We think if you should correctly balance the profit and loss account, you would find yourselves the gainers instead of the losers in this change of circumstances, particularly if you take into account the amount credited to you for every sacrifice you have made for the Gospel’s sake; for Jesus said, he that leaveth fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters, husbands and wives, houses and lands for my sake and the Gospel’s sake, shall receive a hundred fold in this world, and in the world to come, life everlasting.

You are now in one of the stakes of Zion—you have come among us recommended as Saints in good standing; as such we have received you in good faith, believing you to be faithful Saints of the Most High. Whilst in your native land you received instructions suitable to your position and circumstances, you had then a bright Millennial Star to light up your path, to teach you doctrine and principle, to make you wiser and better men and women, and better Latter-day Saints. You have now entered into a higher branch of the Millennial School, and you consequently require a correct knowledge of its rules and regulations, and authorities, that you may be well posted up in every subject pertaining to your blessing and salvation in the kingdom of our God.

We have not a Millennial Star to present you weekly, but we have what is equivalent to the Saints in this country—a Luminary—which, if you will sustain by your subscriptions, will sustain you by its doctrines, precepts and instructions, and you shall not be losers by the change of the Star.

The Luminary is devoted exclusively to the interests of the cause of Zion; and if you are interested in the building up of the kingdom of God, and your heart and treasures are concentrated therein, it is devoted to your interests individually and collectively. We therefore recommend, as one of your first duties in this stake of Zion, to subscribe for the Luminary; you will thereby acquire additional light and intelligence concerning the things of God; you will thereby be enabled to escape

the spirit of apostacy and corruption for which this city has been so notorious in times past.

The Luminary contains the history of this stake of Zion; it contains many valuable and important lessons of instruction from President Snow, and from this Council, and from other sources, which your brethren who have been here from the commencement have partly learned; they are consequently, in many things ahead of you. We therefore address you specially in this communication, to direct your attention to the history of the past contained in our weekly messenger, and to direct your minds to a consideration of some of the prominent duties devolving upon you as members of a stake of Zion.

In England you have had your branch conference and pastoral organizations—you had your branch funds, conference funds, tract funds, poor funds, P.E. funds, consecration funds, &c. Did you feel these things oppressive? No; you felt to sustain every measure, and to comply with every requisition made upon you as a duty; and your duty was a pleasure and delight, because you felt it was necessary for your well-being and salvation, and for the advancement of the kingdom of God. Your change of country has introduced you to a change of circumstances, a change of organization, and a change of discipline. New duties, responsibilities, and obligations will, therefore, henceforth devolve upon you. It is necessary, as soon as circumstances will permit, that you should renew your engagements to serve the Lord, by being rebaptised; you will thus manifest your willingness to be more fully taught of the Lord. We have submitted ourselves to this ordinance, and our spirits have been refreshed by the inspiration of the holy spirit given unto us through our obedience to this and other commandments of God; so we do not say to you simply, go, but we say come, follow us as we follow our brethren in the valleys of Utah, who are before us.

If you are Elders, you must have your names enrolled in the Elder's Quorum, and be henceforth subject to the President and counsellors of your quorum. If circumstances should call you from the city you must report yourselves to your President from time to time, that you may be sustained in your office and calling.

If you are Priests, Teachers, or Deacons, you must be subject likewise to your respective Presidents, from whom you will receive from time to time, in your quorum meetings, such teachings and instructions as your office, calling, and circumstances may require.

Whether you are officers or members, you are all subject to the Bishop and his counsellors—to this quorum we have all of us to give an account of our stewardship. One of the first calls made upon us by the Bishop is to obey the law of tithing—that is, to make a fair estimate of the cash value of all our property, and to pay to the Bishop or his agent one-tenth as soon as circumstances admit; (this is the beginning of the law of the Lord concerning tithing;) and furthermore, to pay one-tenth of all our income from this time forward.

If you ask what is done with this tithing, we answer—it is used exclusively under the directions of President Brigham Young, and is appropriated by him to the purchase of materials for the Temple, for public buildings, for machinery, &c. And in as much as these things are necessary for the blessing, exaltation and salvation of the Saints, if we would be partakers thereof we must sustain, with all our might, every measure devised for so great a consummation.

In conclusion, we exhort you as fathers in Israel, to abstain from intoxicating drinks, which drown many in perdition, bring thousands to an untimely grave, and sink their souls in hell. If you would, therefore, make your calling and election sure, keep faithfully the commandments of God, and the words of wisdom given you from time to time by the spirit of God, and by his servants; and if you will do these things you shall never be confounded or overcome, worlds without end.

MILO **ANDRUS**, President.

## Vol. 1, No. 13-February 17, 1855

### Notice of Books

The books advertised in a late number, which were expected by the Clara Wheeler, have been sent by the Charles Buck. They will probably be received about the middle of March.

In the absence of Elder Milo Andrus, application for the books may be made to J.S. Cantwell, who will also act as agent for J. Linforth's illustrated route from Liverpool to Salt Lake. All application by letter to be prepaid. Portraits of the first Presidency are now on hand for sale; price \$1.25.

### Extract of a Discourse by Elder Milo Andrus

There are a few in this city who would fain fall in with the doctrines of Gladden Bishop, and other apostates. I wish to speak a little on this subject, that those who step aside may understand that we know the stone on which they stumble their association with Gladden Bishop, Strang and other apostates, is merely an excuse for them to draw from the purity of the doctrines of Christ. It is no[t] because the doctrine of the Saints is not true, nor that it is impure, nor is it from a lack of understanding of its principles; no, but because they find that [something] within, themselves that shrinks from the celestial law; they find no sympathy in their hearts towards it; and when it comes in contact with them they feel it a burden, at which they shudder, and having a strong natural aversion to its strictness, they wish to escape from its influence—yet they wish to be considered honorable. A few in this congregation are trying to persuade themselves into the faith of Gladden Bishop's doctrines; but I know they cannot so persuade themselves, and if they say they can, it is because the truth is not in them. These individuals are those who cannot endure the purity of the truth, as acknowledged by God, and as is manifested in the organization of this church, and who cannot appreciate and enjoy the blessing of the Lord. We would say to such, if the ways of the Lord are too strict for you, if you cannot endure the purity of our doctrines, throw them off at once, and don't be entangled with any such tomfoolery as Gladdenism. Strike out a course of your own, and say you will go to hell on your own responsibility; say honestly the doctrines are too pure for you, but that you don't wish to hinder others from following out the precepts of salvation, but that at present you cannot endure its laws; if you must go to hell go as honorable as you can.

As to this Gladden Bishop, I will say concerning him, he was a liar from the beginning. I am acquainted with his character. When he was sent on a mission down East, he said an angel came and ordained him to be a High Priest. He was called home, and for his lying disposition and his works of unrighteousness, he was cut off from the church. Upon a confession of his sins and promises to do

better, he was re-admitted, and for his repeated acts of transgression was three times excommunicated, and was finally forbidden to enter the church again. I make these remarks on this system, not that they are worth so much notice, but for the sake of those who have not acquired proper information and instruction, that peradventure they may escape the delusions around them. I may say, for the information of some who think the tithing a hard law, that one condition of Gladdenism is that you shall give over to the Almighty all your substance, and I, Gladden, will control it. This is neither selfish nor oppressive is it? Poor fools! poor dupes! that can be led off by such a one, whose claims to truth and honesty, even, cannot be established, much less to a divine mission. Beneemyism, like Gladdenism, deserves only to be mentioned to be despised. They are akin, having one origin; and are equally ridiculous and unworthy; they need only to be united that they may receive one doom and one tomb together.

I hope you won't be uneasy, brethren, if you have to sit a little extra to-day; make yourselves as comfortable as possible, and when you are tired of sit-(**p. 2 col. 3**) ting, stand up. I remember sitting in the Kirtland temple a day and night. Some are such slaves to their appetites, that they would go to their dinner if an angel of God was dealing out the words of eternal life. They would follow their appetites before their God. These are but a few, the great body of the people here love the truth, because it is truth, and because it is the bread of life to them, and they feel like shouting Hosannah, Hosannah to God and the Lamb, for by the electricity of the spirit their understandings are lit up, so they can understand pure wisdom and intelligence. One of our brethren since he came to this city, has been informed that the sine qua non of a good Latter-day Saint is to lie, cheat, steal, swear, chew tobacco, oppress and seduce the innocent. He was told that authorities did this, and to make a first rate Latter-day Saint he must do all these things. This, I may tell you, has been misapplied; had it been applied to Gladdenism, it would have struck the rightful heirs; for it is the very essence of their spirit. It is the element they live in, will die in, and go to hell in. In dirt, filth and abomination they have fallen, and without a wonderful scouring, in that they will be resurrected.

The authorities of this church have always strove honestly for the good of this people; they have labored to bring the poor and oppressed to a land of freedom, and they offer free salvation to all mankind. The closer you approach to them, the more you will see they love you, and seek your welfare. Shall they always be rewarded with the murmurs of the discontented? I tell you nay; although it is written that "the wheat and the tares shall grow together until harvest;" the harvest will be here and the tares burned a great deal sooner than many of you are aware of. Did you ever think of this?

The day will come when those who desire to serve God in righteousness will have that privilege and will not be subject to the corrupt influences of the ungodly; but at present the righteous have more or less to suffer with the wicked. Will these things always be so? Verily, no! Our children shall have the privilege of worshipping God and Working righteousness, and not be infested with the

ungodly. The wicked shall not always stand among the righteous and exert their damning influence to corrupt others. I hope my discourse will scare every black-hearted scoundrel from going West. If such are not afraid of going I will tell them they have reason to be.

I now ask this congregation, do you want to be saved? How are your bodies to be prepared to receive the pure ordinance of God? The ordinances that you have received heretofore have been in rivers, brooks, and the sea. We have been at liberty to do this in water, pure or impure, so long as we got the purest we could; but the apostle had his eye upon a time when "our spirits should be cleansed and our bodies washed with pure water." The ordinances of salvation in the Lord's house will have to be administered with pure water and with clean hands; your bodies, also, will have to be pure, before you receive the holy anointing, the sweet perfume of which will ascend up before God, and give pleasure to him, and he will roll back the veil of darkness, and cause the principles of light and truth to penetrate your hearts.

A few words on tithing. I will ask, for what do you pay your tithes? For whose benefit do we build a house unto the Lord? Is it for Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the prophets, or for Jesus? Oh, no; Jesus is exalted, has entered into his rest and sits upon his throne. Those worthies paid their tithes long ago, and received their ordinances. We pay tithing that we may obtain salvation for ourselves, and our household, and that we may carry salvation to others. Suppose I ask you, husbands, if you are certain you can retain your wives in eternity? and you, wives, if you are certain of your husbands? Some of you may say, yes, I was married by Elder so and so, or by such an authority of the Lord. Did you ever ask yourselves what claim you had upon each other after this life, or whether you had any claim at all? If you have not done so before, you should now consider this; and if you view the subject aright, you will see reasons in abundance why you should pay your tithes, and build a holy temple unto the Most High, wherein a man can have sealed to him the wife he loves, and the children she has borne him; to have these blessings secured to you, with your posterity, for time and all eternity, is something to have a house built for. And is it impossible to secure this in any other place? Yes, it is an impossible as it would be for you to blow out the sun. You want to get the covenant that cannot be broken; an eternal covenant that shall secure to you eternal life, your wives, your children, that the blessings of the first resurrection cannot be withheld from you. Nevertheless, if a man do wickedly he shall be destroyed in the flesh, but it shall not deprive him of the blessings whereunto he has been sealed, and no power can hold them from him, for they are given by the Almighty with an oath, and his word cannot be broken.

