

search 136 (December 1954): 12–15; Patrick W. Skehan, “Qumran and the Present State of Old Testament Text Studies: The Masoretic Text,” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 78 (1959): 21; and Julie Duncan’s definitive edition in *Qumran Cave 4–IX: Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Kings*, Vol. 14 in DISCOVERIES IN THE JUDEAN DESERT series, edited by Eugene Ulrich (Oxford, England: Clarendon, 1995), 90. Although many Septuagint manuscripts read “angels of God,” which represents an alternate attempt to soften the original reading, the oldest Greek witness to Deuteronomy, P. Fuad 266 (Rahlfs 848), reads “sons” rather than “angels.” The editor for the Deuteronomy volume of the Göttingen edition of the Septuagint, John W. Wevers, *Notes on the Greek Text of Deuteronomy* (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1995), 513, regards the reading “sons of God” as assured. For additional evidence supporting this reading, see Paul Sanders, *The Provenance of Deuteronomy 32* (Leiden: Brill, 1996), 157.

6. Blake Ostler, Comment No. 68 (March 1, 2008) to TT, “The Future of Heavenly Mother,” *Faith Promoting Rumor* (February 27, 2008), <http://faithpromotingrumor.wordpress.com/2008/02/27/the-future-of-heavenly-mother> (accessed January 8, 2009).

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Rest of the Story

After my article on leadership in the Utah War was at press (“Who’s in Charge Here?: Utah

War Command Ambiguity,” 24, no. 1 [Spring 2009]: 39–64) I became aware through Ardis E. Parshall of additional information about how Colonel Albert Sidney Johnston was selected for this responsibility in late August 1857. As discussed on p. 39, Johnston believed at the time that his selection was solely the decision of Gen. Winfield Scott, the army’s general in chief, rather than that of President James Buchanan, whom Johnston had never met.

On April 7, 1887, a very different version of the selection decision emerged in New Orleans at the dedication of an equestrian statue erected in Johnston’s honor posthumously. At this ceremony the principal speaker was Jefferson Davis, former president of the Confederacy and Johnston’s commander in chief when he was mortally wounded at the 1862 Civil War battle of Shiloh.

In reprising Johnston’s career, Davis recalled an 1857 conversation between him and Buchanan at a time when Davis was chairman of the U.S. Senate’s military affairs committee and the recently resigned secretary of war in President Franklin Pierce’s cabinet: “Buchanan, when President, sent to me to ask, ‘Who do you think ought to have command of the Utah expedition[?]’ I did not choose

to select one only from my army acquaintances, and I gave three names. He said: 'Do you and [Illinois Senator John A.] Logan ever agree about anything?' I said: 'I think so.' He replied: 'In this instance you have named the same three men.' They were Persifor [F.] Smith of Louisiana, Albert S. Johnston and R. E. Lee. Johnston was selected, and he was the best selection. He commanded the expedition to Utah, and was [later] made brigadier general by brevet. So he had gone to the highest grade next to commander in chief within a short period after the Mexican war."¹

Albert Sidney Johnston's contemporary but incomplete understanding of the forces at work combined with Jefferson Davis's

more senior but probably fading recollection provide more light on how Johnston came to the Utah command than heretofore known. My very recent awareness of Davis's version, even after a half-century of research, also illustrates how much more remains to be discovered about the Utah War's origins, prosecution, and impact.

Note

1. "Jeff Davis's Speech. The Grey-Haired Statesman and Soldier Pays a Tribute to Sidney Johnston," Dispatch, April 7, 1887, from New Orleans, *Fort Worth Daily Gazette*, April 8, 1887.

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