

southern extremity of the Great Salt Lake, whence it derives its name. It was located and built by the Mormons, the first party of whom arrived in the valley on the 24th of July, 1847. Its broad streets are laid out at right angles and bordered with shade trees. Each street has a stream of clear water gurgling down its sides which comes from the mountain canyons: it is used for irrigating and domestic purposes, and gives the city an air of coolness and comfort not easily described. Most of the buildings being of stone and adobe, the city has in that respect the appearance of a European town. Its public buildings are all interesting, and some are extraordinary. In 1853 the building of a Temple was begun, but has never been completed. Its walls are level with the ground. The foundations of the Temple cover an area of 21,850 feet. When finished according to the plan shown visitors it will be a very imposing edifice. The first building which attracts one's attention is the Tabernacle, an immense structure, which seen from a distance looks like a huge bell. It is built from designs drawn by one of the Mormons—Mr. Henry Grove. It is elliptical in form, has a length of 250 feet, and a width *inside*, of 150 feet. The roof is supported on 46 columns of red sandstone, nine feet by three, and rises in an unbroken arch to a height of 62 feet. When the Tabernacle was first erected, its acoustic properties disappointed its builders. To rectify this, a gallery capable of seating 4000 persons has been built around it, except at its western end. This addition has had the desired effect. The acoustic properties are now all that could be desired, while its seating capacity has been increased so that the building will now seat 12,000 persons. The speaker's stand is at the west end of the building. It is raised five feet above the floor, and contains three seats, rising