For want of proper information, many have come to wrong conclusions on this matter. Do not you, sisters, want to be given by Brigham Young, according to the revelations of God, to a man [who] shall be your saviour and head, to lead you on to eternal life, that shall be held responsible for your salvation, who shall be pledged under an oath to present you to your father. Don't you want such a

husband? Have any of you sisters used your influence against your husband paying his tithes? Saying, if you pay your tithes I shall have to suffer for the want of a new dress, a gold chain, or some piece of furniture; saying, if you pay your money away in tithes the children cannot have their usual little trinkets, fine clothes, &c.

When you stand before the recording angel, when the secrets of all hearts shall be revealed, shall it be said that you held back your husband from paying his tithes? That you uttered a protest in the dark, that you declared you would make a hubbub in the house, and turn all things up side down if he paid his tithes? Sisters, do you know how this matter stands? If you do not I will tell you. Br. Snow says we have to be plain and preach the things that are, and see if the people can bear it. Now, I'll tell you in what position you will stand. If you do this you will be servants to those that will keep the law. This is the whole of the matter; you will be servants to take messages, to arrange their dominions under their directions; you will be angels, but **(p. 2 col. 4)** you will never have dominion or increase. Then walk up to the law; rise above narrowness and meanness; consider yourselves somebody; if you think it oppressive, take courage and meet it bravely. Repent and come forth with an open heart before the Almighty; get your hearts filled with his principles, and talk a little more of salvation—those principles that will save you from degradation and destruction.

To those whose wishes are to abide the law of God, and honor and live by the precepts of the Gospel, their course is particularly clear. Go forth and strengthen every brother and sister that are weak, and God shall bless you. If any are in doubt, or uncertainty, instruct them; let both male and female consider the responsibility that rests upon them; let not the sisters consider that they have no responsibility. Their responsibility and influence for good is great. They have in a general way exhibited more integrity than men; and are they not held accountable for the influence they exert? Yes. And they have opportunity of doing much good, and will if their minds are rightly disposed. Get, therefore, the spirit of God, and the rich treasure of heaven, and the power of God, and he will manifest to you his good pleasure. I feel now somewhat satisfied. I have spoken what has burdened my feelings more or less for several weeks on the subject of tithing.

To that portion of the Saints who have lately arrived, I have a word to say. They are wonderfully tried; they fancy everybody slights them; they are not taken care of. Some of them fancy there is unkindly feelings towards them. This is not correct. Remember this may be the day of your trial. If you are hungry, without habitations, or in unhealthy ones, it is not the kingdom of God that has thrown you there, you went there yourself. Do you expect your brethren, who are here in this crowded city, to find you extra accommodations free of cost? I will say in behalf of the greater portion of the brethren here, that they have reached out to you a friendly hand to do you good, yet in too many instances I hear the spirit of grumbling. The houses are in bad order, things are in a bad condition; where such spirits are there will be sickness. Recollect you have not risked everything yet;

there are other[s] who have suffered more than you. The pioneers to the valley had more to put up with than you had; they had no one to receive them, nor any food that they could purchase, nor had they houses to go into; they have risked their lives for the Gospel's sake. Contrast your circumstances a little with what they have suffered in this the day of your trial, and repent or your grumbling will rob you of the blessings of the sacrifice. Let Israel cease grumbling, and let joy to the Lord and hosannah to the Highest be shouted by all people Let such principles as these inspire and ennoble your hearts. Come life or come death, come cold or heat, plenty or poverty, be faithful to the end you shall be saved. This is Mormonism; it is for this you came here, not for bread, houses, or land. This growling and grunting over a johnny-cake is no Mormonism. Even poverty has its blessings; it is always more dreaded at a distance than near at hand. Poverty can teach you many lessons that you could not learn otherwise, and remember before you can enjoy all things you must take your spell of poverty, and when you have past the ordeal, the treasures of earth could not buy your experience if it were marketable. Then put your trust in the Lord and you shall be blessed and sustained; your bread shall be given, and your water shall be sure. May the God of Israel bless you continually, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## Vol. 1, No. 14-February 24, 1855

### The Saints in This Stake of Zion

#### THE SAINTS IN THIS STAKE OF ZION.

St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 17, 1855.

Dear Brothers and Sisters—I [a]gain take this opportunity of addressing you through the pages of the Luminary. Being called to leave for a short time on business pertaining to our salvation in the Kingdom of God, I feel to say a few words to you before leaving. From the press of business I am not able to visit you all as I would like to have done, but I often think of you, and call to mind many of the circumstances that we have been called to pass through during the nine months that I have been with you; the many joyful meetings that we have had, and how that our hearts have rejoiced under the influence of the Holy Spirit while thus assembling ourselves together. Be assured that while absent from you, that the constant desire of my heart is for the Lord to bless his Saints in this place and throughout the whole world, may grace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of him that has called us from darkness unto light. I am going to the western part of this state to assist in preparing the outfit for the emigration this spring—purchasing cattle and &c.

Now dear Saints, I hope that I shall have your prayers for me now, as much as though I was in [on] the stand every Sunday. I will say for the benefit of those into whose hands this may come, that the work of the Lord is progressing in this place. Most of the quorums of the priesthood now organized are doing all in their power to build up the kingdom of God, some are preparing for the valley, and here let me say to those of the humble poor that are striving hard to lay up something to help them to go to the mountains of His holiness, and unto the fat vallies of Ephraim, that have got small amounts, put it into the Perpetual Emigration Fund, and make your wants known to President E. Snow. To those who have a few spare dollars, I would also say, put it into the P.E. Fund, and thereby strengthen the means that the Lord has provided to gather the faithful poor of His church, and then you will have the prayers of the faithful upon you and your substance, which will make it increase and multiply an hundred fold. Try it and see whether Br. **Andrus** is a true prophet or not; you that do it will be able to bare [bear] testimony.

We have crowded meetings every Sunday and considerable inquiry concerning the Latter-day Saints and their moves in general, some are baptized weekly. May the Lord continue to work in the hearts of the honest among the nations of the earth, until they are all gathered and built up in our most holy faith.

I will now close by asking my Heavenly Father to bless you during my absence. I remain your servant for the gospel sake,

MILO ANDRUS.

P.S. Let those who have not ordered their wagons, [do] so through Br. E. Snow.  
M.A.

## Vol. 1, No. 15-March 3, 1855

### Elder Milo Andrus, President of the church in St. Louis...

Elder Milo **Andrus**, President of the church in St. Louis, started up the Missouri river, Feb. 17th, on the steamer Golden State, bound for Weston. He was accompanied by forty brethren, part of whom are in quest of employment in the upper country, and others are to assist in gathering stock, and preparing the way for our spring emigration.

He wrote us on the 20th ult., six miles from Jefferson City. With the exception of colds, the company were well. Weather then fine; river clear; boat getting along well, though it had experienced much difficulty in getting over bars. Speaks highly of the officers and management of the boat.

Since that time the weather has turned very cold, and the river opposite this city has been full of ice, and we fear the Golden State will not be able to reach its destination until warmer weather.

We hoped to have been able to present in this week's issue something later from them, but in this we are disappointed.

## Vol. 1, No. 16-March 10, 1855

### News from Utah

This morning's news gives an interesting synopsis of a discourse delivered by Elder Milo **Andrus** in the neighborhood of Brunswick [Missouri]; which, with several interesting letters from Elders traveling in the States are unavoidably crowded out.

## Vol. 1, No. 17-March 17, 1855

### Letter from Elder Andrus—Preaching at Brunswick—Polygamy—Mrs. Abraham, No. 1, 2, 3, &c,—A Prayer—Arrival at Atchison—Its advantages as an Out-fitting Post

ATCHISON, KA. TER'Y March, 4, 1855

ELDER E. SNOW:

Dear Brother—My last communication to you, from Brunswick, of February 25, gave you to understand that I would leave there the following day which was not the case; we did not get started until the 28th. On the 26th, 3 o'clock in the afternoon. I received an invitation by the leading citizens, to deliver [a] lecture in the Town Hall at 7 o'clock P.M., which I complied with. The Hall being well lighted and warmed, and well filled with an attentive congregation, I gave them a short discourse on the first principles of the Gospel, after which I gave them our views on slavery, then came that all-excite-ing topic—our domestic institutions—which I had been previously requested to give some of our leading views upon. I have not time nor space to communicate to you all that was said, but will content myself by saying a few words.

I introduced the subject by thanking the congregations for their candid attention to what I had said, and asked them to continue to do so, whilst I gave our views on this subject also. I then commenced by saying, 'The people say we have many wives!' Well, suppose we have, Ladies and Gentlemen; Whose business is that? [Cries of hear, hear, from different parts of the house.] You argue, and your conscience bears you out in it, that you have a right to keep slaves; we argue, and your conscience supports me and my brethren in having a plurality of wives. Now, I wish to speak so that I may not offend the ear that is the most delicate, and the conscience the most refined. There are some so formed that they cannot openly acknowledge polygamy, yet many of those persons may practice it in the dark. For the benefit of my christian friends, I will say further, that when Lazerus died he was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom. I will now suppose that some of my pious christian friends should die to-night, and are taken by angels to good old father Abraham's bosom, and the venerable old Patriarch says: 'How do you do Mr. so and so? I am happy to see you, and welcome you to this heavenly clime; but stop a bit,' says father Abraham, 'before you leave I will introduce you to sister Abraham, No. 1; this is sister Abraham, No. 2; this is sister Abraham, No. 3,' and so on. Would not your christianity, and your manufactured conscience in the one wife system, be altogether outraged?

At this, there was such a clapping of hands, stamping of feet and cheering, that it altogether drowned my voice, and I was obliged to stop and indulge in a smile with them, after which I called them to order, and they were as attentive and ready

to hear, as any congregation of Saints you ever saw. I have not time to say anything further on the subject of the meeting, only that all things ended in peace and quietude. The next day, if I went to a store and there was five men sitting in their chairs, they would all arise and invited me to take their seats.

We started from Brunswick on the 28th—I left the company on the 29th between Carrolton and Richmond, and when I came to that ever memorable spot, near the old church, on the bank of Fishing river, I dismounted from my horse and went unto the identical spot where our tent was pitched, and offered up with an uplifted hand, the following prayer: Oh, Lord, in as much as thy servant Milo was on this identical spot, near twenty-one years ago, then in company with thy servants Joseph and Hiram, and thy servant Orson Hyde, who is now President of the quorum of the twelve; and, also thy servants Brigham and Heber, who are now the leaders of thy people—on this sacred spot thou didst reveal unto us, that this little camp were the first Elders of thy Church in this dispensation, since which time wicked men have shed the blood of Joseph and Hiram and others of your brethren, whose remains are mouldering in the martyr's grave, while their spirits have joined those under the altar crying for vengeance on the shedders [shedders] of innocent blood. now, Oh Lord I thank thee for thy servants Brigham, Heber, and Jedediah, also, for thy servant Orson Hyde and the quorum of the twelve [Twelve] Apostles; Now, Oh Lord inasmuch as thou didst say unto thy servant Joseph, that those of thy servants that remained, and were pure in heart, should return to the land of their inheritance, both they and their children singing songs of everlasting joy; Now, Oh Lord, may thy servant Milo, and many of thy servant[s] that were on this spot together, live to point out to our children the place and circumstances through which we have passed to build thy kingdom, when the oppressor is not known in the land, I ask in the name of Jesus, Amen.

