

PATRIARCH JOHN DUKE GONE,

Patriarch John Duke, one of the oldest residents of this country and an early pioneer of the valley died at his home in Heber last Monday of general debility, after having been confined to his home the greater part of several years past.

Patriarch Duke was born at Osvego New York, November 15th, 1834 and with his parents moved to Nauvoo in 1839 at the time of settlement of that place by the Latter-Day-Saints. He there became acquainted with and often heard the Prophet Joseph Smith and the impressions there made upon him remained for life. The Duke family remained at Nauvoo until they together with other residents of that City were driven out by the mobs in 1846, their only home in the world being torn down and burned. They crossed the river and were among those who later testified that the Lord preserved their lives even in these troublous times by sending quail for them to use as food. From here they moved on to Lexington, Iowa and made ready to come west with the body of the church. In 1850 they endured the hardships attendant upon crossing the "Plains", coming with Captain Pace 100. On arriving in Utah the Duke family made their home at Provo.

On March 31st, 1857 John Duke was married to Martha Vance Young at Provo and to them were born eleven children, six of whom are now living. On April 7th, 1857 he was married to Mary Jones and to them were born twelve children, six of whom still live.

In the year 1857 he was called to go back across the plains as one of the Y X Express Co., organized as pony express to relay daily mails into Salt Lake City.

In 1860 the family moved to this valley, since which time this has been their home.

Patriarch John Duke has been personally acquainted with every president of the church, from Joseph Smith the Prophet to Heber J. Grant, the present leader and has born his testimony hundreds of times that he knew each of them to be a man of God inspired for the special work pertaining to their time and calling.

The funeral services were held at the Stake tabernacle yesterday afternoon and were largely attended. The services were under the direction of the Stake Presidency, with J. C. Jensen in charge. The opening prayer was offered by Bishop John M. Ritchie of the Heber 2nd ward and the benediction was pronounced by John L. Mochan of Provo. The singing was done by the Heber 2nd ward choir, rendering "Sweet Rest to Heaven" and "The Opening Trials Throng Your Way". Mrs. Anna Duke Alfred sang, "O, My Father" and Mrs. Gladys Davis and Mrs. Mabel Moulton sang "Wanted on the Other Side" as a duet, the deceased having made this as a request some twelve years ago. The speakers were Wm. Lindsay, Henry C. McMullin, Dr. Joseph A. Rasband, Patriarch John A. Fortie and Pres. D. A. Broadbent. The grave was dedicated by A. Y. Duke president of the High Priests Quorum.