

# BYU Library - Special Collections

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## Utah Expedition (1857-1858)

### Organization

### Dates

- **Existence:** 1857 - 1858

### Administrative History

The Utah Expedition (1857-1858) was a bloodless military conflict between the Mormon militia, referred to as the Nauvoo Legion, and the United States government over the installation of a new governor in the Utah Territory.

From May 1857 to July 1858, the Utah Expedition, otherwise known as Utah War, Utah Campaign, Buchanan's Blunder, Mormon War, or Mormon Rebellion, was a result of President Buchanan's decision to replace Governor Brigham Young with Governor Alfred Cumming. The Presidency feared the Mormon community would not accept a non-Mormon governor, resulting in the suspension of mail to Utah and 2,500 troops accompanying Cumming's journey. Upon news of advancing troops Utah men were called to bear arms and Northern communities were evacuated. After several months of this standard, and continually hoping for peace, the Mormon leader's willingness to accept Cumming was heard. The agreement ended with the installation of Governor Cumming and a permanent government garrison near Salt Lake City in exchange for peace and amnesty.

### Citation:

LCCN 58011786: Hafen, L.R. The Utah expedition, 1857-1858, 1958(hdg.: Utah Expedition, 1857-1858)

Wikipedia, viewed February 11, 2013 :(Utah Expedition, also known as the Utah War, Utah Campaign, Buchanan's Blunder, Mormon War, Mormon Rebellion, was an armed confrontation between Mormon settlers and the United States Government, from May 1857 to July 1858, located in Utah and Wyoming)

Encyclopedia.com, April 20, 2016(Mormon Expedition of 1857-1858; was a federal force sent by President James Buchanan to force the Mormons, led by Brigham Young, to obey federal laws ; Utah Expedition)

OCLC, April 20, 2016(access point: Utah Expedition (1857-1858); usage: Utah Expedition; Utah War; Utah Campaign; Buchanan's Blunder; Mormon War; Mormon Rebellion; Mormon Expedition)

Library of Congress, via WWW, Feb. 12, 2018 (Utah Expedition, also known as the Utah War, Utah Campaign, Buchanan's Blunder, Mormon War, Mormon Rebellion, was an armed confrontation between Mormon settlers and the United States Government, from May 1857 to July 1858, located in Utah and Wyoming; Mormon Expedition of 1857-1858; was a federal force sent by President James Buchanan to force the Mormons, led by Brigham Young, to obey federal laws)

Mormon Encyclopedia, via WWW, Feb. 12, 2018 (Mormon militia, called the Nauvoo Legion, vs. United States government in a bloodless but costly confrontation; President James Buchanan to replace Brigham Young as governor of Utah Territory; It delayed, but did not prevent, the installation of Governor Alfred Cumming; Buchanan thought Latter-day Saints would reject a non-Mormon governor; mail to Utah suspended and 2,500 troops with Cumming to Great Salt Lake City; Utah communities were called upon to equip a thousand men; President Young announced on March 23, 1858, that all settlements in northern Utah must be abandoned and prepared for burning if the army came in; Church leaders willing to accept Cumming and a permanent army garrison in exchange for peace and amnesty)

## Found in 85 Collections and/or Records:

### William Adams autobiography


 **File – Multiple Containers** Identifier: MSS 569

**Scope and Contents** Handwritten autobiography with a typescript of the item. Adams came from Ireland, migrated to Nauvoo, Illinois, and later to Salt Lake Valley, Utah. He also lived in Springville, Spanish Fork, Parowan, and Cedar City, Utah. Adams writes about Jacob Hamblin's efforts to convert Indians, the preparations to meet the United States Army coming to Utah in 1857 and 1858, going on a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and meeting Emma Hales Smith, the wife of the first...

**Dates:** 1894

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / William Adams autobiography

### Andrew Jackson Allen autobiography and diary


 **File – Folder 1: [Barcode: 31197230330851]** Identifier: MSS SC 3213

**Scope and Contents** Photocopy of a microfilm copy of a typescript of an autobiography and diary. Allen writes about his youth in Kentucky and move to Missouri after he joined the Mormon Church. He later moved to Nauvoo, Illinois, and joined the Mormon exodus to Utah in 1847. He tells about the hardships of early settlement in Salt Lake City, Utah. His diary starts in 1857. It has many gaps and entries were often months apart. He writes about the "Utah War;" his work on the railroad in 1868 and 1869; his...