I must close my reflections upon these matters and say to you that I arrived in Atchison on the morning of the 4th, (to-day,) where I met with Br. Siler who reached out the warm and friendly hand to help me out of the mud as I stepped on Kansas shore. We went off together and soon made arrangements for a short exploring expedition back in the country. We secured the services of Mr. Thomasson as a guide, a gentleman well acquainted with the country; we traveled directly west about four miles, to the head of Deer creek, where we found an excellent camping places [place], with plenty of hickory wood, water, and an excellent range for stock; also an excellent chance to locate claims for farming, which I think I shall make arrangements to do, whether they are wanted or not.

I will say, that the landing with a little improvement, I believe to be a good one, and that the best natural road (which has been traveled enough to make a very plain track) out to the main Military road that I have ever seen running back from the Mississippi River, it intersects with the military road some six miles from this place, and from thirty to forty from Fort Leavenworth—plenty of good water and

advantages for camping places, and an abundant range for stock without any miry places, are some of the advantages of this point, as a point of outfit.

The spirit of the people seems to be liberal and in measure free from prejudice—you will consider what effect their interest may have in this matter. I have seen the most [*sic*] of the proprietors of this town; some in Platt[e] City; some in Weston, and some in this place; they have all assured me that if we pass here we shall be treated well and if we leave any of our emigration at this point, their rights shall be respected the same as other men. There is no warehouse built here, as yet, but I believe there will be in time for us, if we should want it—I am not able to say at this time, definitely, that we will start from this point; I want to look and inquire further up the river, but you are aware from the amount of business and the shortness of the time, that I cannot explore very much of Kansas or Nebraska, but will do the best that I can taking into consideration the nature of the circumstances. I shall have to let them know at Atchison in the course of a week, in order that they may make the necessary improvements for our reception.

I will now say a few words to you in regard to cattle. As far as I can ascertain, the great majority of the cattle will be in poor condition, owing to the scarcity of grain, but I shall bear in mind the conversation between you and me, and try and buy the best I can find.

I most [must] now conclude by saying that my health is tolerably good, although my face has been frost-bitten, and by riding constantly in the wind is very sore and peeling.

My kind regards to you and those in the office, and through you to the Saints in general. Br. Siler joins in love to all. I am as ever, your fellow laborer in the kingdom. Amen.

MILO **ANDRUS**

## Mormons

[An article from a newspaper in Brunswick, Missouri, the *Brunswick*, reprinted in the *Luminary*.]

### MORMONS.

A Mormon Elder by the name of Milo **Andrus**, favored our citizens, on Monday evening, with a discourse upon the tenets of Mormonism. He came up to this place on the Golden State—is a Mormon missionary, and is accompanied by a company of new made converts, from England. They are on their way to Salt Lake.

In his discourse, he said the Mormons believed in polygamy. It was optional with a man whether he would marry at all, or take as many wives as he could support. He said the Mormons had been charged with having a bible of their own manufacture; This he denied. They acknowledge the same bible that the Protestants and Catholics do.—He said, if a slaveholder should move to Salt Lake with his slaves, he would not be interfered with.—There are now negro slaves in that country; their owners are perfectly secure in their property.

In a private conversation, he informed us that the population of Utah Territory is forty thousand; the population of Salt Lake city is twelve thousand.—The settlements extend over a tract of country more than three hundred and fifty miles in extent.

The soil is very productive—much resembling, in appearance, that in this vicinity. The cereal crops, with the exception of corn, flourish finely. Wheat produces sixty bushels to the acre. All vegetables and fruits contain much more of the saccharine matter than in the States. The cultivation of cotton has been attempted, but the summer season is too short for the balls to open. Hemp has been raised successfully.

It is a fine sheep country. The flocks are rapidly increasing, and sufficient wool is now raised for home consumption. There are two woolen manufactories in the Territory—the machinery for the third will be carried out this spring. The present company—which will be the first train this season—will carry out the engine and fixtures for a steamboat, to be placed upon Salt Lake. The boat has already been built, and only awaits the machinery, to be put into operation.

It is said the Mormons have a community of goods—own all their property in common. Mr. **Andrus** says, this is a mistake. Each one labors for himself, and is perfectly secure in his individual possessions. This idea arose from the fact that each person is required to pay tithes to the church, amounting to one-tenth of his gains. In addition to this they have to pay a territorial and county tax to the government.

He stated that they had a great many missionaries in different countries. The church appropriates nothing towards a missionary fund. The missionaries are designated by the council of the church. As soon as they are appointed they are expected to proceed to the country pointed

out. They receive no pecuniary aid whatever. There is no direct compulsion compelling a man to go on a mission; but should a person, receiving an appointment, fail to go, he would be shunned both in a social and business point of view, by the entire community.—[Brunswicker.

**Vol. 1, No. 18-March 24, 1855**

**Letter from Orson Spencer**

LETTER FROM ORSON SPENCER.

CINCINNATI, March 9, 1855....

...Give my love to brother **Andrus** and other good Saints that you love, for whom you love I indulge a hope that I may also love. No news from Salt Lake. I am preaching the gathering pretty strong, and soon I shall wage war on the tithing store that is now locked up snug, May my Heavenly Father bless you.

ORSON SPENCER.

**Vol. 1, No. 19-March 31, 1855**

**Letter from Dan Jones**

FROM WALES.

A Letter from Captain Dan Jones-Effects of the War in Great Britain—Earthquake in Wales.

UDCORN SCION OFFICE, SWANSEA, Feb. 27. '55....

...But I have already intruded too much on your precious time I fear; with kind respects to yourself and yours, brother **Andrus**, and Siler if there, and those who know me, if any, ever praying for your success and the glory of Zion, I beg to subscribe myself.

Your brother me in the gospel,

D. JONES.

## Vol. 1, No. 20-April 7, 1855

### St. Louis Conference

#### ST. LOUIS CONFERENCE.

On Friday, April 6th, at 10 o'clock A. M., the Conference met pursuant to appointment, commenced by singing the first Hymn, "The morning breaks, the shadows flee."

Prayer by Elder Milo Andrus, who afterwards gave a brief introductory address, and was followed by Elders McGaw, Case, and Snow, who thanked God for the privilege enjoyed of celebrating this, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the kingdom of God on the earth—rejoiced that our brethren in the vallies of Utah has [had] favorably recognized us and our organizations as a stake of Zion, and hoped we should ever prove ourselves worthy of their confidence and blessings. The weather was delightful; the Church was well attended; the spirit of peace and joy seemed to dwell in every bosom. Present of the Twelve Apostles—Erastus Snow. Presidents of Seventies—Milo Andrus, Charles Bassel, and James McGaw. High Priests unnumbered. We will give the details in the next issue.

### Jackson's Point, Missouri

JACKSON'S POINT, Holt co., Mo. March 22nd, 1855

To The Editor of the Luminary:

DEAR BROTHER:—Having just paid a short visit to Kaneshville, Pottawatomie, and Mill counties, in Iowa, I thought that a short description of what I saw there would not be uninteresting to you and your numerous readers.

I arrived in Kaneshville at 12 o'clock on the 15th of March. Before arriving there, I enquired for a man by the name of Fulsom, and the gentleman of whom I made the inquiry said there were three gentlemen in town by that name, the citizens distinguished them by calling one Land-office Fulsom, another Michigan Fulsom, and another Brother Fulsom. "A Mormon, Sir, I presume." "Yes," said the gentleman. "That's the man I want to find," said I, which caused the gentleman to strain his eyes to see whether I was a white or black man, and for my own part, I could scarcely tell what I was myself, as these cold north winds have almost used me up. I shortly found Brothers Fulsom, Mace, Brown, Littlefield, Johnson, and others, with whom I took a hearty Mormon shake of hands, and felt pleased to see some of my brethren that I had been acquainted with heretofore. I found another class of men calling themselves Mormons, that were tight to my heels, wishing to know my business, and shortly ascertained by my inquiries that I wished to buy oxen. They informed me that Mormons ruled in that place, and that they could

regulate the price of cattle at their will. I thought, on looking round, seeing and hearing what I did, the crowded dogeries, the blasphemous oaths, and the running of horses, that if the Mormons ruled there, they must, of course be a different set from those that I had left in the mountains of Utah, or yet in the maiden stake at St. Louis. But permit me to follow these gentlemen, or, pardon me for the term, these accursed apostates, in their windings a little further. They will, for the sake of money, say that they are good Latter-day Saints when they meet with an Elder that they think has any money to expend to fit out the poor, and when they meet with the drunken rabble, they will say, "Damn the Mormons to hell, we'll get all out of them we can." From all such men, Good Lord, deliver us.

I will now take up another class of men with whom I have associated in company with my brethren in holy places. They have stopped here whilst poor, and their eyes have become partly dim, their children have grown up from infancy to man and womanhood, and have partaken of the influences with which they have been surrounded. The one who can drink the most whisky, chew the most (p. 2 col. 5) tobacco, play the best game at poker or euchre, and swear the most scientific, is thought to be decidedly the best man. The fathers and mothers have stayed here so long that they have become as powerless as the dry mullen stalk in the midst of the sheep pasture around which the sheep and the goats, in the shape of their children, play with impunity. It seems to me as though such parents had forgotten the use of the square and compass, and were strangers to that all-important principle on which the righteous patriarch Abraham received the promises, will, and wisdom of God-on condition that he would command his posterity after him.

I also had a short conversation with a widowed sister who has been such for nearly seven years; on asking her the cause of her remaining single, she frankly and openly said that she had had many offers for matrimony, but found, on a thorough investigation of their character, that it was, to a greater or less extent, mixed with treachery and deceit, and that in her seven years widowhood, she had not found the man that was the protector of the virtuous and innocent, but rather a disposition in all to prostitute, and said further that if the men were not in the mountains that would protect the virtuous and innocent, they were scarce elsewhere. The above named person I have known from her youth, and believe that her statements were frank, open and true.

I also had an interesting interview with some others whose names I forbear to mention under existing circumstances. They stopped here whilst poor and the Lord has blessed them with plenty, and they have not entirely forgotten his tender mercies towards them, yet they are in a state of inactivity, but they believe in the Lord, and in the power of his holy priesthood, and they truly felt and expressed their thanks that we had chanced to meet again on the earth, and I humbly pray when this article comes into their possession, that the spirit of the writer may accompany the same, and when they have read and retired to rest, that sleep will depart from them, and the spirit of the Lord whisper unto them, that it is time they

were up and out of Iowa, and if this should be result, I shall have accomplished the object that I have in view in writing these feeble lines, and the glory and the honor shall be the Lords for ever. Amen.

When I came to the shores of the Missouri river, or to the identical spot where the camp of Israel landed in June, '46, it will be impossible for me, with my powers of description, to give even a faint idea of what I felt. On that spot once stood the prophets and apostles who hold the living oracles of God, the destinies of men, nations, kingdoms, on this earth in their hands, but how little known and understood by poor fallen man. I then turned my eyes and gazed at those distant bluffs that were spotted with our wagons and tents, with our wives at work, and our children sporting and playing over those hills, whilst the vast plains below were filled with horses and cattle that moved the Israel of God to their home of freedom in the valleys of the mountains. I then looked upon that piece of table ground where the liberty pole was raised, and the proud American Eagle above the stars and stripes unfurled its wings in the fresh breezes of heaven's atmosphere, whilst the drum and the fife, called loudly for volunteers to swell the ranks of the American army, to take part in the achievement of more glory and more territory to these United States, called "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

I have passed through these upper countries over lands that the general government have had our money for, and after that, we [were] forced to leave them, contrary to every principle of law of right either of God or of man; but the spirit seems to whisper, be still, and know that I am God, and if those who bear rule on this land, which is to be a land of freedom, for such it is ordained, do not rise up and wash their hands from the blood of innocence by judging and awarding a righteous judgment. I will come forth, saith the Lord, from my hiding place, and appoint them a place with hypocrites and unbelievers, where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

I am as ever a servant of the people for the Gospel's sake.

