

NATHANIEL H. FELT

Although not one of the earliest immigrants to Utah, Nathaniel H. Felt was one of the first in the new Territory to hold official position. He was not only the first alderman of Salt Lake City, but also a member of the first Territorial assembly. That he did not come west the first year was only because ill health prevented; for he was in Nauvoo at the time of the exodus and had his outfit ready for the journey. Being advised to delay his departure until physically restored, and being assigned to an important duty in St. Louis, he let Elder John Taylor have his team and wagon, with which some of that pioneer's family came to the valley, Mr. Felt's arrival being in the fall of 1850. He was born in Massachusetts in 1816, and though he learned a humbled trade, his commercial instinct soon lifted him above this environment, and he was successfully engaged in the African and China trade when "Mormonism" found him. Both in civil and ecclesiastical lines he was prominent and useful in early Utah times, being scholarly in his tastes and having much ability as a writer and speaker. His activity in public affairs ceased in 1873 when he was stricken with a severe illness from which he never fully recovered; and he died in 1887.

From a paper (not news) in my possession. Source not given.

—Paul R. Felt

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by

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During January 1851, the General Assembly of Deseret granted charters to the cities of Salt Lake, Ogden, Provo, Manti and Parawan. The first to be incorporated was Salt Lake City. The event occurred on the 9th of January.

Pending the first election provided for by its charter, the following named officers for "Great Salt Lake

City" were appointed by the Governor and Legislature:

Mayor:

Jedediah M. Grant

Alderman:

Nathaniel H. Felt

William Snow

Jesse P. Harmon

Nathaniel V. Jones

Councilors:

Vincent Shurtliff

Benjamin L. Clapp

Zera Pulsipher

William G. Perkins

Lewis Robison

Harrison Burgess

Jeter Clinton

John L. Dunyon

Samuel W. Richards