Wilford Woodruff Journal (changed for easier reading)

JULY 24th 1847:
This is an important day in the history of my life and the history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. On this important day… we came in full view of the great valley of the Salt Lake and land of promise, held in reserve by the hand of God for a resting place for the Saints upon which a portion of the Zion of God will be built. We gazed with wonder and admiration upon the vast rich fertile valley. The glorious valley abounding with the best fresh water springs of various sizes… were wending their way into the Great Salt lake. Our hearts were surely made glad after a hard journey from Winter Quarters of 1200 miles… to gaze upon a valley of such vast extent entirely surrounded with a perfect chain of everlasting hills and mountains covered with eternal snow with their innumerable peaks…. We contemplated that in not many years the House of God would stand upon the top of the mountains while the valleys would be converted into orchards, vineyards, gardens, and fields by the inhabitants of Zion and the standard be unfurled for the nations to gather there to. President Young expressed his full satisfaction in the appearance of the valley as a resting place for the Saints.

***Source**: This is an entry from the journal of Wilford Woodruff, a Latter-Day Saint. He was a member of the company of pioneers to arrive in the Salt Lake Valley on July 24th, 1847 with Brigham Young. This transcription was accessed from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints website at :*
https://history.churchofjesuschrist.org/chd/transcript?lang=eng&name=transcript-for-wilford-woodruff-journal-1847-january-1853-december-25-77

Wilford Woodruff Journal (original document)

JULY 24th 1847 This is an important day in the History of my life and the History of the Church of JESUS CHRIST of Latter Day Saints. On this important day… we came in full view of the great valley or Bason [of] the Salt Lake and land of promise, held in reserve by the hand of GOD for a resting place for the Saints upon which A portion of the Zion of GOD will be built. We gazed with wonder and admiration upon the vast rich fertile valley. Clothed with the Heaviest garb of green vegitation in the midst of which lay a large lake of Salt water… and could be seen large Islands & mountains towering towards the Clouds. Also the glorious valley abounding with the best fresh water springs rivlets creeks & Brooks & Rivers of various sizes… were wending there way into the great Salt lake. our hearts were surely made glad after A Hard Journey from winter Quarters of 1200 miles… to gaze upon A valley of such vast extent entirely Surrounded with a perfect chain of everlasting hills & mountains Coverd with eternal snow with there inumerable peaks like Pyramids towering towards Heaven presenting at one view the grandest & most sublime scenery… We contemplated that not many years that the House of GOD would stand upon the top of the Mountains while the valleys would be converted into orchard, vineyard,

gardings & fields by the inhabitants of zion & the Standard be unfurled for the nations to gather there to[.] President Young expressed his full satisfaction in the Appearance of the valley as A resting place for the Saints.