MILO **ANDRUS**

## Vol. 1, No. 21-April 14, 1855

### Minutes of the St. Louis Semi-Annual Conference

Minutes of the St. Louis Semi-annual Conference, held in the Church, cor. Fou[r]th st., and Washington avenue, April, 1855.

FRIDAY, April 6, 10 A. M.

Conference organized by appointing Erastus Snow, President, J. S. Cantwell, Clerk, and S. J. Lees, Reporter.

Present of the quorum of the Twelve Apostles—Erastus Snow. Presidents of Seventies—Milo Andrus, James McGraw [McGaw], and C. H. Bassett. High Priests not numbered.

The choir sung, “The Morning breaks, the Shadows free.” Prayer by Elder Milo Andrus. Elder James McGaw addressed the meeting, followed by Elder James Cose.

Adjourned till 2 o’clock, P. M. Dismissed by Elder C. H. Bassett. ...

...2 o’clock, P. M.

Meeting opened with singing by the choir. Prayer by Elder Milo Andrus. Remarks by Elder Milo Andrus....

...Elder Milo Andrus was sustained as President of the St. Louis Stake of Zion, with his counsellors, Charles Edwards and George Gardner.

The High Council of this Stake of Zion was sustained, with Elder Milo Andrus as President. ...

...7 o’clock, P. M.

Priesthood met according to appointment. Opened with prayer by Elder McGaw.

Pres. Snow recommended Br. Isaiah Combes to be ordained to the office of an Elder, and to preach the Gospel in the vicinity of Alton till further orders, which was sanctioned by the meeting, and Br. Combes was instructed to meet with the Elders quorum Tuesday eve, 10th inst., and receive his ordination.

Charles Brindley, William Henshaw, and Thomas Harris, were set apart as members of the High Council, under the hands of Pres. Milo Andrus and his counselors.

Joseph Jones, Charles Chard, Edward Cook, William Lowe, and Andrew Sproule were ordained Bishops, according to their appointments, under the hands of President Erastus Snow and Elder Milo Andrus. ...

...SUNDAY, April 8, 10 A. M. ...

...Elder Milo Andrus was appointed to organize the Saints in the upper country on the Missouri river into branches, to set them in order and, and to do them good generally.

Meeting addressed by Elder Milo Andrus. ...

...2 o'clock, P. M. ...

...Remarks by Pres. E. Snow and Elder Milo Andrus. ...

## Vol. 1, No. 22-April 21, 1855

### Letter from Elder Richard Ballantyne

WE have received a letter from Elder Richard Ballantyne announcing his safe arrival at Atchison with the company of Perpetual Emigrating Fund passengers under his charge, all in health and excellent spirits. Elder Ballantyne speaks in the highest terms of the Steamer "Golden Gate" and her officers, and of the kind treatment which he and his company received from all on board, presenting as it did a striking contrast to the mean and dastardly treatment which they had experienced from the officers and crew of the "Michigan," during their passage up the Mississippi.

The "Golden State" returned to this place on Monday, and on Thursday a company of about fifty saints took passage on board of [sic] her, part of whom are bound for Salt Lake and others intend waiting in Kansas Territory, among the former are Elders Gregory and Wright, who are returning from their missions in the Eastern States. President Milo Andrus and Hon. James McGaw are among her passengers. They go up to procure teams and outfits, and to council and aid our emigration generally in their preparation for the plains.

## Vol. 1, No. 23-April 28, 1855

### Note from Elder Andrus

We have received the following note from Elder **Andrus**, dated April 21st, on board the Golden State near Boonville:

Pres. Snow—All is well. A good feeling prevails on board. We seem to hold control over the spirits of the officers of this boat. Much has been said and taught by the brethren on board, and I have confidence, that by faith and prudence, much good will be done.

We have had a meeting to exhort and instruct the Saints. To-morrow we shall have preaching, and if anything worthy of note takes place, we will communicate the same.

May Heaven's choice blessings be with you in all your labors, is my constant prayer.

My kind love to the brethren, and accept the same yourself. Yours, &c.

MILO **ANDRUS**.

## Vol. 1, No. 24-May 5, 1855

### Remarks of President Snow

Remarks of President Snow, Saturday afternoon, April 7th 1855. ...

...Many of you may be led to enquire if one of the twelve can ordain a bishop. Yes, I answer, and so can Brother **Andrus**, who is not one of the twelve. He is one of the presidents of seventies; but he has received his endowments and authority to act in any capacity throughout the world, wherever, by the first presidency, or by the twelve, he may be sent. He has been appointed to that authority through me, and by the voice and sanction of this conference he is president over this Stake of Zion. He has called and appointed two counsellors, who constitute the first presidency of this Stake of Zion. And Brother **Andrus** can ordain a bishop and bring him to judgement if he should transgress the laws of God. ...

### Extracts of Letters from Elder Milo Andrus

Extracts of Letters from Elder Milo **Andrus**.

Fifteen Miles below Lexington }

April 24th, 1855. } DEAR BR. SNOW:—I feel anxious to let you know all particulars concerning our whereabouts, as I know that any reliable information will be gladly received.

We have been at this point since yesterday at 3 o'clock discharging freight, because the river is so low we cannot get along. We are not alone in this matter; the Australia, Cateract, Arabia, and Admiral are all in the same fix. There are mountains of freight thrown off in the woods, and many that are on board with their freight feel across [cross] and bad, and curse the officers of the boat because the river is not higher. You know how good it is to be blamed when you do the best you can, to be sure.

The men and women cling to me; they cannot consent to leave one of their shimmies or old stockings behind them; I consequently proclaimed a wedding, and engaged to marry them to all their old boxes and tin pans, &c.; but, awful to tell, they flew the track, and—no wedding; the result is, that we leave Br. John Burnside in charge of the luggage until the Lord is pleased to let us have a little more water.

Oh! how true the words of our beloved President Brigham Young, when he said it would continue to be more difficult to gather the people; yet there are some of the Saints, or at least professedly so, who will not go when they have a good chance.

A few words in regard to health. We have had four cases of cholera on board; one is dead, and two more I think will die, but not of our people, thank the Lord. The death was the carpenter of the boat. We have had some slight attacks among our people, but all are getting better. Br. Gregory has been in poor health since he started; I think nothing but the mountain air will cure him. There were two died on the Australia last night. She is loaded with Uncle Sam's boys.

Br. McGaw is a good companion and, as far as I have proved him, a wise counsellor. I feel the need of your prayers and blessings in these days of trial. The brethren join in love to you and all the Saints.

I remain, yours truly,

MILO **ANDRUS**.

LEXINGTON, April 25.

There has been another death since I wrote you yesterday. One of our company is very sick. There is more sickness on board, but not among our folks. I feel as though I should be worn out if we are on the river many days longer, for I must be right at their side all the time. I hope we shall get along now, we got over the belt last night.

M.A.

KANSAS, April 26.

Feeling as though you would be anxious to hear from us often under existing circumstances, I feel to drop you a line from this place, and to commence, I have the unspeakable satisfaction of saying that we are all alive yet as far as the Saints are concerned, but not so with all on board. We have had one of the most malignant attacks of any on board, and all said she must die—that is, the Gentiles said so—(p. 2 col. 5) and now they see her recovering, they say, “Well, you must be a skillful doctor,” but they know not the ways of the Lord. But we feel to thank him, for unto him be all the glory. My strong heart almost failed me when she called me to still give her breath to breathe, and also to bring her Henry, that she might take a lasting look at him—Yes, to see sister Humphries, in the short space of three hours, so changed that no one would recognized her

that didn't really know that it was her, and to think of meeting her husband first, and to say to him, "Your dear and well beloved Jane is gone, and her lifeless remains are mouldering on the lonely Missouri bottoms"—it was more than I could stand without giving vent to my feelings by a flood of tears.

We have several cases, but all bid fair to recover with the blessings of the Lord. I would suggest that men of strong nerve, filled with the Holy Spirit, be in charge on these waters.

I must now close, as the boat is almost ready to start. We shall get up to-morrow, I hope, alive and well. My kind love to you and the rest.

Yours, &c.

MILO ANDRUS.

## Vol. 1, No. 25-May 12, 1855

### Extracts of a Letter from Elder Andrus

Extracts of a Letter from elder **Andrus**.

CAMP OF ISRAEL, near Atchison, K. T. }

Sunday, April 29, 1855.

DEAR BRO. SNOW:—Through the tender mercies of our Father that is in Heaven, I am spared to address you once more upon the subject of the common salvation, that relates to the gathering of the people of God.

We arrived here at 12 o'clock P.M., Friday, 27th ult., with the same number that we left St. Louis with, so far as the Latter-day Saints are concerned, although many others, through fear, left the boat. Three deaths occurred on board, and several were put off on account of sickness. We have three cases of sickness in camp that are still very bad, and we are not fully prepared to say how they will terminate, but we hope and pray for the best. We found on our arrival, Br. Ballantyne out at the Grove; Br. Fletcher, his counsellor, and Br. Siler were working with teams who readily responded to our wishes, and hauled us and our luggage from the levee to our first camping ground, where we pitched our tents, and when night came on, we had a peacable and quiet place to lay down; the green grass around us, the rolling prairies in the distance, clad in their mantles of green, was a change from the muddy Missouri that all seemed to enjoy with much delight. To add to our happiness, we met with Br. Ballantyne and the members of his little camp, under the open canopy of Heaven, and the shining beauties that the delightful moon gave to these prairie fields, and the singing of the sweet singers of Israel, as they died away in the distance, under Heaven's high-arched halls that were spread above our heads, caused all hearts that were not past feeling to rejoice, while we returned thanks unto the Lord for all past blessings.

We found Br. Ballantyne's camp in good health. Four or five families had moved out to Mormon Grove, and commenced putting in early garden seeds early on the morning of the 28th. In company with Elders Ballantyne and McGaw, I started for Mormon Grove and vicinity, to search further in regard to water for stock, and to make further preparations concerning the opening of a farm, and also to systematise something that we could submit to you for your approval or disapproval, as the spirit may lead you. \* \* \* \* \* We found, in our travels out, that there was plenty of grass to sustain our stock, which made all feel, whose faces are set Zionward, as though they would like to be off, and I came to the conclusion that I would start after the stock on Monday morning, the 30th, and see to the getting down the flour and bacon, hoping by that time that the balance of

the company that we left in St. Louis and our freight will be ready, and according to the spirit that is working in us, we should like to see them on the road.

Any suggestions you may feel to make or counsel, will be gladly received and cheerfully complied with. I am in hopes that we shall be able to get this letter into the hands of the clerk of the Polar Star, if not, I hope it will get to you without delay.

In council with Elders Ballantyne and McGaw, it was resolved that we would fence in one hundred and sixty acres, to be called the P.E. Fund Farm; that the entire farm and its interests be under the immediate control of the P.E. Fund Company. Any suggestions or instructions will be gladly received.

I remain your brother and servant in the Gospel of peace. MILO **ANDRUS**.