**Dates:** 1857-1884

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / Andrew Jackson Allen autobiography and diary

### Washington F. Anderson diary

 **File – Folder 1: [Barcode: 31197230338656]** Identifier: MSS 40

#### Abstract

The collection contains a typewritten copy of a diary kept from 30 July to 12 August of 1857. Anderson writes about a company of Mormons travelling from Carson Valley, Nevada to Salt Lake City, Utah. He tells about Indian troubles and about the miles travelled every day.

**Dates:** 1857

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / Washington F. Anderson diary

## William Frank Atkin papers

■ **Collection – Box 1: [Barcode: 31197232484912] Identifier: MSS 341**

**Scope and Contents** Correspondence, diaries, and a biography. The diaries relate to Atkin's missions to New Zealand from 1903 to 1906 and from 1916 to 1918. The correspondence is from family members and friends and largely relates to family matters and to Atkin's missionary activities. The biography is a history of Atkin's father, Thomas Atkin (1833-1919), who was a Mormon pioneer that was active in Tooele County politics. The biography also includes information about the Mormon response to the Utah...

**Dates:** 1883-1919

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / William Frank Atkin papers

## Audio recording of Brigham Young, the patriot

■ **Item – Folder 1: [Barcode: 31197231234508] Identifier: UA 1186**

### Scope and Contents

An audio recording on CD-R of Brigham Young, the patriot.

**Dates:** 1971

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections. University Archives / Audio recording of Brigham Young, the patriot

## George B. Bailey papers

■ **File – Folder 1: [Barcode: 31197230244722] Identifier: MSS SC 580**

### Scope and Contents

Holographs; typescript; printed forms (photocopy). The collection includes a journal (1 p. by wife, Elizabeth) which describes life in Salt Lake Valley and related problems with the United States government in 1856-1857 and gives genealogical data on the Bailey and Young families. Also included are a letter fragment, poem by George, and 6 Latter-day Saint Church family group sheets of the George Smith Bailey and Victoria Price family.

**Dates:** 1800s

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / George B. Bailey papers

## Henry Ballard diary

■ **Collection – Multiple Containers Identifier: MSS SC 998**

**Scope and Contents** Two typescripts of the Ballard diary. They vary in small details and in the nature of the added materials found at the back. Ballard was converted to Mormonism in England. He arrived in Utah in 1852, was active in the Utah War of 1857-8, and settled in Logan, Utah in 1859. He was a bishop for the Mormon Church, participated in many of the activities of that faith, and was sentenced to two months in the Utah penitentiary for polygamy. He also tells about troubles with the Indians of the Cache...

**Dates:** 1852-1905

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / Henry Ballard diary

## William Bench letter

■ **Item – Folder 1: [Barcode: 31197232489358] Identifier: MSS 547**

**Scope and Contents** Photocopy of a handwritten letter dated 1 Feb. 1908 and addressed to "Son & Daughter." The item was written in Manti, Utah. Bench writes about his early life in Utah. He tells about settling in Manti early in the 1850s and about the hardships he faced at that time. He talks about encounters with Ute Indians stating that during "the first engagement we had with the Indians 5 balls passed through my clothing but I was unharmed" and about the preparations made to meet the Utah Expedition of...

**Dates:** 1908 February 1

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / William Bench letter

## John E. Bennion diaries

■ **Collection – Multiple Containers Identifier: MSS 981**

### Scope and Contents

Photocopies of handwritten diaries. Bennion writes about his life in the Taylorsville area of Utah and in Rush Valley and Long Valley, Utah. He also lived for a time in Nevada. Bennion was married polygamously, participated in the Utah War of 1857-1858, had an encounter with an Indian in 1858, saw the first handcart company arrive in Salt Lake City in 1856, served on a mission to England for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and participated in many other activities.

**Dates:** 1855-1877

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / John E. Bennion diaries

## John M. Bernhisel papers

■ **Collection – Multiple Containers Identifier: MSS SC 331**

### Abstract

The Papers of John Milton Bernhisel includes three (3) archival series: Series I: Political Papers, circa 1847-1864; Series II: Personal Papers, circa 1825-1910; and Series III: Secondary Sources, circa 1909-1964.

**Dates:** approximately 1825-1964

**Found in:** L. Tom Perry Special Collections / John M. Bernhisel papers

## More about 'Utah Expedition (1857-1858)'

### Name Forms

Also known by the following names:

- Utah War (1857-1858)
- Utah Campaign (1857-1858)
- Buchanan's Blunder (1857-1858)
- Mormon War (1857-1858)

- Mormon Rebellion (1857-1858)
- Mormon Expedition (1857-1858)

## Additional filters:

### Type

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∨ more

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