


To all persons to whom this letter shall come

Greeting:

Know ye that the bearer, John Pack, a true and faithful brother, and Elder in Israel, has been appointed and delegated, by the Authorities of the Church of Jesus Christ, of Latter Day Saints, in General Conference at this day and place assembled, on a Mission to France; To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and administer in all the ordinances thereof pertaining to his Mission, under the direction of Elder John Taylor, and the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, and we call upon all Saints, and upon the Inhabitants of the Earth, to receive our beloved brother Pack, as a messenger of the living God, offering life and Salvation to Man, and inasmuch as you shall give heed to his teachings and Council, and assist him on his journey and Mission, you shall in no wise lose your reward, and we pray God the Eternal Father to bless brother Pack abundantly in all things, and those who shall receive him, or minister unto his wants, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Signed at Great Salt Lake City, State of Deseret,  
North America, this sixth day of October 1849.

Brigham Young  
Heber C. Kimball  
Willard Richards



Presidency of the Church  
of Jesus Christ of Latter  
Day Saints.

Thos. Bullock. Clerk

# John Pack Was One Of The First Missionaries To France

By PRESTON NIBLEY

JOHN PACK was a native of Canada, a convert to the Church, resident of Nauvoo, member of the original band of pioneers who came to Utah in 1847, and a collaborer of John Taylor in opening a mission in France in 1850.

John Pack was born in St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, on May 20, 1809. He was the son of George and Phylotte Green Pack.

When John was about six years of age his parents moved to Water-town, Jefferson County, New York. There he grew to manhood on his father's farm, and it was in Water-town that he was married to Julia Ives on October 10, 1832. He was 23 years of age at the time and his bride was 15. LDS missionaries visited their home and on the 8th of March, 1836, they were both baptized.

In the spring of 1837 John Pack sold his holdings in New York and moved to Kirtland, Ohio. The next year he joined a group of Saints in the long journey to Missouri. He purchased a farm and established himself, but within a year he was forced to leave the state and move to Illinois.

12—CHURCH Week Ending January 14, 1956

## IN 1840 HE SETTLED IN NAUVOO

where he became acquainted with the Prophet Joseph Smith. He served in the Nauvoo Legion and was commissioned a major. In the summer of 1844 he was called on a mission to the Eastern States and he was in New Jersey when word reached him of the Prophet's death.

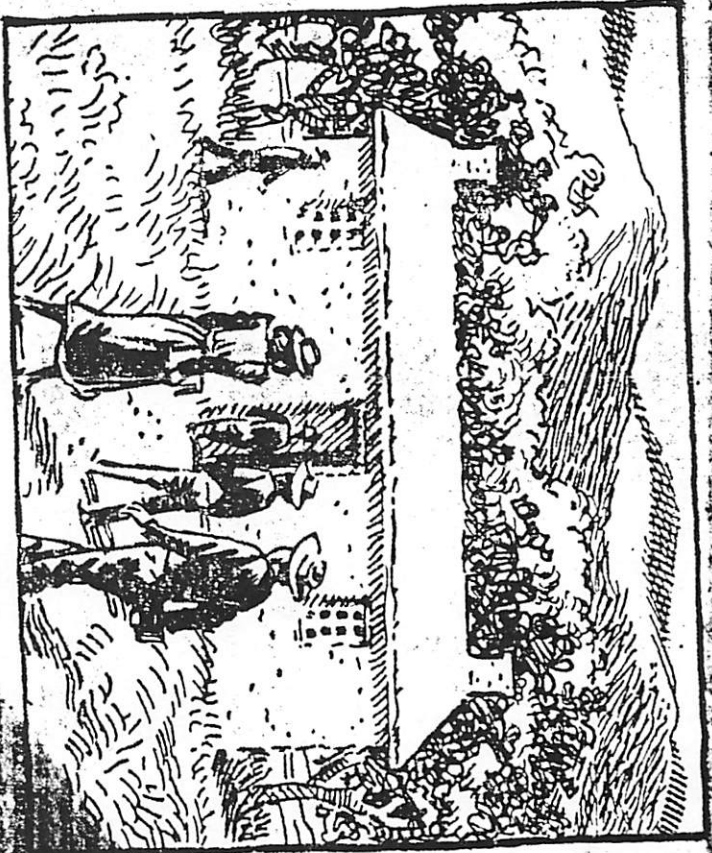
John Pack followed President Brigham Young in the exodus of the Saints to the west. He crossed the Mississippi River on February 8, 1846, and during the spring and summer made his way across Iowa to Council Bluffs. He spent the winter of 1846-47 at Winter Quarters.

When President Brigham Young selected the men who were to accompany him on the pioneer journey to Salt Lake Valley, John Pack was among the number. In the military organization that was formed for the expedition, John was designated as a Major.

## THE HISTORY OF THIS JOURNEY

is well known, I shall not repeat it here, except to say that John Pack entered Salt Lake Valley on July 22, 1847. He thus immortalized himself as one of the original pioneers.

After taking part in all the activities pertaining to the founding of



Home of John Pack in 17th Ward where University of Utah were conducted

Salt Lake City. John began the return journey and crossed the plains arriving in Winter Quarters in October. The following year, 1848, he returned to the valley and established a home in the 17th Ward.

In October 1849 John Pack was called to accompany the first missionaries as they were away from the valley on this important mission. He returned to Salt Lake City in the fall of 1852.

In 1853 he was called to assist in the founding of a Mormon colony in Carson Valley (Nevada). He joyfully accompanied and moved to Carson City until he was called to return to Salt Lake in 1858.

John Pack died at his home in Salt Lake City on April 4, 1885. At the funeral held in the 17th Ward, John Henry Smith of the Council of the Twelve, extolled him as "a true Latter-day Saint and a man of God."