We clip the following from the Squatter Sovereign of the 1st inst.

The Golden State arrived at our wharf last Friday, and put off a large number of Salt Lake emigrants. This is the third detachment that has arrived at Atchison this season, and others are soon to follow. The camps of the emigrants, just back of town, presents a city-like appearance, their tents leaving streets, alleys, &c., between them. The health of the emigrants is good, with but little or no sickness among them. Those who were indisposed when first landed have regained their accustomed health, and are now congratulating themselves on being landed at so healthy a point. All speak well of this place, and endorse it as a most desirable outfitting and starting point.

## Vol. 1, No. 26-May 19, 1855

### Letter From S.M. Blair

ST. LOUIS, May 16th, 1855.

PRES. SNOW:—I have just arrived from my mission to Texas, to which I was appointed by the General Conference of the authorities of the Church in April, '54, during which mission I have baptised and gathered out of Texas between fifty-five and sixty souls. I organised the people into an emigration company at Camp Jeddy, called the Snow Branch, and left Texas 25th April, and traveled with them to the Chickasaw Nation, and there I left them and came here to prepare to outfit them at Atchison by 1st of June. ...

... I will close by presenting my love to brother **Andrus**, his council, and the Saints of St. Louis, in connection with yourself and brother Hart, and pray God to bless and grant you power to become heirs jointly of all the powers and blessings of the Holy Spirit.

Your brother and friend, S. M. BLAIR.

### Letter from J.P. Guy

ST. LOUIS, May 2nd, 1855. ...

... I have been reading lately the discourse given by our beloved President Brigham Young—for whose existence upon earth, the Lord be praised—on “Adam our Father and our God.” This discourse when I read it, led me on to conceive of ideas strange and inconclusive; still, it appeared to me something worthy of note and study, so much so, that I was led to pray to my Father in Heaven that I might read with the spirit and understand the above named discourse. The workings of my mind were such as led me to converse freely on the subject. In my conversation I found I had different ideas to some others; Br. Milo **Andrus** gave me some very good instructions relative to the same, for which I feel to praise the all-wise God. I question[ed] him as to whether I was to consider it was to Adam my prayers ascended. I have now concluded my prayers do not ascend even as high as Adam at all times. By way of illustrating these things plain and easy to my mind, Br. Milo—God bless him with multiplied blessings of heaven and earth—reasoned with me so kindly and so fatherly, that love towards him increased in me since that time, and continues to increase, and my prayer is that it may still increase, not only towards him, but towards all who hold the Priesthood of God on the earth. ...

... Your brother in Christ. J. P. GUY.

## Vol. 1, No. 28-June 2, 1855

### Mormon Grove, K. T. May 22nd, 1855

MORMON GROVE,

K. T. May 22nd, 1855.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LUMINARY:

Feeling as though any information concerning the progress and health of the camp of Israel would be gladly received by the Saints in general, I feel to employ a few minutes this evening, in communicating to you some things in relation to our present prospects.

I arrived at this place on the 12th inst., in charge of five hundred and fifty head of oxen and cows, for the benefit of our spring emigration. On arriving we found the brethren at the grove enjoying perfect health, and much of the spirit of the Lord. They had put up a small log cabin, and covered it, for the purpose of storing provisions; so we have already at this place, a store-house of the Lord's people. Garden vegetables looking green and fresh, connected with this small house, begins to make the country at the grove, look like a fruitful field.

The next day after our arrival, I started the hands to ditching in the farm, and at the present time, there is nearly one mile of the ditch and sod fence completed. We expect in the course of ten days, to have the fence completed. We started the plough at the same time, and have planted about five acres of corn, potatoes, and garden vegetables. The beautiful situation at and around the grove, makes many that have not been used to a prairie country, say that they would be willing to remain at this beautiful place; but those who feel and know the spirit of truth, have no attachment to the lands whilst under the rule of Gentile influence; but they pan, for the water and bread of life in the far Western vallies, near the great backbone of the American Continent.

At 5 o'clock this evening, I harnessed my horses, took some of the Saints for the purpose of taking a more extensive view of the country, and all were much delighted while we were driving over the rolling hills of old Father Lehi's farm; and after a ride of about six miles, we came around to Denmark, or rather, to the camp of the Danish Saints, who have just arrived to-day, under the charge of P.O. Hanson, and whilst in their camp we learned by brother Hanson, that they were highly delighted with the country, and that they had just dismissed a public meeting which they had been holding that afternoon. Brother Hanson informed us that they had more of the spirit of the Lord in their meeting, than they had had at any other time since they have been in the upper country. They have suffered much with sickness at Leavenworth, and feel glad to think that there is a prospect

of starting soon, on their journey over the plains. We anticipate, if no preventing providence should say otherwise, to start a company in about six days. There is a general good spirit prevailing, and the Saints in general feel desirous to serve God, by obeying those who are placed over them in the Lord, and all things seem to be working for the way to be speedily opened for the starting of the Saints.

I would say to my Counsellors in St. Louis-Br. Edwards and Gardiner-also, the High Council, be fathers to the flock which the Holy Ghost has entrusted to your care, and the God of peace will give you the spirit of judgment and of might. To the Saints in general, I would say, be faithful, and you shall have the privilege, ere long, of tasting in real life, the benefits of the encampment of the Latter-day Saints.

I have preached since my arrival here, three times, and find that the Lord pours out abundantly, his holy spirit, and all that love him rejoice while under its influence. We also have had a small encampment of some six wagons and families of Strang's disciples crawl under our banner and ask for the right hand of fellowship, which I proffered to give him when they would come through the waters of baptism to get it, which I think from the spirit already manifest, they will readily do when I designate the time. There are others in our camp who wished to be baptised-we shall attend to all such cases in a day or two.

I shall now close by praying my Father in heaven to bless and preserve His people. May grace be multiplied unto them that know the Lord. Amen.

MILO **ANDRUS**.

## Vol. 1, No. 33-July 7, 1855

### Letter from Elder Seth M. Blair

We have received the following letter from Elder Seth M. Blair, per favor of Elder Milo Andrus. We deeply sympathise with Brother Blair, his company, and friends of the deceased; in this visitation from the messenger of death. We feel it hard to part with those we love, although we may be confident that they are ushered into more glorious scenes, and that we shall meet them again in happier circumstances. Death is at all times distressing; but when its ravages are dealt with such destructive hand as in this case, among our own beloved friends, we feel it more particularly severe; but in this as all the dispensations of life or death, we bow in humble adoration before the Almighty, and say, "it is the Lord, let him do what seemeth him good.

LITTLE NEMEHAW, N.T. June 24, 1855.

Dear Brothers and Presidents Andrus and Ballantyne-I thank the Lord God of Israel that [my] life was spared me, and that I was blessed with the blessing of your kind epistle, borne by my worthy and beloved brother Elder Edward Stevenson, whom I will receive and my company as our presiding officer and leader, and with all the faith in us will we sustain him; for Oh! truly brethren the time had come to relieve your friend and brother that again in the flesh we may meet. In the last six days I have buried some twenty-five, and just such a scene of death you never witnessed on earth, and I pray that you never may. On the 17th night I found that public prayer was not to be offered up, when I called the family of brother East into his tent and prayed with them, when I learned what was then pending over our heads, and in one hour the cholera made its appearance, and in the first thirty-six hours we buried one every three hours or more; abating gradually until the 5th day when Col. N. H. Greer died. The scene, dear brethren, can neither be portrayed by the eloquence of man, neither by the pen of the ready writer. The cry of the dying and shrieks of the living presented nothing but the true scene, even all the horrors of death imaginable. The grave diggers were employed both night and day under the ever diligent eye of Serjt. J. M. Barlow, assisted by brethren never to be forgotten, Elders S. H. Earl, Geo. C. Riser, Oscar Tyler, Col. Greer, and other faithful brethren and sisters; and in my feeble health night and day reports of the dead and dying, and calls for help on every hand, truly placed me in a situation by no means ever again to be aspired unto. In short, I must close with the heartfelt gratitude ever due [unknown] unto my heavenly Father, that you responded to my call, in sending to my relief brother Stevenson and those accompanying him, that my life may be prolonged and Israel gathered, and the Priesthood of our God honored on the earth. We have lost eleven of our Texian friends-three men-Col. Greer, Jones, and Lankford, and one sister Lankford, and seven children, with the wife of brother Middle-mass, his aunt, sister Priestly, sister Fisher and Bagly, Eliza Jost, sister York, (of Texas,) and some other English sisters; a full report of which I will make at the "Deseret News" office. Thus brethren, in brief, I detail a scene that I feel that the siege of Sebastopol is as child's play unto. With the full feeling and faith that the Lord doeth all tilings [things] well-avoid a camp on Twelve Mile creek. Remember me in your prayer, and our little company. My love to brother Snow, yourselves, McGaW, and all the saints of God. I am, as ever, your devoted brother in Christ. S. M. BLAIR.

P. S. Serjeant reports sick list 24. We have had but two new cases in thirty-six hours.

### Letter from Elder Milo Andrus

LETTER FROM ELDER MILO **ANDRUS**.

Completion of Enclosure around the P. E. Fund Farm.-Arrival of Missionaries. A public Dinner in the Western Style. The first fruits from the Farm. Health of the Camps. The general feeling and Spirit of the Emigration.

MORMON GROVE, K. T., JUNE  
21, 1855. TO THE EDITOR OF  
THE "LUMINARY."

DEAR BROTHER.-Judging others by myself I feel as though a word from us at this point of outfit would be gratefully received by you as often [often] as we can get time to write or find anything new to write about, and at this time we have taken a few minutes for this purpose-and we think that we have something new to write about, that will be glad tidings to all who know and love the truth. We have the privilege of saying now that the ditch and log fence is completed around the P. E. Fund Farm, and that about 30 to 40 acres is ploughed and planted and the teams still ploughing for wheat and other grain. We also had the pleasure of receiving and welcoming Messrs. H. C. Haight & Co. consisting of 19 missionaries on the morning of the 20th and feeling glad to see them and hail the servants of the Lord who are on their way to the various portions of the earth and they were much rejoiced to meet with many other old veterans of the cross that were wending their way Zionward taking charge of the flock that the great shepherd had permitted them to gather into the fold, while all parties viewed with much delight our beautiful situation here, one thought that we might add to the happiness of each other, by getting up in real western life and sitting upon the ground to partake a refreshment called by us, if a dinner, connected with which were some of the first fruits of our labours that had grown on the P. E. F. Farm consisting of onions, peas, radishes &c. we erected an awning of wagon covers and to see the spirit manifest in our sisters in getting up a dinner in as good style as possible made all hearts rejoice after partaking of food and singing a song of praise, we offered up our humble prayers to our Father in heaven asking him to protect our brethren who are outward bound and also those whose faces were set Zionward, not forgetting our beloved brethren, the presidency over the whole church of God and also the editors and presidents of the various missions throughout the world, after which the spirit of the Lord was wonderfully made manifest in exhortations and prophecyings all hearts were warmed and comforted, for which all felt to praise the Lord, as far as it regards the health of the camps of Israel is remarkably good though in some instances among so vast a crowd we have some sickness. The Texas Camp has been among the sufferers, as far as we

have heard from the camps on their journey, (p. 2 col. 5) all are prospering. Elder Ballantyne will start tomorrow with the first Company P. E. Fund passengers consisting of 396 souls re-organized the second company of P. E. Fund passengers and the fifth company of the present spring emigration on the 23d inst., under the charge of Elder Israel Barlow and others. The season is getting late and we feel to pray that the Lord will speedily open the way for the balance of the emigration to be on the move; A small company of the saints from Newark Mo. just arrived in our midst bound for Great Salt Lake city a general good spirit prevails throughout the camp and all seem to be willing to obey the councils that are given them. I now close by giving my kind regard to Bro. Hart and others in the office. MILO ANDRUS.

## Vol. 1, No. 36-July 28, 1855

### Letter from Mormon Grove

MORMON GROVE, K. T., July  
20th, 1855.  
TO THE EDITOR OF THE  
LUMINARY:

Dear Brother-I hasten to drop you a few lines to let you know the situation of the camps of Israel at this place. We have had an uninterrupted, time of peace and good health up to the 19th inst., when (**p. 2 col. 5**) the destroyer made a sudden appearance and the victim that he selected was our true hearted and well beloved father John Parry, who only survived his stroke eight hours-he now sleeps in death with the full assurance of meeting with his brethren that remain alike faithful with himself, in the morning of the first resurrection, then to be clothed upon with immortality and eternal lives.

Father Parry was on his return to Salt Lake City, from a mission that had been appointed him in the British Isles, which he had fulfilled with honor to the cause of truth and with glory to himself. I can say of a truth, that since he has been at this point of outfit, that he has been one of the most faithful and industrious servants of the Lord that we have had around us, and was just appointed captain of one of the companies to cross the plains, and although we sincerely mourn and sympathize with his bereft family who are now residing in the Valley, yet it is not without hope and assurance that he will have part in the first resurrection. We realize in this providence that his wife has lost a kind husband and his children a tender father; but we say to them, be comforted; your husband and father died standing at his post of duty; he therefore will come forth and his works shall follow him.

His remains were interred on the morning of the 20th of July, at Mormon Grove. He breathed his last in this life at quarter past nine on the evening of the 19th.

I will still say further, that there has been no new cases of sickness or death, but the blessings of the Lord are still with us.

We are preparing to start thirty wagons to morrow. We are in hopes to clear the ground of the present encampments by the 1st day of August.-We have now on hand all the oxen and other outfits necessary for the journey, and hope soon to be released to see you and the Saints in St. Louis.

Please give my kind regards to the Saints in general, not forgetting yourself and family, and the brethren of the office. I remain yours,

MILO **ANDRUS**.

## Vol. 1, No. 38-August 11, 1855

### Milo Released as President of the St. Louis Stake

Mormon Grove, K. T., August 3d, '55.

TO THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN ST. LOUIS:

Beloved Saints:-It has seemed wisdom to call Elder Milo **Andrus**, to take charge of the last company of the P. E. Fund emigrants over the plains, and during his absence, or until the Lord shall otherwise direct. I would nominate Elder James H. Hart to take the presiding charge of the Church in St. Louis, under the counsel and direction of Elder Orson Spencer, who will exercise a general supervising control over all the affairs of the Church in the Valley of the Ohio and Mississippi, until otherwise directed by the First Presidency or some of the Apostles of the Church.

The last company of the Saints are now moving off the ground, Elder Bassett and myself, intend to leave to-day for the Salt Lake Valley; time does not permit of a lengthy epistle, but we leave our blessing and prayers for your continued welfare, and trust that we have yours also, to accompany us across the Plains. Yours in the bond of the Gospel.

ERASTUS SNOW

### Letter from Orson Spencer

LETTER FROM ORSON SPENCER.

MORMON GROVE, K. T., Aug. 4, 1855. ...

... You with many others will be surprised to learn that brother Milo **Andrus** was yesterday suddenly appointed to take charge of a company over the Plains to Salt Lake. Several circumstances combined to render this appointment prudent and desirable. The absence of brothers' Snow and **Andrus** will be deeply felt in St. Louis and the Mississippi Valley. May the blessing of the Great Shepherd continually attend them in all their labors. ...

... Yours, truly, ORSON SPENCER.

## Vol. 1, No. 39-August 18, 1855

### St. Louis under a New Regime

St. Louis under a new Regime.

Between two and three thousand of our brethren and sisters are now journeying to Zion, with their tents, wagons, oxen, &c., and all between Mormon Grove and the Rocky Mountains, presenting a scene of devotion, self-denial, and heroism, unequalled in any age amongst any other people. Future generations will read their history, and will laud the noble acts and magnanimous deeds of those men who are now leading up the ransomed of the Lord, from the land of tyrants and oppressors, to dwell among the true born sons of Zion. On the 3d inst. the last company of this year's emigration moved off the camping ground in charge of our esteemed and worthy President Elder Milo Andrus, and about the same time our much loved and faithful brother, President Erastus Snow gave the parting hand, and the parting blessing, to the few who still remained, and drove off the field in triumph as a conqueror who has vanquished all of his foes, and overcome his greatest enemy. Most of our brethren in this Stake of Zion, were prepared to hear that he had left, but when it was announced that brother Andrus had taken up his line of march towards Zion, that he had actually started across the plains towards his mountain home, it came like a clap of thunder, and many could not refrain from tears, but indulged until they were satisfied.

We are not surprised at the strong feelings of attachment manifested by the Saints to these brethren; for they have by their goodness of heart, and righteousness of soul entwined themselves around the hearts of the people, and have gained the confidence and affection of the Saints, and have left with the prayers and blessings of all the faithful, and some are ready to say that if they return not, "we shall never see their like again." We can fully endorse the heart-felt sentiments of our brethren in favor of the most excellent men who have just left us, for they have accomplished a great work in our midst, a work that will be remembered when the workers of iniquity shall be cut off, and when those who make a man an offender for a word, shall be cast down to hell; even then, will the counsels, instructions and prophecies, of our brethren be remembered.

'Tis not yet twelve months ago since Elder Erastus Snow arrived among us, his mission was given him by revelation of God through the Prophet Brigham, and his coming was announced by his worthy predecessor Elder Milo Andrus, who like John the Baptist prepared the way before him by preaching to repentance unto all people, and by baptising for the remission of sins as many as believed. The honest hearted Saints from every ward of the city, and from all the regions round about were baptised of him, or, those whom he had ordained and blessed for that purpose, by the laying on of hands. There were some among us so wise in their own conceits, and so righteous in their own eyes that they considered and affirmed, that re-baptism was superfluous, and any other organization than that already existing in St. Louis, was altogether unnecessary; they had no hesitation in saying these things were oppressive, and those who taught them were tyrants; but we leave them and their reflections, and return to the mission of our brethren.

When it was announced that St. Louis was to be organized into a Stake of Zion, some smiled and some laughed outright, and some as guileless as Phillip, said, can any good come out of Saint Louis? they were significantly answered, "wait and see." It was thought by some that Mormonism in this city was almost extinct, a few more gasps and it would breathe its last and be shortly buried with other dead branches of the true vine; for conscious that they themselves were nearly dead, they thought that all around them were as lifeless as they, and when they were called upon to arouse, bestir them- (p. 2 col. 3) selves and be baptised, they thought it too oppressive and those rather to sleep on and brave the consequences. Such were the feelings and circumstances of many in this city when our brethren arrived among us from the mountains, who observing the wild unmanageable conduct of some, and the inefficient government of others, took the reins into their own hands, and tightened or slackened them at pleasure, as they deemed expedient. This course of training was unexpected and disagreeable to a few, and they commenced to kick and plunge, but the mountaineers were too expert, the restive were compelled to submit under their superior control, and were either placed in the new harness, or so far used up that they could neither kick nor plunge so as to harm any but themselves.

Being organized after the order of government established in Zion, the reins of government were placed in the hands of High Priests, Bishops, and Presidents of Quorums, who were instructed in the tactics of those who ordained them. Wards, districts, and sections, were organized, the best men that could be found were chosen and placed in charge, and St. Louis soon assumed a new character, instead of the Enfer so much dreaded a few years ago; it now assumes the importance of a training school, and one of the higher branches at that, and were it not for the proximity des 'coles du Diable it might be considered a desirable position; as it is, but few would remain, did not circumstances imperitively compel them to do so.

About twelve months ago it was next to impossible for the Saints in St. Louis and the surrounding country to obtain any correct knowledge of the movements of the Church except when as Elder from the mountains should perchance pass this way and give from memory such items as might occur to him as interesting; but during the last nine months we have been blessed with a weekly paper published in this city, containing the latest news from Zion, and indeed from all parts of the world. England, France, Italy, Germany, Russia, India, and many of the islands of the sea furnish correspondence for the instruction and benefit of our readers, so that the Saints cannot plead ignorance as an apology for inattention, and backwardness in duty, for the present efficient organization established amongst us, supported by the verbal as well as written counsels of Elder Erastus Snow, an apostle of Jesus Christ, and those of his coadjutor Elder Milo Andrus, assisted by a Council of High Priests, and a staff of Bishops, have made the duties of the Saints so plain that none but those wilfully blind can err therein.-And instead of the Church at St. Louis being a place of refuge for hypocrites, and apostate devils as formerly, it is discovered that they can neither walk, sit, nor stand comfortably among us, for the spirit of Zion has so raised the temperature that many are already burned out, and it is confidently expected to so far increase in temperature that the fire of the Lord may consume the hypocrites, and cause all the workers of iniquity to tremble, that they may be utterly confounded and put to shame.

## Celebration on the 24th of July, 1855

Celebration on the 24th of July, 1855.

MORMON GROVE, K. T., August 1st, '55

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LUMINARY.

DEAR SIR:-Several days have transpired since our celebration of the memorable 24th, but I have not had time or opportunity before to-day to furnish you a report, having been sent to Weston on the morning of the 25th, to purchase supplies for the emigration. And I shall not be able now, to give you anything like a complete report, as our reporter has gone forward with his company, without leaving the minutes which he took down on the occasion.-But I will give you a hasty sketch from memory, which imperfect as it may be, I trust will be of some little interest to your readers.

Agreeable to a notice from the committee of arrangements, the Saints from the several companies, camped in the vicinity of Mormon Grove, came together about 3 o'clock P. M., and formed a procession in front of the Church Store, under the direction of Elder Thomas Colburn, marshall of the day, in the following order:

1st. Carriage containing Presidents Erastus Snow and Daniel Spencer, and Elder Milo Andrus and Charles H. Bassett, committee of arrangements. ...

... The procession moved at 6 o'clock, marching though the principal avenues of Mormon Grove.-From the tops of the numerous tents and wagons throughout the Grove were floating flags and banners, some of which were beautifully designed, ornamented with needle work and bearing appropriate mottos.

About eight hundred souls joined in true procession; the sisters were out in their best dresses, and men, women, and children, seemed to take a lively interest in the celebration, and considering the circumstances, made a much grander display than was expected.

After marching about an half hour and visiting the different parts of the Grove, the procession came to a halt on the green, West of the Church farm.

Presidents Erastus Snow and Daniel Spencer, the officers of the day, and the Salt Lake Elders took the stand, and the companies gathered around to listen to the speeches, &c.

Elder William Willes then delivered as extemporaneous oration appropriate to the occasion, which was listened to with much interest by the attentive congregation. The oration was reported by Elder Bramwell, but he left on his journey to the valley without leaving a transcribed copy.

Elder William G. Mills, then read the following beautiful poem which [was written] by request, for the occasion.

[The poem has emigrated by the last company. Please to send it back to fulfill its mission.-Ed.]

President Erastus Snow, next addressed the people in his usual spirited and entertaining style, followed by Presidents Daniel Spencer and Milo Andrus. I regret much that I am not able to furnish you a report of these brilliant speeches. They were replete with the spirit of Mormonism, and the listening Saints were much edified and warmed up in their feelings, and encouraged to pursue with renewed spirit and energy, the path of the noble pioneers, whose entrance into the vallies of Ephraim, we had met to commemorate. ...

... Yours respectfully, CHAS. H. BASSETT.

### **Mormon Grove, K. T., August 2nd, 1855**

MORMON GROVE, K. T., August 2nd, 1855.

Dear Brothers Edwards and Gardner-It is with feelings that are past describing, that I take the pen at 11 o'clock at night, after a Counsel of some hours, to reveal to you, and through you, to my dear and beloved brethren and sisters, the result of said Council. I will come to the mater in short, and when I have more leisure, in full detail. It has been determined, in consequence of the lateness of the season, and the lack of experienced men, that I should take the [sic] charge of the last company of P. E. Fund Emigrants. I therefore only have twelve hours to make up my outfit and prepare for said journey.- Five hours ago, I was pondering in my mind, the joys of meeting my brethren and sisters in St. Louis; but now I am obliged to bid good bye, without even a shake of the hand. How different the works of the Lord to our own calculations. We must all submit in order to have eternal life. In all probability I shall be with you again, early in the spring, or next winter. \* \* \* \* \*

Say to brother Cantwell that I shall write to him while on the road. Tell him to be of good cheer. It seems as though I could not refrain from mentioning names, but when I begin, I say, Oh, Lord! where shall I end? as the Saints have all shared my good feelings. I feel to mention no names but may the very God of peace show forth His power in you, that our labors be not in vain in the Lord. Had I time, I should be glad to fill this sheet, and unbosom my feelings to my brethren and sisters more fully, but I have not the time, and heavy burthen is now placed upon me, and you must excuse these few lines, and believe me to be ever true and faithful to your interests, while your interests are controlled by the will of heaven.

I am, your servant, for the Gospel's sake,

MILO ANDRUS.

## Vol. 1, No. 40-August 25, 1855

### Discourse Delivered By J. H. Hart

#### DISCOURSE

Delivered by J. H. Hart, in the Fourth Street Chapel, St. Louis, Sunday Afternoon, August 12th, 1855.

REPORTED BY S. J. LEES.

Brethren and Sisters—It is with peculiar feelings that I arise to address you on this occasion. Our beloved brethren, Elders Snow and Andrus have now taken their departure, and it devolves upon us now to carry on the work they have commenced, to execute the measures they have devised. I have listened with considerable pleasure to the remarks of brother Cantwell this afternoon, they will commend themselves to your understanding. I feel happy in having such men around me as I now behold. Men, whose whole hearts are devoted to the interest of this work; and with the confidence and counsel of such men, under the inspiration and guidance of the holy spirit, I do not fear but we shall be enabled to do all things that God may require at our hands. I desire that we may live under the power and influence of the holy spirit, that we may be qualified for all our duties, that the Presidents of quorums, Bishops of wards, and heads of districts may act wisely in all their movements, and have power to bless and save the people committed to their charge; that by keeping the commandments of God, and working righteousness among this people, we may increase in wisdom, faith and power, that when our brethren shall return from Zion, we may be enabled to look them in the face, feeling conscious that we have done our duty. I feel that it is our privilege so to live, that when they return we may have full confidence in ourselves and our labors, and have their smiles and approbation, and be consequently blessed and favored of the Lord. I have always been satisfied since I have known anything of Mormonism, if I had the confidence and good feelings of those who were placed over me, when I so conduct myself as to gain their confidence and approbation. I do not want a stronger evidence of the favor and approbation of heaven. For the spirit that dwells in them, dwells in the bosom of the Almighty, and if we act so as to be approved by them, we are certainly approved of by our Father who is in heaven. ...

... In taking hold of the affairs of this stake of Zion, I do not feel that extreme difficulty, I should have felt some twelve months ago. The position of the church is generally improved since that time. We have now become awakened as it were, from a long sleep, and aroused to a sense of our duty and privileges; being taught the more perfect order of heaven, and the principles of truth and salvation, by which we may obtain, if faithful to the end, the powers of eternal life. A foundation has been laid, an order and organization established by our brethren, the perfect pattern of which has been revealed from heaven. It was revealed to the ancients and established in the days of Enoch, Moses, Nephi and Moroni, and has been restored to the Prophets in these last days. We have an organization and Priesthood established amongst us that can reach any case, and settle any difficulty no matter how difficult. We have among us our Bishops, who have the whole city under their supervision, with their staff around them, who should be men full of

faith and the Holy Ghost, who have the Presidents of sections and visitors of districts, who should know the feelings and spirit of every man and woman who acknowledge the name of Jesus Christ, and profess to be Saints; and if our sections, districts, wards and quorums are not pure and perfect as they ought to be, let us invoke the spirit of the Almighty to rest upon us, that the mantle of brother **Andrus** and the spirit of President Erastus, and Erastus' God may fall upon us, that we may be enabled so to govern and control under the spirit of revelation; that the atmosphere may become so hot, that those hypocrites who still linger among us may be burned out, and leave behind them neither root nor branch of the accursed tree. By faithfulness we shall have power in our midst to make the atmosphere so hot that the canting hypocrite and ungodly will not be able to endure our presence, or stand among us. ...

... We occupy a very important and responsible position as members of this stake of Zion; strange reports have gone forth, formerly, respecting the Saints in St. Louis, but we have somewhat redeemed our character; Presidents Snow and **Andrus**, have told us that we are a little better than when they found us, which speaks but little some might think, for the discovery, but never mind brethren let us still go on improving; it is the best that we can do in redeeming the past. We have passed honorably through our responsibilities during the last emigration season, in which we have gained some experience, and learned some principles that will enable us to adventure to acquit ourselves more faithfully when next called upon to act in similar scenes, we are now initiated into more advanced principles of government, by which we may prepare ourselves for future usefulness in the kingdom of God. ...

... May the spirit of God light up our souls, that we may not walk in darkness, but dwell in light as God is in the light. Amen.

### News from the Emigration upon the Plains

ANY NEWS from the Emigration upon the Plains, will be interesting to our readers; we therefore present the following items from Elder Milo **Andrus**:

Thirty miles from MORMON GROVE, Aug. 6 '55.

DEAR BROTH. HART: After the toil of the day, I take a leisure moment to write you a few lines, to let you know our whereabouts, and progress. In the first place, I will say that we started from the Grove on the 3rd, and on the 4th we overtook brother Allred's company on Big Grasshopper. We are both now encamped on Walnut, with barely team enough to roll us on agreeably.

I have in my company, the tail end of the Emigration, and a scanty number of experienced men, which causes the burthen of the camp to rest upon me, with an almost insupportable weight. My health is worn down with fatigue, but still, my spirit is determined to take the camp intrusted to my care, safely to the home of the Saints.—We have health in our midst—our progress has bettered itself every day, which causes me to feel grateful to our heavenly Father, and my soul to

rejoice in that paternal aid, which is ever ready to render assistance, and support us in time of need.

The season is late to start to the mountains, but we trust in the arm of Jehovah to direct our movements, and we then have nothing to fear.

Remember me kindly to my brethren and sisters in St. Louis, ask them to remember me in their prayers, that I may accomplish the things the servants of the Lord hath placed upon me.

With love to yourself, I remain your friend and brother.

MILO ANDRUS.

## Vol. 1, No. 41-September 1, 1855

### On the West Side of the Big Blue

On the West side of the Big Blue, }

Wednesday evening Aug. 15, '55. }

I take another opportunity to inform you of our progress. Health, peace, and happiness is made manifest in our encampment, and above all, the Lord is prospering our progress; to-day we ferried the Blue which is exceedingly high, on account of so much rain. We are a few rods west from brother Harper's encampment, and are in good travelling condition. We have nailed our colors to the top of the mast and are determined before long, to breathe the fresh breezes of the beautiful Platte river valley. We shall from time to time, as opportunity affords, drop you a line, to let you know our progress, but both you and the Saints must excuse lengthy letters from us, as we are all the time in a hurry. May peace and blessings crown your labors, in your Presidency of the Saint Louis Stake, is the constant prayer of your friend and brother. We know not the distance that Alred's camp is behind us.

Yours in haste, MILO **ANDRUS**.

## Vol. 1, No. 42-September 8, 1855

### Our Emigration on the Plains

Our Emigration on the Plains—Organization of a Branch at Atchison—Arrival of Missionaries in Texas.

We have received interesting communications from our brethren on the Plains, from which we learn that general good health prevails in all the companies, now journeying upon the prairies. Elder Edward Stevenson writes from Platte Bridge, 135 miles from Fort Laramie, and says: “As the mail is about leaving for the States, I hasten to inform you that the company from Texas is in good health and fine spirits, and our cattle is in good condition. We have had no trouble with the Indians, only to feed a few of them that came into camp, who seemed friendly. The feed from Laramie is rather poor for the season has been very dry. Most of the traders have left for the States, and those who remain are taken with a fearfulness of the Indians, who may come upon them. Reports are not favorable concerning the Indians, but we do not fear anything only to offend our God.” Brief communications from the first and last companies will be found in another column, which though short will not fail to interest those whose friends are journeying in those companies. It will be interesting for our brethren in St. Louis, to remember that we have sent the first company from our own immediate ranks, comprising our very Bishop and Parson; the last company is conducted by our worthy President and brave General, Milo Andrus. With such pioneers and such a rear guard we think the Emigration is highly favored. ...

### 30 Miles up The Little Blue

30 miles up the Little Blue, Aug. 22, '55.

BROTHER HART: Another opportunity presents itself for me to write you. The Salt Lake Mail is just passing and waiting to take this note. Our progress is still onward; although, since I wrote you last, we have had a few drawbacks; two wagon axles, one wheel, and several tongues broke which has caused us some little delay; but notwithstanding we are up with brother Harper's company, who is now starting from this place. We have also had two deaths of aged persons, and some slight cases of sickness, but as a general thing, I am thankful to say, health reigns predominant. From over exertion and fatigue, my health has been, for the last few days, much impaired, but this morning I feel quite well again, and am doing all in my power to push on this camp which is in my charge, as I am deeply anxious for their welfare. My brethren well know if there is not exertion used on our part, the season being so late, we shall feel some inclement weather when we are some hundreds of miles further West. The Saints feel well and cheerful. We are in excellent traveling condition, as our yesterday's work will tell—we came not less than twenty-five miles.

My love to all. I remain your brother in the gospel of Christ.

MILO **ANDRUS**.

### Letter from John Hindly and John Parson

NORTH CROSSING, PLATTE RIVER, } August 7, 1855. }

DEAR BROTHER **ANDRUS**: Expecting the mail to pass us in a day or two, we again take up our pen to communicate with you; we are happy to inform you that we are thus far on our journey and all well, and have met with no accidents or losses worth mentioning. The cattle hold out well considering that in this region of country the feed is very thin and poor. The second company is now one day's drive behind us, and the third with the first of Williams' goods trains, is one day behind them.

We have not seen any Indians in this region, but we are informed that the Missouri Sioux's are very hostile, and have stolen a large number of horses from the traders here. Last month the traders at the Bridge killed three Indians and drove the remainder off into the mountains; they have fortified their trading post, and daily expect a company of Indians to burn the bridge. Under these circumstances we keep up an efficient advance and rear guard mounted and well armed. We carrell [corral] our horses, and well watch our cattle.

The soldiers that so much noise was made about in the States, came as far as Laramie, and returned the next day. We met one company on their return as far back as Fort Kearney. The traders curse them as cowards, and the originators, directly or indirectly of all their troubles with the Indians.—Peace and union still prevail in our camp, and all things go with us as well as we could possibly expect.

Hoping you and President Snow, with all our friends in St. Louis, are well and prospering in all your endeavors to build up the universal kingdom, we subscribe ourselves your brethren in the Lord.

JOHN HINDLY.  
JOHN PARSON.

## Vol. 1, No. 43-September 15, 1855

### Letter from Dr. J Clinton

LETTER FROM DR. J CLINTON.

PHILADELPHIA, AUG. 30, 1855.

DEAR BROTHER SPENCER—Feeling that a few lines from your old friend would not be uninteresting to you, I thought I would be set [sit] down and pen you some little account of my doings, since we last met. My field of labors as you knows [know], is Philadelphia and the surrounding country. I have no reason to complain, for my health is as good as could be expected, both Saints and sinners treats [treat] me well wherever I go. I have but little trouble to get places to preach, and people to hear; and many believe and fear and tremble, and a few of the humble and meek of the earth obey. We have baptized in this region of the country about seventy-five. I have never felt more determined to do right, and do my duty in all things, than I do at this time. We hold our meetings in the Washington Hall. It is one of the best in the city; the Philadelphia branch numbers about two hundred and fifty. The Saints feel well and are willing to do all they can to forward the work. Times are hard and but little, if any prospect of getting better. The Elders of the eastern mission are all well as far as I know. Elder Taylor has been here twice lately, his health is good and you can judge of his spirits when you read the Mormon.

The month of August brought us no news from Salt Lake. I learn from the Luminary that brother Erastus Snow and Milo Andrus, Basset, and others have left for Zion, I pray that they may get home safe. It does me good to read letters in the papers from the Elders and to hear of their prosperity and determination to go ahead, and warn this generation of the things that are coming upon the earth. It would be useless for me to tell anything about the wickedness that is in this country, when you are surrounded with plenty of the same all the time.

Give my respects to all enquiring friends, and take as much yourself as you can shoulder, and go ahead and God bless you. I remain your brother and fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ.

DR. J. CLINTON

### Letter from August 8, 1855

From the Squatter Sovereign. MUDDY, Atchison Co., August 8, 1855.

MESSRS. EDITORS: Being now on my journey, in charge of the last company of the Mormon Emigration, and that too, quite unexpectedly to me, I feel to drop you a few lines, and if you please, through your valuable paper to the proprietors of your town, and the public in general, permit me to say from the first moment I set foot in your city, I have felt an interest in your young yet growing city, and although the editor at Leavenworth City, published that any man possessing brains, could not select any other place but Leavenworth City, for an outfitting

point, but notwithstanding his sayings, I am confident on trial, that a better point is not on the Missouri river for emigration to Oregon, New Mexico and Utah, and in reply to the editor I would say, that he has lived in that bottom prairie joining the river, and taken cold so often from the damp fogs and air, and blowed his nose so hard that he judges that every man's brains are blowed out of his head, because he finds himself in the same fix. I would therefore say to the public, that the town of Atchison is decidedly the best point on the river that we have tried, for the safety of stock, general outlet and range, and the general and noble spirit of the town committee. I hope therefore under the keen and watchful eye of your Sovereign, connected with the diligence and noble bearing of your town committee, that you will try and keep your maiden city from pollution. A few words to the public, in and around Atchison, in regard to the losses that we have sustained in horses and cattle. We leave in charge as agents in this matter, to hunt up and preserve our lost cattle, James McGaw, Geo. W. Rust, whom we recommend to the public, as gentlemen of honor, and we hope your citizens will aid them in every possible way that is consistent with their circumstances. We wish to deal on honorable principles, and if in the handling of such a vast amount of stock, we have gathered in, and have in possession one that belongs to our neighbors, we know it not. So far as my knowledge goes, our dealings with the people of upper Missouri and Kansas Territory has been satisfactory. At least it has been on my part. I have dealt with high-minded and honorable gentlemen, and if I should return, which I expect to do, I should still be happy to purchase their property on the same principles of friendship and honor that has heretofore, and now exists. With these feelings and views, I bid my friends and fellow citizens a hearty and a warm good bye, for the present.

I am yours truly, MILO **ANDRUS**.

## Vol. 1, No. 45-September 29, 1855

### Letter from Charles Chard

FORT RILEY, Sept. 9, 1855.

DEAR BROTHER HART:

Thinking that the Saints may be desirous to hear a few lines from us, I take the present opportunity to write a few lines to you, and to my brethren and sisters in the St. Louis stake of Zion. I was very much surprised, and felt a great deal of regret, when I received the news of the departure of brothers' Snow and Andrus, for the valleys of the mountains; for I had anticipated the pleasure of their company in crossing the Plains; but it is an old adage "man proposes but God disposes," and as I feel at all times to bow to the divine authority, I say God bless them, and speed them on their way; and pray God to hasten the time when I can give them the right hand of fellowship in Zion. ...

... Yours in the everlasting covenant,

CHARLES CHARD

## Vol. 1, No. 47-October 13, 1855

### The Late Conference

THE LATE CONFERENCE,

the first Detachment of Volunteers and their Missions.

We publish in other columns of this paper the Minutes of our General Conference, which convened by appointment on Saturday the 6th. inst. We necessarily omit in this weeks Luminary, the publication of the spirited remarks of the Elders, with which the business was richly interspersed. The representation from the branches was good, and the prospects seemed to be favorable for the progress of truth, during the next half year. Although meeting under certain disadvantages, through the absence of President's Snow, **Andrus** and Spencer, yet we were made to rejoice exceedingly in the enjoyment of that spirit that dwells so richly with them; and we realized that though they were absent in body, yet they were present in spirit, for which we felt to say hosanna, hosanna, to God and the Lamb. ...

### Minutes of the Conference

MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE

Of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, held in St. Louis, in the Church, corner of Washington Avenue and Fourth Streets, October 6th 1855.

The Conference was called to order at 10 1-2 o'clock, A. M., when the congregation sung the 22nd hymn, "Arise, O glorious Zion, thou joy of latter days," &c. Prayer was offered up by Elder John Banks. The 273rd hymn was then sung, "Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah," &c. Elder C. Edwards then moved that Elder James H. Hart, preside over this Conference. Seconded and carried.

The President then arose and made the following remarks: ...

... It is eleven months since we first met together in this city, accompanied by Elders Snow and **Andrus**, when this people was organised into a stake of Zion.

Many changes have been experienced since that time, but they have been sanctified to our good; there were few propably [probably] who thought or conceived of the amount of good to be effected by this organization. Some looked ed [sic] upon it as an empty name, that would not be attended with any particular blessing or benefits; others who were better posted up, foresaw the results that have been manifested since this stake of Zion was organized. President Snow is now at home in the valleys of the mountains, and brother **Andrus** is on his way there, and we are happy to learn from Dr. Bernhisal that he is getting on so well. He is in good health, and his

company is pushing on vigorously and is likely to get to the valleys of the mountains in good order, for this blessing, I feel to thank God, and for all the blessings vouchsafed to our brethren....

... I am happy to have the company of brethren who surround me, we have with us Elder John Banks, with whom I have been acquainted from the time I first entered the kingdom of God, who first preached to me the everlasting Gospel, and who also sent me out to preach the same. I feel peculiarly happy, having his presence at the Conference and those of you that are acquainted with him will be glad to see him and receive instructions from his lips, during this Conference. We have several brethren here from the valley and the Presidents of the various branches, and though we have not Elders' Snow and **Andrus**, with us yet I feel it is our privilege to have the spirit of the Lord, we have the priesthood and blessings that our brethren left with us, that Brigham sent from the mountains. If we are faithful we shall have sufficient of the Holy Spirit to do that which the Lord requires at our hands and we shall rejoice [and feel well] during this Conference. I desire that our minds should be concentrated on the business of the Conference, and drawn from the things that do not concern us here, that all our energies may be devoted and consecrated to the Lord, during the time we remain together, that it may be for the glory of the Lord and the upbuilding of his kingdom. ...

Twelve Miles below Fort Laramie

TWELVE MILES BELOW FORT LARAMIE, } SEPTEMBER  
13, 1855. }

DEAR BROTHER HART:

Knowing the anxiety that is felt by you and the Saints in general, now under your presidency, to hear from their brethren and sisters that are crossing the wide-spread plains of the West, to Ephraims fat Vallies. I have retired to the carriage in the evening, while some are singing the cheerful songs of Zion, others playing the violin, whilst others are saying, O, dear, how sore my legs are, to give you a short sketch of our journey, since I last wrote, and our prospects for home, knowing that it will be the only chance to communicate to you, until our arrival. We wrote you last, from Little Blue; since which time, you will see by the date of this and distance, that we have travelled speedily, and with [a] small amount of sickness and death, although in our encampment there are many old and infirm persons, yet through the blessings of the Lord, the most of them have strength to endure their journey. We have not met with any difficulty from the Indians yet, although the Government has declared war against them, and blood has commenced to flow, yet we are preserved from being massacred [massacred] by the kindness of our Father that's in the Heavens, connected with our diligence in watching.

I will give you a short sketch of the proceedings of General Hearney, with the Indians. He came up with his command, one day in the advance of us, from Fort Harney to Ash Hollow, about seven hundred strong, and found a party of the Sioux Indians, about eight miles from Ash Hollow, and a battle ensued on the 3d, and the General sent over word to me on the 5th, and wishing me to keep an advanced guard stating at the same time that the best information that they could get, was that they had killed one hundred and twenty Indians, taken fifty-eight prisoners, mostly women; had four soldiers killed and five wounded. He stated, also, that they were going to lay out a fort a small distance bellow Ash Hollow, after which they calculated to proceed to Fort Laramie, and from thence to wherever they could find any Sioux Nation. A few miles from where we are now encamped, there (p. 2 col. 5) is about forty of the Indians that were in the battle near Ash Hollow. Report[s] says [say] that they are quite reckless, and that much hostile feeling is in them. What will be the result of these matters, remains yet to be told. However, I will say that I try my best to carry out the Generals instructions, and more too, for I pray the Lord not only to be our front guard, but also to protect our rear, at the same time watching diligently.

Now, Dear Brother Hart, I should be happy to see you, and my well beloved brethren and sisters of the stake of Zion in St. Louis, and the regions round about. I feel as though I only got acquainted with them, and then torn from them in an unexpected moment, but they are often in my memory and my feeble prayers are in their behalf, that they may have power to overcome and have eternal lives. My kind regards to your family and to all the Saints.

I Remain, as ever,

Yours in the Gospel,

MILO **ANDRUS**.

## Vol. 1, No. 50-November 10, 1855

### Elder Andrus Writes from Pacific Springs

ELDER Milo Andrus writes [from the] Pacific Springs under date of Oct. 7th, and was expecting to arrive in the Valley about the 20th. The company had suffered considerably in a snow storm, near the South pass; they had loss [lost] some stock, but at the time of writing, the company was moving along prosperously, health and peace reigned in the camp.

## Vol. 1, No. 52-December 15, 1855

### Letter from George A. Smith

LETTER FROM GEORGE A. SMITH.

G. S. L. CITY, Oct. 30, 1855.

...Captain C. A. Harper's company arrived last night, and Captain Andrus on Wednesday the 24th. Many of the Perpetual Emigrating Fund cattle have died on the road, and those which arrived are rather in poor condition; there are three trains of merchandise still to arrive that we have heard of being on the road. ...